

## Mark 1:14-28 – Follow and Be Filled

Michael Silva / January 12, 2020

### Announcements:

- Men's breakfast next Saturday.
- Guest Speaker – Mike & Sonya in NYC.

### Introduction: 4 LESSONS LEADERS CAN LEARN FROM FISHING<sup>1</sup>

- 1. **Patience** Fishing necessitates patience. According to Leo Tolstoy, “The two most powerful warriors are patience and time.”
- 2. **Persistence** Fishing also demands persistence. In the words of Napoleon Hill, “The most interesting thing about a postage stamp is the persistence with which it sticks to its job.” Persistence doesn't mean you ought to fish in the same location all day, but you must keep on fishing. Giving up after thirty minutes because the fish are not biting will not get you to the end goal. The end goal is to catch fish. Once you take your line out of the water, you will not catch any fish even if the fish start biting.
- 3. **Peace** Fishing requires peace. It's a quiet pastime. When I was a child, my grandfather always said noise and talking spooked the fish and kept them from biting. He wanted to fish in silence, absorbed in his own thoughts. He didn't like to take my uncle and me fishing because he said we made too much of a commotion. According to Francis Bacon, “Silence is the sleep that nourishes wisdom.” Where there is silence, there is an opportunity to listen to our own hearts talk. Do not be afraid of silence. It provides the best opportunity for you to self-reflect and assess what will make you a stronger leader.
- 4. **Prosperity** Prosperity in fishing isn't guaranteed. Simply put, the purpose of fishing is to catch fish. However, fishing may not always result in catching fish. The fish may not be biting, you may be fishing in the wrong spot or you may be using the wrong bait. If you want to win, you've got to fail sometimes. Many great leaders in history experienced failures: Thomas Edison, Abraham Lincoln and Henry Ford to name a few. If you never experience failure, you will never seize those new opportunities for improvement. Failure leads to reinventing yourself. Become accustomed to failure so that you can continue learning.

❖ Could this be part of the reason why Jesus chose the disciples that He did?

### Transition:

1. Last Week: **God's Team, the Trinity, is the Winning Team.**

Let's begin by reading: **Mark 1:14-28** (NKJV)<sup>i</sup>

1. I've **summarized** our passage today **Follow and Be Filled.**

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.govloop.com/community/blog/4-lessons-leaders-can-learn-fishing/>

## Follow and Be Filled

**Mark 1:14-15** <sup>14</sup> Now after John was put in prison, Jesus came to Galilee, preaching the gospel of the kingdom of God, <sup>15</sup> and saying, “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel.”

1. John the Baptist was imprisoned by Herod Antipas, the son of Herod the Great.
  - a) Mark covers John’s fate in chapter 6 so we’ll save those details for when we get there.
  
2. We last saw Jesus down in Judea by the Jordan River being baptized by John.
  - a) Mark tells us that Jesus has returned to the northern region of Galilee. **MAP**
  - b) Much of Jesus’s time and ministry occurred in Galilee.
    - i) He only went to Jerusalem during the feasts of Israel.
      - (1) There were three big feasts that the Jewish people traveled to Jerusalem to observe...
        - (a) Passover – Feast of Unleavened Bread.
        - (b) Feast of Weeks (Pentecost)
        - (c) Feast of Tabernacles.
  - c) Galilee
    - i) According to the ancient Jewish historian Josephus there were 204 villages in Galilee with a total of about 3 million people in this large region.
  
3. Jesus preached saying, “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel.”
  - a) Note – The Gospel of Mark focuses largely on what Jesus did instead of what He said.
  - b) This verse reminds us that Jesus was a preacher who did wonderful miracles, not a miracle worker who sometimes preached. (Guzik)
  - c) The word time – two Greek words are translated as time in the scriptures, **Chronos** and **Karios**. This passage uses Karios.
    - i) Chronos – Simple chronological time.
    - ii) Karios – A measure of time, a fixed and definite time.
  - d) Repent – A change of mind and direction. Repentance isn’t feelings, it’s an attitude followed up by action.
    - i) The idea here: You can’t enter the kingdom if you are moving in the same direction as the world.

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- e) And **believe in the gospel**.
  - i) Guzik: The ancient Greek word Jesus used for **believe** (*pisteuo*) means much more than knowledge or agreement in the mind. It speaks of a relationship of trust and dependence.
  - ii) It's the difference between believing it exists and believing in it for yourself.
    - (1) I like doing adventurous things... But I'm not interested in Bungie Jumping.
    - (2) I believe the bungie cord can stop you from hitting the ground, but I'm not willing to put my faith and trust in it.

### **Mark 1:16-18**

<sup>16</sup> And as He walked by the Sea of Galilee, He saw Simon and Andrew his brother casting a net into the sea; for they were fishermen. <sup>17</sup> Then Jesus said to them, "Follow Me, and I will make you become fishers of men." <sup>18</sup> They immediately left their nets and followed Him.

1. This was not their first-time meeting, that event is recorded in John 1:35ff.
2. **fishermen** – And for Simon and Andrew they were casting their nets when Jesus came along on this occasion.
3. Why did Jesus choose fishermen? They were common individuals that we could relate to.
  - a) Even when we have a job or circumstances that stinks, God can still use you.
  - b) But there's another reason why Jesus would build his first century church with fishermen,
    - i) They already understood patience. Good fishermen were neither complainers nor quitters.
4. Jesus helps us to understand what true Christianity is all about... "**Follow Me**" Jesus said.
  - a) Jesus' promise... to **make them fishers of men**.
    - i) A process of training... Discipleship.
  - b) This also speaks of Evangelism – a foreshadowing of the Great Commission to Go make disciples of all the nations...

### **Mark 1:19-20**

<sup>19</sup> When He had gone a little farther from there, He saw James the *son* of Zebedee, and John his brother, who also *were* in the boat mending their nets. <sup>20</sup> And immediately He called them, and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired servants, and went after Him.

1. To mend - Preparation and perseverance.
2. To mend their nets uses the same Greek root word found in Ephesians 4:12 where Paul writes about equipping the saints.

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3. Courson: I find it interesting that Peter and Andrew were casting their nets into the sea when Jesus called them. On the other hand, James and John were mending nets. The ministry of Peter and Andrew was evangelism, as evidenced by Andrew repeatedly bringing people to Christ, and Peter preaching the sermon on the Day of Pentecost that “caught” three thousand people in the net of the gospel. The ministry of John and James, by contrast, was that of mending people through their emphasis on both the heartfelt and practical nature of love. Whatever your temperament personally, watch the Lord use it in your own ministry.<sup>2</sup>

### **Mark 1:21-22**

<sup>21</sup> Then they went into Capernaum, and immediately on the Sabbath He entered the synagogue and taught. <sup>22</sup> And they were astonished at His teaching, for He taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes.

1. What is a **synagogue**?
  - a) Synagogues were first established in Israel during the Babylonian captivity years after the Temple in Jerusalem had been destroyed.
  - b) A synagogue was established in any location where there were at least 10 Jewish males and it served as a place to read and study the scriptures, worship, and pray.
    - i) They did not sacrifice animals at any of the synagogues, that only occurred at the Temple.
  - c) One of the elders of that local village would be appointed over the synagogue and since they often didn't have their own dedicated priest or rabbi, they would welcome guests who would teach the Word.
2. We are not told what Jesus taught, we only see the affect it had on the people, **they were astonished at His teaching**.
  - a) The **scribes** simply quoted a variety of rabbis while Jesus taught with boldness as **one having authority**.
    - i) It's like the difference between hearing a Best Buy sales associate describe an Apple Product and Steve Jobs, when he was still alive, describing that same product.
3. Because Jesus has cleared the way providing us with direct access to Himself and God the Father we should talk the time to hear directly from Him.
  - a) One of the clearest ways to hear God speak to us is through His Word.
  - b) The Navigators use a hand illustration<sup>3</sup> to help us get the most out of our time in the Word.

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<sup>2</sup> Courson, J. (2003). *Jon Courson's Application Commentary* (p. 225). Nashville, TN: Thomas Nelson.

<sup>3</sup> <https://navigators.org.au/lead-me/essentials/the-word/>

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- i) **Hearing** - Hearing the Word from godly pastors and teachers provides insight into others' study of the Scriptures as well as stimulating your own appetite for the Word.
  - ii) **Reading** - Reading the Bible gives an overall picture of God's Word. Many people find it helpful to use a daily reading program which takes them systematically through the Bible.
  - iii) **Studying** - Studying the Scriptures leads to personal discoveries of God's truths. Writing down these discoveries helps you organize and remember them.
  - iv) **Memorizing** - Memorizing God's Word enables use of the Sword of the Spirit to overcome Satan and temptations...to have it readily available for witnessing or helping others with a "word in season."
  - v) **Meditating** - Meditation is the thumb of the Word Hand, for it is used in conjunction with each of the other methods. Only as you meditate on God's Word—thinking of its meaning and application in your life—will you discover its transforming power at work within you.
- c) If you try to hold something with one figure you are likely to drop it.
- i) With two figures it's a little more secure, but you don't have a lot of strength.
  - ii) With each additional figure your grip on it gets stronger and better.

### **Mark 1:23-24**

<sup>23</sup> Now there was a man in their synagogue with an unclean spirit. And he cried out, <sup>24</sup> saying, "Let us alone! What have we to do with You, Jesus of Nazareth? Did You come to destroy us? I know who You are—the Holy One of God!"

1. There was a man with an **unclean spirit**, in other words, he was demon possessed.
  - a) Where was this man? In the synagogue.
    - i) How long had he been in the synagogue? Did others recognize that he had an unclean spirit? Was he blending in with everyone else?
    - ii) Jesus warned in **Matthew 7:15** <sup>15</sup> "Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravenous wolves."
  - b) There are those who can be in the place of worship, even recognize Jesus for who He is, yet still be lost and separated from God.
2. The light of Jesus came into that synagogue forcing the unclean spirit to expose himself by crying out.
  - a) Up to this point, John has recognized that Jesus is the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world (John 1:29).
    - i) God the Father has acknowledged Jesus as a voice from heaven declaring His pleasure in the Son.

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- ii) Now the demons acknowledge who Jesus is, **the Holy One of God!**
  - iii) The demon also acknowledges Jesus's power and is worried that Jesus has come to destroy him.
- b) Light always purges the darkness.
- i) When you are facing dark and evil circumstances or are struggling with temptation, bring the light of Jesus into it.
  - ii) **Galatians 5:16** <sup>16</sup> I say then: Walk in the Spirit, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh.

**Mark 1:25-28** <sup>25</sup> But Jesus rebuked him, saying, "Be quiet, and come out of him!" <sup>26</sup> And when the unclean spirit had convulsed him and cried out with a loud voice, he came out of him. <sup>27</sup> Then they were all amazed, so that they questioned among themselves, saying, "What is this? What new doctrine is this? For with authority He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey Him." <sup>28</sup> And immediately His fame spread throughout all the region around Galilee.

1. No theatrical exorcism ceremony. No incantations or magic words. A simple rebuke and command. "Be quiet, and come out of him!" This man was filled with the wrong spirit.
  - a) The command to be quiet carries the idea of being muzzled.
  - b) And what would appear to be a fit of rage the evil spirit violently convulsed the man.
    - i) This man who somehow opened himself up to being possessed is jolted one more time before being freed from this spirit.
  - c) To be clear, this cannot happen to Christians.
    - i) **1 Corinthians 6:20** <sup>20</sup> For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's.
2. As the people grew to love Jesus, the religious officials grew to hate Him.
  - a) But it was the Father's will that motivated and moved Jesus, not the opinions of others.

### Conclusion: What's the big take away from this passage?

1. Follow and be filled...
  - a) **Ephesians 5:17-21** <sup>17</sup> Therefore do not be unwise, but understand what the will of the Lord is. <sup>18</sup> And do not be drunk with wine, in which is dissipation; but be filled with the Spirit, <sup>19</sup> speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord, <sup>20</sup> giving thanks always for all things to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>21</sup> submitting to one another in the fear of God.

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<sup>i</sup> All scripture references, unless otherwise noted, are taken from The New King James Version. (1982). Nashville: Thomas Nelson.