

LESSON NO. 16

DISCIPLESHIP WITH PASSION

DISCIPLESHIP
LESSONS FOR
YOUNG ADULTS

RADICAL
DISCIPLES

 vangelism[®]
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LESSON NO. 17

RADICAL DISCIPLES

MILTON GAY

Biblical Basis: Luke 5:1-11

Text to memorize: Luke 9:23

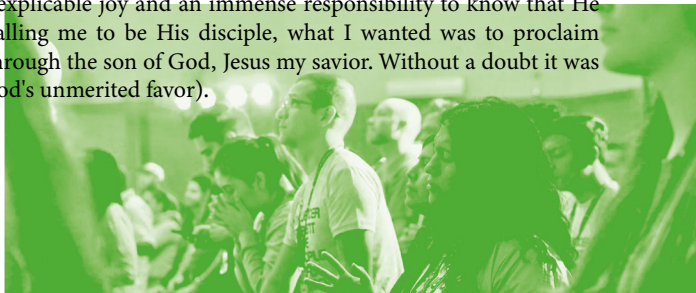
PURPOSE

To provide the necessary resources that contribute to the formation of people into intentional, committed, passionate, and lifelong disciples.

REAL LIFE STORY

It was in October 1992, we met one night with a seminarian to develop a discipleship study together with my family. The clock marked 7:00pm when I received one of the most important calls in my life, a call that I don't think I deserve up to now, because I had neither theological preparation nor spiritual preparation, I was just converted, barely 2 months had passed, it was amazing and unforgettable. Jesus, through His word in Romans 8:28, called me to ministry for life. How can that happen? Nobody gave anything for me, nobody trusted me after knowing my darkest sins.

He did not call me with an audible voice or in a calling service, but in a small Bible study meeting, where I felt an inexplicable joy and an immense responsibility to know that He was looking for me and calling me to be His disciple, what I wanted was to proclaim forgiveness and salvation through the son of God, Jesus my savior. Without a doubt it was grace (grace is a gift, it is God's unmerited favor).



WHAT DOES THE SCRIPTURE SAY?

Jesus was in search of the men that He was going to call to become His followers or His disciples for the proclamation of the Kingdom, I wonder, what was the profile of the men that He was looking for?

This is how He arrived at the Sea of Galilee to meet one of the men who, because of his character and temperament, it was necessary for Him to call. He called him even knowing his resume and the problems of the future.

I still wonder why He called him if he knew he was cowardly, impulsive, aggressive, and traitorous. The only answer I have is that, despite everything that disqualified him, there was something that God knew in Peter's heart, and it was his humility, love, and disposition, which became a tremendous potential in the hands of God.

In your opinion, what do you think was the profile that Jesus was looking for? Write 5 qualities of what in your opinion would be a good profile to be a disciple of Jesus:

How would you describe your personal profile at this time?

Now compare it to what you know about Peter, what conclusion do you come to with the notable differences?

Peter was washing the nets, tired, hungry, and he had been unable to sleep, and Jesus arrives and says to him; Peter, can I use your boat? To which Peter responds, Yes Lord. They went offshore, Peter obeys Him even knowing that they had not fished anything during all night, and Jesus performs the miracle of a miraculous fishing. Before this event, Peter falls surrendered at His feet, with the awareness that he is a sinner and that he has nothing but his own life to serve Him.

"Then he said to them all: "Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow me."

- Luke 9:23



WHO WAS PETER?

Also called Simon, he was a rough and simple fisherman from the Lake of Galilee, who lived with his wife and his mother-in-law in the village of Bethsaida, in the Galilee region. Jesus changed his name to Peter, Kefa in Aramaic, and Cephas in Greek, which means stone or rock.

Peter was one of the great pillars of the early church thanks to his energetic and impulsive character, because of his extroverted and angry temperament he was one of the natural leaders who was the spokesman for his fellow servants and fellow disciples.

Before receiving the Holy Spirit in his life, he was criticized for his impulsive way of acting, energetic with many abilities, but wayward and uncontrolled, he became a real headache for the Teacher, to the point of denying Him and cutting off Malco's ear, the Roman soldier. However, he has been the only one after Jesus who has walked on water, because of the courage that his character gave him.

He wept bitterly like a child after denying the Lord out of cowardice, yet there he had his true metanoia or repentance, and his faith never wavered again.

After Pentecost Peter's life was not the same, the Holy Spirit took full control of his life, empowering all of his gifts and talents in the service of the kingdom. He was the one who preached the first sermon and about 3000 people were converted (Acts 2:41), his shadow healed the sick (Acts 5:15). Peter's life teaches us that God can transform men whatever his character is and use them for the glory of His name.



BIBLICAL SUPPORT



“One day as Jesus was standing by the Lake of Gennesaret, the people were crowding around Him and listening to the word of God. He saw at the water’s edge two boats, left there by the fishermen, who were washing their nets. He got into one of the boats, the one belonging to Simon, and asked him to put out a little from shore. Then He sat down and taught the people from the boat. When He had finished speaking, He said to Simon, “Put out into deep water, and let down the nets for a catch.” Simon answered, “Master, we’ve worked hard all night and haven’t caught anything. But because you say so, I will let down the nets.” When they had done so, they caught such a large number of fish that their nets began to break. So, they signaled their partners in the other boat to come and help them, and they came and filled both boats so full that they began to sink. When Simon Peter saw this, he fell at Jesus’ knees and said, “Go away from me, Lord; I am a sinful man!” For he and all his companions were astonished at the catch of fish they had taken, and so were James and John, the sons of Zebedee, Simon’s partners. Then Jesus said to Simon, “Don’t be afraid; from now on you will fish for people.” So, they pulled their boats up on shore, left everything and followed Him.” (Luke 5:1-11).

Apostle Peter called himself Servant of Jesus Christ and was one of the great pillars of the genesis of the early church. The apostle was beaten, stoned, imprisoned, and tradition says that he moved to Rome in his last years and died crucified by the emperor Nero for the Lord's sake, but doing what Jesus commanded him as a Pastor, herding His sheep. (John 21:15-17).

If God transformed Peter's life, do you think He can transform yours?

Write to Jesus, in your own words, what are you willing to give up to be His servant?





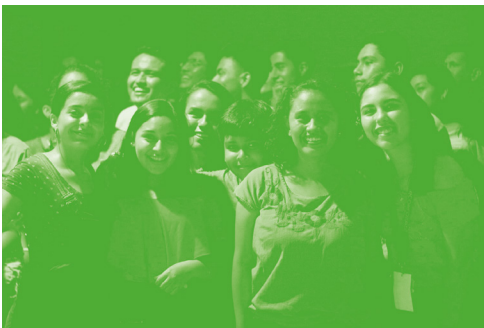
REFLECTION

What do you think Peter felt when Jesus performed the miracle?

What did Peter provide as a potential disciple? Obedience, availability, sacrifice, faith.

What did Jesus provide for Peter for the development of his call? Trust, training, grace, empowerment, commission, mentorship.

What are the resources you need to answer the call to be a radical disciple?



PRACTICE

Peter recognized who Jesus was because He did before his eyes the impossible for him on his own stage. Jesus knew who Peter was and what he was willing to do at his call to follow him.

What does Jesus mean to you?

According to verse 11, what do you mean by being a radical disciple?

What action makes Peter a radical disciple?

What things would be difficult for you to leave right now if He called you?

What resources do you need to fulfill the mission that God entrusts to you?

What 3 things would you feel if God called you to be His disciple?
