

Matthew 4:18-20 ¹⁸And Jesus, walking by the Sea of Galilee, saw two brothers, Simon called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea; for they were fishermen. ¹⁹Then He said to them, "Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men." ²⁰They immediately left their nets and followed Him.

I. OUR CALL IS TO JESUS

A. Many disciples start off with incorrect ideas of being a disciple

1. They think their calling is to a position or a job: Unsatisfying
 - a. Or they let the job consume their relationship with God – or their marriage/family
2. They think their calling is to people: Then they are disappointed by results or responses

B. Your calling/your number 1 task in life is relationship with Jesus: **V19 Follow Me...**

1. Spending time with God in prayer and reading the Bible: *That is the foundation!*
 - a. **Mark 3:14** Then He appointed twelve, that they might be with Him and that He might send them out to preach,
2. Everything flows out of your relationship with God!
 - a. God can speak to you/God can direct you. b. You gain wisdom. c. You get direction

C. It is in following that we become like Jesus: We are changed

1. Disciples in those days would become like their teacher:
 - a. Story of a man seeing some young men stooped as they walked: Their rabbi was stooped over
2. **2 Corinthians 3:18** But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord.
 - a. This is how we can enter the ministry having many flaws: *You can change if you have relationship*

II. OUR CALL IS TO FOLLOW

A. More mistakes disciples make over time

1. They think God's job is to bless everything they want to do
 - a. I want/I think...so now bless it God!
2. Others get stuck in certain places: Comfort or just in a rut
 - a. They simply expect God to bless where they are at - forever

B. Follow is a direction word: **V19 Follow Me...**

1. We follow Jesus – which means Jesus is the one directing our lives
 - a. Jesus gave direction throughout their discipleship. **John 11:7 John 11:15 Mark 1:38 Mark 4:35**
2. It's not just that there were specific tasks in each place: The point is learning to follow His direction

C. Discipleship must involve learning to follow Jesus direction

1. We need to be seeking and listening for God's voice of direction
 - a. **1 Samuel 3:9-10** ⁹Therefore Eli said to Samuel, "Go, lie down; and it shall be, if He calls you, that you must say, 'Speak, LORD, for Your servant hears.'" So Samuel went and lay down in his place. ¹⁰Now the LORD came and stood and called as at other times, "Samuel! Samuel!" And Samuel answered, "Speak, for Your servant hears."
2. We must obey God's voice: *Learn to follow His direction*
 - a. *Giving/witnessing/praying for the sick/gifts of the Spirit/fasting...*
3. That needs to become our permanent posture of life
 - a. *I've been Pastoring for 40 years: I am still a follower of Jesus!*

III. OUR CALL IS TO HIS PURPOSE

A. Then God calls us to a purpose: **V19** Then He said to them, "Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men."

1. **Your life is to impact other people:** Get people saved & be a part of their life changing
 - a. In the church now: Witnessing/fruitfulness/working with new converts
 - b. The call to preach is something you have to settle with God: Jesus calls – Pastors don't
2. The purpose flows out of the relationship and the following: Must get the order correct – always!

B. We must respond to our purpose: **V20** They immediately left their nets and followed Him.

1. Priority: Purpose must come ahead of other options...