

## Beginnings

July 1, 2018

As Jesus was walking beside the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon called Peter and his brother Andrew. They were casting a net into the lake, for they were fishermen. **“Come, follow me,” Jesus said, “and I will send you out to fish for people.”** At once they left their nets and followed him.

Going on from there, he saw two other brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John. They were in a boat with their father Zebedee, preparing their nets. Jesus called them, and immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him. (Matthew 4:18–22, NIV)

### What did following Jesus mean to James and John, at first?

Then James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came to him. “Teacher,” they said, “we want you to do for us whatever we ask.” (Mark 10:35, NIV)

They replied, “Let one of us sit at your right and the other at your left in your glory.” (Mark 10:37, NIV)

When the ten heard about this, they became indignant with James and John. (Mark 10:41, NIV)

### So what did Jesus really mean when he said “Follow Me”?

1. True greatness comes to those who serve God and others, no matter what.

Jesus called them together and said, “You know that those who are regarded as rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their high officials exercise authority over them. (Mark 10:42, NIV)

2. Jesus says the way of pride is not the way of my kingdom.

*Not so with you. Instead, whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, and whoever wants to be first must be slave of all. (Mark 10:43–44, NIV)*

*For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.” (Mark 10:45, NIV)*

Jesus humbled himself.

*And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death— even death on a cross! (Philippians 2:8, NIV)*

And God exalted him.

*Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. (Philippians 2:9–11, NIV)*

### What does it mean to serve Jesus?

1. You can serve, wherever it is that you work, whatever you do in life.

2. You are part of a world-wide, covert, spiritual operation.

3. You can even serve, your enemies.

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