

### Who Is Jesus? - The Door Opens

#### Theme:

Jesus is not just a historical figure or theological idea—he's someone who meets people, invites them, and walks with them. This session opens the door to curiosity and relationship.

### Scripture

**John 1:35–39** – "Come and see." Jesus doesn't give a lecture—he offers an invitation.

### The First Disciples of Jesus

<sup>35</sup> The next day John again was standing with two of his disciples, <sup>36</sup> and as he watched Jesus walk by, he exclaimed, 'Look, here is the Lamb of God!' <sup>37</sup> The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus. <sup>38</sup> When Jesus turned and saw them following, he said to them, 'What are you looking for?' They said to him, 'Rabbi' (which translated means Teacher), 'where are you staying?' <sup>39</sup> He said to them, 'Come and see.' They came and saw where he was staying, and they remained with him that day. It was about four o'clock in the afternoon.

#### Optional companion:

**Luke 5:1–11** — The calling of the first disciples. Jesus meets them in their work, not in a temple.

#### Jesus Calls the First Disciples

5 Once while Jesus was standing beside the lake of Gennesaret, and the crowd was pressing in on him to hear the word of God, <sup>2</sup> he saw two boats there at the shore of the lake; the fishermen had gone out of them and were washing their nets. <sup>3</sup> He got into one of the boats, the one belonging to Simon, and asked him to put out a little way from the shore. Then he sat down and taught the crowds from the boat. 4 When he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, 'Put out into the deep water and let down your nets for a catch.' 5 Simon answered, 'Master, we have worked all night long but have caught nothing. Yet if you say so, I will let down the nets.' 6 When they had done this, they caught so many fish that their nets were beginning to break. <sup>7</sup> So they signalled to their partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both boats, so that they began to sink. 8 But when Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, 'Go away from me, Lord, for I am a sinful man!' For he and all who were with him were amazed at the catch of fish that they had taken; 10 and so also were lames and John, sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon. Then Jesus said to Simon, 'Do not be afraid; from now on you will be catching people.' 11 When they had brought their boats to shore, they left everything and followed him.

### **Opening Story or Image**

Share a moment when someone invited you into something new—a friendship, a community, a challenge. What made you say yes? You could also use a visual metaphor:

- A door slightly ajar
- A welcome mat that's a bit worn but still warm
- A handwritten invitation

### Reflection Prompts

- What do you notice about how Jesus invites people?
- What kind of person would you follow without knowing all the answers?
- If Jesus said "Come and see" to you today, where might he be leading?

# Prayer or Quiet Practice

"Jesus, I don't know everything about you. But I'm curious. Help me walk toward you with open hands and an open heart."

Sit quietly and imagine Jesus saying their name, then simply: "Come and see."

## **Takeaway**

This week, notice one moment where you feel gently invited—into kindness, into curiosity, into something new. Pause and ask: could this be Jesus?

Come and join us and continue your journey of faith.

# **Sundays:**

St Andrew's 9.30am

St Peter's 9.30am

St Paul's 11.30am

# Wednesdays:

St Andrew's 10.45am

# Thursdays:

St Paul's 11.00am

Find us on Facebook: BlackleyCofE

Website: Blackleycofe.church

Email: clergy@blackleycofe.church

Phone: 0161 264 9982

