

# INVITE WELL

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HEAR

## Read John 1:35-51

What do you notice about the way invitations happened in this story?

Why do you think the invitation to “come and see” was so compelling?



RESPOND

## Go and do

Invitations are critical in campus ministry. They’re key junctures where people decide whether to take a step deeper – by joining a community, going to a Bible study, or choosing to follow Jesus – or stick to the status quo. We need to do all we can to make our invitations compelling, to cast our vision well and to engage others. As much as possible, we want to avoid making awkward or unclear invitations. It’s important that we prepare to make good invitations, even if the exercise itself feels awkward at the moment.

On a blank sheet of paper, write the name of one of your friends you listed on your network map. You can write a general invitation for several friends, but we find it helpful to begin with someone specific in mind. Use the following steps to write an invitation to next week’s Bible study (or some other event you have coming up).

- **STEP 1:** The Ask – What, specifically, are you asking for? What specific details do they need to know?
- **STEP 2:** Personal Connection – Brainstorm connections that make your invitation personal. (Could you walk over to Bible study together after class? Do they have other friends who attend? Will there be a snack they like?)
- **STEP 3:** Relevance – Think about what makes this invitation relevant and valuable to the invitee. (Have they expressed interest in the Bible? Have they been wanting to grow in their faith? What do you think they would gain from this experience?)
- **STEP 4:** Putting it Together – Organize all the pieces and write out your invitation to make sure it flows.

Once you’ve crafted a compelling invitation, it’s time to practice and refine it. Share your invitation with one of your friends in this meeting. Make sure you tell them who the invitation is for. Ask them to help by giving kind, constructive feedback. Focus on making your passion clearer, removing confusing language, and tightening your message.



**FINAL STEP:** We didn't just spend 20-30 minutes learning how to make good invitations for nothing. The purpose of all of this was to learn to be like Andrew and Phillip, who invited their friends to Jesus. Look at your network map again. Who are you going to invite to Bible study next week? Pick 3-5 people on your list and use the compelling invitation you just wrote (and practiced) to invite them to our next Bible study.



### Reflect on what you learned

- How did your invitations go?
- What felt challenging about inviting people to Bible study?
- What did you learn about making a good invitation that you didn't know before?

## ADDITIONAL RESOURCES



### THE **MINISTRY PLAYBOOK**

If you want to learn more about how to make great invitations and help people say yes to opportunities to experience Jesus then check out this course in the Ministry Playbook.

