

PART 1: Experience Required

INTRODUCTION

You may have wondered, *How did the church get started?* Why do people all over the world gather together every week to worship God? From the earliest days of the church until today, people become followers of Jesus in the exact same way: through an invitation.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- 1. How did you end up attending your church? What drew you there?
- 2. When you hear the word "evangelism," what comes to mind? Is your response to the word positive or negative? Why?
- 3. Read John 1:35-46. How does what happens in this passage differ from the way most people think about evangelism?
- 4. If Jesus modeled a "come and see" approach to evangelism, what kind of place does the church have to be for people to see Jesus when they come?
- 5. Who is one person in your sphere of influence that you can *invest* in or *invite* to church? What is it about that person that makes it easy for you to connect with him or her?
- 6. What is one thing you can do this week to invest in that person? How can this group support you?

MOVING FORWARD

There are hundreds of thousands of people who live near one of our churches. Many of them don't know Jesus. We want them to experience what we've experienced. So, we *invest* in relationships with them. And when the time is right, we *invite* them into an environment where they may have a life changing encounter with their Savior.

CHANGING YOUR MIND

The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him and said, "Look, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!"

John 1:29