

## **"A Renewed Call to Discipleship" John 1:35-45**

1. How have you heard the call to follow Jesus articulated in the church?

### **Read Genesis 1:1-8; John 1:1-8;29-34**

2. What are the common elements between the story of creation and John's introduction? What is John telling us about what God is about in Jesus?

### **Read John 1:35-45**

3. Genesis gives us 6 days of creation, and John gives us 6 days of the activity of Jesus calling his first disciples. What is John telling us about the nature of discipleship with all of these connections to the story of creation?
4. (43) In Jesus' day it was a disciple who took the initiative to choose a Rabbi, and they were only confirmed if they passed rigorous testing. Here however we see Jesus taking the initiative to choose his disciples, and he is not choosing from the best, the most gifted, he is choosing fishermen. What does this tell us about discipleship?
5. Jesus' call to discipleship is a call of grace. What are the implications of this for our following of Jesus?

6. (40-41; 45) Consider Andrew and Philip. One of the first things these initial followers of Jesus do is to go and find others to follow Jesus. Why do you think that was one of the first things they did? Why do you think it is often so hard for us to go and tell others about Jesus? Is there anything in this text that we need to hear or see or trust to remedy that?
  
7. (38-39) To be a disciple of a Rabbi was to stay with the rabbi, to abide with them, to live with them, to center your lives around them. When Jesus in Luke 14:26 says unless you hate mother and father brother and sister you can't be my disciple, he is saying something Rabbi's often said to their disciples. It wasn't that they were to hate their family, but that in light of their allegiance to their rabbi, their love of family looks like hate. What does this tell us about the nature of discipleship?
  
8. It is at this utter surrender of discipleship that we balk. What are some of the realities of who Jesus is from the text that we need to apply to our hesitations to respond to that call?
  
9. How is this call to discipleship different from how we often hear the call to discipleship articulated in the church? (refer back to your discussion in question 2)