

Fishers of Men

John 1:35-42; Matthew 4:18-22; Luke 5:1-11

East Berlin Community Church

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April 10, 2016

Introduction

- *"Do you want to spend the rest of your life selling sugared water, or do you want a chance to change the world?"*
- Jesus Christ, as the Messiah, came to change the world!
- Jesus recognizes the need to assemble a team who will carry on his mission after his departure.

Fishers of Men

A. Initial Call—John 1:35-42

1. Simon's name change to "Peter"—change in **CHARACTER**.
2. In their initial following of Jesus, Peter and the rest were exposed to
 - a. The Word of God—teaching ministry of Jesus
 - b. The Works of God—miracles of Christ

B. Second Call—Matthew 4:18-22

1. Challenges them to *"Follow me and I will make you fishers of men"*—a change in **CAREER**
2. Follow Jesus to Capernaum, but then return again to the family business.

C. Third Call—Luke 5:1-11 The Call to **COMMITMENT**

1. Begins with a simple step of Obedience—5:1-2
2. More difficult step of Obedience—5:4-5
 - a. Against conventional wisdom
 - b. Peter's implicit obedience demonstrates his faith.
3. Miraculous catch of fish—5:6-7
 - a. Demonstrates that Jesus knows all things
 - b. Demonstrates Jesus' dominion *"over the fish of the sea"*
 - c. Demonstrates Jesus' lordship over the fishing business
4. Five Key Steps in the Process of Commitment—5:8-11
 - a. **Convinced**—*"Lord"*
 - b. **Conviction**—*"Depart from me for I am a sinful man"*
 - c. **Comfort**—*"Fear not"*
 - d. **Commission**—*"From now on, you will catch men"*
 - e. **Commitment**—*"Left everything to follow Jesus"*