

Read Mark 1:14-20

14 Later on, after John was arrested, Jesus went into Galilee, where he preached God's Good News.

15 "The time promised by God has come at last!" he announced. "The Kingdom of God is near! Repent of your sins and believe the Good News!"

16 One day as Jesus was walking along the shore of the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew throwing a net into the water, for they fished for a living.

17 Jesus called out to them, "Come, follow me, and I will show you how to fish for people!"

18 And they left their nets at once and followed him.

19 A little farther up the shore Jesus saw Zebedee's sons, James and John, in a boat repairing their nets.

20 He called them at once, and they also followed him, leaving their father, Zebedee, in the boat with the hired men.

Where was John the Baptist at this time (v. 14)? He was in jail. The Jewish leaders didn't like him so they arrested him and put him in jail.

Where did Jesus go next? Into Galilee. **What was Jesus proclaiming?** The Good News/Gospel. **What is the Good News again?** Jesus died for us so our sins can be forgiven and we can go to heaven.

What did Jesus mean by "the kingdom of God is near" (v. 15)? It's like He was saying, "I am near and I am bringing the kingdom of God to you."

Since the Kingdom was near, what did He tell the people to do? Believe in Him and repent of their sins.

What did Jesus ask Simon and Andrew to do (v. 17)? Follow Him. **What did Jesus promise them?** He would teach them how to fish for people instead of fish. **What was Simon's other name?** Peter.

How do you fish for people? Tell people about Jesus so they can believe and go to heaven. **Who would you like to tell about Jesus?** Pray for chances to share the Good News.

What did Simon and Andrew do (v. 18)? Immediately they left their fishing nets and followed Jesus.

Who did Jesus call next (vv. 19-20)? James and John. **What did they do?** Immediately left their fishing nets and followed Jesus.

Why did these men follow Jesus? God told them to -- in their hearts. They knew there was something very special about Jesus.

Why did Jesus want these men to follow Him? What was He going to do with them? He would make them His disciples so they could tell the people about Jesus and make new churches.

How do we follow Jesus? By believing and trusting in Him. Following Jesus is a matter of the heart. Also, by doing the same things He did. By doing the things we know He would want us to do. (Expand to include two greatest commandments, Matthew 22:36-40). (Ensure understanding).