Sermon Title: "GO FISH"

Date: June 4, 2023 - Matthew 4:18-22

<u>Central Idea</u>: Every Christian must decide whether or not to obey Jesus' command to "Follow Me." What is your decision?

<u>Introduction</u>: As Jesus began His public ministry, He preached (Matthew 4:12-17), then passed yet another test of leadership when He called other leaders to join Him (Matthew 4:18-22). Jesus strategy was to develop a community of disciples, to call a group of associates who would be with Him and learn from Him. A disciple is one who both identifies with and also learns from his master.

We will consider Jesus' important command in reverse order.

I. Me

- 1. Jesus is the Savior.
- 2. Jesus is the Sovereign.
- 3. Jesus is the King.
- 4. Jesus is the Light.

II. Follow

- 1. A radical call
- 2. A joyful call
- 3. A faithful call
- 4. A trustworthy call
- 5. An obedient call

Conclusion:

Peter, Andrew, James, and John, these four make up the inner circle of Jesus' larger group of disciples. They were average men, individualists, not the bravest nor the easiest to work with. Peter was impulsive and headstrong, Andrew was homespun and supportive, James and John were ambitious and called "sons of thunder"; yet they were willing to change, to identify with Christ and become heralds of the kingdom of God.