

Surrounded

Leader Guide | Week 1

Key Things You Heard

- Jesus surrounded himself with people who were looking and searching.
- Jesus surrounded himself with people who had troubles.
- Jesus surrounded himself with people who had questions and doubts.
- The fact that Jesus let the disciples come close gives me assurance that I can come close to Him.

Pray

Heavenly Father, let us not be afraid to come close to you. Let us learn that you are not put off by our troubles, questions, and doubts. In fact, you long to be the answer to what we are searching for. So bring us to the point of understanding you and your love for us. In Jesus' name, amen.

Tweetable Moments

"But for Jesus, the disciples stood a better chance of killing each other than becoming spiritual heroes."

"Don't let your questions and doubts keep you from fellowship, from belonging, from the journey of discovery."

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Questions for Conversation

Icebreaker: What was your personal style in middle school?

- Read **Matthew 10:2-4**, then watch the video, Does the Bible Record the Death of the Apostles. (<https://www.gotquestions.org/apostles-die.html>) What does this say about the apostle's level of commitment, and why is this important? How does this cause you to reflect on your level of commitment to Jesus?
- Jesus surrounded himself with people who were searching, had troubles, and had questions and doubts. Why does this give you hope? Knowing this, what kind of an attitude should we have to anyone who walks in the door of the church? How should understanding this impact the way we minister to people both inside and outside the church? What might your Life Group do in the coming weeks to practice what you have learned through this discussion?
- Read **Matthew 28:16-17**. What doubts have you had in your pursuit of Jesus? Have you resolved them? If not, what doubts do you still have? Is there something the group can do to help you find the answers you are seeking?

Now Go Do It (resources and next steps)

Challenge: Do you find yourself struggling with doubt? Are you honestly seeking answers to the questions you have? Next week, watch the Rightnow Media series Apologetics by Chad Ragsdale. <https://app.rightnowmedia.org/en/content/details/338492>