



## TO OFFER GOD'S KINGDOM

MATTHEW 4:12-25

**Jesus' ministry preview declares ...**

**I. OUR CONDITION: Darkness and death are real but \_\_\_\_\_ .**

*Now when he heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew into Galilee. And leaving Nazareth he went and lived in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, so that what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled: "The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles—the people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light, and for those dwelling in the region and shadow of death, on them a light has dawned." vv. 12-16*

**II. GOD'S SALVATION: Those who \_\_\_\_\_ to King Jesus receive His kingdom.**

*From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand." v. 17*

**III. OUR COMMISSION: Those who receive King Jesus serve \_\_\_\_\_ .**

*While walking by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon (who is called Peter) and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen. And he said to them, "Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men." Immediately they left their nets and followed him. And going on from there he saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, in the boat with Zebedee their father, mending their nets, and he called them. Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him. vv. 18-22*

**IV. GOD'S RESTORATION: God's renewal is real and is \_\_\_\_\_ .**

*And he went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. So his fame spread throughout all Syria, and they brought him all the sick, those afflicted with various diseases and pains, those oppressed by demons, those having seizures, and paralytics, and he healed them. And great crowds followed him from Galilee and the Decapolis, and from Jerusalem and Judea, and from beyond the Jordan. vv. 23-25*



## DEVOTIONAL & HOME GROUP STUDY

1. What new insights did you gain from this sermon?

### FOR THIS WEEK

#### SCRIPTURE MEMORY VERSE:

MATTHEW 4:19

And he said to them,  
"Follow me, and I will  
make you fishers of men."

#### JOURNAL:

Matthew 4:12-25

"Not every disciple of Jesus is called to leave behind his or her profession. Whatever our profession, discipleship means that we place as the priority of our lives joining with Jesus in reaching our daily world with the good news of life in the kingdom of heaven. I cannot reach non-Christian police officers as efficiently as committed Christian police officers. No pastor can enter into the complex world of corporate finance as effectively as a committed and knowledgeable Christian businessperson. We each have a privileged place of ministry that is unique to following Jesus in our own daily lives. ... Although they 'left everything,' Peter continues to live in his own home with his wife and mother-in-law, and likely so does his brother Andrew and his family (8:14-15). There is a sense in which Peter and the rest of the Twelve give up everything to play their foundational role in the church, yet we never hear of them abandoning their responsibilities to provide for their families. The apostle Paul will later rebuke believers who were ministerial busybodies and did not care for the needs of their family (2 Thes 3:6-13; 1 Tim 5:8)."

MICHAEL J. WILKINS

2. Read Matthew 4:12-25. This is not the first encounter between these men and Jesus. Read John 1:35-42, 2:1-11. What perspective does this passage provide on their response when Jesus later called them in the Matthew passage?

3. As the disciples understood more about the nature of Jesus' ministry and who He was, their commitment to Him also had to be adjusted along the way. How has your understanding of Jesus caused a corresponding adjustment of your own commitment to Him? How has your gradual learning of who He is helped your faith to grow?

4. How would you describe the reaction of the crowds thus far in Jesus' ministry? How does their initial enthusiasm reveal their focus on having their own needs met, rather than on who Jesus was?

5. The darkness of our own world is real even when we, or those around us, don't notice it. To be away from Jesus is to be in the darkness of the world. In what ways have you noticed yourself subtly drifting away from Jesus, and what must you do to stay in His light?

#### JOURNAL Matthew 4:12-25

As we've seen in previous passages, preparations for Jesus' ministry are complete (miraculous birth, prophecy fulfilled, anointed for ministry, confirmed by the Father, authority over Satan). This passage is now a turning point in Matthew's narrative. John's ministry has ended with his arrest, so Jesus begins preaching His message of God breaking into history. Now people are forced to make a decision: They either adjust their expectations to accept God's agenda and are with Him, or they are against Him.

In what ways have you had to adjust your expectations of the Christian life?  
With what aspects of God's Kingdom agenda do you still struggle today?  
How will you take your struggles to the Father as you follow Jesus?

## COMING UP AT CHRIST CHAPEL

Here's a glimpse at what you need to know for this week at Christ Chapel. If you'd like to find out even more, visit [www.ccbcfamily.org/events](http://www.ccbcfamily.org/events). That's a great spot to see what's coming up!

**SIGN UP FOR BAND OF BROTHERS AND WOMEN IN THE WORD.** Looking for a place to connect at Christ Chapel while learning more about Scripture? Join us for our men's and women's Bible studies! Band of Brothers will be taking this spring to step into a study of 1 Peter. Together, learn how to live out our Christian calling even when it collides with the culture around us. Ladies, come to Women in the Word and study 1 Samuel. Uncover how the lives of God's people play a part in His story of salvation and how His redemptive love is your story too. Learn more and sign up today at [ccbcfamily.org/events](http://ccbcfamily.org/events).

**COME JOIN REDEEMED HEART RECOVERY.** This spring, Soul Care will be starting up their Redeemed Heart Recovery. Join a group as they walk through how to biblically address and recover from difficult circumstances, struggles and addictions in a supportive and biblical environment. To learn more, visit [ccbcfamily.org/soulcare](http://ccbcfamily.org/soulcare).

**HSM FATHER AND DAUGHTER EVENT** As a parent, it's a sweet privilege to watch your daughter grow into the woman God has purposed for her to become during these high school years. At Student Ministries we want to provide opportunities to walk alongside her as she continues to learn about who she is in Christ. We have a day at Pure Adventure dedicated to you pouring into her life through fun activities and a time of encouragement. Learn more at [ccbcfamily.org/events](http://ccbcfamily.org/events).

**PARENTS, REGISTER FOR THE 2022 TOPICS IN PARENTING CONFERENCE.** We're here to encourage and equip you as you navigate our world and disciple your children with wisdom and clarity. At this year's conference we'll assess the cultural climate we're currently in and give you more building blocks for faith-based parenting that keeps your family's focus on Jesus. The conference happens Saturday, Jan. 29 at the Fort Worth Campus. Learn more and register at [ccbcfamily.org/events](http://ccbcfamily.org/events). The cost is \$10 per person.

**JOIN A HOME GROUP THIS SPRING** Life is best lived in a community, and we want to help you find that! Home Groups are a place where you can come together with fellow believers in your life stage and grow together in your walk with the Lord, as well as live life together. This spring, join a small group and get connected with fellow believers here at Christ Chapel. A small group is how a big place starts to feel small. To learn more, visit us online at [ccbcfamily.org/connect](http://ccbcfamily.org/connect).

**LOOKING FOR THE CONNECT CARD?** Scan the QR code here to fill out a Connect Card. Our team will reach out this week to answer your questions and tell you more about Christ Chapel.

**IF YOU'D LIKE TO GIVE AN OFFERING TODAY, YOU CAN DO SO STRAIGHT FROM YOUR PHONE.** The process is quick and easy—text CCBCFW to 833-422-7200 to get started.

**GET UPDATES AND ENCOURAGEMENT FOR YOUR WEEK.** Throughout the week, we like to post updates, events and encouragement on our Facebook and Instagram accounts. Search @christchapelbiblechurch to find and follow us.