



# SERMON DISCUSSION

## Believe or Follow

### Quotable Moments:

- We choose whether we follow Jesus. We don't get to choose how we follow.

**Scripture:** Matthew 4:18-22; Luke 5:1-11

### Key Things You Heard:

- Christ = God's Anointed One / King
- The New Testament writers refer to Jesus as Savior 157 times -- but refer to Him as Lord 700 times.
- Salvation is free. It cost me nothing. Following Jesus will cost me something.
- A belief system is a set of principles and tenets about what is right and wrong and what is true and false.

**Pray:** Jesus, thank you for being my Savior, Forgiver and Friend. I know that without that, I could not have a relationship with you. I also thank you for being Messiah, Christ, and Lord. This means you have all power and deserve all worship. It also means that our natural response is to surrender and follow. Help me to follow you, fully trusting in your guidance and your provision. I confess my sin of pride, of seeking my own way. Help me to humbly and joyfully follow You. In Jesus' name, Amen.

### Moving Forward:

- Study the meaning of the name LORD in the Bible. What is significant about that name?
- Look up verses where Jesus is referred to as Lord.
- Re-watch and/or share the sermon with a friend. Go to [rivertown.cc](http://rivertown.cc) or the RCC App.

### Questions for Group Discussion:

**First Minutes:** Who is a person you respect highly, and if they ask you for something, you try to make it happen. What is it about them that makes you want to?

- Think about what you were taught about Jesus? Did you learn about him as "Savior, Forgiver, Friend" or "Messiah, Christ, Lord"? Why are both sets of names important?
- Read Matthew 4:18-20. How is this 3-word invitation so powerful? Why did these men respond like they did?
- Read Luke 5:5. What is significant about Peter's response to Jesus? What do you think those around him said among themselves? What might you have said?
- What did this story do for the relationship between Jesus and His disciples? How did it change their willingness to follow? Has Jesus done something for you, which has caused you to follow at a deeper level? Share that with your group.
- Paul said following Jesus is a step-by-step process. Which of these steps are you in? How is Jesus asking you to follow Him?
  1. Sit and listen
  2. Loan Him the boat (take a step that is not convenient)
  3. Take Him fishing (trust God enough to do something unusual)
  4. Leave your nets (trust God enough to go all in)
- What does following Jesus look like for you this next week? What is your next step?