

LUKE - Part 16 - The greatest invitation

As we start to immerse ourselves in the story of Jesus we see how He begins to say follow me, come change the world with me. That call goes out to ordinary men that would later become disciples of Jesus. That same call goes out to you and me, inviting us a life lived with God, to a partnership that is changing the world!

This is the greatest invitation, an invitation to a life of responding to the call of God.

1. There is an invitation - "Come, follow me."

*Luke 5:10-11 - Then Jesus said to Simon, "Don't be afraid; from now on you will fish for people."
¹¹ So they pulled their boats up on shore, **left everything and followed him.***

*Luke 5:27-28 - ²⁷ After this, Jesus went out and saw a tax collector by the name of Levi sitting at his tax booth. "**Follow me,**" Jesus said to him, ²⁸ and Levi got up, left everything and followed him.*

The invitation seems so simple, and yet they had no idea what it meant to say yes. We too may not know exactly what it means to say yes, but we also never know what the impact will be. We are living on the other side of many other peoples Yes to Jesus.

What is waiting on the other side of your obedience? (on the other side of your yes?)

2. What is HE calling us to?

*Luke 4:18-19 - ¹⁸ "The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to **proclaim** good news to the poor. He has sent me to **proclaim** freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to set the oppressed free, ¹⁹ to **proclaim** the year of the Lord's favour."*

*Luke 24:47 - ⁴⁷ and that repentance for the forgiveness of sins should be **proclaimed** in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem.*

The work that we are called too, is primarily a proclaiming work. Jesus began His ministry in Luke 4 with proclamation and in Luke 24 the commission is to continue this work and go and proclaim the good news. Jesus is calling us to continue His work.

3. There is a cost (but the cost is temporal)

*Luke 9:23 - ²³ And he said to all, "If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and **take up his cross daily and follow me.**"*

From now on...everything is going to be different. There's something about leaving that is hard, but there is something that is glorious. As we respond to the call and say yes, we receive a new identity, a new mission, a newly found Godly purpose. This is what happens when you say yes to the, follow me of Jesus!

This new purpose allows us to live like Robert A. Jaffray who when offered an incredibly lucrative job by the Standard Oil Company of New York responded with one line - "Your salary is big. Your job is too small." This was a man who had said yes to follow Jesus, who knew the world changing call he had responded to and had counted the cost.

We are all destined for something greater and we may all aspire to greatness. It doesn't matter if you are the next Billy Graham, a maths teacher in a catholic school, the new kid in grade 7 or a nurse called Grace.

**We don't find our greatness in who we are,
our greatness is found in the one who invites us to follow Him.
Jesus is saying to you follow me, come with me, let's change the world together!**