

March 10, 2019

The New Testament!
Matthew 10:1-4
The "3" Calls of the
12 Apostles
The call to "Follow Me"!
Matthew 10:1-4

Introduction

They are first made alive spiritually!

Ephesians 2:4-6 (ESV) But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, 5 even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved— 6 and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus.

Then they become followers of Jesus!

Mark 2:13-14 (ESV) He went out again beside the sea, and all the crowd was coming to him, and he was teaching them. 14 And as he passed by, he saw Levi the son of Alphaeus sitting at the tax booth, and he said to him, "Follow me." And he rose and followed him.

And then there are some called to a special work!

James 3:1 (ESV) Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers, for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness.

There is a higher calling for teachers...

When God calls us to walk with Him and live for Him (Conversion-to be a follower of Jesus)

17-18 times in the gospels Jesus says, "follow me"

Matthew 8:22 (ESV) And Jesus said to him, "Follow me, and leave the dead to bury their own dead."

Luke 9:23 (ESV) And he said to all, "If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me.

Repentance toward God, faith in the work of Christ on the cross, accepting His work on the cross as our own

Turning from my own way, entering into His earthly Kingdom that is the beginning of an eternal Kingdom, turning from sin, turning towards God, having faith in His finished work on the cross, determined to follow Him, learn from Him, to look and act like Him, to live for His glory and for the advancement of His Kingdom

What does the command "follow me" entail?

1. Living for God's Glory!

1 Corinthians 10:31 (ESV) So, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God.

Q. 1. What is the chief end of man?

A. 1. Man's chief end is to glorify God, and to enjoy him forever.

John 17:13-15 (ESV) But now I am coming to you, and these things I speak in the world, that they may have my joy fulfilled in themselves. 14 I have given them your word, and the world has hated them because they are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. 15 I do not ask that you take them out of the world, but that you keep them from the evil one.

Romans 12:1-2 (ESV) I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. 2 Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the

renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

2. Obedience to our Lord, Savior and King
Exodus 20:6 (ESV) But showing steadfast love to thousands of those who love me and keep my commandments.

John 14:15 (ESV) "If you love me, you will keep my commandments."

John 14:21, John 15:10

This is a very unpopular concept today

This statement "follow me" is an imperative, a command

Do we see now why they left their nets, boats, money counting tables and whatever else and followed Jesus?

Without obedience to His commands there is no real Christianity

Many say, yes, I will follow Jesus and do until... it cost them something

Where is our prime example of this?

Matthew 13:18-23, Mark 10:17-22

The chief characteristic of Christianity is radical obedience to His commands

3. Loving Him with all our hearts, soul, mind and strength and loving others!

Matthew 22:37-39 (ESV) And he said to him, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. 38 This is the great and first commandment. 39 And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself.

Mark 12:30, Luke 10:27

Hebrews 10:24-25 (ESV) And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works,²⁵ not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.

4. Advancing His Kingdom through the local church and the proclamation of the gospel!

John 21:15-17

Ephesians 4:11-12 (ESV) And he gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers, 12 to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ.

Matthew 28:19-20 (ESV) Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

Summary

Invitation

Want to be a part of building a congregation?

Whose work is it to build a congregation?

Engage the lost and unchurched

Witness with...

Your words, about your life, your church
(preacher and church family)

Your actions

Tracts

Invitation to Bible Study

Not church