



## No Bait and Switch

Matthew 4:12-23 | Session 18.4

### Before the Session

Facilitator: In advance of the session

- Have the Bible Background Video ready to view.
- Review today's scripture text and the session activities to help better facilitate the discussion.
- Listen to the FaithElement podcast for this session.

### Context

Share [this scene](#) from the movie *Monsters Inc.* then ask the following questions:

- How do Mike and Sulley rethink how to get energy for the energy company? In what ways does this shift the previous expectations they had?
- What qualities does Mike have that make him naturally gifted at making others laugh? How do these qualities become valuable in the company's new direction?
- What risks does Sulley take in suggesting a new, untested method of generating power? How does he connect Mike's talent with this opportunity?
- What does the child expect of Mike? In what ways is the child surprised by Mike's actions?
- How does Mike respond to his success? How do others around him show their support?

## Content

Read together Matthew 4:12-23, then watch the Bible Background Video and ask:

- What made Jesus retreat to Galilee? What significance does it have that it is “of the Gentiles”?
- Why might the people be described as sitting “in darkness”? What is the light the author refers to?
- How do you think people responded when they heard Jesus’ message to repent? What does Jesus mean when he says “the kingdom of heaven has come near”?
- Why did Jesus approach fishermen to leave their nets to follow him? Who would people have expected Jesus to call as followers?
- What do you imagine Simon and Andrew thought when Jesus told them to follow him? What concerns or feelings might they have had?
- How is the “good news” connected to curing disease and sickness? What impact did these miracles have on Jesus’ reputation?

## Closure

Watch [this video about Ella Baker, mother of the Civil Rights Movement](#), then ask the following questions:

- Why was Ella Baker considered the “mother of the Civil Rights movement”? What was unique about her role in speaking out for justice?
- How was her role different from other leaders in the movement? What character traits are most visible through her impact?
- What events influenced the beginning of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC)? In what ways did Ella’s influence impact students through this organization?
- In what ways did Ella support and mentor other young activists? How do they recount her impact on them?
- How does Ella’s work inspire you to become involved in justice movements? What contributions can you make using your unique gifts and skills?

Close with a prayer.

**Writer: Devin Harris-Davis**