



Following the Leader - Study Guide for the Teaching Series

Week 1 – Sunday 13th September 2020: Luke 5.1-11: Come Follow Me

Do you remember the song, 'Following the Leader, wherever he may go' from Peter Pan?

Marcus Borg, in his book, 'Jesus - A New Vision', asks "Are you a follower of Jesus? I'm not asking do you go to a church or believe the right stuff about Jesus. I'm not even asking if you consider yourself a Christian. It's quite straightforward really, the question the New Testament is interested in is are you a follower of Jesus? "Whoever would be my disciple, Jesus said, 'Let them follow me." Matthew 16.24"

1. What do you **think** about this? How do you **feel** about it? How would you honestly **answer** it?

Please read Luke 5.1-4

2. What do you think was going through Simon Peter's mind as Jesus called him to, 'Put out into deep water and let the nets down for a catch'? Can you relate this to your own life as God speaks to you?

What happens next will have been life-transforming for Simon Peter and many others. **Please read Luke 5.5-7**

3. What lies at the heart of this life-transforming experience?

'Anyone who intends to come with me has to let me lead. You're not in the driver's seat; I am' (Matthew 16:24, The Message). This is not a partnership of equals. We have the awesome privilege of partnering with the living God himself: to walk with Him; to follow His lead; as we work with Him in overcoming the darkness.

4. How does it make you feel to let Jesus be in the driving seat of your life and lead you?

Simon Peter takes Jesus' words seriously and acts with trusting obedience. **Please read James 1.22-25**

5. God often speaks to us and calls us to: love others as he has loved us; forgive as we have been forgiven; bless others as He blesses us – in our everyday life, work and relationships. What is God speaking to you about at the moment? And what will it look like for you to take His words seriously and obey Him?

Please read Luke 5.6-11

6. Why do you think Simon Peter reacts like he does in v8 and v11? And what can we learn from how Jesus' responds to Simon Peter's humility and faith?
7. How does this passage inspire and help you to follow Jesus more wholeheartedly in your everyday life?