



## Liberty Baptist Church Sermon Discussion

# DEEPER

Life Group Discussion  
September 20, 2020

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This Discussion Guide is prepared to help believers apply the truths of Scripture to life. As you prepare, make sure you have read the Scripture text and listened to the Sermon. If you missed the Sermon, go to [www.experienceliberty.org](http://www.experienceliberty.org) and select the Sermon title listed above.

### Sermon Bible Verses:

Have you ever thought of your Christian life as a life lived in a fishbowl? Same expectations, same level of worship, same understanding of God, same level of relationship with our Savior day in and day out. We come to church with the same expectations of what will happen, never looking to the potential of what God could do if we moved outside the normal expectancy. Think about the various ways God moved in the lives of those who were willing to follow His voice...Abraham, Moses, Joshua, Gideon, the disciples etc.... As we go deeper, we have to let God out of the box we have put Him in.

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*“It is time for the church to get out of our fish bowl of our normal Christianity and go DEEPER with Jesus”*

### Matthew 4:18-22

*18 And Jesus, walking by the sea of Galilee, saw two brethren, Simon called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea: for they were fishers. And he saith unto them, Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men*

- What do you think Jesus saw in Peter and Andrew that He would call them into service for the purpose of evangelism? (not a theological question but a question of character). We each have different talents and gifts to be used in service, consider what is your talent and how you can use that in service to God.
- We see Jesus say, “Follow me.” Consider the number of people you follow on Facebook, Twitter, or other social media? How long does it take for you to scroll through your home page each day, reading and responding to people’s comments? Ponder where you spend your time, reading God’ writings and communicating with Him or others?
- Jesus related ministry with fishing. How does relatability play in our ministry with others?
- We all have our favorite sports teams, shows and celebrities. Do you find yourself copying their words, mannerisms or fashion? Why don’t we do that with Jesus? Compared to the world which one are you mimicking?

*19 And he saith unto them, Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men. 20And they straightway left their nets, and followed him*

- Sometimes we take the easiest path and follow others advice, other explanations, others interpretation instead of doing our own due diligence. How many times do we choose our own efforts to guide us rather than allowing Jesus to make us fishers of men?
- When Jesus called the two brothers, they immediately left their nets and followed him. Think about what it would take to leave a job, family and friends to follow Jesus. How important is a spouse's role in ministry? Discuss the difficulties you may have experienced in serving Christ.
- The context of this verse implies you have to leave "your net" behind. Your net might be the security of a job, safety of family and friends, so the difficulty comes in trusting those things you leave behind will be ok. What have you had to leave behind in order to move forward?
- A similarity can be found in 1 King 19:19-21 when Elisha is called into service. Elisha was in the field plowing, when Elijah called him to serve the Lord. Elisha burned the yoke and killed the ox. Sometimes you have to cut things out of your life. Elisha burned that bridge so he wouldn't have anything to return to. You can't look behind and walk forward at the same time. How often do we keep the door open to our past?

*21And going on from thence, he saw other two brethren, James the son of Zebedee, and John his brother, in a ship with Zebedee their father, mending their nets; and he called them. 22And they immediately left the ship and their father, and followed him.*

The act of casting (Verse 18) and mending are present tense verbs in these passages meaning these men were busy and hardworking continually. Mending conveys the idea of putting something into its proper condition so it will function well. When applied to that which is weak and defective, it denotes setting right what has gone wrong, to restore to a former condition.

- So, we have some, in doing kingdom work, who cast and some who mend. Contemplate which one are you?

Again, we see Jesus say, "Follow me." How does that command work in your own life? Consider the footsteps of Christ, from his appearing until the cross. Trouble, sorrow, rejection, hated, mocked, crucified. *Still want to follow?* Then you have to, must go deeper!