

STUDIES FROM THE WORD OF GOD



M.A.T.U.R.E. CHRISTIAN LIVING: FOLLOWING CHRIST Part III

Mark 1:14-20

“The Art of Fishing”

- I. **CHRIST CALLS ALL WHO HAVE BEEN DRAWN TO HIM, BY THE FATHER, TO GO INTO THE WORLD AND MAKE DISCIPLES AND TEACH THEM TO OBEY ALL THAT HE HAS COMMANDED US IN SCRIPTURE.**
 - A. Is there a **DESIRE** or passion within you that yearns for the salvation of sinners in darkness? Is your heart’s desire to seek the lost?
 - B. It is the work of God who places these desires in our heart and mind. (**John 6:44-45**)
 1. The desire to be saved from the penalty, power, and presence of sin
 2. The desire to be delivered out of darkness and made to be light in the Lord (**Ephesians 5:8**)
- II. **CHRIST COMMANDS US TO FOLLOW HIM AS HE FOLLOWS THE FATHER.**
 - A. The present imperative tense of FOLLOW calls for a long-term, lifelong commitment of action to “continually habitually follow”.
 1. **To FOLLOW**: means yielding to the will of the Father; to accompany, fellowship, and build relationship with Christ through obedience
 2. **To Follow Christ** means to follow Christ’s example (**John 5:19-21**)
 3. **To Follow Christ** according to His word, we must: (**Matthew 16:24**)
 - a. **DENY SELF** – (**Matthew 4:19-22; Luke 5:11**)
 - b. **TAKE UP YOUR CROSS** – (**Philippians 2:8b,c**)

III. CHRIST HAS EQUIPPED EVERY FOLLOWER WITH THE TOOLS NECESSARY TO DRAW MEN UNTO HIMSELF

A. True Fishermen are equipped with:

- 1. The LIGHT (John 8:12; Matthew 5:16; Ephesian 5:8)**
- 2. SKILLS: patience, faithfulness, self-control, discernment (Galatians 5:22-23; 1Corinthians 12:7-11)**

THEREFORE, CONTINUE TO WALK IN THE WAYS WHICH THE LORD HAS COMMANDED US, THAT WE MAY LIVE AND THAT IT MAY BE WELL WITH US, THAT WE MAY PROLONG OUR DAYS TILL CHRIST RETURNS.

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Bible Study Questions:

- 1. Why are you following Jesus? What are your expectations? Are you in it to get something from Him, or are you in it for Him alone?**
- 2. How have you responded to Jesus command to “Follow Him”? What was the sacrifice?**
- 3. In your opinion, what are the most important things we need to learn from Jesus in order to become "fishers of men"?**