

Influence Ministries

FOLLOW

LESSON 2

TITLE: IT'S AN INVITATION TO RELATIONSHIP

Matt 4:19-20

¹⁹ Then He said to them, "Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men."

²⁰ They immediately left their nets and followed Him.

They're just working, and Jesus says follow me...
and they leave the job and follow.

Sounds crazy, but watch, it gets worse.

²¹ Going on from there, He saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee, and John his brother, in the boat with Zebedee their father, mending their nets. He called them,

²² and immediately they left the boat and their father, and followed Him.

They leave their boat; they leave their father to do what? Follow.

Faith comes by hearing, following begins by listening.

Luke 5:3-5

³ Then He got into one of the boats, which was Simon's, and asked him to put out a little from the land. And He sat down and taught the multitudes from the boat.

⁴ When He had stopped speaking, He said to Simon, "Launch out into the deep and let down your nets for a catch."

⁵ But Simon answered and said to Him, "Master, we have toiled all night and caught nothing; nevertheless, at Your word I will let down the net."

The reason we know who Peter is because he chose to follow Jesus.

Jesus was asking him to do something he had done 1000 times before and Jesus was asking him to do it in the day which was not customary to fishing.

They fished at night because the fish came to the top and during the day the water was cooler on the bottom, so they swam deep.

This was the next step for Peter. If he was going to follow Jesus, then he needed to trust Him.

That's where some of you are today.

Which comes first? Trust or follow?

A single decision to follow Jesus can radically change your life.

A single decision to trust Jesus can radically change your life.

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By you simple following Jesus proves you trust Him.

Luke 5:6,7

⁶ And when they had done this, they caught a great number of fish, and their net was breaking.

⁷ So they signaled to their partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both the boats, so that they began to sink.

Look what happen to Peter here:

Luke 5:8

When Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, "Depart from me, for I am a sinful man, O Lord!"

He didn't call Him master, he called Him Lord. This was the beginning of Peter's relationship with Jesus.

It wasn't about the fish anymore. It was about Jesus.

Luke 5:10-11 ...Then Jesus said to Simon, "Do not be afraid. From now on you will catch men."

¹¹ So when they had brought their boats to land, they forsook all and followed Him.

Why did they follow Him? Because they listened and inconvenience themselves to follow Him.

In this story I see four phases of following Him:

1. Sit and listen phase. Your assignment is to just come back next week. Tune in sort of speak. This is where is all starts.
2. Loan Him the boat phase. This is the inconvenience point. He's asking you to do something. Inconvenience, yes but it's your next point of following Him. God is asking you for some minor allowance into your life.
3. Take Him fishing phase. This is where God is wanting you to do something you've done 1000 times, but this time He wants you to do it different. You've thought before, I really need to _____. God may be asking you to change one little thing in your life.
4. Leave your nets phase. God, I want to surrender my whole life. I've wasted too much time; I've played around too long. I'm ready to have your will in all areas of my life now.

So, here's the question: What is your next step to follow Him?

There are only 4 choices, and you need to choose 1.

You do not want to spend the rest of your life wondering what God might have done if you had said yes.

You do not want to spend another season of your life wondering around thinking, I thought God was real.

This is part of following Him. Whatever your next step is...

TAKE IT!!