

Abide in Me

*Mentored by the Master
Discipleship in Real Time*



Volume 10 - Number 14

The Week of February 9, 2025

Come and Follow
What You Were Made For
Matthew 4:18-22

This week's passage is one of the most pivotal moments in the ministry of Jesus – His calling of the first disciples. As Jesus walks along the sandy shore of the lake, He calls two sets of brothers, Simon Peter and Andrew, then James and John, to leave their fishing nets and become fishers of men. Immediately, they leave their livelihoods and follow Him. The call demonstrates both the authority of Jesus and the radical obedience of those who follow Him. As we meditate on this passage, we must ask ourselves: How do we respond when Jesus calls? What does it mean to follow Jesus? To follow Him means to leave behind what was once considered so essential and make Jesus the central reality of our lives.

OBSERVATION (*What does the passage say and how does it say it?*)

Before your group meets, read the passage and perform the following prompts:

1. **Jesus** – Place a † over all the pronouns indicating Jesus.
2. **Disciples** – Circle all their names and pronouns.
3. **Location** – Double underline all references to the *Sea of Galilee*.
4. **Key Actions** – Box the verbs related to *calling* and *following*.
5. **Process** – Place a double circle around the word *become*.
6. **Response** – Highlight the words *immediately* and *leave* in yellow.
7. **Fishing/Fishers of Men** – Draw a fish symbol next to any mention of fishing or discipleship.

¹⁸ While walking by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon (who is called Peter) and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen. ¹⁹ And he said to them, "Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men." ²⁰ Immediately they left their nets and followed him. ²¹ And 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, and he called them. ²² Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

SUMMARIZE IN ONE SENTENCE WHAT THIS PASSAGE IS ABOUT:

(What is the writer's main theme and what is the writer saying about it?)

INTERPRETATION (*What does the passage mean?*)

1. What is significant about Jesus calling fishermen rather than religious leaders?
2. Why do you think Jesus initiates the call rather than the disciples seeking Him out? What does this passage reveal about the authority of Jesus?
3. What does "follow Me" imply in this cultural and religious context?
4. Why do the disciples respond immediately without hesitation?
5. How does the term *fishers of men* reshape their identity and purpose?

APPLICATION (*How does the passage apply to our lives?*)

1. In what ways can you be more immediate in your obedience to Christ? How can you cultivate a heart that is more responsive to Jesus' call?

