

Follow me. . . and?

- Introduction
 - Last week looked at John 4 and The Word colliding the World
 - Jesus' incarnation= God being made man
 - How his own people rejected him and how his own people still reject him today

Matthew 4:12-23 (NRSV)

Tension: What does it mean to be a 'fisher of men'? What does it mean to follow Jesus? What does that look like?

- How this whole scene would work during Jesus' time
 - It wasn't the first time that these men would have seen Jesus
 - Been listening to him for a while v. 13 'dwelt in Capernaum, which is by the sea, in the regions of Zebulun and Naphtali'
 - Rabbi-disciple relationship would work
- Salvation/ Baptism is the start line, the beginning of a lifelong journey
 - Gospel came to you because it was headed to someone else, Your Salvation is not end but beginning, conduit to flow to others, link in 2 Tim 2:2
- Mission of God= Great Commission **Matt. 28:18-20**
 - Barna did a study among people who regularly attend church= Great Commission= 51% said they never heard of it, 25% said they think they heard of it but really didn't know what it is
 - 76%
- The Church has in essence said: Salvation is essential, discipleship is optional
- V. 23= The things Jesus did= teaching, preaching, healing (v. 24 delivering)
- Vision, Mission and Strategy of Jesus
 - Vision= Gospel to all nations (Great Commission Acts 1:8), mission= seek and save the lost (Luke 19:10), Strategy Disciple to maturity (Colossians 1:28)
- Evangelism and discipleship are two oars attached to one boat, with only one or you would go in a circle both are essential to carrying out the great commission. The gospel is received through evangelism and lived out through discipleship, it's a both/and not an either/or.
- Congregations will celebrate what the pastor celebrates. The pastor therefore should celebrate restored relationships transformed lives and maturing believers not bodies, bucks, and buildings.
- Discipleship is more relational, preaching can't accomplish this, spraying nursery with milk, Jesus choose and taught 12- sure he preached but followed it up with discipline
- Every believer 2 questions= who am I discipling and who is discipling me?, church 2 questions= do we have a plan for making disciples and is it working?
- Disciple appears 269 NT 238 gospels, 281 NT 250 Gospels= root word, Jesus didn't come to make Christians he came to make disciples
- Jesus gradually released his disciples into ministry and this method applies to disciple making today. First, Jesus ministered while disciples watched, second Jesus allowed the disciples to assist him in ministry, third the disciples ministered and Jesus assisted them, finally Jesus observed while the disciples ministered to others.
- Prison Ministry, Alpha, etc.

Closing