

Disciples: What are they?

Matthew 4:18-22

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Disciples are **constant apprentices**

- 1) As disciples we are called to a person – Follow **me**.
 - a) We are called to a person not a **position**.
 - b) We are called to a person not **prominence**.
 - c) We are called to a person not a **place**. -Matthew 11:28
- 2) As disciples we are called to a process – **Follow** me!
 - a) Only by following can we remain focused on **priorities**
 - b) Only by following can we fulfill our life's **plan**
 - c) Only by following can we arrive in the right **place**.
 - d) Only by following can we avoid life's **pitfalls**.
- 3) As disciples we are called to a **purpose**. Check out the job assignments:
 - a) My task: **follower**
 - b) Jesus' task: make me a **fisherman**.
 - i) Phil 2:13 ...for it is God who works in you both to will and to do for *His* good pleasure.
 - ii) Hebrews 13:20-21 Now may the God of peace who brought up our Lord Jesus from the dead, that great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant,²¹ make you complete in every good work to do His will, working in you what is well pleasing in His sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom *be* glory forever and ever. Amen.
 - iii) Phil 4:13 I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.
 - iv) Sooner or later followers **fish**.
 - c) As Disciples we are called to a **prize**.
 - i) Matt 16:24-27 Then Jesus said to His disciples, "If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me.²⁵ For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake will find it.²⁶ For what profit is it to a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul?²⁷ For the Son of Man will come in the glory of His Father with His angels, and then He will **reward each according to his works**.
 - ii) We are mistaken if we want our rewards **now**.
 - iii) We are mistaken if we want our rewards from **other men**.
 - iv) We are mistaken if we think God is not **keeping records**.

How can we be assured of a reward when Jesus comes? **Follow Him**.