

**Sermon Notes – September 14, 2014**  
**“Come, Follow Me”**  
**Mark 1:14-28**  
**Pastor Bill Hoffman**

In Capernaum, Jesus teaches in a synagogue (verses 21-22), drives a demon out of a man (verses 23-26), heals Simon's mother-in-law (verse 31) and then heals and drives demons out of many others (verse 34). How do these actions relate to what Jesus announces in verse 15? What do they imply about Jesus himself?

Verses 16-20: Jesus calls his first disciples

It was the practice of Jesus' day that someone who wanted to be a disciple of a particular rabbi would ask that rabbi to take him on. What do you make here of Jesus being the one to issue an invitation to be his disciple?

Jesus' first disciples seem to be ordinary working class men; and he calls them while they are at work in their family businesses. What might this imply about the kinds of people Jesus calls to follow him and the circumstances in which they are called?

What did these first disciples have to leave behind – at least to some degree – in order to respond to Jesus' call? What does he tell them here and what might they have known about Jesus before these encounters that may have contributed to their willingness to follow him?

How does Jesus not being available in the flesh make it harder on one hand to follow him and easier on the other hand? What is the greatest challenge you find in seeking to follow Jesus today? The greatest encouragement in doing so?