

ONLINE SERMON
LOSING NOTHING TO GAIN EVERYTHING
PASTOR SETH BROOKS – NOVEMBER 29, 2020

I. INTRODUCTION

- A. Sea of Galilee
- B. Jesus calling two different groups of men
 - Simon Peter & Andrew
 - James and John (sons of Zebedee)
- C. Jesus building His team—calling them to Ministry

MATTHEW 4:17-22 *From then on Jesus began to preach, “Repent of your sins and turn to God, for the Kingdom of Heaven is near.” One day as Jesus was walking along the shore of the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers—Simon, also called Peter, and Andrew—throwing a net into the water, for they fished for a living. Jesus called out to them, “Come, follow me, and I will show you how to fish for people!” And they left their nets at once and followed him. A little farther up the shore he saw two other brothers, James and John, sitting in a boat with their father, Zebedee, repairing their nets. And he called them to come, too. They immediately followed him, leaving the boat and their father behind.*

II. THE CALL

- A. Call to work—to Holy Service. Not to piety.
- B. To be fishers of men
 - first to become followers of Christ
 - replicate through discipleship/requires to abide in knowledge of Christ
- C. Who gets the call
 - those seasoned for service / already working...not lazy
 - Jesus wanted bold & daring men / used to hard work
 - knowledge of Jesus (John 1:35-37)
 - fishermen have great patience & adaptability
- D. A calling to be *set apart* from the world. Not men of great importance by the *world’s standard*.

III. THE COST

- A. Had to walk away. Do it now. Jesus did not offer a grace period.
- B. Nets represented a business expense & a truly entire way of life.
 - They had to leave their nets behind (vs. 20 & 22)
 - What nets are holding you back from being able to follow Jesus? family and friends / nets of comparison / nets of security and comfort / familiar and functional
- C. The enemy will try to introduce new nets into our lives

JOHN 21.3 *Simon Peter returns to his nets when he thinks that all hope has been lost after the death of Jesus.*

IV. THE WORK

- A. Jesus prepared them to go & make “disciples” (Matthew 28:16-20)
- B. What is discipleship?
 - Not... a degree/a seminar/a program alone
 - Not... a quick fix / reserved for super Christians / optional

Definition: *Discipleship is intentionally equipping believers with the Word of God, through accountable relationships empowered by the Holy Spirit in order to replicate faithful followers of Christ.*

- C. Jesus’ four steps to making a disciple include:
 1. Lead while the disciples watch (MATT 5:7 -SERMON ON THE MOUNT)
 2. Lead while the disciples assist (JOHN 6:1-13 - FEEDING 5,000)
 3. Assist while the disciples lead (MARK 9 - DISCIPLES ATTEMPT TO DRIVE OUT DEMONS)
 4. Watch while the disciples lead (LUKE 10:17 - THEY RETURN HAVING SEEN GREAT SIGNS OF JESUS POWER THROUGH THEM)

V. CONCLUSION

- A. We are all called to make disciples (Matthew 28:16-20) who learn to make disciples (2 Timothy 2:1-2)
- B. Jesus called. Straightaway they responded. They had something to lose. They did not hesitate to lose it. They lost nothing. They gained everything.

Dear Lord Jesus, I know that I am a sinner, and I ask for Your forgiveness. I believe You died for my sins and rose from the dead. I turn from my sins and invite You to come into my heart and life. I want to trust and follow You as my Lord and Savior. Amen.