

# FOLLOW JESUS

VISION 2024

**Week 1 Reflection**  
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## Know the Truth of Jesus

James and John, the disciples in Mark 1, grew up in a culture that was **intimately familiar with the concept of dropping everything to follow after a spiritual leader.** From the first moment they could understand it, they would have had this goal ingrained in them: **“become a disciple of a Rabbi.”** They would have spent their childhood memorizing the first five books of the Hebrew Scriptures all with the goal of advancing, of gaining the attention of a Rabbi. And this Rabbi, seeing that they had done well, **would have asked them to come and follow after him, to walk where he walked, to eat what he ate, to do what he did.**

And because we see them on the shore with their father and his fishing boat, **we know that they failed.** They had not done well enough to gain the attention of a Rabbi, they were told to support their community, to work, **and to pray that their children might become Rabbi.**

The words James and John had been longing to hear their entire childhood: **“come, follow me”** were ringing in their ears. **Of course they dropped their nets!** Of course they left their father and his fishing boat, **they knew their purpose!**

## Know the Truth of Jesus

When we reflect on the immediate obedience of the disciples, we should know that **we have that same opportunity as modern followers of Christ.** Our worldview is not like theirs: we’ve been trained to try to stay on course, not to quit our jobs and follow a wandering Rabbi. Even so, **our choice is the same.** Jesus is reaching out to us, beckoning us to come follow Him. He’s asking us to **go where He goes, to walk where He walks, to eat what He eats, to do what He does.**

We have the opportunity to recognize what these disciples recognized: **it’s worth it.**

Jesus is calling us to **accept and know the truth, to apprentice under Him, to truly and deeply know Him.** When we take our chance, we let go of the things that the world has placed on us, **we drop our nets.** We know that **He is the Way, the Truth, and the Life,** and He promises us that **it will be worth it in the end.** Just like the disciples, our chance is here.