



## NEW HORIZONS SMALL GROUPS

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Sermon Title: Follow Me: The Call

Scripture Reference: Matthew 4:18–22; Luke 9:23

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### Connection:

- What do you remember most from last week's sermon?
- How did you hear God's voice or sense His presence this past week?
- What are you looking forward to this winter?

### Reflection:

- Summarize this week's sermon in one to three sentences. What was the main point of the message?
- What did the message say about you, God's people or the world?

### Application:

#### 1. **"They left their nets at once."**

What do you think "nets" represent in our lives today, things that are good, necessary, or identity-forming, but still compete with following Jesus fully? What makes those nets hard to leave?

#### **Additional Bible reading:**

- **Mark 8:34–35** – Jesus' call to deny self and take up the cross
- **Philippians 3:7–8** – Paul re-framing identity and loss in light of Christ

#### 2. **Jesus calls people at work, not in a synagogue.**

Why do you think Jesus chose to call His first disciples in the middle of their workday? How does that challenge the way we tend to separate "spiritual life" from work, responsibility, and daily routines?

#### 3. **Discipleship as proximity, not programming.**

The sermon emphasized that Jesus disciplined through shared life, not just teaching. Who has had real proximity and influence in your spiritual formation, and who might God be calling you to walk closely with now?

**Additional Bible reading:**

- **Acts 2:42-47** – Life together as the foundation of discipleship
- **1 Thessalonians 2:8** – Sharing not only the gospel, but life itself

4. **Zebedee lets his sons go.**

What stands out to you about Zebedee's silent obedience in releasing James and John? As parents, leaders, or mentors, what does it look like to hold people with open hands when Jesus calls them elsewhere?

5. **“Discipleship doesn't require perfection, only presence.”**

What fears or excuses keep people from discipling others or being disciplined? How does this truth free us to step into discipleship imperfectly but faithfully?

**Additional Bible reading:**

- **2 Corinthians 12:9** – God's power at work in weakness
- **Hebrews 10:24-25** – Presence, encouragement, and shared perseverance