



## **DISCIPLES OF JESUS** **“The Call to Discipleship” Matthew 4:18-22**

No. 6317

Stuart Briscoe

After John’s murder Jesus moved to Galilee where “the people were living in darkness.” He began to announce the long promised Kingdom and started to form a nucleus of disciples who would commit to him and carry on his mission – to this day!

### **I. The Call to Discipleship.**

- A. A disciple was a “learner, follower, imitator” of a teacher.
- B. Disciples chose a teacher they wished to follow.
- C. Jesus reversed the order – he chose his followers. John 15:16
- D. His “Call” – an invitation to relationship (“Come”) Matthew 11:28; 9:13
- E. His “Call” – a summons to discipleship (“Follow me”) Matthew 8:9
- F. Learning – who Jesus is; who they were; his mission; their role.
- G. Following – “enough for disciple to be like teacher; servant like master” Matthew 10:24f
- H. Imitating – emulating his example witnessed through fellowship
- I. His “Call” – a promise of transformation (“I will make you”.....)
- J. His “Call” – heard, heeded and obeyed. Matthew 4:22

### **II. The Cost of Discipleship.**

- A. To “learn Jesus” means unlearning, rethinking, concluding differently.
- B. To “follow Jesus” means reorienting direction, reordering priorities etc.
- C. To “imitate Jesus” means challenging some, insulting others, annoying more.
- D. To be “made” by Jesus requires discernment, evaluation, hard choices.
- E. To identify with Jesus invites Satanic opposition and human resistance.
- F. The cost is not the price you pay for salvation: the price was the cross. Matthew 10:34f

### **III. The Challenge of Discipleship.**

- A. The challenge to generate a hunger and thirst to know Christ better.
- B. The challenge to develop an attitude of seeking and doing Jesus’ will.
- C. The challenge to keep on keeping on when circumstances are difficult.
- D. The challenge to remain committed to bringing in the Kingdom.

Points to ponder: Salvation is free, but cost Jesus everything. Committing yourself to him in loving trusting obedience can be costly, too. He didn’t hide this from us.