

Series: I Peter: The Transformed Life

Text:

Title: Called to Follow

Treasures in Jars of Clay

### **John 1:35-42 – Andrew follows Christ and tells Peter**

*<sup>35</sup> The next day again John was standing with two of his disciples, <sup>36</sup> and he looked at Jesus as he walked by and said, “Behold, the Lamb of God!” <sup>37</sup> The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus. <sup>38</sup> Jesus turned and saw them following and said to them, “What are you seeking?” And they said to him, “Rabbi” (which means Teacher), “where are you staying?” <sup>39</sup> He said to them, “Come and you will see.” So they came and saw where he was staying, and they stayed with him that day, for it was about the tenth hour. <sup>40</sup> One of the two who heard John speak and followed Jesus was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. <sup>41</sup> He first found his own brother Simon and said to him, “We have found the Messiah” (which means Christ). <sup>42</sup> He brought him to Jesus. Jesus looked at him and said, “You are Simon the son of John. You shall be called Cephas” (which means Peter).*

- Disciples of John the Baptist
- Andrew finds his brother
- “We have found the Messiah!”
- Immediately Jesus deals with Simon’s identity –

### **Mark 1:16-20 – general call of Peter and others**

*<sup>6</sup> Passing alongside the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and Andrew the brother of Simon casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen. <sup>17</sup> And Jesus said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you become fishers of men.” <sup>18</sup> And immediately they left their nets and followed him. <sup>19</sup> And going on a little farther, he saw James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, who were in their boat mending the nets. <sup>20</sup> And immediately he called them, and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired servants and followed him.*

- A call to Follow Him

- Teachers – rabbis had followers
  - They walked with them and learned from them
  - They lived out their rabbi’s teaching
  - They taught their rabbi’s teaching
  - They were known as students of that Rabbi
- “I will make you...
- ...Fishers of men”
- They left to follow

**Matt. 4:18-20 General Call of Peter and Others**

<sup>18</sup> *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. <sup>19</sup> “Come, follow me,” Jesus said, “and I will send you out to fish for people.” <sup>20</sup> At once they left their nets and followed him.*

<sup>21</sup> *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, <sup>22</sup> and immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.*

- I will send you out
- To fish for people

**Luke 5:1-11 detailed account of the call of Peter and others**

*On one occasion, while the crowd was pressing in on him to hear the word of God, he was standing by the lake of Gennesaret, <sup>2</sup> and he saw two boats by the lake, but the fishermen had gone out of them and were washing their nets. <sup>3</sup> Getting into one of the boats, which was Simon’s, he asked him to put out a little from the land. And he sat down and taught the people from the boat. <sup>4</sup> And when he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, “Put out into the deep and let down your nets for a catch.” <sup>5</sup> And Simon answered, “Master, we toiled all night and took nothing! But at your word I will let down the nets.” <sup>6</sup> And when they had done this, they enclosed a large number of fish, and their nets were breaking. <sup>7</sup> They signaled to their partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled*

*both the boats, so that they began to sink. <sup>8</sup> But when Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, "Depart from me, for I am a sinful man, O Lord." <sup>9</sup> For he and all who were with him were astonished at the catch of fish that they had taken, <sup>10</sup> and so also were James and John, sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon. And Jesus said to Simon, "Do not be afraid; from now on you will be catching men." <sup>11</sup> And when they had brought their boats to land, they left everything and followed him.*

- He gets in your boat
- He uses your boat – life as a platform to reach people – he taught
- He will ask you to go into deep waters
  - You may drown
- He will test you to see how far you will go to obey Him
  - We are tired
  - At your WORD
- He will show Himself Mighty
- What will your response be?
  - Fall at his feet
  - Depart from me, I am a sinful man
- Stop being afraid – I will give you purpose

## **2 Corinthians 4:7-9**

*<sup>7</sup> But we have this treasure in jars of clay, to show that the surpassing power belongs to God and not to us. <sup>8</sup> We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; <sup>9</sup> persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed;*

## **Jesus is Calling**

- April 29<sup>th</sup> – hopefuls await a phone call – NFL football draft
- Actors and actresses await a call from the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences – You have been nominated
- This is Jesus calling
  - He is calling you – personally
  - He is calling you by name
  - He knows your issues and your sins

- He still calls you
- Will you choose to answer His call

## **He is calling you to follow**

- Follow Him
- Follow His teachings
- Follow with obedience
- Follow into the deep

## **He is calling you to a new Identity**

- You think you are weak and a wavering reed
- Blown here and there
- Jesus sees differently
- Stop seeing yourself in your sin
- Stop seeing yourself in your sorrow
- Stop seeing yourself in your fear

## **The Repair Shop**

- Family heirlooms
- Hide the cracks –
- Holds personal value
- Holds no external value

## **Japanese Repairs**

- Kintsugi (金継ぎ, "golden joinery")
- the Japanese art of repairing broken pottery by mending the areas of breakage with lacquer dusted or mixed with powdered gold, silver, or platinum
- Shows the cracks
- it treats breakage and repair as part of the history of an object, rather than something to disguise.
- Holds higher value

Throughout this series – you will see as Simon Peter follows and fails...  
Jesus does not call him out for his sin over and over again – but calls him to life

- He corrects him in the moment

- Even harshly – “get thee behind me Satan!”
- But he does not rehash His old sin – because a new identity is present and Jesus will always shine that light on you.

### **Jack Antonoff of the Bleachers (Jersey band)**

- Sister died when he was 18
- His music was written out of that grief for years
- He recently spoke on the topic of desiring a brighter life
- He spoke of a door one must walk through into a better life and view – and you cannot take the baggage with you
- The memory is there... but the cage does not hold you captive anymore
- He said he lost years of development and experiences of joy because he was a prisoner of his grief

This new life in Christ is calling you to let go of the Simon in yourself and embrace the petra – The rock

### **He is calling you to a Purpose**

- The purpose is to be His follower
- The purpose is to hold Him above all else
- The purpose is to walk in a new identity
- The purpose is reach others
  - An outward focus
  - Taking Jesus to others