

GATHRING INSIGHTS

SERIES: **The Gospel According to Mark**

TITLE: **Jesus Call**

BIG IDEA: The call of Jesus is an invitation into a life that invites the outcasts, calls to the ordinary, and welcomes the offenders.

BIBLE DISCUSSION

Read **Mark 1:16-20**

When have you experienced being told you weren't 'good

enough' for something you wanted, and how does Jesus calling ordinary fishermen who had been rejected from rabbi school challenge your understanding of who God can use?

Why do you think the two sets of brothers chose to drop their nets and follow Jesus? What do you think their parents thought about them leaving the comfort of their family business to follow Jesus?

Read **Mark 2:13-14**

Why would Levi leave behind the influence and power connect to the Roman Empire to follow a homeless, penniless, traveling rabbi?

Who are the 'Levis' or outcasts in our modern society that the church has failed to welcome, and what would it look like for us to invite them to the table as Jesus did?

Read **Mark 2:15-17**

The religious leaders criticized Jesus for eating with tax collectors and sinners. When have you been more concerned with appearing righteous than actually ministering to those who need Jesus most?

Jesus said He came to call sinners, not the righteous. How does this statement challenge our tendency to clean ourselves up before coming to God rather than coming to Him for healing?

What does this introduction of Mark reveal to us about Jesus and those He calls?

Reflecting on your own call to follow Jesus, what is the next step He might be inviting you to take in bringing His kingdom to the hurting and hopeless around you?

When we look at the men that Jesus chose to pour into during his ministry here on earth, what does it say about the family he surrounded himself with?

Why do you think so many local churches look and sound more like the religious leaders who attack Jesus than the tax collectors who ate with Jesus?

When we follow Jesus' words and ways, he calls us to follow him to hard places. Where is he calling you to reach those outside the walls of the church?

Jesus brings an 'Upside Down Kingdom' where the rejected are welcomed and the outcast are called. How does this vision conflict with the values of success and acceptance in our culture?

GROWING
IN CHRIST

LIVING AS
A FAMILY

SHARING
THE GOSPEL