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session page

No Bait and Switch

Matthew 4:12-23 | Session 18.4

Before the Session

Facilitator: In advance of the session

- Review today's scripture text and the session activities to help better facilitate the discussion.
- Have the Bible Background Video ready to view.
- Encourage your group to listen to the Faithelement podcast ahead of the next session (Share the link via email or social media).

Context

Watch [this video from New England](#). Then lead a conversation using prompts like these:

- What is some kind of skill you were taught as a kid and who taught it to you?
- How do remember the person who taught you this skill?
- Do you still use what you were taught?
- Why did the person take it upon themselves to teach you this particular skill?
- Is it important to teach others what you do well?

Content

Read together [Matthew 4:12-23](#), then watch the Bible Background Video and ask:

- What do you think of Jesus' action after the first verse?
- Does it seem odd how the passage starts?
- How have you always been taught what the significance of picking fishermen means?
- What do you think the disciples thought fishers of men meant?
- How do you think the disciples reacted to the happenings right after they accept the call?

Closure

Say: We often say following Jesus requires a high cost, which it does. But what if we are making it too difficult?

Then ask questions like these:

- What if Jesus says "fishers of men" because he knew this was something they would understand and using their talent.
- Think back to the video we earlier, would the man be doing something considered "fishers of men"?
- In the accompanying podcast with this lesson, the leaders suggest asking if Jesus was to ask us to use our talents to follow him, what could we be doing ?
- Has the church made the phrase "fishers of men" scary and that we have to talk to bring others to Christ?
- If we were to use our talents, does that make it less scary?

Close with a prayer that we will use our talents to be "fishers of men."

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