

A thick black L-shaped frame is positioned on the left and bottom edges of the page, framing the central text.

KNOWING JESUS

GROWING IN GRACE

2 Peter 3:18

- “*But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and forever! Amen.*”

CCIC BELIEVES THAT;

- CHRIST IS OUR CENTER. Galatians 2:20 “I no longer live, but Christ lives in me”
- LOVE IS OUR BOND. Colossian 3:14 “Put on Love Which bind them all together in perfect unity.”
- GOSPEL IS OUR MISSION. Mark 15:16 “Go into all the World and Preach the Gospel to all creation”

OUR STRUCTURE:

- 1. Teach the word of God.
- 2. Teach to pray.
- 3. Teach to love God and the people.
- 4. Teach to share the Gospel.

MESSAGE LAST SUNDAY.

- 1. BE EQUIPPED- Receive teaching and training so you can serve effectively.
- 2. BE INVOLVED- Every believer has ministry; no one is unnecessary.
- 3. BE GROUNDED- Know the truth so you won't be swayed by deception.
- 4. BE LOVING—Speak the truth and act in love.
- 5. BE CONNECTED—Stay joined to Christ and fellow believers; growth happens in maturity.

Text: Matthew 4:18-22

- “¹⁸ As Jesus was walking beside the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon called Peter and his brother Andrew. They were casting a net into the lake, for they were fishermen. ¹⁹ “Come, follow me,” Jesus said, “and I will send you out to fish for people.” ²⁰ At once they left their nets and followed him.”

Matthew 4:21-22

- “²¹ Going on from there, he saw two other brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John. They were in a boat with their father Zebedee, preparing their nets. Jesus called them, ²² and immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.”

Growing In Grace by Responding To God's Invitation.

- I. THE INVITATION OF JESUS. "Follow me". (V.19a)
 - 1. A personal invitation. Jesus invites him personally. Not through letter or other people.
 - 2. A relational invitation. "Follow me" implies intimacy, not just socialization.
 - 3. A transforming invitation. "I will make you fisher of men." To walk with Him and learn from him.

Growing In Grace by Responding To God's Invitation.

- “Discipleship begins not with doing , but with being—being with Jesus.
- How personal is Jesus' invitation to you? Are you following his voice daily or just His principles?

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- II. THE PROMISE OF JESUS. (V 19b) “I will make you”.
- 1. Jesus forms, not formulas. He doesn't say, “Make Yourself.”
- 2. Transformation is His work. “I will make you”. The Spirit shapes our hearts as we walk with Him daily.
- 3. Becoming Happens in Following. The more we walk with Him, the more we become like Him.

Growing In Grace by Responding To God's Invitation.

- “Discipleship is not instant perfection but ongoing transformation.”
- Where do you need to let Jesus make you rather than trying to fix yourself?

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- III. JESUS PLAN FOR THEM.” Fishers of Men”. (V.19c)
- 1. Jesus redirects purpose-from catching fish to catching people.
- 2. Disciples are not just learners but laborers in God's kingdom.
- 3. The invitation to follow includes the invitation to reach.

Growing In Grace by Responding To God's Invitation.

- “EVERY FOLLOWER IS A FISHER- INVITED TO BRING OTHERS INTO THE LIFE OF CHRIST.”
- Who around you needs to experience the hope and grace you've found in Jesus?

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- IV. THE RESPONSE OF DISCIPLES. They immediately left.. And follow Him” 20,22
- 1. Immediate obedience- They didn't delay or negotiate.
- 2. Total surrender– They left their nets. (livelihood) and Family (security).
- 3. True discipleship costs something—but what we gain is far greater.

Growing In Grace by Responding To God's Invitation.

- “ FOLLOWING JESUS ALWAYS INVOLVES LEAVING SOMETHING BEHIND TO GAIN SOMETHING GREATER.”
- What nets might you be holding onto that keeps you from fully following Jesus Christ?

Growing In Grace by Responding To God's Invitation.

- V. THE LIFE LONG JOURNEY--WALKING IN HIS WAY.
- 1. The invitation to follow is ongoing-we follow Him daily. Luke 9:23.”
- “Then he said to them all: “Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow me. ”

Growing In Grace by Responding To God's Invitation.

- 2. The Process of being made is lifelong –until Christ is fully formed in us. Galatians 4:19.
- “My dear children, for whom I am again in the pains of childbirth until Christ is formed in you,”

Growing In Grace by Responding To God's Invitation.

- 3. The Mission Continues—making disciple as we go.
Matthew 28:19-20
- “Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”

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- “FOLLOWING THE INVITATION OF THE MASTER MEANS LEARNING HIS WAY, SHARING HIS HEART, AND LIVING HIS MISSION.”

CONCLUSION

- 1. JESUS INVITATION PERSONALLY AND PURPOSEFULLY.
- 2. FOLLOWING JESUS TRANSFORMS WHO WE ARE AND WHAT WE LIVE FOR.
- 3. IMMEDIATE OBEDIENCE LEADS TO LIFELONG DISCIPLESHIP.

PRAYER.

- LORD JESUS THANK YOU FOR INVITING ME TO FOLLOW YOU. TEACH ME YOUR WAYS, MAKE ME MORE LIKE YOU, AND USE ME TO REACH OTHERS FOR YOUR KINGDOM.
- IN JESUS NAME .. AMEN...