



An Introduction to DiscipleMe



# Awakening

An Introduction to DiscipleMe



Welcome! Thank you for joining us on the *DiscipleMe* journey! We pray the Lord will move in your group, awaken your students, and ignite a disciple-making movement in them.

### **What's the aim?**

*Awakening*, is a three session study from John 1 that serves as an introduction to the *DiscipleMe* discipleship process. *Awakening* gives you, as the leader, the opportunity to inspire students to live as committed disciples and encourage them to commit to disciple-making through the *DiscipleMe* process.

### **Use this study...**

in a Wednesday night setting over three weeks  
in a retreat setting over a weekend  
on a Sunday night mini-seminar format or series of Sunday nights  
for a special event or emphasis  
or  
in another way that best fits your context.

### **Start here.**

Here are some tips in growing students as disciple makers:

*Get grounded.* Don't work in your own power. Rely on the authority of and presence of Jesus as you lead students spiritually.

*Get serious.* Okay, not too serious. 😊 We do work with youth. Get serious about the task, the command, the mandate to make disciples in your ministry.

*Get help.* Don't go it alone. Find, secure, train, and release other spiritually mature adults (even if just one) to help you begin this journey.

*Get to work.* Don't cut corners. Short-cuts may be easier in the moment, but they will cost you in the end. Take the time to properly organize and invest in your students' discipleship journey.

*Go ahead.* Look beyond. Approach this process as long-term, ongoing, and reproducing. This is where your impact will be seen.

### **How to Lead this Study**

Use this plan as a guide.

Feel free to add meat where you think it is needed.

Define terms that students may not know.

(Ex: Apostle, witness, etc...)

Have at least one male and one female adult leaders present.

Pay attention to the *blue, green, or red text*. *Blue* indicates answers to questions. *Green* indicates directions for leading the study. *Red* indicates things you will say or discuss.

### **What to pray?**

Pray for students to come to a saving faith.

Pray for students to desire to grow as disciples, to become committed disciples.

Pray for leaders to step up and help you develop students.

Pray for students to take up the call to make disciples.

Pray for impact from disciple making in your group!

## Session 1: See

Text: John 1:29-51

Big Idea: Our discipleship journey begins with seeing Jesus.

*Start in a large group and read the intro*

## Study

### Intro

All great movements have small beginnings. Our commitment to follow Christ is no exception. This study will introduce the first disciples overwhelming desire to see Jesus and be with Him from their simple but powerful experiences found in John 1:29-51.

The disciples did not know where following Christ would take them or what “greater things” were ahead, but it was a start. This is a picture of the church in its cradle. The first seeds are taking root. That’s where it begins for all of us.

### Jesus’ Group

Let’s look at Jesus’ group...

Read John 1:29-51 and list those of Jesus’ group you find in the passage.

*1 John the Baptist vv. 29-35*

*2 Two unnamed disciples of John the Baptist vv. 35-39*

*3 Andrew (one of the two) v. 40*

*4 Simon v. 41*

The full picture.

Read Luke 8:1-3. List others in Jesus’ group.

*1 The “Twelve” v. 1*

*2 “some women healed...” and Mary Magdalene v. 2*

*3 Joanna, Susanna, and “many others” v. 3*

### Awakened!

Jesus found his group awakened to faith through their desire to see Him.

Re-read the passage and list all the references to SEE you can find. Circle or underline them in your Bible if you would like.

*Split students into smaller groups. In groups have them read the passage aloud again.  
Have them list all the references to SEE in these verses.*

Ask: How many did you find? *Each group respond with an example or two.*

*There are more than 15 references to seeing in this passage.*

Why do you think that is important?

When we see Jesus, and awake to life in Him, we are able to tell what has happened to us. This is our “testimony”.

*Get back in a large group.*

## Testify!

John the Baptist had a testimony because of what he had seen. Read John 1:34. What is his testimony?

*I have seen!  
This is the Son of God!*

You are a witness because of what you have seen. When you have seen Jesus, and you are changed by Him, you are a witness, you can testify, to who Jesus is and what He has done in you.

## Experience

Read 1 John 1: 1-3. How does John the Apostle describe his experience with Jesus?

*-Seen  
-Heard  
-Looked at  
-Touched*

Read Psalm 34:8. How does the psalmist testify about the Lord?

*-Taste  
-See*

What is the benefit of one who finds refuge in Him? *Blessed*

The psalmist was saying the Lord was proven through our experience in Him. He is who He says He is and will do what He has promised to do. Jesus proves himself to us. Our experience testifies to what He does in us. When Jesus changes you, when you have seen Him, you can say **"I really have seen it!"** This is true!

You have seen what Jesus did in your life! When did you trust Jesus for salvation? When did He come into your life? Write down some details about that day.

Time:  
Date:  
Place:  
Who helped you?  
How'd you feel?

*Leaders: This is a great place to help students deal with whether or not they know (have seen and responded to) Jesus. Possibly insert an evangelistic presentation here and give students a chance to respond.*

## Observe

In addition to your own experience with Jesus, you also have seen what Christ has done in the lives of others. What have you seen in others' lives that is a testimony of their faith?

*Spilt into small groups once again. If possible, mix up with a new group of students. Discuss in groups people you have seen who have shown you the work of Jesus in their lives. Have groups report after a couple of minutes.*

1  
2  
3

## Gather & Affirm

*Come back into the large group, sit in a circle and look at the others in your group.*

Let's affirm one another in our group because we are part of Jesus' group.

*Use this time to have students take turns affirming the faith they see in one another. As the leader, start out in order to set the tone and give an example. Start with someone who is not the obvious choice. It might be awkward at first, but be willing to give it time. Also, do your part in making sure everyone in the group receives spiritual affirmation based on the truth of Christ and their experience with Him.*

Discuss:

What do you see as evidence of the Holy Spirit's work in each other?

What is the fruit of Christ you see in one another?

How can we follow Jesus because we have seen Jesus Christ?

*In Session 2: When we really see Jesus, we are ready to follow him.*

## Pray

## Session 2: Follow

Text: John 1:29-51

Big Idea: Jesus invitation to follow Him is an invitation to experience Him with our lives.

### Reflect. Remember.

Session 1: What stuck out? What questions do you have?

*Take time to celebrate decisions for Christ made during or resulting from Session 1.*

### Study

*Begin in a large group and read the intro for session 2.*

#### Intro

Your life in Christ, your 'come and see' moment as a disciple, was a turning point for you (for all of us!). Our lives changed! Nothing is the same! In this session we will look at what following Christ looks like in our lives... Let's look at what a life of 'follow' looks like.

Read John 1:35-42

#### What are you looking for?

His leading question to these two is powerful for us to consider. What was His question?

*What are you looking for?*

What if we applied Jesus' question to our lives? What are you looking for?

Turn to the inventory on the next page. Find some space in the room or in the church to get away by yourself and complete the inventory of areas of your life.

*Leaders play worship music as students fill out the inventory. You may want to, depending on your group and how you want to lead this time, discuss the table in a large group or have students break off individually, reflect on, and write down the answers. Leaders can roam around the space and help them contextualize areas to their own situation.*

Area	What am I looking for?	Things I need to do as a disciple of Jesus
Family		
Friends		
Relationships		
Health		
Recreation		
School		
Work/Vocation		
Church		
Spiritual Life/ Inner Life		
Other		

*Come back together as a group. Take time to allow students to share what they learned. No need to go over every item. Maybe just pick out a couple of target areas.*

Share with the group. What did you discover?

### **Come & See**

Look at verse 38. What did they call Jesus?

*They called Jesus "Rabbi." A Rabbi is a master or teacher.*

This passage recalls the calling of the first two disciples.

*A "disciple" is a learner or pupil, a student.*

What do the two disciples ask Jesus?

*They wanted to see where Jesus was staying.*

What was Jesus' response to them?

*Jesus said "Come and see."*

### **Life as a Disciple**

Say: It is important to note that, when the disciples followed Jesus, addressed him as Rabbi, and Jesus answered them with an invitation to come and see, this was not just an invitation to learn some things about Jesus. Jesus was inviting them to be disciples. A disciple is not just a student who learns things about something or someone, but one who lives life with

someone in order to know them by example. We are invited to accept this invitation from Jesus as well. Let's look at the invitation Jesus offered to see what we are invited into.

1) The Invitation is to *'Come and See.'*

This was an invitation to experience life with Him, to spend time with Him.

Read the first part of v. 39. What was the disciples' response?

*Scripture says "so they went..."*

2) The Invitation comes with *results*.

Read John 1:39-42. From the passage, what are results of following Jesus?

**Intimacy** with God v. 39

Also, read James 4:8. What's the promise for those who follow?

*"Draw near to me and I will draw near to you."*

**Impact** for God vv. 40-41

Andrew immediately brings Simon, his brother, to Jesus so Simon can see Jesus.

Also read Mark 4:19.

What impact from following Jesus can you see here?

*"Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men."*

There is a clear tie to our following and seeing results in the way we live and the impact we have in our lives. Jesus, in this verse, is saying following Him will cause you to reach others, to impact for the Kingdom of God.

**Identity** in Jesus v. 42

Simon, when he meets Jesus, receives a new name. Peter has a new identity in Christ! His life is rearranged!

How has Jesus rearranged your life?

3) Where does it lead?

Following means:

Spending <i>Time</i> with God	V. 39
Knowing <i>who</i> He is & What He's <i>done</i>	V. 36
<i>Believing</i> & <i>Knowing</i> His <i>Word</i>	V. 41
Allowing Him to <i>rearrange</i> our lives	V. 42

All of these things are expressed in John 1:35-42. Can you find where? List the reference beside the item in the list.

## Gather & Affirm

*Take time to offer personal challenges for individuals students. This may be something you want to allow students to do in future meetings, but spend time showing them what it looks like to encourage one another spiritually. Based on your working with and knowledge of your group, offer them challenges in following Jesus more closely. How can they 'come and see'? How can they follow Jesus? Try to be specific and offer meaningful, achievable, and sincere challenges.*

### Discuss:

How can you act on this things just mentioned in the study?

How can you 'come and see'?

How can you follow Jesus?

*Session 3 lead in: Next we will look at how living for Jesus' purposes, as his followers, leads to faithfulness and impact.*

## Pray

*Split up into twos or threes and pray. Pray for one another:*

- that each of you would take the invitation to 'come and see
- that you each of you would follow Jesus
- that each of you would spend time with Him
- that each of you would know Him by growing in your experience with Him
- that each of you would know His word

### Session 3: Live

Text: John 1:29-51

Big Idea: Living for Jesus means helping others know and follow Him.

#### Reflect. Remember.

Session 2: What stuck out? What questions do you have?

Take time to celebrate decisions from Session 2.

#### Study

Read the intro for session 3.

#### Intro

Living for Jesus happens fully when the life of Christ inside of us finds its way out of us. Our faith should land on others. So, how does that start?

#### Make contact

Read John 1:35-42 again. How did Jesus make contact with the first group of disciples?

*-One on one, through relatives & friends*

*-questions & answers*

*-by example*

*-knew about them, engaged them*

*-made himself known*

*-was near them*

Jesus gave us an example of how to interact with those who need salvation, the "lost."

What can we learn from Jesus' interaction?

If possible, break students into small groups of 3-4 and have them search the passage and report on what they have found. Walk them through the following contact rules.

#### Jesus' Contact Rules:

Was *present*

(Available, personal, walked with so they could see Him)

Used *eyes/saw* them

Opened *a conversation* with them

Asked *questions*

What questions did Jesus ask in John 1:35-51?

*- "What are you looking for?" v. 38*

*- "Do you believe because...?" v. 50*

*Invited them* to connect

In the verse how?

*Welcomed their company, stayed with him the rest of the day*

*Return to the large group.*

## Bring others to Jesus

How was Jesus identified and introduced in this passage? What names were used for Him in John 1?

vv. 29, 36      *Lamb of God*

vv. 34, 49      *Son of God*

vv. 38, 49      *Rabbi/ Teacher*

vv. 45            *The one Moses (& the prophets) wrote about  
Jesus the son of Joseph from Nazareth*

vv. 49            *King of Israel*

*Have students get in groups. Have them take time to write down the answer to the following question. Then have them articulate it to one another in small groups of 2 or 3. If your group is small, just have a group discussion.*

If you were telling someone "I have found Him," how would you introduce someone else to Jesus?

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*Return to the large group.*

## God's Story & Your Story

God's story is what God did for you.

Your story is how God changed you in Jesus.

What did God do for you?

*Have students write. Maybe ask for an answer of two from students.*

How & when did God change you?

*Have students write. Maybe ask for an answer of two from students.*

When we are changed by Jesus, trust Christ for life, we are disciples. The question for us is, "**Will we be committed disciples?**" What is a committed disciple?

A *committed* disciple is a follower of Christ who will *lead people to Jesus, grow in His truth, and belong to the community of the church to live the mission of God in the world to make more disciples.*

*Have the students write answers to the following questions.*

-What words stick out to you in this definition of a committed disciple?

-What words scare you?

-What excites you about it?

Living for Jesus includes telling others about Him, showing them how they can meet Him leading them to Him and guiding them in living for Him

Remember Peter's life was rearranged because Andrew led him to Jesus because of his own change. This is an example of how we are to live our lives for the cause of Christ!

Bringing someone to Jesus doesn't just mean leading them to the point of salvation. It means helping them take the next step. It may also mean walking with them in Jesus. The contact continues.

## Gather & Affirm

*Provide students in the group with a piece of paper. Have them write their name in the upper right corner. Pass around the paper in the circle and have the others in the group write a prayer, encouragement, or scripture that will spur that person to live for Jesus. If you have a larger group consider making 2 or 3 smaller circles to do the exercise.*

## Wrapping it Up

*Lead students to circle up in a large group. Instruct them to look at each other in the circle as you read 2 Corinthians 5:11-16.*

*Say: When we see Jesus, we need to see others as He intends us to see them. How do you see them?*

*Have students write their answer and maybe talk about it and pray about it before moving on.*

### Discuss:

How can we really see each other?

What does it mean to see others from an eternal perspective?

How can we help one another live out faith in Jesus?

## Challenge

Will you live life in Christ by helping others see and follow Him?

Will you be a disciple maker?

*Challenge students to make a commitment to make disciples, helping other people (their friends) see Jesus, follow Him, and help others know Him.*

*Lead students to take the DiscipleMe challenge and through the closure activity at the end of this session.*

### Are you ready?

Making a commitment is the start of success. Will you commit to begin this journey toward being a disciple-maker? You do not have to be a "Super Christian." You only have to be ready to answer the call and be willing to grow. The goal is obedient pursuit of Christ. Before you even begin, take the first step toward completion:

*I want my total life to be useable and pleasing to God. I am ready and willing to grow personally and spiritually. I agree to complete the assignments, meet with my disciple, and follow the Lord's leading in becoming a follower who makes other disciples.*

(signed)

(date)

## Closure Activity

*Hand out cups. Challenge older students to take the lead in coming to the front and filling their cups from the source (a pitcher of glass you hold or a larger container at the front of the room).*

*Say: Just as Jesus fills our lives with His living water, we take the living water to those in need. Their spiritual thirst can be quenched. They too can know Christ and have salvation (forgiveness and life) in Him. This demonstrates our commitment to grow and help others do the same.*

*Play music or have a time of worship in conjunction with the closing activity.*

## Pray

*Have students voice prayers in the large group or in small groups about their commitment and for kingdom impact in the coming weeks and months.*

## NOTES

### Session 1: See

Text: John 1:29-51

Big Idea: Our discipleship journey begins with seeing Jesus.

All great movements have small beginnings. Our commitment to follow Christ is no exception. This study will introduce the first disciples overwhelming desire to see Jesus and be with Him from their simple but powerful experiences found in John 1:29-51.

The disciples did not know where following Christ would take them or what “greater things” were ahead, but it was a start. This is a picture of the church in its cradle. The first seeds are taking root. That’s where it begins for all of us.

### Jesus’ Group

Let’s look at Jesus’ group...

Read John 1:29-51 and list those of Jesus’ group you find in the passage.

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The full picture.

Read Luke 8:1-3. List others in Jesus’ group.

1

2

3



## Awaken!

Jesus found his group awakened to faith through their desire to see Jesus.

Re-read the passage and list all the references to SEE you can find. Circle or underline them in your Bible if you would like.

How many did you find?

When we see Jesus, and awake to life in Him, we are able to tell what has happened to us. This is our “testimony”.

## Testify!

John the Baptist had a testimony because of what he had seen.

Read John 1:34. What is his testimony?

You are a witness because of what you have seen. When you have seen Jesus, and you are changed by Him, you are a witness, you can testify, to who Jesus is and what He has done in you.

## Experience

Read 1 John 1: 1-3. How does John the Apostle describe his experience with Jesus?

Read Psalm 34:8. How does the psalmist testify about the Lord?

What is the benefit of one who finds refuge in Him?

The psalmist was saying the Lord is proven through our experience in Him. He is who He says He is and will do what He has promised to do. Jesus proves himself to us. Our experience testifies to what He does in us. When Jesus changes you, when you have seen Him, you can say **“I really have seen it!”** This is true!

You have seen what Jesus did in your life! When did you trust Jesus for salvation? When did He come into your life? Write down some details about that day.

Time:

Date:

Place:

Who helped you?

How'd you feel?

## Observe

In addition to your own experience with Jesus, you also have seen what Christ has done in the lives of others. What have you seen in others' lives that is a testimony of their faith?

1

2

3

## Gather & Affirm

Take time to look at the others in your group.

What do you see as evidence of the Holy Spirit's work in the others?

What is the fruit of Christ you see in one another?

How can we follow Jesus because we have seen Jesus Christ?

## Pray

Where does it lead?

Following means we:

Spend \_\_\_\_\_ with God  
Know \_\_\_\_\_ He is & What He's \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ & \_\_\_\_\_ His Word  
Allow Him to \_\_\_\_\_ our lives

Reference:

All of these things are expressed in John 1:35-42. Can you find where? List the reference beside the item in the list.

### **Gather & Affirm**

How can you act on these things just mentioned in the study?

*How can you 'come and see'?*

*How can you follow Jesus?*

Coming up: How can we live for Jesus' purposes as his followers for faithfulness and impact?

### **Pray**

Split up into twos or threes and pray. Pray for one another:

- that each of you would take the invitation to 'come and see'
- that each of you would follow Jesus
- that each of you would spend time with Him
- that each of you would know Him by growing in your experience with Him
- that each of you would know His word

### **Session 2: Follow**

Text: John 1:29-51

Big Idea: Jesus' invitation to follow Him is an invitation to experience Him with our lives.

### **Reflect. Remember**

What stuck out to you from Session 1?

What questions do you have?

Your life in Christ, your 'come and see' moment as a disciple, was a turning point for you (for all of us!) Our lives changed! Nothing is the same! In this session we will look at what following Christ looks like in our lives... Let's look at what a life of 'follow' looks like.

Read John 1:35-42

### **What are you looking for?**

Jesus' leading question to these two is powerful for us to consider. What was His question?

What if we applied Jesus' question to our lives? What are you looking for?

Turn to the inventory on the next page. Find some space in the room or in the church to get away by yourself and complete the inventory of areas of your life.



Area	What am I looking for?	Things I need to do as a disciple of Jesus
Family		
Friends		
Relationships		
Health		
Recreation		
School		
Work/Vocation		
Church		
Spiritual Life/ Inner Life		
Other		

Share with the group. What did you discover?

### Come & See

Look at verse 38. What did they call Jesus?

This passage recalled the calling of the first two disciples.

Disciple =

What did the two disciples ask Jesus?

What was Jesus' response to them?

### Life as a Disciple

It is important to note that, when the disciples followed Jesus, addressed him as Rabbi, and Jesus answered them with an invitation to come and see, this was not just an invitation to learn some things about Jesus. Jesus was inviting them to be disciples. A disciple is not just a student who learns things about something or someone, but one who lives life with someone in order to know them by example. We are invited to accept this invitation from Jesus as well! Let's look at the invitation Jesus offered to see what we are invited into.

The Invitation is to '\_\_\_\_\_ & \_\_\_\_\_.'

This was an invitation to experience life with Him, to spend time with Him.

Read the first of v. 39. What was the disciples' response?

The Invitation comes with \_\_\_\_\_.

Read John 1:39-42. From the passage, what do you see as some results of following Jesus?

\_\_\_\_\_ with God v. 39

Also, read James 4:8.

What's the promise for those who follow?

\_\_\_\_\_ for God vv. 40-41

Andrew immediately brings Simon, his brother, to Jesus so Simon can see Jesus.

Also read Mark 4:19.

What impact from following Jesus can you see here?

There is a clear tie to our following and seeing results in the way we live and the impact we have in our lives. Jesus, in this verse, is saying following Him will cause us to reach others, to impact for the Kingdom of God.

\_\_\_\_\_ in Jesus v. 42

Simon, when he meets Jesus, receives a new name. Peter has a new identity in Christ! His life is rearranged!

How has Jesus rearranged your life?

### Challenge

Will you live life in Christ by helping others see and follow Him?  
Will you be a disciple maker?

### Are you ready?

Making a commitment is the start of success. Will you commit to begin this journey toward being a disciple-maker? You do not have to be a “Super Christian.” You only have to be ready to answer the call and be willing to grow. The goal is obedient pursuit of Christ. Before you even begin, take the first step toward completion:

*I want my total life to be useable and pleasing to God. I am ready and willing to grow personally and spiritually. I agree to complete the assignments, meet with my disciple, and follow the Lord’s leading in becoming a follower who makes other disciples.*

(signed) \_\_\_\_\_

(date) \_\_\_\_\_

(witness) \_\_\_\_\_

### Reflect

Just as Jesus fills our lives with His living water, we take the living water to those in need. Their spiritual thirst can be quenched. They too can know Christ and have salvation (forgiveness and life) in Him. Take time to demonstrate your commitment to grow and help others do the same.

### Pray

Take turns praying out loud about your commitment to make disciples.  
Pray for Kingdom impact in the coming weeks and months.  
Ask the Lord to give you courage, discipline, and boldness in preparing.  
Pray for one another, that you would be able to impact lostness and make disciples.

### Session 3: Live

Text: John 1:29-51

Big Idea: Living for Jesus means helping others know and follow Him.

### Reflect. Remember.

What stuck out to you from Session 1?

What questions do you have?

Living for Jesus happens fully when the life of Christ inside of us finds its way out of us. Our faith should land on others. So, how does that start?

### Make contact

Read John 1:35-42 again. How did Jesus make contact with the first group of disciples?

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Jesus gave us an example of how to interact with those who need salvation, the “lost.”

What can we learn from Jesus’ interaction?

### Jesus’ Contact Rules:

Was \_\_\_\_\_  
(Available, personal, walked with so they could see Him)

Used \_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_ them

Opened \_\_\_\_\_ with them

Asked \_\_\_\_\_

What questions did Jesus ask in John 1:35-51?

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\_\_\_\_\_ to connect

In the verse how?



## Bring others to Jesus

How was Jesus identified and introduced in this passage? What names were used for Him in John 1?

vv. 29, 36

vv. 34, 49

vv. 38, 49

vv. 45

vv. 49

If you were telling someone "I have found Him," how would you introduce someone else to Jesus?

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## God's Story & Your Story

God's story is what God did for you.

Your story is how God changed you in Jesus.

What did God do for you?

How & when did God change you?

When we are changed by Jesus, trust Christ for life, we are disciples. The question for us is, "**Will we be committed disciples?**" What is a committed disciple?

A \_\_\_\_\_ disciple is a follower of Christ who will \_\_\_\_\_ to Jesus, \_\_\_\_\_ in His truth, and belong to the community of the \_\_\_\_\_ to live the mission of God in the world to \_\_\_\_\_ more \_\_\_\_\_.

What words stick out to you in this definition of a committed disciple?

What words scare you?

What excites you about it?

Living for Jesus includes telling others about Him, showing them how they can meet Him leading them to Him and guiding them in living for Him

Remember Peter's life was rearranged because Andrew led him to Jesus because of his own change. This is an example of how we are to live our lives for the cause of Christ!

Bringing someone to Jesus doesn't just mean leading them to the point of salvation. It means helping them take the next step. It may also mean walking with them in Jesus. The contact continues.

## Gather & Affirm

Take time to spur on the others in your group to live for Jesus with a prayer, encouragement, or scripture.

## Wrapping it Up

When we see Jesus, we need to see others as He intends us to see them.

How do you see them? Write your answer below:

How can we really see each other?

What does it mean to see others from an eternal perspective?

How can we help one another live out faith in Jesus?