



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

Begin the session by sharing [this clip](#) from *Mary Poppins*, then ask the following questions:

- How does Mary's interaction with Jane and Michael challenge the children's expectations? What are they most surprised by?
- What does Mary's calm, confident entrance communicate about her role in the household? What does she see as her mission?
- What values does Mary have? How are they demonstrated through her words and actions?
- What do the children's reactions to her magic suggest about their openness to change and imagination? What hesitations or hopes do they have?
- How does Mary's refusal to explain her magic shape the power dynamic between her and the children? What role do delight and surprise play in this scene?

Content

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

- How might Jesus have been affected by John the Baptist's arrest? Why could this have spurred on his earthly ministry?
- Why does Matthew describe the region of Galilee "the people who sat in darkness"? What does this insinuate about the people Jesus wants to minister to?
- How might people have responded to Jesus' message of repentance? How does this message echo the imagery of darkness and light?
- Why do you think Jesus chose ordinary laborers as his first disciples? What impact would this have on the religious community of the day?
- What did the fishermen risk in following Jesus? What emotions might they have expressed when hearing Jesus' call?
- How do teaching, proclaiming, and healing coincide with God's coming kingdom? What do these activities reveal about Jesus' identity?

Closure

Say: In the movie, *The King's Speech*, Prince Albert, Duke of York, struggles with a debilitating stammer that threatens his ability to lead. With the help of unconventional speech therapist Lionel Logue, he confronts fear, trauma, and self-doubt, ultimately finding his voice to inspire Britain during the looming crisis of World War II as king George VI.

Show [this clip](#) from *The King's Speech*, then ask the following questions:

- Why does Elizabeth (Helena Bonham Carter) visit Lionel (Geoffrey Rush) during this scene? What is she seeking from him?
- What assumptions does Lionel have about the situation at the beginning of this scene? How do those assumptions change when hearing that Elizabeth's husband is the Duke of York?
- What is the power dynamic between these characters? How does it change throughout the scene?
- Why does Lionel stand out as the only one who can help in this situation? How might his "unorthodox and controversial" methods be helpful?
- What impact could Lionel have when helping the Duke improve his speech? How does this scene demonstrate using unique skills and gifts to impact the lives of others?

Close with a prayer.

Writer: Devin Harris-Davis