



## Shelby Christian Church

BEFORE AND AFTER: THE CALL TO FOLLOW - COME AND SEE

JOHN 1:35-39, MARK 1:16-20, LUKE 9:23 \* 3/15/2026

Before there was a cross, there was an invitation.

HAVE A VOLUNTEER READ JOHN 1:35-39

**What question does Jesus ask the two disciples when they begin following Him? What question do the disciples ask Jesus in return? Why is Jesus' invitation "Come and you will see" important for understanding how people come to know Him? What does this passage teach us about the role of personal encounter in following Christ? What does this passage teach us about the difference between knowing about Jesus and knowing Him personally?**

HAVE A VOLUNTEER READ MARK 1:16-20

**Why is it important to see that Jesus specifically called these men to follow Him? Why do you think Jesus chose to use the metaphor of fishing for men? What are you "fishing" for right now in your life? What about those around you? What do you see people fishing for in the world today?**

**How do you think the way Jesus views the people you come in contact with every day? How might that be different than the way you view them? How did you first sense Jesus calling you to follow Him? What fears or hesitations can keep people from responding immediately to Jesus? What encourages you most about the disciples' response in this passage?**

HAVE A VOLUNTEER READ LUKE 9:23

**What do you think Jesus means by "deny yourself"? What does it mean to "take up your cross" in the context of Jesus' time? When have you experienced the cost of following Jesus personally? Why do you think Jesus emphasizes doing this daily rather than once? How does this verse redefine what it means to be a disciple? What does this passage teach us about the cost of following Jesus? What would it look like for me to truly follow Jesus—not just admire Him?**

### APPLICATION

**How would you answer Jesus' question, "What are you seeking?" in your life right now? What does it look like today to "come and see" where Jesus is staying? How has your personal experience with Jesus strengthened your faith? Are there any "nets" you are still holding onto? Why? What are some ways people try to follow Jesus without denying themselves? What might "denying yourself" look like in your life right now? What kinds of crosses do Christians carry today?**

### PRAYER