

Marinating in God's Word: Matthew 4:18-22

It's a story many of us learned as children – and are still learning as adults!

For further reflection on your own or in a small group, consider these questions:

- In that day students sought out a Rabbi, and would ask to be his disciples. But Jesus was no ordinary Rabbi! He took the initiative to seek his disciples. In your journey with Jesus, how has he taken the initiative, and how have you taken the initiative?
- We can learn from John's gospel that this was not the very first time the four fishers met Jesus. But still, they had not been around him very much. Why do you suppose they were so taken with Jesus that they were willing to leave their familiar patterns of fishing to follow him? What about Jesus draws you?
- From the moment of his call to them, following him came with a mission, to fish for people. What did Jesus mean by that metaphor?
- As fishermen, the four had learned how best to catch fish. So they didn't just throw in a hook willy-nilly. Is the same true of catching people? What works or doesn't work to welcome people to follow Jesus in our day? What is your own fishing pattern?

Next week we will focus on Matthew 4:23-25.