



E38

2017 MESSAGE SERIES

38 ESSENTIAL PASSAGES IN UNDERSTANDING GOD'S STORY, THEIR STORY, & YOUR STORY.



The older you get the harder it is to
courageously follow Jesus.



The older you get the harder it is to
courageously follow Jesus.

The older you get the more of a necessity
it is to courageously follow Jesus.

Today:

How do I follow Jesus when
I'm so filled with **fear**?



“Fear is a big deal in the story of God and us. In fact the commandment repeated most is ‘fear not.’ Sometimes our fears are rational, other times irrational. But no matter what kind of fear it is, it always affects us.”

-Lou Giglio

Then Jesus said to Simon, “**Don’t be afraid**; from now on you will fish for people.” So they pulled their boats up on the shore, left everything and **followed him**.

Luke 5: 11

Today:

How do I follow Jesus when
I'm so filled with **fear**?

Focus on
Who
not What.



Setting up the Passage:

Luke is writing to show Theophilus that what made the apostles special was their **response** to the call of Jesus.

Simon Peter is very slow in fully embracing Jesus' call to '***follow me.***'

Jn. 1:4, Matt. 4:18, Mk. 1:16-18

“We have high reason to believe that Peter was older and was a very successful business man. The scriptures allude to him having hired men, more than one fishing boat and houses in both Bethsaida and Capernaum...We often fail to grasp how truly accomplished Peter was before he choose to follow Jesus.”

Rodney Stark



15,071. P Z - BARQUE DE PÊCHE
SUR LE LAC DE GÉNÉZARETH TIBÉRIADE

“The very idea that Jesus, from the land locked city of Nazareth, who had presumably never wet a line, should tell a seasoned captain what to do is preposterous. Furthermore, fish can see and avoid the nets during the day, but they feed at night. Humanly speaking Jesus’ request is absurd.”

Joel Green

“This net-tearing, boat-swamping catch can greatly enrich him, his family and team. At last Peter hit the lottery...Jesus demonstrates his ability to ‘make a lot of money’ easily and quickly, and yet at the same time was living by a higher set of priorities and commitments, and Peter was being called to do the same.”

Joel Green

'they left everything' = Everything that hindered or kept an individual from following Jesus

“Follow me,” Jesus said to him, and Levi got up, **left everything** and followed him.

Then Levi held a **great banquet** for Jesus at **his house**, and a large crowd of **tax collectors** and others were **eating with them.**”

Luke 5:28-29

Transferable principle:

Every day Jesus is still inviting you and me to 'follow him' for the sake of reaching other individuals.

So....

How do I follow Jesus when
I'm so filled with **fear**?

Focus on
Who
not What.



To know:

1. *Fear doesn't always look like fear.*

To know:

2. *Fear comes from our desire to control preferred outcomes.*

To know:

3rd. *Following Jesus is first about surrendering to **WHO** he is as the son of God, then about **WHAT** he asks us to do.*

“Because **YOU** say so, **I will do it.**”

Who is Jesus...

He is perfect in LOVE

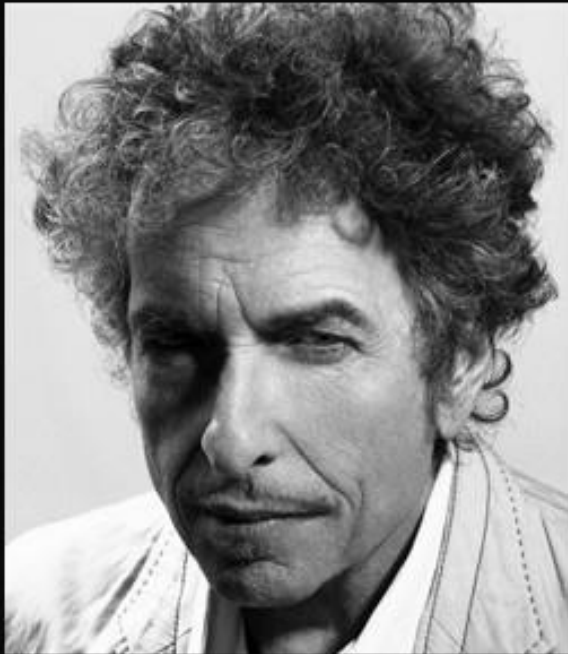
He is perfect in WISDOM

He is mighty in POWER

Jesus- "Follow me"

To know:

4. *Overcoming fear does not happen in a day, it happens daily.*



Jesus tapped me on the shoulder and said, Bob, why are you resisting me? I said, I'm not resisting you! He said, You gonna follow me? I said, I've never thought about that before! He said, When you're not following me, you're resisting me.

(Bob Dylan)

To Do:

Make **a list** of probable and possible **fears** that may keep you from following Jesus at this stage of your life.

To Do:

Make **a list** of all the **promises** that God has given you to help you overcome those fears.

To Do:

When you feel fear coming on, **focus** on
and go **forward** by faith in the promises
of God!

Jesus- “Follow **me**”

How do I follow Jesus when
I'm so filled with **fear**?

Focus on
Who (Jesus)
not What.



