

**Week of January 24, 2021**

**Mark 1:14-20**

<sup>14</sup> Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God,

<sup>15</sup> and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news."

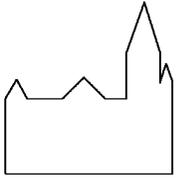
<sup>16</sup> As Jesus passed along the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the sea-- for they were fishermen.

<sup>17</sup> And Jesus said to them, "Follow me and I will make you fish for people."

<sup>18</sup> And immediately they left their nets and followed him.

<sup>19</sup> As he went a little farther, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John, who were in their boat mending the nets.

<sup>20</sup> Immediately he called them; and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men, and followed him.



### Group Leader

Remember: you don't need to use all of the questions. Go with what works. Give people a chance to think before answering, but if a question falls flat, move on. Let the discussion go where it needs to go, as long as it remains centered around the lesson. Give the participants page 1. Use this page for yourself.

### Gathering questions:

- A. What are the best/worst/hardest questions you were ever asked in a job interview?
- B. What is your strangest or most useless talent?

### Bible Study Questions:

1. Do you think the fact that these first disciples were fishermen played any role in their selection by Jesus?
2. Why do you think Simon, Andrew, James, and John chose to follow Jesus? To what extent do you think they already knew who he was?
3. In verse 20, why do you think the author chose to mention the detail that Zebedee was left with the "hired men"?
4. What do you think it means to "fish for people?" Does that fact that fishing in that time involved nets rather than lures changes your image of what it means to "fish for people"?
5. Rabbis do not ordinarily call followers; potential followers seek out the rabbi to prove they would be worthy students. Jesus reverses this model. What does this say about our approach to faith?
6. What are your best qualities? Think conceptually ("I'm a good organizer", "I'm a good recruiter", "I'm a good motivator").
7. How have you applied these qualities in the service of the church or advancing the Kingdom in other ways? What is your best quality that you haven't yet used in the church?

Closing prayer: particularly invite prayers about ways in which each person can creatively apply their talents to advance the Kingdom.