

THIRD SUNDAY after the EPIPHANY

Directions: Read the scripture selected from the Revised Common Lectionary, perhaps before bed, in the morning, or during a family meal. Move through the discussion questions in one sitting or answer one a day to help reflect on the scripture throughout the week. End your time in prayer. This could be a simple ritual to incorporate into the week.

MARK 1:14-20

Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, and saying, “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news.”

As Jesus passed along the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the sea—for they were fishermen. And Jesus said to them, “Follow me and I will make you fish for people.” And immediately they left their nets and followed him. As he went a little farther, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John, who were in their boat mending the nets. Immediately he called them; and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men, and followed him.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. When have you heard someone proclaim good news? What was the news?
2. What do you think Jesus means when he says, “I will make you fish for people?”
3. When have you followed someone else’s lead?
4. Why do you think all these people stopped what they were doing to follow Jesus?
5. What qualities does a good leader have?

FOLLOWING JESUS JOURNEY

Following Jesus in our daily lives can look like a lot of different things. Jesus said and did a lot of things we can also do. Here's a short, prayerful activity you can do around your living space:

1. Start off in your favorite place. Get into a comfortable position. Think about how you are connected to Jesus. Out loud or in your head, say this Bible verse: "Abide in me as I abide in you." (John 15:4)
2. Move to a place where you work/learn. Get into a comfortable position. Think about how we are taught by Jesus and called to teach others. Out loud or in your head, say this Bible verse: "Every day he was teaching in the temple." (Luke 21:37)
3. Move to a place where you eat/drink. Get into a comfortable position. Think about how we are fed by Jesus and called to feed others. Out loud or in your head, say this Bible verse: "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty." (John 6:35)
4. Move to a place where you pray. Get into a comfortable position. Think about how Jesus made time to pray and we can too. Out loud or in your head, say this Bible verse: "While it was still very dark, he got up and went out to a deserted place, and there he prayed." (Mark 1:35)
5. Finally, move to a place where you rest. Get into a comfortable position. Think about how Jesus often rested and we can too. Out loud or in your head, say this Bible verse: "Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest." (Matthew 11:28)

PRAYER

God of Good News, you bring us out of the ordinary into the extraordinary. You call us to be a part of your work and share your love. Help us follow your lead and bring good news to all those around us.

Amen.

as JESUS went a little FARTHER, He saw

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who were in their BOAT

MENDING the Net.

IMMEDIATELY HE CALLED THEM

and they left their father

ZEBEDEE

IN THE BOAT WITH THE HIRED MEN

AND FOLLOWED HIM