

Called Twice: Deepening Our Commitment to Fish for People



Explore the first and second call of Jesus' disciples
and how His call invites us to deeper faith and
purposeful evangelism.

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Introduction

The Gospels not only recount the life and teachings of Jesus Christ but also illuminate the transformative call He extends to His followers. One particularly profound passage is found in *John 1:35–51*, where we see the first disciples called a second time by Jesus. This moment highlights the progression from initial curiosity to committed discipleship. Their call challenges us today to reflect on our own response to Jesus' invitation to 'fish for people.'

Why a second call? The initial encounter with Jesus sparked interest, but it was the personal call that deepened their commitment. For many believers, faith begins as a spark, but growth comes through God's persistent invitation and our response. This study will guide us through their journey, showing us how Jesus meets us right where we are and calls us forward.

Each day we will explore sections of this passage, looking at the significance of the disciples' response, the nature of Jesus' call, and the implication for our lives as His followers. We will reflect on how being called twice can strengthen our faith and embolden us to share the gospel boldly and lovingly. As we study, may we be inspired to embrace Jesus' call anew, equipped to be fishers of people in our communities and beyond.

Join this journey through the Gospels with fresh eyes and a willing heart. Let the story of the first disciples encourage you to say 'yes' again to the call of Jesus and to live out your faith with renewed passion and purpose.





Day 1: The Initial Encounter with Jesus



Day 1: 🎧 The Initial Encounter with Jesus

Your Verse

John 1:35-39 - "John was standing with two of his disciples when he looked at Jesus as he walked by and said, 'Look, the Lamb of God!'"

Supporting Scriptures

- *Matthew 4:18 - "As Jesus was walking beside the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon called Peter and his brother Andrew. They were casting a net into the lake, for they were fishermen."*
- *Mark 1:16 - "As Jesus walked beside the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the lake."*



Devotional: Jesus' Simple Invitation to Follow

Jesus' first call to His disciples begins with a simple yet profound invitation. When John the Baptist points out Jesus as the 'Lamb of God,' two of his disciples—Andrew and another—immediately choose to follow Jesus. The decision is instantaneous, born out of curiosity and a desire to learn more about this man they believe is special.

Notice that Jesus doesn't give a long sermon or a list of requirements; He simply allows their presence. It's an invitation to join a journey. This initial step is crucial — an openness to begin walking with Jesus. For many of us, faith starts here, when we first hear or experience God's call. It may be a moment of curiosity or a seeker's desire for truth.

How do we respond when Jesus invites us to follow Him in the beginning? Do we hesitate? Do we trust enough to step into the unknown? This passage encourages us to take that first step and reminds us that Jesus meets us exactly where we are—with no pretense, only welcome.



Reflect and Apply

1. What was it about Jesus' presence that made Andrew and the other disciple decide to follow Him immediately?

2. Reflect on the moments in your life when you first felt drawn to Jesus. How did you respond?

3. In what ways can we cultivate an openness to Jesus' initial invitation today?



Day 1: 🎧 The Initial Encounter with Jesus

Journaling Prompts

1. Write about your first encounter with Jesus or a moment when you felt called to faith.

2. Describe what following Jesus means to you personally.

3. List any hesitations or fears you might have about responding to His call.



Day 1: 🎧 The Initial Encounter with Jesus

Prayer for Today

Lord Jesus, thank You for inviting me to follow You even when I was unsure or unprepared. Help me to recognize Your voice and respond with trust and courage. Guide me as I take the first steps in my journey with You. *May Your presence always be my guide and strength.* Amen. 🎧 🙏 ✨





Day 2: John the Baptist's Role in Pointing to Jesus



Your Verse

John 1:40-42 – "Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, was one of the two who heard what John had said and who had followed Jesus. The first thing Andrew did was to find his brother Simon and tell him, 'We have found the Messiah.'"

Supporting Scriptures

- *Isaiah 40:3 – "A voice of one calling: 'In the wilderness prepare the way for the Lord; make straight in the desert a highway for our God.'"*
- *John 3:30 – "He must become greater; I must become less."*



Devotional: Following the Guide to the Messiah

John the Baptist's witness is vital in preparing the way for Jesus. His role is humble yet powerful—pointing others to Christ rather than seeking attention for himself. When Andrew hears John identify Jesus as the Messiah, his response is immediate: he tells his brother Simon and brings him to Jesus.

This passage highlights two important truths. Firstly, God often uses people in our lives, like John, to direct us toward Jesus. Secondly, true faith moves us out of ourselves, prompting us to share the good news with others.

Andrew's example challenges us to consider how we respond when someone points us to Jesus. Are we willing to follow? And once we follow, are we eager to introduce others to the One who has transformed our lives? The disciples' quick response exemplifies the contagious nature of faith.

As believers today, we are invited not only to follow Jesus but to actively direct people to Him. This day's study encourages us to examine our readiness to proclaim Jesus as Messiah in our words and actions.



Reflect and Apply

1. Who has helped point you toward Jesus in your life? How did their witness shape you?

2. Think about how Andrew responded. What motivated him to share Jesus with his brother so quickly?

3. How can you be a 'John the Baptist' in your circle—guiding others to Jesus without seeking glory for yourself?



Journaling Prompts

1. Write about someone who pointed you to Jesus and what impact they had.

2. Reflect on how you can introduce Jesus to your friends or family.

3. Identify ways you can humbly support others in their journey toward Christ.



Day 2: 🧑 John the Baptist's Role in Pointing to Jesus

Prayer for Today

Father God, thank You for the faithful witnesses You place in my life who guide me to Jesus. Help me to be bold and humble like John the Baptist, leading others to Your Son. Fill me with a passion to share Your message of hope and love. In Jesus' name, Amen. 🧑 🙏 ✨





Day 3: The Second Call to Peter and Andrew



Your Verse

John 1:43-44 - "The next day Jesus decided to leave for Galilee. Finding Philip, he said to him, 'Come, follow me.' Philip, like Andrew and Peter, was from the town of Bethsaida."

Supporting Scriptures

- *Matthew 4:19 - "'Come, follow me,' Jesus said, 'and I will send you out to fish for people.'"*
- *Luke 5:10 - "Then Jesus said to Simon, 'Don't be afraid; from now on you will fish for people.'"*



Day 3:  The Second Call to Peter and Andrew

Devotional: Renewed Invitation to Join His Mission

Jesus' call is intentional and repeated. After the initial follow, He invites Philip to follow Him next, showing that the call to discipleship is ongoing and personal. For Peter and Andrew, the call is not just a one-time invitation but a continuing challenge to commit fully.

The imagery of fishing for people illustrates Jesus' mission for His disciples: to draw others into the kingdom. It's a purposeful call to evangelism and transformation. Jesus invites us not only to follow Him but to join His mission, actively participating in reaching the lost.

This second call deepens the relationship. It challenges us to reassess our response—moving from mere interest to active engagement. Are we ready to follow Jesus in His mission? To leave old nets behind and embrace a new purpose?

Today's passage invites you to reflect on where you are in your journey with Jesus. Have you only responded to the initial call, or are you ready for the ongoing work He desires to do through you?



Reflect and Apply

1. How does Jesus' repeated invitation to follow encourage or challenge you?

2. What does 'fishing for people' mean in your personal faith journey?

3. In what ways are you currently participating in Jesus' mission to reach others?



Journaling Prompts

1. Describe how Jesus' call to discipleship has grown in your life over time.

2. Write about ways you sense God calling you into deeper involvement in His work.

3. Reflect on any 'nets' or distractions that might be holding you back from full commitment.



Day 3:  The Second Call to Peter and Andrew

Prayer for Today

Lord Jesus, thank You for Your persistent and loving call to follow You. Help me to respond with an open heart, embracing the mission You have entrusted to me. Equip me to be a fisher of people, spreading Your love and truth. Amen.





Day 4: 👤 Philip and Nathanael: A Journey of Trust



Your Verse

John 1:45-46 - "Philip found Nathanael and told him, 'We have found the one Moses wrote about... Jesus of Nazareth.' 'Nazareth! Can anything good come from there?' Nathanael asked."

Supporting Scriptures

- *John 1:47 - "Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward him and said, 'Here truly is an Israelite in whom there is no deceit.'"*
- *Romans 10:17 - "Consequently, faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the word about Christ."*



Day 4: 🧑 Philip and Nathanael: A Journey of Trust

Devotional: When Doubt Meets Jesus' Grace

Philip's testimony sparked skepticism in Nathanael, revealing that following Jesus often involves facing doubts and questions. Nathanael's critical question about Nazareth shows a real struggle with preconceived ideas and expectations.

Jesus meets Nathanael's skepticism with personal insight, calling him an honest and genuine man. This encounter reveals Jesus' intimate knowledge of us and ability to pierce through our doubts.

Faith often begins with questions, and Jesus welcomes them. Nathanael's story encourages us not to shy away from skepticism but bring it honestly before Jesus. His transparent approach leads to one of the most profound confessions of faith in this passage: "Rabbi, you are the Son of God."

Today's study invites you to welcome your doubts and questions, offering them to Jesus as a step toward deeper trust and commitment. It shows that Jesus values our honesty and meets us there with grace.



Reflect and Apply

1. How have your doubts or questions about faith influenced your journey with Jesus?

2. What does Jesus' response to Nathanael teach you about approaching Him with honesty?

3. In what ways can skepticism be a doorway to stronger faith rather than a barrier?



Journaling Prompts

1. Write about a question or doubt you have brought to God.

2. Reflect on a time when honest questioning deepened your faith.

3. List ways God has met you personally despite your uncertainties.



Day 4: 👤 Philip and Nathanael: A Journey of Trust

Prayer for Today

Jesus, thank You for welcoming my doubts and knowing my heart. Help me to bring my questions to You with honesty and confidence. Deepen my trust as I seek to follow You, even when I struggle to understand. Amen. 👤 🙏 ✨





Day 5: ✨ Recognizing Jesus as the Messiah



Day 5: ✨ Recognizing Jesus as the Messiah

Your Verse

John 1:49-50 - "‘Rabbi,’ Nathanael answered, ‘You are the Son of God; you are the king of Israel.’ Jesus said, ‘You believe because I told you I saw you under the fig tree. You will see greater things than that.’"

Supporting Scriptures

- *Matthew 16:16 - "Simon Peter answered, ‘You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.’"*
- *Philippians 2:9 - "Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name."*



Day 5: ✨ Recognizing Jesus as the Messiah

Devotional: Professing Jesus as Son and King

Nathanael's confession marks a pivotal moment: recognizing Jesus as both the Son of God and King of Israel. This revelation is not merely intellectual but a heartfelt acknowledgment of who Jesus truly is.

Jesus' promise that Nathanael will see "greater things" points forward to the continued unfolding of God's plan. Faith invites us to look beyond what we see currently, trusting that Jesus will reveal deeper truths and works.

This day's reflection challenges us to consider our own recognition of Jesus' identity. Do we embrace Him merely as a teacher or prophet, or do we accept Him as our Lord and King? Faith in Jesus prompts worship, obedience, and the hope of witnessing His glory more fully.

May we, like Nathanael, step out in faith and acknowledge Jesus' divine authority, embracing the promise of 'greater things' in our lives and ministries.



Day 5: ✨ Recognizing Jesus as the Messiah

Reflect and Apply

1. What does it mean for you personally to recognize Jesus as the Son of God and King?

2. How can this acknowledgment impact your daily decisions and priorities?

3. Are you open to experiencing the 'greater things' Jesus promises? What might that look like?



Day 5: ✨ Recognizing Jesus as the Messiah

Journaling Prompts

1. Write a personal confession of who Jesus is to you.

2. Reflect on ways Jesus has shown Himself mighty or sovereign in your life.

3. Describe your hopes or expectations for 'greater things' God may do.



Day 5: ✨ Recognizing Jesus as the Messiah

Prayer for Today

Lord Jesus, I confess You as my Savior and King. Help me to trust Your promises and open my eyes to the greater things You want to reveal in my life. May my faith grow deeper and my heart remain devoted to You alone. Amen.





Day 6: Leaving the Nets Behind



Your Verse

Matthew 4:18-20 - "Jesus called them, 'Come, follow me,' and said, 'I will send you out to fish for people.' At once they left their nets and followed him."

Supporting Scriptures

- *Luke 9:23 - "Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow me."*
- *2 Corinthians 5:20 - "We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us."*



Devotional: Surrendering to Follow Fully

The disciples' immediate response to Jesus' call to leave their nets exemplifies full commitment and surrender. Fishing nets represent their livelihood and security, yet they abandoned it without hesitation to follow Christ.

This radical obedience echoes the call Jesus extends to each of us: to let go of anything that holds us back and fully engage in His mission. It requires trust and courage to step into uncertainty, but the reward is participation in God's redemptive work.

What nets do we need to leave behind? These can be habits, fears, distractions, or comforts that keep us from wholeheartedly following Jesus. This passage encourages self-examination and surrender, reminding us that discipleship is an active, daily choice.

As ambassadors for Christ, we are entrusted with a powerful mission. When we follow Jesus closely, He empowers us to fish for people with love and wisdom.



Reflect and Apply

1. What are the 'nets' in your life that may be hindering your full devotion to Jesus?

2. How does the example of the disciples' immediate obedience challenge you?

3. In what ways can you step more courageously into the mission God has for you?



Journaling Prompts

1. List things you feel called to surrender to follow Jesus more fully.

2. Write about a time when stepping out in faith led to growth or blessing.

3. Reflect on how being Christ's ambassador changes your perspective on daily life.



Day 6: 🌊 Leaving the Nets Behind

Prayer for Today

Jesus, help me to leave behind anything that holds me back from following You completely. Give me the strength to surrender my nets, trust Your plan, and embrace Your mission with joy. Make me a faithful fisher of people for Your kingdom. Amen. 🌊 🙏 🎧





Day 7: ✨ Embracing the Call to Fish for People



Day 7: ✨ Embracing the Call to Fish for People

Your Verse

Mark 1:17 – “Come, follow me,’ Jesus said, ‘and I will send you out to fish for people.’”

Supporting Scriptures

- *Acts 1:8 – “You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses.”*
- *1 Peter 3:15 – “Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have.”*



Day 7: ✨ Embracing the Call to Fish for People

Devotional: Living Out the Mission Daily

The call to follow Jesus always includes a purposeful mission: to fish for people, meaning to reach out and bring others into the fold of God's family. This mission defines our Christian life and identity.

Through the empowering presence of the Holy Spirit, we are equipped to share our faith with boldness and love. Being fishers of people requires compassion, courage, and a willingness to step outside our comfort zones.

As you close this study, consider how you can embrace this call anew. Reflect on the opportunities God has placed around you to witness and serve. Remember, your testimony and lifestyle speak volumes about the gospel. You are a vital part of God's plan to reach the world.

May this final day inspire renewed passion for the mission of Christ and a heartfelt commitment to live as His disciple every day.



Reflect and Apply

1. How do you feel God is calling you to 'fish for people' in your current context?

2. What role does the Holy Spirit play in empowering you to share your faith?

3. In what ways can you prepare yourself to give an answer for your hope?



Day 7: ✨ Embracing the Call to Fish for People

Journaling Prompts

1. Write about practical ways you can share the gospel with those around you.

2. Reflect on your experiences of being empowered by the Holy Spirit in ministry.

3. Set a personal goal for actively living out the call to be a fisher of people.



Day 7: ✨ Embracing the Call to Fish for People

Prayer for Today

Holy Spirit, fill me with power and love as I live to fish for people. Help me to witness boldly and compassionately, always ready to share the hope I have in Jesus. Use me to draw others to Your kingdom every day. Amen. ✨ 🙏 🙊 🔥





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