



## The King Summons Followers

### Key idea:

Jesus is calling disciples - those who sacrifice everything so they can follow and be apprenticed by Him to enable them to reach out to others and help them to follow Jesus.

### 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. Jesus not only proclaimed the Kingdom to crowds, but He also called specific people to follow Him as His disciples.
2. In this passage we learn five key facets of discipleship:
  - a. Jesus is the One Who calls disciples
  - b. The heart of discipleship is following Jesus
  - c. Discipleship requires sacrifice
  - d. Discipleship is a process of learning and apprenticeship
  - e. Discipleship equips us to reach out to others

### Questions for discussion/application:

1. What part of Sunday's teaching stood out most to you? Why?
2. Why did Jesus take the unusual step of calling people to follow Him as disciples rather than waiting for them to choose Him? What does that tell me about the authority of Jesus?

3. 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?
4. Why is it important to know that discipleship requires sacrifice? Do I think this message is taught enough in the current American Church? Why or why not?
5. Why does Mark stress the fact that these first disciples “left everything” to follow Jesus? What would that communicate to his original readers? What does it communicate to me?
6. Can I think of things in my life preventing me from following Jesus? What are the biggest obstacles right now that prevent me (or my family) from actively growing as disciples of Christ? What can I do to change this?
7. Why is the natural outcome of being a follower of Jesus to be a “fisher of men”? If I am not reaching out to others, what does that indicate about my growth as a disciple?
8. As I try to reach out to people around me, why is it important to remember that it is Jesus Who calls people to follow Him as disciples? How can this give me comfort and confidence?
9. Who will I call or see to invite to church this week?