



4-29-18 Sermon Discussion Guide

“Salty Faith: What difference does
Jesus make on our calling?”



Context

This week we begin a new sermon series entitled “Salty Faith.” It asks the question, “What difference does follow Jesus make in our lives?” This is a big question with big implications. It can make all the difference in the world. In the coming weeks, we’ll explore many facets of this question and take a more specific look at how this question impacts us. This Sunday is Confirmation Sunday, where we welcome

Checking In

Since the last time your group has met, how have each of you experienced God at work? What have you celebrated? What have you mourned?

Introduction

Think about the big decisions you’ve made in your life. How did your faith in Jesus impact those decisions? Did your faith help you choose one option over another? Did you ever change your mind in a big decision because of your faith?

Discussing the Text – Matthew 4:18-22

1. In verse 19, Jesus says to Andrew and Simon Peter, “Come, follow me.” What do you think Jesus means when he says this to them?
2. Also in verse 19, Jesus says that he will make Andrew and Simon Peter “fishers for people.” What do you think Jesus means by this?
3. Why do you think Andrew and Simon Peter, and then James and John would all be willing to leave their nets and follow Jesus?
4. Read John 1:35-42. This passage begins by describing John the Baptist and some of *his* disciples. Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother was one of John the Baptist’s disciples. Does reading this passage in John 1 help us understand why Andrew and Simon Peter were so willing to leave their fishing careers to follow Jesus in Matthew 4? What connections do you see between these two passages?
5. How do you think Zebedee, the father of James and John would have felt when his sons left him in the boat that morning to follow Jesus?

So what?

1. While you might not have been called like these disciples to leave your day job and follow Jesus, what *has* Jesus called you to in your life? Have you experienced a specific calling by God to do something in particular with your life?
2. As you consider what you do throughout the work week, do you consider it a calling from God? Why or why not? If not, is there another part of your life that consider to be a calling?
3. How do we know if our career or vocation in life is what God has called us to do? Is it possible to be doing the wrong thing?
4. How can individuals and the church regain their “saltiness” if it has been lost?
5. How does this passage give you hope?
6. How does this passage challenge you?
7. How can you apply this passage to your life this week?

Prayer

Have the group share any prayer requests or prayers of thanksgiving they may have. Then invite the group ask God to show them something concrete God is calling them to do this week.