

The Call to Follow Jesus | 10.8.17

Mark 1:16-20

Sermon Discussion Questions

1. This week's message focused on Jesus' invitation to follow Him. As you begin your time together, take a moment and share a few stories of how you came to know the Lord. What was your "call" like?
2. In Mark 1:16-20 we see the calling of first disciples. Pastor Jim highlighted that it all starts with an invitation. There were two things he pointed out about the offer being made? Who is making the call and what is the call an invitation to?
3. The call is Jesus reaching out to us, he makes the invitation and in it we're invited to do the work of the kingdom in our respective fields. Where has God called you to be? How do you see His call on your life playing out in your family, work, community?
4. With the invitation, there is also a promise. Re-read the passage in Mark 1:16-20, what is Jesus promising them? What does he promise us? Read Matthew 6:33 and discuss how this ties into the promise He makes.
5. Pastor Jim then spoke to us about the cost of the invitation. In following Jesus we are also leaving something else. What things did Pastor Jim mention we would need to surrender to God, to leave behind to follow Jesus? Have you seen this in your own walk? How has your faith affected your relationships? Your career?
6. Pastor Jim pointed out that the cost is high but that the disciples left what was temporary (even if valuable) for what was infinitely more valuable and lasting. This should be great news for us and for any believer, but often times it's not? Why do you think this full surrender to God and pursuit of Him is so difficult?
7. The invitation we have in Christ is a great and exciting one. The opportunity to be called into kingdom work is also great. But, the cost can be high. As you close today, reflect on some of the following scripture and spend sometime praying. Pray for strength to follow Jesus and trust Him. Pray for those that have not chosen to follow Him yet, that they would make the choice and call out to Him as Lord and Savior. Pray and encourage each other to pursue the call in your life.
 - a. Matthew 16:24
 - b. Galatians 2:20
 - c. Philippians 3:7-8