Pastor Grant // Matthew 4:18-22 // January 22, 2017



Diving Deeper: A Gather Group discussion guide or personal devotional guide



## Walk His Line

**Introduction:** Jesus is beginning his ministry to preach the good news of the kingdom. He begins to gather disciples to follow after him.

**Text:** Matthew 4:18-22

## **Discussion:**

- 1. Icebreaker: Share about your childhood experiences with the game "follow the leader." Discuss how the game was played and your memories of the game. You can also use "Simon Says" as a discussion topic.
- 2. Has someone ever asked you to join a group? Discuss/Write your involvement in being part of group/team/ organization. What was the purpose?
- 3. What does Jesus ask Peter and the other disciples to do?
- 4. What does it mean to follow Jesus? Discuss/Write the difference between knowing and following.
- 5. What does Jesus say that he will do if they follow him?
- 6. What does it mean to be fishers of men?
- 7. Read through Matthew 5-8. We see the teaching of Jesus and his instruction for living. If we follow Jesus then what will we do with his teachings? How will following his instruction help you "catch people?" Ex. he teaches on being salt and light, anger, lust, divorce, retaliation, love for your enemies, prayer, fasting, giving, trusting God, and building your life on the rock.
- 8. Read Matthew 9:36-38. How does this verse still apply today?
- 9. The message spoke of the life of Peter.Read Matt. 14:22-33 What did Peter learn this day?
- 10. Read Matthew 26:31-35. Have you ever made a bold statement like Peter? Write/Discuss
- 11. Read Matthew 26:69-75 In what ways can you relate to Peter in this moment?
- 12. Read John 21:5-7 & 15-19 Jesus brings grace to Peter and offers him forgiveness. How do you think this impacted Peter's life. How has God's forgiveness impacted your life?
- 13. What does Jesus say to Peter at the end of John 21:19? How do we know that Peter followed? (use other scripture references to prove it)

## Think About it:

The Christian life is not a life where we have to be cool, crafty, insightful, skillful, or brilliant; we simply have to follow Jesus. We make the Bible way too complicated. Christianity has become a billion dollar business through publishing companies printing book after book in how to be a christian. It is amazing that we bypass The book and read books about The book. How about simply reading your Bible this year and follow Jesus's teachings??

## **Moving Forward:**

This week read through this study and begin to examine the life of Peter. Read the first several chapters in Acts and see how Peter's life was changed through the power of the gospel. Read 1 & 2 Peter. As you read, write down what you see in the life of Peter that you can imitate. Hear from the word of God and begin to follow the commands. Read your Bible every day and write down an action plan for that day and follow Him.