

Jesus Calls the First Disciples

16 For ver. 16-20, see Matt. 4:18-22; [Luke 5:2-11; John 1:40-42] 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.

- **This was not the first time Andrew and Peter met Jesus.**
- **(John 1:35-42) Andrew heard John the Baptist proclaiming Jesus as “The Lamb of God.”**
- **Andrew went and told Peter; both went to Jesus. Jesus called Simon, Peter/Cephas, rock.**
- **Both of these men heard about Jesus from somebody else, first.**
 - **(Andrew from John the Baptist, Peter from Andrew.)**
- **Jesus and the Holy Spirit had already been working on these men, before he walked by and called them.**

17 And Jesus said to them, **“Follow me, and I will make you become** Matt. 13:47 **fishers of men.”** 1:17 The Greek word *anthropoi* refers here to both men and women

- **Fishing was hard work, but the difficulty of “fishing” for people had to seem daunting.**
- **These men knew how hard their task would be, but they counted the cost and followed anyway.**

18 And immediately they left their nets and followed him.

19 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.

20 And immediately he called them, and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired servants and followed him.

- They did not set their house in order, nor go and give “goodbyes” to everybody.
- Jesus called them to a task, to a ministry, and they responded to that call “immediately.”

Jesus Heals a Man with an Unclean Spirit

21 Matt. 4:13; For ver. 21-28, see Luke 4:31-37 And they went into Capernaum, and immediately See ch. 6:2 on the Sabbath ver. 39; See Matt. 4:23 he entered the synagogue and was teaching.

22-And See Matt. 7:28, 29 they were astonished at his teaching, See Matt. 7:28, 29 for he taught them as one who had authority, and not as the scribes.

- **There is power in the word of God, and the man who is full of God can't help but show that power when they proclaim the word of God to others.**

23-And immediately there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit. And he cried out,

24 See Matt. 8:29 “What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? [ver. 34; Acts 19:15; James 2:19] I know who you are—John 6:69; Acts 3:14; Rev. 3:7; [Luke 1:35; Heb. 7:26; 1 John 2:20] the Holy One of God.”

25-But Jesus See Matt. 12:16 rebuked him, saying, **“Be silent, and come out of him!”**

26-And the unclean spirit, ch. 9:26 convulsing him and ch. 5:7; Acts 8:7 crying out with a loud voice, came out of him.

27-And they were all [Matt. 8:27] amazed, so that they questioned among themselves, saying, "What is this? [Acts 17:19] A new teaching with authority! He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey him."

- **There was a demon or unclean spirit inside of a man, sitting in a house of worship, who knows how long he had been there before Jesus arrived.**
- **Maybe he was visiting for the first time, or maybe he had been going to this synagogue for years.**
- **But this man seems to have sat under the teaching of scribes, and the unclean spirit was not uncomfortable enough to reveal itself.**
- **It was only when the teaching of Jesus was heard that this spirit cried out in agony.**
- **Why wasn't this spirit crying out in agony when the scribes were teaching?**
- **Lack of Power in their words? Lack of faith in the words they taught? Missing belief in the heart of the scribes?**
- **Acts 19:13-17 Seven sons of Sceva.**

28-And at once his fame spread everywhere throughout all the surrounding region of Galilee.

Jesus Heals Many

29 [For ver. 29-34, see Matt. 8:14-16; Luke 4:38-41] And immediately he [1:29 Some manuscripts *they*] [ver. 21, 23] left the synagogue and entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John.

30-Now [1 Cor. 9:5] Simon's mother-in-law lay ill with a fever, and immediately they told him about her.

31-And he came and [ch. 9:27; Acts 3:7; 9:41](#) took her by the hand and lifted her up, and the fever left her, and she began to serve them.

- **Jesus healed with a purpose.**
- **Often people ask God for healing of themselves or others.**
- **Jesus healed Peter's mother-in-law and she began serving Jesus.**
- **Has God healed any of us? Physically? Mentally? Spiritually?**
- **What is expected of us who have been healed?**
 - **Serve Jesus Christ.**

32-That evening at sundown they brought to him all who were sick or [See](#) [Matt. 4:24](#) oppressed by demons.

33-And the whole city was gathered together at the door.

34- [See Matt. 4:23](#) And he healed many who were sick with various diseases, and cast out many demons. And [ch. 3:11, 12; \[Acts 16:17, 18\]](#) he would not permit the demons to speak, because they knew him.

- **Jesus worked and people responded to Him.**
- **Jesus cared about their physical needs as well as the needs of their soul.**
- **We, especially me, need to take note of this. Many times, people who don't believe in Jesus cannot hear, see, understand the message of Jesus because their physical needs occupy so much of their attention.**
- **Although I would encourage a believer to look beyond their physical needs, I cannot expect a non-believer to behave like a believer.**
- **Take time to help people with their physical needs and let that be an opening to share Jesus with them.**

Jesus Preaches in Galilee

35 For ver. 35-38, see Luke 4:42, 43 And rising very early in the morning, while it was still dark, he departed and went out to a desolate place, and Luke 5:16; See Matt. 14:23 there he prayed.

- **Jesus had to be exhausted from the previous day's work**
- **He also knew the importance of being alone with God, and getting His energy back from being in God's presence.**
- **If Jesus needs time alone in prayer with God, how much more do we?**
- **He was the Son of God yet needed to be refreshed in God. We need that refreshing even more.**

36-And Simon and those who were with him searched for him,

37-and they found him and said to him, [John 12:19] "Everyone is looking for you."

- **If it was me, my pride would start to lead me back into that town.**
- **I'm famous, everybody loves me, why not stay in a place like that?**
- **Jesus was not listening to His pride, nor His desires, but He was listening to God.**
- **This is why it is so important for each of us to spend time in the Bible, in prayer, and in silence allowing God to speak to us.**

38-And he said to them, "Let us go on to the next towns, that I may preach there also, for [Isa. 61:1] that is why I came out."

39-[Luke 4:44] And ver. 21 he went throughout all Galilee, preaching in their synagogues and casting out demons.

- **This reminds me of Philip in Acts 8.**

- Philip was in the city of Samaria and the message of Jesus was taking off and people were coming to belief in Jesus.
- Acts 8:26 and angel tells Philip to leave and go to a new place.
- Philip did.
- Please don't think that because where you are now is doing great, that means you are to stay there your whole life.
- When God calls you from something, to something else, we leave and go, whether things were good or bad
- Do what He commands.

Jesus Cleanses a Leper

40 For ver. 40-44, see Matt. 8:2-4; Luke 5:12-14 And a leper [1:40 Leprosy was a term for several skin diseases; see Leviticus 13] came to him, imploring him, and [ch. 10:17; Matt. 17:14; 27:29] kneeling said to him, [ch. 9:22, 23; Matt. 9:28] "If you will, you can make me clean."

- We need to come to Jesus just as this Leper does.
- In full faith and confidence that Jesus has what we need, and can heal us, whether that's a physical sickness or a spiritual sickness, like greed.

41-Moved with pity, he stretched out his hand and touched him and said to him, "I will; be clean."

- We need to be moved with pity on people who are hurting and in need.
- We cannot be apathetic toward pain and suffering of any kind, for anybody.

42-And immediately the leprosy left him, and he was made clean.

43-And [Matt. 9:30](#) Jesus [1:43](#) Greek *he*; also verse [45](#) sternly charged him and sent him away at once,
44-and said to him, [ver. 34; ch. 5:43; 7:36; 8:26; Matt. 9:30; 17:9; See Matt. 12:16](#) “See that you say nothing to anyone, but go, [Luke 17:14](#) show yourself to the priest and [Lev. 14:2-32](#) offer for your cleansing what Moses commanded, [ch. 6:11; Luke 9:5; James 5:3](#) for a proof to them.”

- **Jesus was being humble**
- **He did not need nor want to proclaim himself as the Messiah or the Christ**
- **Instead he sent this man to the priest, so the priest’s verdict of this man being “clean” would testify that Jesus is the Christ.**
- **We need to act humbly, with the gifts that God has given us.**
- **Always remember that it is better for others to brag on you, than for us to brag about ourselves**
- **If we have to tell people how good, or important, or special we are then we are very likely not as great as we think**
- **If we are actually that good, important, special we won’t need to tell anybody because other people will notice.**
- **We need to be focused on making much of God. If somebody brags on you tell them how great God is who allows you to do that.**
- **Make everything about God, not yourself.**

45- [ch. 7:36; Matt. 9:31; \[Luke 5:15, 16\]](#) But he went out and began to talk freely about it, and to spread the news, so that Jesus could no longer openly enter [2 Cor. 11:26](#) a town, but was out in [2 Cor. 11:26](#) desolate places, and [ch. 2:2, 13; 3:7; \[John 6:2\]](#) people were coming to him from every quarter.

- Jesus allowed others to draw people to him, while Jesus His focus on God, and kept pointing people to God.
- Go and do likewise.

1. Jesus calls his first disciples
2. Teaches with faith and power
3. Heals the broken
4. Keeps his focus on God's will
5. Stays humble