

## Series: Called to Follow Jesus | Kingdom and Disciples | Mark 1:14-20

As always, I want to encourage you to engage with the passage (Mark 1:14-20) for yourselves - read over it a few times, talk about the things that stand out, the questions you have, things that might have a direct impact in your life, areas for change and transformation. The Holy Spirit speaks to us when we engage with Scripture together, and might have things for you and your group that never crossed my radar.

But... if you want some questions, here they are. Feel free to pick and choose, and/or create your own!

- Share experiences of following someone, whether for better or worse, and share something that you learned from that experience
  
- How do you feel about the claim that the Kingdom of God is near... and yet it still seems like we're waiting sometimes.
- What are your thoughts on that tension, or how do you resolve it for yourself?
- How would you explain it to someone who's confused about it?
  
- The Jews expected a Messiah who would exert military and political power to free Israel from Rome. Do you see any ways that the church (Western Christianity in general, or even SBC specifically) has missed the point in certain areas of following Jesus? It could be now, or it could be historically.
- What can we learn from these?
- How can we avoid making similar mistakes?
  
- Mark shows Jesus redefining Messiahship (suffering servant, laying down his life), providing an alternate narrative about what the Kingdom of God looks like (redeeming and blessing the world, bringing God's reign and rule), and holistically inverting traditional power structures/dynamics (the first will be last).
- Discuss times when you've seen that in action
- What could we learn and/or apply from those examples?
  
- Jesus calls us to transformational discipleship - repentance that is deep change, belief that is trust enacted, and a following that is willing to go where God leads.
- How do you feel about that? Is that challenging, encouraging, or something else?
- How do you make space in life to hear where God is calling you to change?
- Where have you seen transformation, big or small, in each other?
  
- Spend some time with the two discipling questions:
  - What is God saying to you?
  - What are you going to do about it?
  - And if you're ready, share within the group