

## Immediate Response

[Mar 1:16-20 ESV] 16 Passing alongside the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and Andrew the brother of Simon casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen. 17 And Jesus said to them, "Follow me, and I will make you become fishers of men." 18 And immediately they left their nets and followed him. 19 And going on a little farther, he saw James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, who were in their boat mending the nets. 20 And immediately he called them, and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired servants and followed him.

### I. Intro

- A. We continue to pray, we lift up service men and women, we lift up world leaders, we lift up the mission of the gospel, we lift up the innocent ones caught in the devastation of war.
- B. We have a high calling to be about the mission of the gospel no matter what comes.
- C. Today we will see the first disciples invited in to the mission, and their response should be our response.

### II. Text

- A. Mark has a more direct approach to the calling of the disciples, more details in the other accounts.
- B. Verse 16: Jesus in Galilee
  1. Some of the people were likely to have witnessed His baptism from several weeks earlier
  2. But walking along the shoreline He finds the men He is looking for: Peter, Andrew, James, and John
  3. Andrew is named specifically in John 1:40 as one who was a follower of John the Baptist
  4. Another disciple was unnamed in John 1:40, which scholars believe John did on purpose to leave his name out.
- C. Verse 17:
  1. Follow me and I will make you fishers of Men
  2. Jesus related to them and who they were, while asking them to look to the next chapter
- D. Verse 18:
  1. **THEY DID IT! THEY FOLLOWED**
  2. This is a shocking moment, because this is not my experience in ministry
  3. They dropped their nets and followed, we can learn something
- E. Verse 19:
  1. Now Peter and Andrew are in tow, and Jesus moves to the **SONS OF THUNDER**
  2. The sons of Zebedee followed Jesus, and Jesus gave them this nickname for some reason
  3. I think it would be a motivator, but I'm not sure what He would nickname me or you...
    - a) Son of "thinks he can handle it himself", Son of "faithful most of the time", Son of "argues with God"
    - b) Son of "powerful faith", Son of "strives for the kingdom"
    - c) Think about it
- F. Verse 20
  1. They immediately He called, Immediately they followed
  2. There was work left to do, but the priority was Jesus.

### III. Point

- A. A Lack of Information
  1. Things the men didn't know:
    - a) Where they were going
    - b) What they would face along the way

- c) How they were going to make a living
    - d) The schedule
  - 2. They were not given much information, and they didn't seem to need information.
  - 3. Jesus called them, they responded
  - 4. He did declare He would make them fishers of men:
    - a) Also a strange statement if you want to gather a following, but they could relate.
    - b) He used their profession to elevate to a higher calling
    - c) They understood what it meant to be fishermen, now they were transitioning to that elevated calling.
  - 5. Fishermen need:
    - a) Patience
    - b) Strategy
    - c) Discipline
    - d) Gathering
  - 6. Fishers of Men also need:
    - a) Patience: We find people where they are and help them through their journey of faith
    - b) Strategy: knowledge and practice help, knowing how others have found success is a tool for building effectiveness.
    - c) Discipline: it takes continuing on when there is no obvious result, hard days, easy days, no days off.
    - d) Gathering: when you cast a net, sometimes you gather a catch
  - 7. They may not have had all the information, but they knew who was calling them, and that was enough.
- B. Enough Information
- 1. Jesus calling them moves them towards their future
  - 2. Jesus' call was enough
  - 3. This is the calling of a DISCIPLE! And, it doesn't stop after the initial call.
  - 4. [Phl 3:12-16 ESV] 12 Not that I have already obtained this or am already perfect, but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. 13 Brothers, I do not consider that I have made it my own. But one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, 14 I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus. 15 Let those of us who are mature think this way, and if in anything you think otherwise, God will reveal that also to you. 16 Only let us hold true to what we have attained.
  - 5. Lets deal with the past:
    - a) Some of us could celebrate past success...but that will distract from pressing on for the mission ahead.
      - (1) Don't let all your victories be from the past, keep pressing on in service
      - (2) Calera, Ok has a sign by the highway that celebrates the 1956 Class B basketball state championship...that's a great accomplishment, but is there something to celebrate today?
    - b) Some of us are ashamed of past mistakes...but they will also distract us from pressing on for the mission ahead
      - (1) In dealing with sin, repent and press forward towards Christ
      - (2) Don't miss the opportunity to start over!
      - (3) [1Jo 1:9 ESV] 9 If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.
- C. Immediate Response
- 1. They just responded
  - 2. They immediately dropped their nets
  - 3. They just trusted Jesus
  - 4. They didn't wrestle with the past, they followed Jesus

5. Press forward, there is no focusing on the past while pressing on to the calling of God.
6. An immediate response recognizes the calling is from God and we are to follow Him no matter what.
7. An Immediate response does not allow for you to reason with God on why this is a bad idea or not the right time.
8. Church, we must stop negotiating with God and follow what he commands us to do:
  - a) Go and make disciples
  - b) Invest in your neighbors and loved ones
  - c) Who are your 5?
  - d) Study the word
  - e) Gather with other believers and serve your role

IV. Close