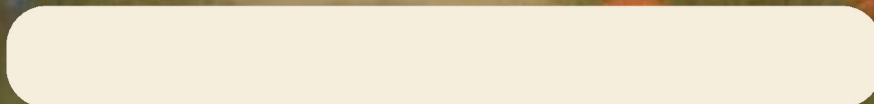


The Way He Walked



Four Week Bible Study Series
September 2026



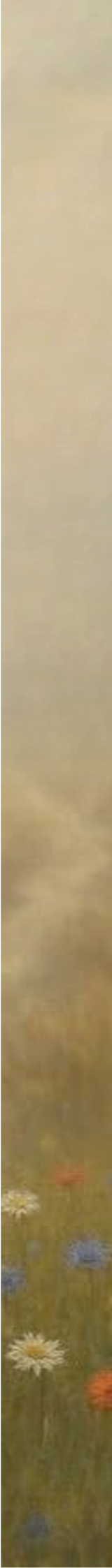
FOREWORD

The God who spoke the universe into being — the One who created our very lives — has invited us to walk with Him. He sent His Son, Jesus, to step into our humanity, to walk before us, and now to walk with us by His Spirit. Not from afar, not as spectators, but as companions on the road. Jesus has given us the invitation, “Follow me”. It is simple. It is costly. It is life-giving. And it is an invitation that reshapes everything, transforms us, and blesses others.

This Spring at NBC, we are committing ourselves to a shared journey of spiritual renewal as we follow Jesus together. Inspired by Sean Nolan’s book *‘The Way He Walked’* (Ange assures us he’s “his mate”), we’ll spend four weeks exploring what it means to encounter Jesus authentically and to respond to His invitation with our whole lives. This Bible study booklet has been created to accompany the sermon series and to guide our home groups as we learn, reflect, and grow. Alongside it, we’re encouraging everyone at NBC to read the 21-day devotional (*The Way He Walked*), which will help shape our hearts and habits as we walk together.

Our hope and prayer is simple: that God will be glorified as he transforms us through Christ to be more like Christ, and along the way our experience of God’s Love for us will grow, our love for him will deepen and our commitment to share his love will be bold.

Let’s walk together, as we follow in the way that Jesus walked.



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STUDY 1 — COME, FOLLOW AND WALK WITH JESUS

What is one thing that God impressed upon you from the sermon or in your daily reading this week from the book ‘The Way He Walked’, Chapters 1-7? Share with the group.

Introduction

Everyone follows something. Success. Comfort. Approval. Ambition. Pleasure. Control.

But when Jesus called His first disciples, He invited them into something entirely different—not simply belief in ideas, but a whole new way of life. Christianity begins with a personal invitation from Jesus Himself:

“Follow me.”

This study explores two connected truths:

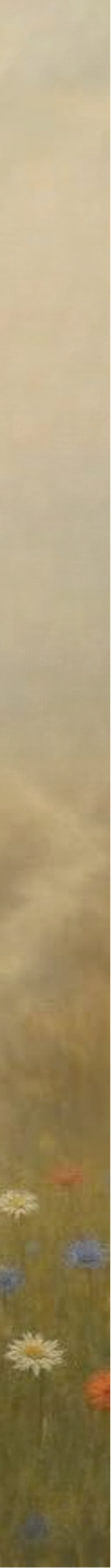
1. Jesus calls ordinary people to Himself.
2. Following Jesus means leaving behind the old way of life and walking in a new one.

The Christian life is not merely about adding religion to an already busy life. It is a surrender to Jesus as Lord, trusting Him enough to walk where He leads.

Discuss: When you hear the phrase “**walking in relationship with Jesus**,” what comes to mind?

Read Mark 1:14–20

1. What message does Jesus begin preaching in verse 15? What is ‘the kingdom of God’?



2. What two commands does Jesus give? What do these commands entail?

3. What are Simon and Andrew doing when Jesus calls them?

4. What promise does Jesus make to them?

5. How do the disciples respond to Jesus' call?

6. **Application:** Where do you most need to invite Jesus into your daily life right now — work, family, stress, decisions, routines, or something else? What is stopping you from doing so?

Think It Through

Jesus does not begin with rules or self-improvement. He begins with an invitation into relationship and repentance. The word “repent” means more than feeling sorry. It means turning around—leaving one direction behind and walking in another. Notice also that Jesus calls ordinary working people. The power was never in the disciples’ ability; it was in the One who called them.

Following Jesus always involves both:

- trusting Him,
- and leaving something behind.

For the disciples, it was nets, boats, security, and familiarity. For us, it may be pride, sin, self-rule, comparison, bitterness, or dependence on worldly identity.

Read Luke 5:1–11

7. Why does Peter initially hesitate before obeying Jesus?

8. What happens when Peter obeys Jesus?

9. **Application:** *Is there an area where Jesus may be asking you to trust Him even when it does not make sense? Have you ever experienced growth or blessing after obeying God reluctantly or uncertainly?*

10. How did Peter react after the miraculous catch? What did Peter suddenly realize about himself? What did he realize about Jesus?

11. How did Jesus respond to Peter's fear and confession? [v10]

12. **Application:** *How can grace change the way we relate to Jesus? Are there areas of shame, failure, or insecurity that make it hard for you to draw near to Jesus? What would it look like to believe that Jesus invites you closer rather than pushing you away?*

13. According to verse 11, what did the disciples leave behind?

14. **Application:** Is there something Jesus may be asking you to surrender in order to follow Him more fully? How can the Bible, prayer, the Holy Spirit and the Christian community help you to move forward and walk with Jesus?

Think it through

Peter's first real encounter with Jesus exposes two things simultaneously:

- Jesus' holiness,
- and Peter's sinfulness.

This is often how discipleship begins. The closer we come to Jesus, the more clearly we see both His greatness and our need for grace. Yet Jesus does not reject Peter. He calls him.

The gospel is not: "Fix yourself so Jesus will accept you."

The gospel is: "Jesus calls sinners to follow Him, and He transforms them along the way."

Read Philippians 3:7–14

15. What things did Paul once consider “gain”?

16. What does Paul now consider more valuable than everything else? [v9–11]

17. What does Paul say he is pressing toward?

18. **Application:** *Why do you think people often want Jesus as Saviour but resist Him as Lord? What competes most strongly for your allegiance instead of Jesus? Is there anything Jesus may be asking you to leave behind in order to follow Him more fully?*

Gospel Connection;

Paul shows us that following Jesus is not mainly about losing things—it is about gaining Christ. The disciples left nets but gained purpose. Paul left status but gained Christ. The Christian life is not empty sacrifice; it is joyful surrender to the One who is infinitely better. Jesus never calls people merely to behave differently. He calls them to know Him personally.

Prayer:

Spend time praying together. Thank Jesus that He still calls ordinary people. Ask God to reveal anything that is hindering wholehearted discipleship. Pray for courage to obey Jesus immediately and fully. Ask the Holy Spirit to help you walk closely with Christ this week.

STUDY 2 — WALKING FREE FROM OUR PAST AND PAIN

What is one thing that God impressed upon you from the sermon or in your daily reading this week from the book ‘The Way He Walked’, Chapters 8-12? Share with the group.

Introduction

Having explored taking up the invitation to follow God; Father, Son and Spirit, this week we explore how our new identity brings life as we walk free from our past and pain. Just as a worker who changes companies stops working for the old and working for the new, so do we as Christians walk away from the past life and new into the new identity we have in Christ. This journey though, as good and joyful as it is, is not usually easy.

1. When you hear the phrase “walking free from your past”, what emotions or memories come to mind?
2. Why do you think many Christians struggle to walk away from their past, or to believe that real freedom is possible?

JESUS IS THE ONE WHO SETS US FREE

Read: John 8:31–36

3. What is the difference between ‘knowing the truth’ and ‘being set free by the truth’?
4. What kinds of “slavery” might Jesus be referring to—especially in relation to past pain or patterns?
5. What do you need to be set free from? How does Jesus’ authority give Him unique power to free us from what we cannot free ourselves from?

WALKING AWAY FROM OUR PAST

Read Luke 5:1-11

6. For Peter to consider following Jesus, what did he need to recognise about Jesus and himself? How might that be challenging to accept?

7. In v11 Peter then makes a decision, to “pull ashore, leave everything, and follow Jesus”. What things did Peter have walk away from? How do you imagine Peter felt about this decision?

Other stories of people needing to “walk away from their past”

Skim read these passages and see what it is that the characters were called to walk away from and what they might be set free into.

Bible Passage	Character	What they walked away from	What they were set free into
Luke 19:1-9	Zacchaeus	Dishonesty, exploitation and wealth gained through corruption	A new identity as a son of Abraham; joyful repentance; radical generosity
John 4:1-42	The Samaritan Woman	Sexual sin, relational instability, social isolation	Living water; restored dignity; bold witness; inclusion in God's family
John 8:1-11	The woman caught in adultery	Condemnation, guilt, destructive patterns	No condemnation; acceptance; freedom to have a new start
Mark 10:17-31	The rich young ruler (tragically did not walk away)	His wealth, status, self-righteousness	He <i>misses</i> the freedom of not being a slave to money, eternal treasure and true life
Acts 9:1-19	Saul/Paul	Violent zeal, pride, religious self-righteousness, hatred of Christians	A new calling; spiritual sight; humility; becoming a chosen instrument of Christ
Acts 16:11-15	Lydia	Her old identity and priorities; she reorients her household around Christ	Open- hearted faith; hospitality; becoming a foundational supporter of the gospel
Acts 19:18-20	Ephesian Believers	Occult practices, magic scrolls, spiritual bondage	Freedom from fear; public repentance; the power of Jesus over darkness

8. Of the stories in the table, which one most connects with your story and why?

Read Ephesians 4:20-24; 5:1-14

9. In Ephesians 4:20–24, what contrasts does Paul make between the old self and the new self (List the specific words and images he uses)?

What does this suggest about the ongoing nature of walking free from our past?

10. In Ephesians 5:1–14, what behaviours or patterns does Paul describe as belonging to “darkness,” (i.e. the old clothes) and what belongs to “light” (i.e. the new clothes)?

11. What part of your “old self” still tries to cling to you, and what specific “new self” practices do you need to embrace more?

Apply Deeper

Throughout the New Testament a word that consistently summarises this action of walking away from our past is, **Repentance**; a turning away from one lifestyle (against Jesus) to one following Jesus. The outcome of repentance is **Freedom and salvation**.

12. What do you need to walk away from and what would happen if you chose not to?

13. What part of your past most often tries to define you—and what truth from today's passages speaks against it?

14. What practical steps can you take this week to walk away from your past and walk with Jesus?

15. Who in your life might need encouragement to believe that freedom in Jesus is possible, and to continue to walk away from their past and with Jesus —and how could you support them?

Prayer:

Thank God for his healing and saving work in your life and the life of others, through the person and work of Christ.

Ask for his grace for you to let go of the past and “sin that so easily entangles.”

Ask for his grace for you to persevere in walking with Jesus through all the joys and struggles and life.

STUDY 3 — WALKING AS JESUS WALKED

What is one thing that God impressed upon you from the sermon or in your daily reading this week from the book ‘The Way He Walked’, Chapters 13-17? Share with the group.

Introduction

Jesus did not save us merely so we could believe certain truths. He saved us so we could walk with Him.

Throughout the New Testament, the Christian life is described as a walk:

- walking by faith [2 Cor.5:7]
- walking in love [Eph.5:2]
- walking in holiness [1 Peter. 1:15-16]
- walking in the Spirit [Gal.5:16]

1. Share one thing that Jesus has changed in your life since you started walking with Jesus.

PART 1 — ABIDING IN CHRIST: THE SOURCE OF THE CHRISTIAN LIFE

Read John 15:1–17

2. What picture does Jesus use in John 15? Why is it powerful?

3. What does Jesus say happens apart from Him?

4. What does it mean to “abide” in Christ practically?

5. What kind of fruit should grow in the believer’s life?

6. How are love and obedience connected in this passage?

Jesus describes Himself as the true vine and His followers as branches. Branches only live and bear fruit when they remain connected to the vine. The Christian life cannot be sustained through effort, religious activity, or good intentions alone. Spiritual life flows from abiding in Christ. To abide means: remaining close to Jesus, trusting His Word, depending on His strength, walking in obedience, and remaining in His love. Apart from Him, we can do nothing of eternal value.

PART 2 — WALKING BY FAITH WITH REPENTANCE AND CONFESSION

Read: 1 John 1:5–10

7. What does it mean to “walk in the light”?
8. Why is confession essential for spiritual growth?
9. What happens when people hide or excuse sin?

10. How does the Gospel free believers to confess honestly?

Think it through

Walking with Jesus means walking in the light.

Authentic discipleship requires honesty before God. Christians cannot grow while hiding sin, resisting conviction, or pretending spiritually.

Confession and repentance are not signs of failure in the Christian life. They are signs of spiritual life and humility.

Faith and repentance both become continual rhythms in the believer's walk.

PART 3 — PUTTING OFF THE OLD SELF, PUTTING ON THE NEW

Read Colossians 3:1–17

11. What attitudes and behaviours are believers commanded to “put to death”?

12. Why does Paul connect holiness with identity?

13. What characteristics should define the new life in Christ?

14. Which old patterns are hardest to leave behind?

15. How can we as a community of God's people work alongside the Holy Spirit [Gal.5:22-25] in helping each other walk the new life?

Think it through

Following Jesus means living out a completely new identity. Paul reminds believers that they have: died with Christ, been raised with Christ, and now belong to Christ.

Because of this, Christians are called to: put off the old self, reject sinful patterns, and put on Christlike character.

The Christian life is not merely improved behaviour. It is transformation from the inside out.

PART 4 — WALKING IN LOVE AS JESUS WALKED

Read: 1 John 2:3-6

16. According to John, how do we know someone truly knows Jesus?

17. What does it practically mean to “walk as Jesus walked”?

18. How should the love of Christ reshape relationships?

19. Is your life increasingly marked by Christlike love?

What areas of your life most need to reflect Jesus more clearly?

Think it through

Jesus not only calls believers to follow His teachings. He calls them to imitate His life.

To walk as Jesus walked means: loving sacrificially, forgiving freely, pursuing holiness, serving humbly, and obeying the Father.

Christian love is not merely emotional affection. It is a Spirit-formed way of life shaped by the example of Christ.

The closer believers walk with Jesus, the more their lives begin to reflect His character.

A Gospel Reflection

The call to walk as Jesus walked is not a call to earn salvation through human effort.

It is a call to abide in Christ, trust His promises, repent continually, surrender to the Spirit, and live out a new identity.

Jesus not only shows us the way. He is the way.

Through His death and resurrection: sinners are forgiven, hearts are made new, the Spirit is given, and believers are empowered to walk in obedience and love.

The Christian life is not about perfection through striving. It is about transformation through abiding in Christ.

Prayer:

Father, thank You for calling us to walk with Jesus.

Teach us to abide in Christ daily, to repent quickly, to trust deeply, and to walk in the power of the Holy Spirit.

Help us put off the old self and put on the character of Christ.

May our lives increasingly reflect the love, holiness, and obedience of Jesus. Amen.

STUDY 4 — WALKING OTHERS TO JESUS

What is one thing that God impressed upon you from the sermon or in your daily reading this week from the book ‘The Way He Walked’, Chapters 18-21? Share with the group.

Introduction

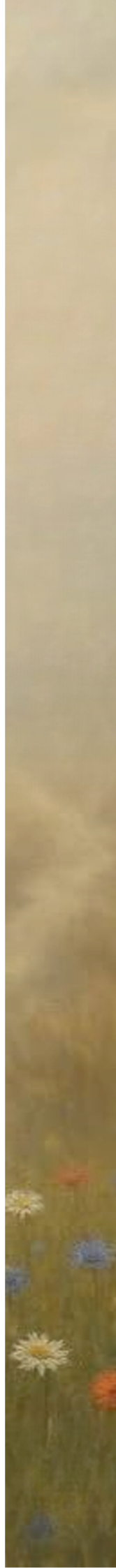
God is on a mission, and he has called us to be a part of it. As we walk with Jesus, we also walk alongside others inviting them to know and follow Jesus to.

- 1.. The missionary Hudson Taylor said, “*the great commission [Matt 28:18-20] is not an option to be considered, it is a command to obey.*” Discuss this statement.
2. Who helped walk you toward Jesus, and what did they do that made a difference?

The ministry of reconciliation

Read 2 Corinthians 5:14-20

3. What does Christ’s love do to us, and how does Paul describe the change it produces in a person’s life?
4. Paul says believers are given “the ministry of reconciliation” and called “Christ’s ambassadors”. What does this reveal about God’s heart for people who are far from Him?



5. What part being given “the ministry of reconciliation” and of being an “ambassador” feels most challenging for you right now, and what truth from this passage strengthens you to step forward?

Walking wisely with outsiders

Read: Colossians 4:2–6

6. Paul’s first focus is prayer (4:2). In verses 3–4 Paul asks for prayer for himself and those with him in prison. What are we told to pray for and why is it important to pray for these things?

7. We’re obviously not going to prayer for Paul (he’s in eternity with Christ) however the principles are still applicable to us. How can we take practical steps to adopt a genuinely habitual prayer life for other Christians, as they walk others to Jesus?

8. Verses 5–6 provide some universal attitudes and practices for proclaiming the gospel in our day-to-day lives. Consider what that could look like in today’s culture?

Dive Deeper: In what ways are these practices effective in today's culture?

Two stories of people walking others to Jesus

(1) John walking Andrew, and Andrew walking Peter

Read: John 1:35–42

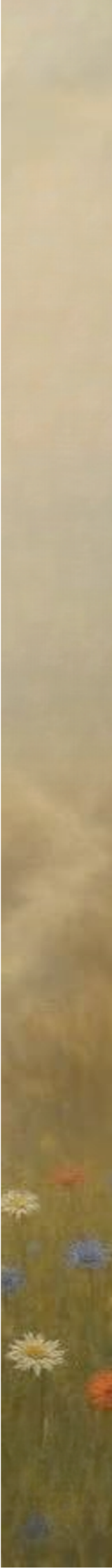
9. What are the ways that John and Andrew “walk people to Jesus”? And what does that teach us?

(2) Friends carry a paralysed man to Jesus.

Read: Mark 2:1–12

10. What do the friends' actions reveal about their faith and love?

11. What obstacles do people today face that make it hard to “get to Jesus”?



12. What might it look like for us to “carry” someone spiritually, consider the obstacles in the way and how you can overcome them.

Apply Deeper

13. Walking people to Jesus can be a long labour, it often takes great perseverance, ongoing compassion, gentleness and graciousness. How can the group encourage you to continue to labour in walking someone to Jesus?

14. Consider three elements of what it might look like to walk people to Jesus; Place, people, practice.

a) What’s a **place** you can be active and intentional in?

b) Who is a **person/ group of people** you can be intentional with to walk to Jesus?

c) What's a **practice** you can adopt to enable or help with reaching people to walk with them to Jesus

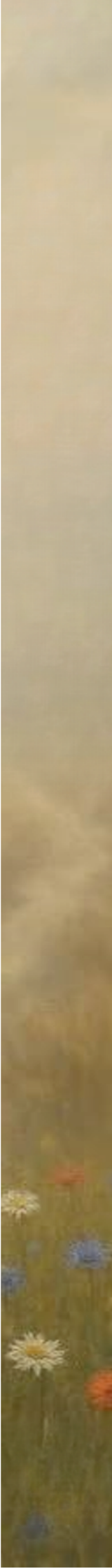
Prayer:

Thank God that he is continues to pursue lost people and call them back into relationship with him.

Thank God that he invites and calls us to be on mission with him.

Ask God to open opportunities and to give you boldness, wisdom and love in walking others to Jesus.

Prayer for other gospel workers around the world using Col 4:3-4.



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