



desert breeze community church

Teaching Notes: Ray Davis
January 18, 2009
Jesusology

“Following Christ”

Mark 1:14-20

This is the 1st time we hear Jesus speak. Virtually His first words are to follow Him. What does it mean to be a follower of Christ? What does it mean to be a Christian? Are you a follower of Jesus Christ? Are you a Christian?

FOLLOWING CHRIST IS...

Mark 1:14-20

1) A Unique Life.

- You can't have a relationship with Christ unless He calls you. *V17 "Come, follow me."* (John 6:44; John 15:16)
- This relationship with Christ will radically change you. (2 Cor. 5:17)
- The gospel is good news (Done/Joy) not good advice (Do/Fear). *V14 Jesus went...proclaiming the good news (Gospel) of God. V15 Repent and believe the good news (Gospel).* (Eph. 2:8-10; 2 Pet. 1:3; Phil. 2:12-13)

2) An Unconditional Life.

- Jesus must become the supreme passion of my life. *v18 At once they (Simon & Andrew) left their nets and followed him. V20 They (James & John) left their Father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men and followed him.*
- Any condition(s) to following Jesus is your real master. (Obey, Accept, Rely, Expect)
- Isn't this fanaticism? No! People are fanatics not because they are over committed to Jesus but because they are under committed. Fanatics only know part of the truth of Jesus.

- Fully devoted followers of Christ have an attitude of Humble Confidence. (2 Cor. 8:9; 9:8; 1 Pet. 3:15)

3) An Under Construction Life. *V17 "I will make you fishers of men." (ESV) "I will make you become fishers of men."*

- Following Christ is not a destination but a life long journey.
- It is a journey of becoming a person who is less and less self-centered.
- People healed of self-absorption draw people to Christ. (Matt. 5:13-16) (Open to Criticism, Flexible, Integrity, Little anxiety, Self honesty, Speaks truth in love)

4) An Unbelievable Life.

Jesus does absolutely everything that He's calling me to do. (John 14:6)

- When He called James and John to leave their father Jesus had already left His Father on the throne in Heaven.
- When He called Peter and Andrew to leave their career Jesus had already left His position in heaven making himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant. (Phil. 2:7)
- Jesus obeyed His Father into destruction so that I can obey Him to Greatness. (John 3:16; 10:10)
- Jesus Christ Kingship will not crush me, but He was crushed for me!



Growing

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- 1) In the Gospel of Mark for the first time we hear Jesus speak. His first words are to follow Him (Mark 1:14-20). Following Christ is synonymous with being a Christian. What does it mean to follow someone? Is it possible to think you're following Christ, but not?

- 2) From our Bible study we learned that following Christ is a "Unique Life". Explain. The Gospel is "good news". What is the difference between "good news" and "good advice"?

- 3) What does it mean that following Jesus is an "Unconditional Life"? How does any condition you place on following Jesus become you're real master? How is making Christ your supreme passion not fanaticism but normal Christian living?

- 4) Explain how following Christ is not a destination but a lifelong journey? What does it mean to become a "fisher of men"? Why do you think people who are less self-absorbed draw people to Christ? (Matt. 5:13-16; 1 Pet. 3:15)

- 5) Some of us grew up in homes where parents said "do as I say not as I do". How does Jesus do absolutely everything that He's calling me to do? Jesus' Kingship will not crush you, but He was crushed for you! Explain.