

## Jesus Calls His Disciples

### Introduction

- A disciple is someone who believes in Jesus and seeks to follow Him in his/her daily life. To be a disciple of Jesus we must have a personal relationship with Him.
- Jesus calls us to trust His leading, to invite sinners to repentance, and to seek to make disciples.
- We are called to intentionally invest in others so they might become His disciples as well.

### Luke 5:3-7

- Jesus' instructions to Peter didn't make sense in light of the fisherman's experience, yet he trusted Jesus and demonstrated faith as he obeyed Him. Peter acknowledged Jesus' authority when he called Him "Master".
- **1Corinthians 1:20-25** points out that the gospel was a stumbling block to the Jews and Gentiles. Each was trusting in something other than the gospel (Jews trusted in their ability while the Gentiles trusted in their wisdom).
- God leads us to a place where we trust Him, not our efforts or our logic. We must distinguish the voice of God from the voices of our hearts and the voices of the world.

- Jesus revealed to Peter, James and John who He was. So in response, they left everything to follow Jesus (**John 5:11**).

### Luke 5:8-11

- Peter's experience caused him to recognize Jesus as Lord and to confess his sinfulness. This experience resulted in Peter's worshipping Jesus and surrendering to Him.
- In **Isaiah 6:5-13** we see Isaiah recognized his sin, atonement for his sin, and given a mission of judgement. In **Luke 5:8-11** we see Peter recognize his sin, atonement of his sin by the cross of Jesus, and sent on a mission of evangelism.
- The transformation of the disciples into fishers of men occurred because of the work of Jesus in their lives. Jesus' sufficiency is more than enough to cover our insufficiency. Jesus will transform and equip us for the work He has for us to do.
- We should not let our own insufficiencies cause us to fear, but to trust Him. Jesus wants us to bring everything to Him because He is sufficient.

### Luke 5:27-32

- Being a disciple of Christ means we must have a life change centered on a relationship with Jesus. Jesus promised to transform His disciples into men who would share the good news of the gospel.

- Levi(Matthew) responded to Jesus' call to follow Him, by leaving everything. Then he began to share with others how Jesus had changed his life.
- We must never lose the focus of our mission of sharing the gospel of Jesus Christ. Our mission is to share the gospel of Jesus Christ by calling non-Christians to repentance.
- We must never exclude anyone from God's Kingdom; Jesus demonstrated His love for all and to draw them into His Kingdom.
- The Pharisees believed that association with tax collectors and other sinners would defile them. Jesus shattered this idea by dining with sinners and allowing them to touch Him.

### Points to Consider

- **Psalm 91** assures us that the Will of God will not take us where the Grace of God will not protect us.
- Sometimes Jesus' instructions are in contrast to our conventional wisdom. For example, Abraham trusted that God would give him a child even though he and his wife were very old (**Genesis 17:15-17; 18:10-14**).
- The disciples Jesus called were not theological professionals but fishermen, tax collectors, revolutionaries, and plain sinners to make up this new community. We need not be perfect to come to God; rather we need to trust God and let Him transform our lives.

- **Ephesians 6:18-20** is a great encouragement to us. We do not have to pretend to have a sense of bravery or courage to share the gospel. We can ask Him to give the courage and boldness that we need.