

# Sermon-Based Discussion Guide

Date 5/28/23 Aaron Brown

Watch the sermon at [manheimbic.org/sermon](https://manheimbic.org/sermon).



## BIBLE PASSAGE - Matthew 4:12-25

### ***Jesus Begins His Ministry***

**12** Now when he heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew into Galilee. **13** And leaving Nazareth he went and lived in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, **14** so that what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

**15** "The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali,  
the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles—

**16** the people dwelling in darkness  
have seen a great light,  
and for those dwelling in the region and shadow of death,  
on them a light has dawned."

**17** From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand."<sup>[a]</sup>

### ***Jesus Calls the First Disciples***

**18** While walking by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon (who is called Peter) and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen. **19** And he said to them, "Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men."<sup>[b]</sup> **20** Immediately they left their nets and followed him. **21** And going on from there he saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, in

the boat with Zebedee their father, mending their nets, and he called them. **22** Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

### **Jesus Ministers to Great Crowds**

**23** And he went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. **24** So his fame spread throughout all Syria, and they brought him all the sick, those afflicted with various diseases and pains, those oppressed by demons, those having seizures, and paralytics, and he healed them. **25** And great crowds followed him from Galilee and the Decapolis, and from Jerusalem and Judea, and from beyond the Jordan.

**Other Passages:** Luke 6:40; John 15:15-17; Matthew 28:18-20

#### **Connect:**

Get to know each other. Connect, warm up to each other, and take time to fellowship.

#### **Care:**

Carry each other's burdens. Share life's challenges and practice Soul Care. Pray together.

#### **Challenge:**

Dive into God's Word. Use these discussion questions. Learn from each other's insight.

1. As Aaron asked on Sunday, who or what has been influencing you lately? In what ways might that influence draw you closer to Jesus or away from Him?
2. Read Matthew 14:22-33 as a group. If the goal of a disciple was to be like their Rabbi, what new insights can we see in this text?
3. What are some specific ways that you are nurturing your own relationship with Jesus and working to become more like Him?
4. Are there any areas of your life where you're still dragging a net behind you (Mt. 4:20) as you seek to follow Jesus?
5. Are you discipling others (Mt. 28:18-20)? Are you actively encouraging others to follow you as you follow Jesus? How might you reframe a current relationship to better reflect discipleship?

#### **Clarify:**

Does anyone need clarity on something? Are there any big God questions you are wrestling with?

#### **Celebrate:**

Celebrate life's successes and God's provision. Worship God's presence. Time to brag about God.

### **KEY TAKEAWAYS**