

Are You Ready?
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While walking by the Sea of Galilee, he [Jesus] saw two brothers, Simon (who is called Peter) and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen. And he said to them, "Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men." Immediately they left their nets and followed him. Matthew 4:18-20

Are you ready to follow Jesus?

When Jesus first called His disciples, He did not begin with a test or a list of rules. He simply said, "Follow me." That invitation still stands today.

A proper understanding of discipleship begins with grace. A disciple is not someone who has it all figured out, but someone who has been called by Jesus. Before we follow Him, He first comes to us—through His Word, through Baptism, and through the promise of forgiveness won for us at the cross.

A disciple is a learner. That's what the word means. We learn who Jesus is and what He has done for us. We learn that our sins are forgiven, that death does not have the final word, and that our life is now hidden with Christ. Disciples are not perfect people, they are forgiven people who keep coming back to Jesus.

A disciple also listens. We listen as God's Word is preached and taught. We listen not to earn God's love, but because we already have it. God shapes us through His Word, correcting us when we stray and comforting us when we are weak.

And a disciple is one who is sent. Having received Christ's mercy, we are sent into our daily lives—into homes, workplaces, schools, and communities—to love and serve our neighbors. We don't follow Jesus away from the world, but into it, carrying His love in ordinary ways.

So, are you ready to follow Jesus? A disciple of Jesus is one who is called by Christ, forgiven by Christ, and led by Christ. Day by day, we follow Him, not by our own strength, but by His grace!