

16 Now as he walked by the sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and Andrew his brother casting a net into the sea: for they were fishers.

17 And Jesus said unto them, Come ye after me, and I will make you to become fishers of men.

18 And straightway they forsook their nets, and followed him.

19 And when he had gone a little further thence, he saw James the son of Zebedee, and John his brother, who also were in the ship mending their nets.

20 And straightway he called them: and they left their father Zebedee in the ship with the hired servants, and went after him.

What must we do to follow Jesus?

I. We must believe on Jesus Christ as our personal Savior:

Simon Peter and Andrew believed on the Lord before they left their nets.

- *“And Simon answering said unto him, Master, we have toiled all the night, and have taken nothing: nevertheless at thy word I will let down the net.”* (Luke 5:5).

II. We must acknowledge the calling from the Holy Spirit (Realize God wants us to follow him):

A. Simon Peter and Andrew heard Jesus calling them, wanting their attention.

- *“And Jesus said unto them...”* (Mark 1:17).

B. We are not to reject the calling from God through the Holy Spirit in us.

- *“For God hath not called us unto uncleanness, but unto holiness. He therefore that despiseth, despiseth not man, but God, who hath also given unto us his holy Spirit.”* (1st Thessalonians 4:7-8).

III. We must acknowledge the duty of the calling (What I have been called to do):

A. Simon Peter and Andrew realized Jesus was calling them to:

- *“... become fishers of men.”* (Mark 1:17).

B. What is God’s calling for your life? Consider **Mark 1:17** written exactly for you:

- Come ye after me, and I will make you to become _____ (you fill in the blank, for what God has called you to do).

C. God has not called us all to be preachers or missionaries, but He has called us in some way to bring Him glory and help others.

- *“And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ:”* (Ephesians 4:11-12).

IV. We must turn from ourselves completely (meaning our duties and desires) to God (Turn from my duties to God’s duties for me):

- A. Once Simon Peter and Andrew heard and understood their duty from God:
- “straightway they forsook their nets...” (Mark 1:18).
- B. They straightway forsook their nets! They did not hesitate or try to understand completely, they just obeyed. They allowed God to set the path for their lives.
- *“Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.”* (Proverbs 3:5-6).
 - *“He must increase, but I must decrease.”* (John 3:30).
- V. We must FOLLOW Jesus before any other thing (The duties of God are number 1 in my life):**
- A. Simon Peter and Andrew directly, quickly, and faithfully:
- *“...followed him.”* (Mark 1:18).
- B. They left their own duties/purpose for God’s duties and purpose, and they followed after serving God as top priority.
- *“And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength: this is the first commandment.”* (Mark 12:30).
- C. We are given the choice to follow after God, and His duties for our life. Simon Peter and Andrew were not forced to follow Jesus, they chose to follow Jesus.
- *“For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ. Now if any man build upon this foundation gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, stubble; Every man's work shall be made manifest: for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall try every man's work of what sort it is. If any man's work abide which he hath built thereupon, he shall receive a reward. If any man's work shall be burned, he shall suffer loss: but he himself shall be saved; yet so as by fire.”* (1st Corinthians 3:11-15).

Will you choose to follow Jesus?