

The Next Faithful Step

A one-page Matthew 4:18-22 reflection guide for trusting Jesus when the road ahead is unclear

KEY SCRIPTURE

And he said to them, "Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men." Immediately they left their nets and followed him. **Matthew 4:19-20 ESV**

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MATTHEW 4:19-20 · ESV

SHORT REFLECTION

Jesus did not give Simon and Andrew a map of the road ahead. He gave them a direction: follow me. He also gave them a promise: I will make you. They did not need to arrive fully prepared or understand every part of the journey before taking the first step. Their formation would happen as they stayed near Jesus.

Faithful movement is not trust in a vague feeling. It is a response to the voice and character of Jesus. Prayer, Scripture, wise counsel, and the Spirit's steady work help us discern whether a step reflects his way. Once that step becomes clear, we do not need to solve the whole journey. We can place what we cannot see into his hands and obey what love, truth, humility, courage, and faithfulness are asking of us now.

FIVE GUIDED OBSERVATIONS

1. Jesus came near. The call began with his presence, not the disciples' preparation.
2. Jesus gave a direction. Follow me was clear even when the destination was not.
3. Jesus gave a promise. I will make you placed their growth in his faithful hands.
4. The disciples released the familiar. Their open hands became available for a new life with Jesus.
5. Understanding grew on the road. Some truths could only be learned by remaining near him.

REFLECTION PROMPTS

- Where are you demanding a full map before taking a step you already sense may be faithful?
- What part of the road feels unclear, costly, or beyond your control?
- Does the step before you reflect the truth, love, humility, mercy, and courage of Jesus?
- What counsel from Scripture and trusted believers is helping you discern?
- What is one small, concrete step you can take within the next twenty-four hours?

SPIRITUAL PRACTICE: OPEN HANDS, ONE STEP

Sit quietly with your hands closed for a moment. Name the outcome, answer, or guarantee you have been trying to hold. Slowly open your hands and pray, "Jesus, I release what I cannot see." Then write one faithful step that is clear enough to take. Keep it small and concrete. Before the day ends, begin.

PRAYER

Jesus, I want to see the whole road before I move, but you often meet me one step at a time. Quiet the fear that keeps me gripping what is familiar. Help me recognize your voice through Scripture, prayer, wise counsel, and the character you have revealed. Give me courage to obey what is clear without pretending the uncertainty is gone. Form me as I follow, and keep me near you on every part of the road. Amen.

You do not need to solve the whole journey today. Take the next faithful step and trust Jesus with the road beyond it.

Continue with the full reflection,
The Call That Came Before Clarity,
at tiefelipe.com/blog.