

"They Immediately Left Their Nets..."

Jesus saw Simon and Andrew fishing and said, "'Follow Me, and I will make you become fishers of men.' They immediately left their nets and followed Him" (Mark 1:16-17). This account illustrates what the reaction of all men ought to be to the invitation of Christ.

Christ invites men to follow Him; His yoke is easy and His burden is light (Matthew 11:28-30). Today, He does not do this in person, but through His disciples as they preach the word (Mark 16:15). It is a voluntary invitation, that is He will not force any to accept it (Revelation 22:17). However, there are consequences to turning down His invitation (Mark 16:16).

When the disciples left their nets, they left their old way of life. We, too, must leave our old way of life (Acts 3:19). The Lord expects us to turn from our sinful ways and begin life anew in Him (cf. Romans 6:3-4). Remember, looking back can cost us dearly (Luke 17:32).

When the invitation of Christ is extended to us, we should immediately answer it. Having an understanding that Jesus is the Christ ought to compel man to inquire what the Master would have him do (cf. Acts 2:37). The answer is simple: repent and be baptized for forgiveness (Acts 2:38).

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