

Day Nineteen: Abiding – Advancing the Kingdom

**"Come, follow me," Jesus said, "and I will send you out to fish for people."
Matthew 4:19**

Following isn't always the easiest things to do especially when you don't know what the journey will look like or what the destination will be, yet you're still called to follow. You're still called to obey. You're still called to move by not what you see but based upon who you know that is leading.

Do you remember playing "Marco, Polo" in the pool as a kid? One person has their eyes closed and is calling out "Marco" searching for the other people in the pool who are calling out "polo," solely by listening to the sounds of their voice? Often times I realize that we are blinded or have our eyes closed to where God is trying to take us because we have yet to call out to him but also been thinking he's playing a game with us. Many of us follow relationships, status, jobs, money, people, and so much more thinking that if we chase it long enough it'll bring us some type of peace or satisfaction, but the only thing will give us true purpose and fulfillment is when we follow Jesus.

Jesus calls all of us to 'come' not because he needs people, but because people need him. When Jesus speaks "Come, follow me and I will make you fishers of men", we are immediately forced to choose between taking action and receiving all that he has for us or remaining where we are. Each of these choices will give you an outcome that will either benefit you, leave you the same, or cause you to move in a direction that contradictory of where you desire. Should I take that job that is in a different state? Should I break off my current relationship? Should I buy those new shoes? A lot of times it isn't the choice that holds a lot of weight, but instead the weight of the outcome that really matters. When Jesus asks you to "come," do you truly know what is at stake? Do you truly understand weight behind Him commanding you to "come?"

During this time of prayer and fasting take into consideration the weight of following Jesus but also the great reward of following Him. Matthew 11:30 reminds us “My yolk is easy, and My burden is light.” Let us follow and abide in Jesus as he makes us fishers of men.

We will never change the world by going to church; we will change the world by being the church.

Anonymous