FISHERS OF MEN
Mark 1:16–18 (NKJV)

What we do as a fellowship in the arena of discipleship is very unique, but very effective… **PWM** *It is hands on training*… In the passage we are going to look at, Jesus gives insight to the power & process of Discipleship!

Mark 1:16–18 (NKJV) 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. 17 Then Jesus said to them, "Follow Me, and I will make you become fishers of men." 18 They immediately left their nets and followed Him.

I CALLING AND EQUIPPING:

A- For many (*and I speak from my own experience*) the call of God strikes fear in mens hearts-

1. Mostly because we focus on ourselves- Our ability, personality, risk level, people skills (or lack of)
   a. Then we conclude: *I cannot*! That isn't me, I could never, its impossible
   i. **Exodus 4:10** Then Moses said to the LORD, "O my Lord, I *am* not eloquent, neither before nor since You have spoken to Your servant; but I *am* slow of speech and slow of tongue."
2. But the promise of our passage is that God will make us what we need to become; **Mark 1:17** Then Jesus said to them, "Follow Me, and I will make you become fishers of men."
   a. Jesus (who calls us) is involved in making us what we need to be-
   i. *I will make you*; means I will give you the ability, the wisdom, and the power!
   ii God can supply what you lack and he can remove what would stop you from becoming used by him-
   b. The quote that CHANGED MY DISCIPLESHIP: *Whom God calls, He equips*… That sank in and changed me!
3. Two things God supplies to help us:
   a. <u>The Holy Spirit</u>: **John 14:26** But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you.
   b. <u>A Pastor</u>: Jesus was the Pastor to the disciples… Paul was discipled in Antioch… Paul Pastored Timothy and Titus
   i. See, a Pastor trains you and equips you for your calling-
   ii **Ephesians 4:11–12** And He Himself gave some *to be* apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some <u>pastors</u> and <u>teachers</u>, 12 for the **<u>equipping</u>** of the saints for the work of ministry… IT'S NOT JUST UP TO YOU!

II THE PROCESS:

A- Once we settle calling- God goes to work to prepare us… (*Not something I could do, but something I will do*)

1. Now, it is important to understand that <u>this is a process</u>- **MK 1:17** Then Jesus said to them, "Follow Me, and I will make you **<u>become</u>** fishers of men." Key word is *BECOME*
2. The discipleship process involves you being *<u>trainable</u>* for ministry…
   a. **Matt 10:24** A disciple is not above *his* teacher, nor a servant above his master.
   i. Pride will hinder this process in you… If you think you know better, if you think you have arrived… some success-
   ii Rejection will hinder this process… You withdraw from challenge for fear of being rejected.
3. See, The process is really an encouragement: God will bring you into His will and plans in His time!
   a. It's not yes today then Africa tomorrow… *I used to allow my imagination to discourage me from pursuing God*
   b. I can say and I have learned that God has been gracious…**Mt11:30** For my yoke is easy to bear, and the burden I give you is light

III THE VISION:

A- Jesus gives them a vision of what they will become **Mk1:17** I will make you **<u>become</u>** fishers of men

1. You will reach people with the Gospel… reach sinners… make converts… be fruitful <u>That is the focus</u>!
2. But disciples can forget this- they focus on image, skills, involvement… but neglect the most important part- **PPL**!
   a. I thank God I caught this! The other things have value, but they are no good if you can't reach people!

B- A disciple without this revelation will struggle!

1. You must have **involvement** in outreach, evangelism, and follow up… This should be a non negotiable-
2. You must **initiate** outreach and evangelism (Spontaneous with brethren, planned on calendar, personally)
3. You must **commit** to follow up and working with people… Who are you working with personally right now?

-100 CONVERTS