"Come, Follow Me" October 15th, 2017

Have there ever been more powerful words? The words of Jesus to the first disciples are the very words he speaks to us. "Come follow me", are words spoken by the greatest leader that ever walked this earth, the Son of God, the saviour and the one who has called us to a "better life". One free from guilt, shame, and sin and a life that leads us to a divine purpose, a cause! Jesus called us to be "disciples". Following him and his ways. Obeying his commands.

Webster's definition of disciple: a follower or student of a teacher: a personal follower of Jesus Christ

1. Read Matthew 4:18-22

Please take a few minutes for each person who is willing to share how and where they came to faith in Christ.

How did it make you feel? A sense of relief, peace and joy? Who influenced you? Remembering our commitment to Christ makes it fresh in our minds and renews our love for him and to obey all he is asking us to do. Has anyone had the joy of leading someone else to faith, (following Jesus). Please share.

2. Re- read vs 18 and note: they were fishermen!

Jesus chose people that would not have been on our radar for leaders! They did not have status in society, very little wealth and were really not influential. **Read 1 Corinthians 1:26-31** How does this passage relate to all of us? Think about yourself and how Jesus called you to follow him.

3 thoughts:

- a. Jesus is looking for people to follow him. Not just give him lip service but to obey his commands.
- b. He finds people in their environment. He goes to them. He see's the heart and accepts them/us in the condition we are in. Change comes as we follow him.
 Note: this is the way the church is to evangelize. We are called to go!
 Read Luke 19:10
- 3. Please discuss your thoughts as to why they immediately followed him. In the greek the word "follow" has a sense of urgency.

Some thoughts:

- He gave them significance
- He valued them
- He would teach them
- He gave them purpose
- He believed in them

John Maxwell says this: It's wonderful when the people believe in the leader. It's more wonderful when the leader believes in the people!

Finish with reading Matthew 11: 28-30