

STUDY 1. QUESTIONS TO DISCUSS

1.
 - a. Have you ever made an impulsive decision? What was it?
 - b. Did it turn out to be a good decision or do you wish you had decided otherwise?
2. **Read through Mark 1:16-20.**
 - a. What indications are there that the fishermen made impulsive decisions?
 - b. What does this passage imply about Jesus, his personality and character?
3. **See John 1:35-42 and Luke 5:1-11.**

How do these passages modify our understanding of this story?
4. **See Mark 6:35-37, 8:31-34, 9:2-8, 9:33-37, 14:35-38, 14:66-72, 16:9-14**
 - a. What do these passages tell us about these men and the feelings that they expressed during the times of following Christ? Do these verses give you hope?
 - b. Do you ever feel inadequate to claim to be a follower of Christ? When do these feelings peak?
 - c. When do you find that your lack of understanding or lack of belief peaks? Is it when you are stressed, under challenge about your faith, or involved in conflict, etc?
5. Why does Zebedee get a mention? Is he mentioned because:
 - a. It is an eye-witness detail?
 - b. The readers are being assured that the fishing business will be okay?
 - c. Zebedee represents the voice of reason and tradition... "Let the young ones do their own crazy thing."
6.
 - a. What would you have said if you were Zebedee?
 - b. When you made your decision for Christ, or became involved in the church, was there anybody who urged you not to get involved? How did you meet their objection?
7. What clues are given to us about the fishing business by the mention of the hired servants? What does this tell us about the call of the fishermen?
8. **How would you react to the following?**

"I thought God was calling me to train either for ministry or missionary work. However, I cannot afford to give up my job."
9. Has Christ ever called you in any way to ministry, discipleship, Christian service of any type, or to new directions? How did you hear that call? How did you respond?