

## **Discussion & Reflection Questions**

### **Epiphany 3B - 21<sup>st</sup> of January 2024**

#### **Reading: Mark 1.14-20**

<sup>14</sup> Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, <sup>15</sup> and saying, 'The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news.' <sup>16</sup> As Jesus passed along the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the lake—for they were fishermen. <sup>17</sup> And Jesus said to them, 'Follow me and I will make you fish for people.' <sup>18</sup> And immediately they left their nets and followed him. <sup>19</sup> As he went a little farther, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John, who were in their boat mending the nets. <sup>20</sup> Immediately he called them; and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men, and followed him.

#### **Discussion & Reflection Questions**

1. Verse 15 contains the first words spoken by Jesus in Mark's gospel. What do you think are the significance of these words?
2. What do you think the Simon & Andrew would have thought Jesus meant by "Fish for people"? What do you think he means?
3. Fishing for people isn't an expression that we would use today that people would easily understand. How could you describe it in today's context & culture?
4. What does it mean to follow Jesus?
5. Jesus says he will "make" the disciples fish for people. How does Jesus "make" the disciples & is it as forceful as it first sounds?
6. The disciples who were fishermen continue to fish throughout the gospel story. How does God use who we are/were when we follow Jesus? What changes & what stays the same?
7. Fishing in Jesus time wasn't a solo activity. How can we follow together?

#### **Prayer**

Bountiful God, through your Son you have called us to repent of our sin, to believe the good news, and to celebrate the coming of your kingdom: teach us, like Christ's first apostles, to hear the call to discipleship, and, forsaking old ways, to proclaim the gospel of new life to a broken world; through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.