



## **Disciples, Followers, Apprentices of the Master**

### **Key idea:**

Jesus is calling a community of disciples/followers/apprentices to learn from His teachings, be transformed to have His character, and imitate His practices and life rhythms.

### **Key text:**

Mark 1:16–20

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. <sup>17</sup> “Come, follow me,” Jesus said, “and I will make you fishers of men.” <sup>18</sup> At once they left their nets and followed him. <sup>19</sup> When he had gone a little farther, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John in a boat, preparing their nets. <sup>20</sup> Without delay he called them, and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men and followed him.

### **Key points:**

1. Discipleship is a key theme in Mark’s Gospel, but it is often misunderstood today.
2. There are several key things we need to understand regarding the teaching of the New Testament on being disciples/followers/apprentices of Jesus.  
Specifically, disciples/followers/apprentices of Jesus:
  - a. learn from the teaching of the Master
  - b. learn from the character of the Master
  - c. learn from the practices & life rhythms of the Master
  - d. learn from the Master in community

### **Questions for discussion/application:**

1. What part of Sunday's teaching stood out most to you? Why?

2. When I hear the word “disciple” what comes to my mind? Do I get a different idea from words like “follower of Jesus” or “apprentice of Jesus”? Can I think of other terms that might be helpful to give a full, accurate picture of what is meant by being a disciple?
3. Why does discipleship begin with learning from the teaching of Jesus? Why is the teaching of Jesus foundational for the other aspects of being disciples/followers/apprentices of Jesus?
4. Why is character development an essential aspect of being disciples/followers/apprentices of Jesus? Can I be a disciple merely by learning truths about Jesus, the Kingdom, the world, sin, and righteousness? Why or why not?
5. Have I ever thought about the importance of learning from the practices and life rhythms of Jesus? Have I ever taken time to pay attention, not just to Jesus' words and deeds, but specifically to his regular practices and rhythms of life?
6. Have I ever considered that Jesus' interactions in training His disciples in the New Testament are almost entirely with a group rather than an individual? Why might I not have noticed this fact?
7. How can I grow into the community disciples/followers/apprentices of Jesus at BRCC?
8. Who will I call or see to invite to church this week?