



The Book of Mark

Session 2: Mark 1:14-45

True discipleship means: Following Jesus Christ

- It requires a relationship with Jesus Christ
- We want to feel motivated toward obedience by his love, not our guilt
- We want to surrender every aspect of our lives to the Holy Spirit's transforming work

Question: How are you doing in being a disciple for Jesus Christ?

Read Mark 1:14-20

The disciples weren't ideal choices for a Rabbi's students. They were blue collar fisherman who knew little else except knot-tying and fish gutting, yet they leapt at the chance to follow this unusual Rabbi.

Question: Most of us live comfortable lives. It was easy to see Jesus's call as inconvenience. What have you given up to follow him?

Jesus had met these men several months before he had called them (see John 1:35-49). Jesus spoke to them with authority. When he said, "Come follow me", it was with authority.

Question: Fishermen knew how to bait the hook. Have you ever baited the hook and was used by the Holy Spirit to lead someone to Christ?

- Jesus set up his ministry headquarters in Capernaum, a place where they went to Synagogue. Synagogue was a place where they read the scriptures, praying and worshipping God.

Question: Why is it important for us today to go to church and read scripture, pray, and worship God? Is it helping you in being a disciple for Christ?

- The disciples' lives were changed forever. They followed the Rabbi.

Question: Describe a moment when life for you completely changed – where the world was going to be different and there was no going back.

- God is at work creating a people, which means the focus of discipleship is helping people surrender to and follow Jesus. Jesus did not come simply to change our circumstances, but to transform our hearts.

Read Mark 1:21-34

These verses give us the first glimpses of Jesus's power and his full authority.

Question: Jesus extends his benefits of his authority to unlikely people. How do we live differently in the light of Jesus's authority?

Read Mark 1:35-45

- Jesus didn't allow the distractions of people or even his growing popularity to distract him for the call on his life.

Question: Describe some of the distractions that divert your attention from Jesus. How do they affect your willingness to obey him?

- Our career, our family, everything else – we've got to understand they are so low compared to the calling of Jesus.

Question: We are prone to acting like disciples, more concerned about what we'll get out of the arrangement than doing the Father's will. How do we stay focused in submitting our lives to his calling whenever and wherever it leads?

Next week: Read Mark 2:1 - 3:6