

Time Audit Chronicles: Jesus Calls His First Disciples

(Mark 1:14-20)

Prologue: The Call to Follow Jesus

The Presswood family was sitting on the porch, enjoying the cool breeze of a quiet evening. Ariel had just finished reading through the Gospel of Mark, and her mind was filled with questions. Alice, clutching Mr. Fluffernutter, was pretending to be a fisherman, casting her “line” into the grass.

“Daddy,” Ariel said, “why did Jesus call fishermen to follow Him? I mean, they weren’t even the most important people in their society.”

Ryan smiled thoughtfully. “That’s a great question, Ariel. Jesus didn’t call the rich or the powerful— He called ordinary people, just like you and me. The fishermen were simple, hard-working people, but Jesus saw something in them. He knew they had the potential to do great things for God’s kingdom.”

Alice looked up from her pretend fishing. “Did Jesus want them to catch fish, like real fish?”

“No, Alice,” Ryan said with a grin. “When Jesus called them to be ‘fishers of men,’ He was saying they would help bring people into God’s kingdom, just like a fisherman brings fish into the boat. Instead of catching fish, they would be sharing God’s message and bringing people to Jesus.”

Ariel’s curiosity grew. “So, Jesus saw more in them than just what they did for a living?”

“Exactly,” Ryan said. “Jesus saw their hearts and knew that they would follow Him, learn from Him, and help spread His message to the world. Let’s use the Time Audit Machine to go back and see when Jesus called His first disciples.”

The Journey Begins: The Sea of Galilee

The Time Audit Machine hummed, and with a flash of light, the Presswood family found themselves standing by the Sea of Galilee. The water stretched out before them, peaceful and serene, and in the distance, they could see several fishing boats along the shore. Jesus was walking along the beach, and a group of fishermen were casting their nets into the water.

“There they are,” Ryan said, pointing to the fishermen. “This is the moment when Jesus calls His first disciples—Simon Peter, Andrew, James, and John.”

Ariel looked out over the water, amazed. “This is where it all began?”

“Yes,” Ryan said. “The Sea of Galilee was where Jesus called these fishermen to follow Him and be part of something much bigger than they could imagine.”

Jesus Calls Simon and Andrew (*Mark 1:16-18*)

As Jesus walked along the shore, He saw two brothers, Simon (later called Peter) and Andrew, casting a net into the sea. Jesus stopped and spoke directly to them:

“Come ye after Me, and I will make you to become fishers of men.” (Mark 1:17)

Ariel’s eyes widened. “Jesus didn’t just ask them to follow Him. He told them what He wanted them to do—become ‘fishers of men.’”

“That’s right,” Ryan said. “Jesus was giving them a new purpose. He was calling them to leave behind their old way of life and follow Him in a new mission—to share the message of God’s kingdom and bring others to faith in Him.”

At once, without hesitation, Simon and Andrew left their nets and followed Jesus.

“They didn’t even think twice,” Ariel observed. “They just left everything behind and followed Jesus.”

“That’s the power of Jesus’ call,” Ryan explained. “He spoke with such authority and love that they knew they had to follow Him. Jesus didn’t just want them to follow Him physically—He wanted their hearts to follow Him, too. And they responded in faith.”

Jesus Calls James and John (*Mark 1:19-20*)

As Jesus continued along the shore, He saw two other brothers—James and John—who were in a boat, mending their nets with their father, Zebedee. Jesus called them, too:

“And straightway He called them: and they left their father Zebedee in the ship with the hired servants, and went after Him.” (Mark 1:20)

Alice’s face lit up. “They left their boat and their dad to follow Jesus?”

“Yes,” Ryan said. “James and John, too, were willing to leave everything behind to follow Jesus. This wasn’t just about leaving their jobs—it was about following a new calling to spread the message of God’s kingdom.”

Ariel looked thoughtful. “But they had to leave behind everything they knew. It must have been a big decision.”

“It was,” Ryan said. “But Jesus wasn’t just offering them a new job. He was offering them a new life—a life with purpose, a life that would change the world.”

The Call to Follow Jesus: A Life of Purpose

As the family stood on the shore of the Sea of Galilee, Ryan continued, “The call to follow Jesus is a call to something bigger than ourselves. Simon, Andrew, James, and John didn’t just follow Jesus to

learn from Him—they followed Him because He was inviting them into a life of purpose, where they would help bring others to God’s kingdom.”

Ariel was deep in thought. “So, Jesus didn’t just want them to follow Him for the sake of learning. He wanted them to be part of His mission to save the world.”

“That’s exactly right,” Ryan said. “Jesus was inviting them to be His partners in bringing salvation to all people. And that same invitation is extended to us today. We are called to follow Jesus, to live for Him, and to share His message with others.”

The Power of Jesus’ Call

Ryan looked at his daughters, his heart filled with a deep sense of gratitude. “The beauty of Jesus’ call is that He doesn’t just look at what we do for a living or our past mistakes. He looks at our hearts and calls us to follow Him with everything we are. When we follow Jesus, we find our true purpose—just like the disciples did.”

Ariel nodded. “So, it wasn’t about being a fisherman or anything else—it was about being willing to follow Jesus and do His work.”

“Exactly,” Ryan said. “When we follow Jesus, He transforms our lives, giving us a new purpose to reach others for Him.”

Alice, holding Mr. Fluffernutter in her arms, looked up. “We can be fishers of men too?”

“Yes,” Ryan said with a smile. “Just like Jesus called the disciples to be fishers of men, He calls all of us to share His love and bring others into His kingdom.”

Returning Home: A New Purpose in Life

Back in the garage, the Time Audit Machine powered down, and the family was quiet for a moment, reflecting on what they had seen. Ariel flipped through her notes, while Alice set up a “fishing boat” for her stuffed animals.

“Jesus didn’t just call the disciples to follow Him for their own sake,” Ariel said, her voice thoughtful. “He called them to a new life, a life with purpose, where they would help others find God.”

“That’s right,” Ryan said. “Jesus calls all of us to follow Him, and when we do, He gives us a new purpose—sharing His message with the world and helping others come to Him.”

Ariel smiled. “It’s amazing that Jesus wants to use us, just like He used the disciples.”

“Yes,” Ryan said. “Jesus doesn’t just want followers—He wants partners in His mission. And just like the disciples, we are called to live out that mission every day.”

Alice looked up. “We’re going to tell people about Jesus, right, Daddy?”

“Yes, Alice,” Ryan said with a smile. “We’re all called to share His love and His message with the world, just like the first disciples did.”

Reflection: The Call to Follow Jesus

That evening, Ariel read aloud from Mark 1:17:

““And Jesus said unto them, Come ye after Me, and I will make you to become fishers of men.””

The family sat quietly, reflecting on the significance of Jesus’ call.

“Jesus’ call is more than just an invitation to follow,” Ryan said. “It’s an invitation to join Him in His work of bringing people to God’s kingdom. He calls us to leave behind our old ways of living and step into a life of purpose and mission.”

Ariel nodded. “And when we follow Him, we can help others find their way to Jesus too.”

Alice hugged Mr. Fluffernutter tightly. “I want to be a fisher of men!”

Takeaway: A New Life and Purpose

In Mark 1:14-20, we see the powerful moment when Jesus calls His first disciples—Simon, Andrew, James, and John—to follow Him and become “fishers of men.” They leave their old lives behind and step into a new mission—one that will change the world. Jesus’ call is an invitation for all of us to follow Him and to be part of His mission. Like the disciples, we are called to leave behind our old ways of living and embrace a life of purpose, helping others come to Jesus and join God’s kingdom.