**2/23/25 How Many Times Did Jesus Have to Call You? Luke 5:1-11**

* Very few can say they were fully committed when they came to Christ.
* Something big or tragic happened that turned most people around.
* Did it take a Damascus Road experience to get your attention?

**Acts 22:1-16**

**1. Jesus gives second chances.**

* Jesus tells us that we are to forgive someone an unlimited number of times.
* God cares about us and warns us about the devil’s tactics.
* Too many people spend too much time second guessing their past decisions.
* Jesus even had to call some of His disciples twice.
* So many of us came to Jesus, then went back into the world.
* Jesus sees potential and chooses people who can grow into their jobs.

**Matthew 4:18-22; 5:1-3; 18:21,22; Mark 1:16-20; 1 Peter 5:7-8**

**2. We should follow Jesus’ instructions.**

* It may take a while before we get to the point where we see that Jesus’ way is the only way.
* A good leader looks for undiscovered qualities in people and provides opportunities for those qualities to become assets.
* The Lord does say in the Book of Isaiah “For My thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways My ways.”
* Peter did not understand Jesus’ reasoning, but decided to trust what He said.

**Isaiah 55:8-9; Matthew 5:4-7**

**3. How will you honor Jesus?**

* The best ways to honor Him is with your all!
* We like Peter, should realize our own insignificance and be amazed that Jesus also cares about our day-to-day routine and understands our needs.
* We should be willing to make disciples for Christ.
* Jesus’ desire was to put an effective team together that could follow through with His mission after He had ascended to heaven.

**Matthew 5:8-11; 28:19-20; James 2:20**

**Upcoming Events**

Women’s Tea planning meeting after worship today.

Church Conference Tuesday, February 25, 7 PM via Zoom.

The food pantry will be opened Thursday, February 27 from 3-5 PM.

Back to School and Cookout Planning Meeting, Sunday, March 9th after the worship service.

**Thought for the Week**: When you are faced with a decision to follow God or to follow the world, your choice will reflect which one you love most.