



## Disciple: A True Story

**Date:** Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> January

**Speakers:** Aaron Smith and Mike Gowen

**Key Verses:** John 14:5; Matthew 17:20 and Romans 8:28

### Talk Summary:

- When was the last time you believed something which then turned out to not be? How did it make you feel?
- We live in a post-truth world meaning people would rather believe how they feel than what the facts are - how has this influenced you? Do you think truth is still relevant today?
- Trust, sometimes, takes a long time to build up but a short time to smashed. Thinking of the people in your life, why do you trust some and not others?
- Can you trust Jesus and what he said and did? Was he genuine, authentic, sincere and have a track record? Is he truth to you?
- *'The truth will set us free'* (John 8:32) and *'the son sets you free, you will free indeed'* (John 8:36) – Jesus sets us free as he is the Son, but the truth sets us free meaning Jesus IS truth
- Jesus doesn't say he knows the truth, although he does, He IS truth. If Jesus is truth, then all he says and does is true (John 14:5)
- We don't need to have loads of faith all the time, in every circumstance. Jesus says we need faith the size of a mustard seed (Matthew 17:20) and rely on God to move
- If we want our faith and therefore our trust to grow and last we need to spend time getting to know Jesus, spend time with him, read the bible, pray etc
- We will at some point experience a storm. God may seem distant, prayers seem unanswered, ill health or trauma and we may find ourselves clinging by our fingertips to the rock.
- Where have you based your faith? It's not about how much faith we have but who we put our faith in!
- Our trust often grows more in the storm. We have to hold onto God in the difficult moments and know he is working all things for our good (Romans 8:28)
- Do we believe this? Do we believe that God is working all things for our good?

- Jeremiah 17:7-8 talks about being rooted by the water when we trust in God. How does the picture painted in this verse look like in your day to day walk with God?

## **Small Group Discussion**

Small Groups will be digging deeper into weekly Disciple topics through the participant's guide and video resources.

The participant's guide is designed as a journal, with plenty of space for notes, key teaching points for each session, and Chat and Reflect questions. Our small groups will be using this guide during discussions. If you'd like a copy of the guide, simply go to your favourite book distributor and search "**Disciple Participants Guide**".

If regular reminders and short devotionals would be helpful to you, then check out the Disciple app! It contains daily devotionals for free, plus access to each week's starter film and daily content related to the course. More information on the app can be found at <http://www.ficm.org.uk/disciple-app>