

GNCOMMUNITY BIBLE STUDY GUIDE

SERMON SERIES: "THE GOSPEL OF MARK"

SERMON TITLE: "WORTH LEAVING IT ALL"

DATE PREACHED: SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 4TH 2018

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WARM UP QUESTIONS:

- 🗨 Besides Jesus, have you ever had something in your life that was so incredible that you left everything for it, or made significant sacrifices to attain it? What made the sacrifices so worth it to you?
- 🗨 When you hear the phrase "coming face-to-face with Jesus", what comes to mind as the meaning of this phrase?
- 🗨 If you've already made the decision to follow Jesus, what compelled you to make that decision? What has it cost you in regards to sacrifice to follow Jesus?

*Use the passage sections below and ask for a volunteer per section to read it aloud to the group:

Mark 1:1-20

1 The beginning of the Good News about Jesus the Messiah, the Son of God, **2** as it is written in Isaiah the prophet: "I will send my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way" — **3** "a voice of one calling in the wilderness, 'Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for Him.'" **4** And so John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. **5** The whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem went out to him. Confessing their sins, they were baptized by him in the Jordan River.

6 John wore clothing made of camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. **7** And this was his message: "After me comes the one more powerful than I, the straps of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie. **8** I baptize you with water, but He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit." **9** At that time Jesus came from Nazareth in Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. **10** Just as Jesus was coming up out of the water, He saw heaven being torn open and the Spirit descending on Him like a dove.

11 And a voice came from heaven: "You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased." **12** At once the Spirit sent Him out into the wilderness, **13** and He was in the wilderness 40 days, being tempted by Satan. He was with the wild animals, and angels attended Him. **14** After John was put in prison, Jesus went into Galilee, proclaiming the Good News of God. **15** "The time has come," He said. "The kingdom of God has come near. Repent and believe the Good News!"

16 As Jesus walked beside the Sea of Galilee, He saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the lake, for they were fishermen. **17** "Come, follow me," Jesus said, "and I will send you out to fish for people." **18** At once they left their nets and followed Him. **19** When He had gone a little farther, He saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John in a boat, preparing their nets. **20** Without delay He called them, and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men and followed Him.

🗨️ What sticks out to you most about this passage of scripture? Why?

🗨️ Both John the Baptist & Jesus have "repent" as a key piece of their message... What does the word "Repent" mean to you?

🗨️ Although scripture is clear that it is the work of Jesus and His grace that save us, baptism is a key action item throughout scripture in regards to the conversion process...for those of you who have been baptized, what do you feel is the biblical significance of it, and what has the decision to be baptized meant to you personally?

🗨️ When you think of Simon (Peter), Andrew, James, & John all immediately dropping their nets in response to Jesus asking them to "Come, follow me", what do you think of their decision? What would you have done?

🗨️ Can you identify the "nets" in your life that hard to "drop" to fully follow Jesus?

🗨️ When Jesus says that He wants to make us "fishers of men", what do you think He intended by this phrase? {Who in your life is God calling you to share the Good News with?}

*Close in prayer

MATCHING THEME IDEAS FOR THE KIDS LESSON:

— Get the kids to play a game where they are holding something (toys, crayons, etc...) and when you say, "Come, follow me", then they are supposed to drop everything in their hands and follow you around the room.

- Read aloud to them from Mark 1:16-20.
- Ask the kids, what would you give up to follow Jesus?
- You could also think of a game that would simulate “fishing for men”.
- Ask the question, “What would you say to Jesus if you saw Him right now?”