

Sermon Reflections

The King's Kingdom Call: Follow Me (Matthew 4:12-25)

Summary: King Jesus calls you to follow Him. Take hold of the **hope, purpose, and community** found in this King's Kingdom.

1. Find Hope in the King's Dawning Kingdom (vv. 12-17)

- Can you think of a time when a single word or Bible verse changed the course of your life? The Scriptures (God's Word) can do that today! Has your first love been diminished, or have you even lost this first love? (See Revelation 2:4)
- As a believer, when have you felt like God has abandoned you? Possibly feeling that you are beyond His reach or, even, He is just not listening ... As a believer, when have you had occasion to repent of the sin of hopelessness? What did repentance look like?
- Maybe a "Hope Review" is in order; a self-examination? What are some areas or times in your life where you have placed your hope in something less than Jesus? Consider your actions, trends, tendencies, time usage, or money usage and the like to indicate where your priorities actually are set. If misplaced hope is found, repent and redirect that hope to Christ.

2. Find Purpose in the King's Compelling Call (vv. 18-22)

- Has there ever been a call that revolutionized your life? What was it?
- When Jesus calls people to himself, the "caught become the catchers." As a believer, you are now a follower of Christ and have a new purpose as a fisherman for Him. Is there sufficient evidence in your life to display you are a fisherman for Him? What character qualities must a fisherman possess to be successful? When was the last time you went fishing for men?
- What are some of the competing purposes in your life? Some of these are God-ordained and must be prioritized. Are you able to say that you have placed Christ as first priority in all life situations?

3. Find Community in the King's Needy Followers (vv. 23-25)

- How many believers today just look to Jesus for immediate needs (such as healing)? How might this *miss* the big picture of being NEAR Jesus? When do you struggle to *first* draw near to Jesus?
- How can you grow in community with other needy followers of Jesus Christ this week?
- How can you purpose to pursue others who do not know Jesus Christ in your community?