



LESSON TWO

Following Christ, Fishing For Men

Matthew 4:12–20

Churches have been changing. They have begun focusing exclusively on the success of the church while sacrificing the way that God has given them to follow. More is thought of numbers in the church or the size of the offering than the spirituality of the congregation. A success in a church is not these things; it is whether those that make up the church are being conformed to Christ's image in every area of life. To have spiritual ends we must use spiritual means. To win someone spiritually to Christ we must have Christ's purposes at the forefront. We must first become followers of Christ to bring others to Christ. Many Christians are trying to become "soul winners" but have no idea of what they are winning souls for. When one follows Christ, they see the purpose of why they are winning souls. Let's consider how Christ leads us to become fishers of men.

1. God wants _____ to be saved (II Pe. 3:9).
2. God uses _____ to do His work (Matt. 28:19).
3. Every child of God is commanded to live a _____ life (I Pe 1:16, II Cor. 6:14–18, II Tim. 2:19–26).
4. The Holy Ghost gives us _____ to live a holy life (Eph. 6:10).
5. God does His work in the world through the local _____ (Eph. 4:11–16).

I. The _____ — “Everything We Do With and For Men Is Preceded By Our Time With God”

A. Our first call of God on our lives is a call to be “_____” (Matt. 11:28–30).

B. The greatest failure of our lives is when we _____ in areas of life that are not God’s will.

1. We must be careful of taking _____.

2. We cannot be completely _____ with life until we learn to be with Christ to fulfill His calling.

II. The _____ — “Following Christ and Fishing For Men.”

A. Christ’s greatest priority was to _____ the lost (Luke 19:10).

B. If we do everything else right and do not make souls our first priority we are doing _____ wrong (Luke 10:38–42).

C. If we make fishing for men our greatest priority, we will make following Christ our greatest _____.

III. The _____ — “As We Follow Christ He Makes Us Fishers Of Men”

A. If we are not fishing for men, it is because Christ did not _____ us a fisher of men, and if we are not being made a fisher of men, it is because we are not _____ Christ.

B. You can go after the lost without following Christ, but you _____ truly follow Christ without going after the lost.

Weekly Assignment # 2

1. Evaluate how much time you spend with Christ.
2. What priorities need to be changed to increase my desire for the Lord?
3. What is evidence in my life that I am truly following the Lord?
4. What are some ways I can become more faithful in following the Lord?