

Mark 1:14-20 | *The Call of the First Disciples*

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14 After John was put in prison, Jesus went into Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God. **15** "The time has come," he said. "The kingdom of God has come near. Repent and believe the good news!"

16 As Jesus walked beside the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the lake, for they were fishermen. **17** "Come, follow me," Jesus said, "and I will send you out to fish for people." **18** At once they left their nets and followed him.

19 When he had gone a little farther, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John in a boat, preparing their nets. **20** Without delay he called them, and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men and followed him.

QUESTIONS

1. **Opening Sharing Qn.** Read vv.16-20 (you may choose to have one CG member read it out loud). Imagine that you are at the scene as Jesus calls his first disciples.

Where do you find yourself on the scene? Do you imagine yourself as one of the disciples, responding to Jesus's call? Do you identify with Zebedee on the boat? Are you an onlooker watching as Jesus speaks to the others? Share how you feel, and why you feel that way.

2. Read v.14. Jesus's ministry began when John the Baptist was imprisoned; obedience often doesn't lead to the earthly results we might expect. What are some examples of such obedience that you may have personally experienced or witnessed?
3. Read vv.16-20a. Do you find Jesus's absolute call to follow him as a disciple unconditionally scary, exciting, or both? Where do you find yourself in your personal discipleship journey?

4. Read v.20b. James and John left their father Zebedee behind in the boat as they followed Jesus. What are some things (or even people) that you find difficulty “leaving behind” as you follow Jesus with all that you have?

5. Read v.15. Jesus tells us that the Kingdom of God has come near - and then to repent and believe the good news. How do we as a church make this invisible kingdom in our midst, visible?

6. **Key Application Qn.** What do you feel is God’s calling over your life in this season? How can you actively take steps in obedience to live out that call?