

Following Jesus Mark 1:14-20

As a Follower of Jesus, know the good news (gospel) of the Kingdom of God. Mark 1:14–15

“Now after John had been taken into custody, Jesus came into Galilee, preaching the gospel of God, and saying, ‘The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel.’ ”

- **Jesus offers us an earthly kingdom.**
 - Acts 1:6-8; Matthew 20:21; Zechariah 14:1-11; Revelation 20:4-6
- **Jesus offers us a spiritual kingdom.**
 - It is not like this world. John 18:36
 - We enter it through repentance and belief in Jesus’ gospel.
Mark 1:15; John 3:3; Colossians 1:13-14; 1 Corinthians 15:1-4
Repentance = Acts 22:21; 26:15-20

As a Follower of Jesus, make known the Kingdom of God. Mark 1:16–20

“As He was going along by the Sea of Galilee, He saw Simon and Andrew, the brother of Simon, casting a net in the sea; for they were fishermen. And Jesus said to them, ‘Follow Me, and I will make you become fishers of men.’ Immediately they left their nets and followed Him. Going on a little farther, He saw James the son of Zebedee, and John his brother, who were also in the boat mending the nets. Immediately He called them; and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired servants, and went away to follow Him.”

- **The Person to Follow:** Follow Jesus only *“Follow Me...”*
 - 1 Peter 5:4
Jesus, the “Chief Shepherd”
- **The Purpose for Following Jesus:** Help other people know and follow Jesus
 - Be trained to follow Jesus. *“I will make you...”* Acts 4:13
Make =
 - Seek other people to follow Jesus. *“you become fishers of men.”*
 - Serve in your own unique way. John 21:20–22
 - Peter - The bulldog Luke 22:31-34; John 21:15-17; Acts 2-12
 - Andrew - The inviter/connector John 1:40–42; 6:5-11; 12:20-23
 - James - the martyr Mark 10:35–41; Acts 12:1-3
 - John - The servant of love John 21:20; 1 John 4:7-12
- **The Priority of Following Jesus:** Reach out now and often
 - The followers responded *“immediately.”*
 - The followers removed anything or anyone that would keep them from Jesus.
“they left their nets and followed Him.” “they left their father Zebedee in the boat.”

Digging Deeper

One kingdom we still look forward to is that future earthly kingdom. Read the following passages and discuss some of the features of the new kingdom and why that excites you.

The Earthly Kingdom in the future:

- What do you learn about Christ: Isaiah 40:3-5; Isaiah 11:1-5
- How will we know God's Word: Jeremiah 31:33-34
- What is the quality of Life in the kingdom: Isaiah 35:1-10; Isaiah 30:23, 17-20; Isaiah 65:21-23; Isaiah 65:25; 11:6-9

The Spiritual Kingdom today:

- Colossians 1:13-14 What do these verse say about the kingdom?

The Spiritual Kingdom we enjoy now comes through repentance and belief in the gospel.

- Read 1 Corinthians 15:1-10. What is the gospel according to vs. 1-4? What evidence do you see in vs. 5-10 on the reality of Jesus' resurrection? How has Jesus "appeared" to you and how has He changed your life? When did that occur?
- Read Acts 26:15-20. What do you learn about repentance? This passage is Paul's defense of his message for salvation. What does this challenge you to do for the kingdom? How should true repentance be reflected?
- Read Acts 11:21. What should happen when we "believe" in Jesus? What did these people do in this verse? In what ways do you see people "turning to Jesus" in how they live?
- What did Jesus mean when he said my kingdom is not of this world? John 18:36. How should that impact your priorities and purpose in life?

Next Steps

JOIN A LIFEGROUP: LifeGroups are small group communities that gather together to CONNECT in a smaller setting, GROW in our faith, and REACH out to our community. For more info or to get involved, visit Connection Point in the Lobby, contact Pastor Robert Carter at rcarter@calvarylife.org, mark "LifeGroups" on The Card (located in seat back), or visit our website at calvarylife.org/lifegroups

WEDNESDAY NIGHTS: Come grow in your faith each Wednesday in February at 7:00 pm with amazing ministries for Nursery to High School, plus these great options for adults:

- **Pastor's Bible Study** - Join us for an in-depth, midweek Pastor's Bible study through the book of Zechariah with Pastor David Mitchell featuring vintage worship in Samsvick Chapel. calvarylife.org/midweek
- **Alpha Course** - Share dessert and hear a talk answering big questions about the meaning of life, who is Jesus and what Christianity all about in this 8-week course Feb 7-Mar 28 at 7:00 pm in the Lobby. calvarylife.org/alpha
- **Financial Peace University** - Learn how to beat debt, build wealth, find bargains, invest, give, and more. Join us for a Preview Class on Wednesday, February 7 at 7:00 pm in W-209. Register online at calvarylife.org/fpu
- **CalFit** - Be a part of this free fitness community, launching a Wednesday evening session starting February 7 from 7:00-8:00 pm in the Gym. Adults at any level of fitness are welcome. calvarylife.org/fitness
- **Celebrate Recovery** - Come find God's healing power through fellowship in this Christ-centered twelve step ministry which meets every Wednesday in S-6 (north side of the Chapel). calvarylife.org/cr



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