

**Small Group Questions – Jan 24, 2021 – Bishop Mark Macdonald**  
**Read Mark 1:14-20**

1. In the sermon Bishop Mark highlighted to us that the reference to John's arrest by Herod is not so much a timing detail but a locating of the story in the context of the oppressive kingdoms of this earth. What does it tell us about what Jesus has come to do that on the heels of this oppressive move Jesus chooses as his disciples those who would be most impacted by the oppression?
2. Is most systemic evil obvious or subtle? What systemic evil was talked about in the sermon?
3. Bishop Mark shared with us that when Christian missionaries came to indigenous peoples in Canada they first said become like us (white European), and then we will give you the gospel. What would be a current faithful gospel response to being made aware of this reality?
4. To whom are we as Christians called to serve and to be with in our days just as Jesus went to be with "simple fisher folks", "tax collectors", and "sinners"?
5. How does Jesus' life manifest to us the justice and mercy of the Gospel to those under the oppressive "powers and principalities" of our times?
6. How does the gospel address the human tendency toward xenophobia? See, for example, Galatians 3:28. Ephesians 2:11-22.