

Follow Me — and I Will Make You Fishers

(A Journey Through the Gospel of Luke)

Series Finale

September 6, 2026

Pastor David Bardowell

Big Idea

Jesus calls us to follow Him, forms us to become like Him, and sends us to help others follow Him.

Disciple-Making Focus

A disciple follows Jesus, becomes like Jesus, and helps others follow Jesus. Disciple-making is not a program of the church; it is the calling of every follower of Jesus.

I. Disciple-Makers _____ Jesus

“Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow me.” (Luke 9:23, NIV)

II. Disciple-Makers _____ Like Jesus

“Everyone who is fully trained will be like his teacher.” (Luke 6:40, CSB)

III. Disciple-Makers _____ for People

“For the Son of Man has come to seek and to save the lost.” (Luke 19:10, CSB)

Pastor David Bardowell, Senior Pastor
PastorDavid@TheGateOC.com
Info@TheGateOC.com

Small Group Questions — Week 26

Follow Me — and I Will Make You Fishers

Week 26: Follow Me — and I Will Make You Fishers

Texts: Luke 5:1–11; 6:40; 9:23; 19:10; 24:44–49

Start Here — Reflective Question

Think back over the past several months. What is one way God has challenged you, changed you, or helped you grow during our journey through Luke?

Read the Passage

Have someone read **Luke 5:1–11, Luke 6:40, and Luke 24:44–49** aloud before discussion.

Discussion Questions

1. Following Jesus — Luke 5:1–11; 9:23

Jesus called ordinary people to leave their old lives behind and follow Him.

Throughout Luke, we have seen that following Jesus requires trust, surrender, and sometimes sacrifice.

- What stands out to you about the way Simon Peter and the others responded to Jesus' call in Luke 5:1–11?
- What does Luke 9:23 teach us about what it actually means to follow Jesus?
- The sermon said:
“Disciple-making begins with a disciple who is following Jesus.”
Why must disciple-making begin with our own relationship with Jesus?
- Following Jesus often leads us to meet people we never would have met, do things we never would have done, and go places we never would have gone. How have you experienced that in your own life?

2. Becoming Like Jesus — Luke 6:40

Jesus did not simply call His disciples to follow Him. He intended to transform them.

- What do you think Jesus means when He says, **“Everyone who is fully trained will be like his teacher”**?
- As you think about Jesus throughout the Gospel of Luke, what characteristic of Jesus stands out most to you?
- The sermon said: **“Discipleship isn't simply learning more information about Jesus. It is becoming more like Jesus.”**
What is the difference between knowing more about Jesus and becoming more like Jesus?
- Where do you see Jesus changing you right now? Where would you especially like to become more like Him?

3. Fishing for People — Luke 19:10; 24:44–49

Jesus came **“to seek and to save the lost.”** At the end of Luke, He sends His disciples to carry that same message to others.

- What do Luke 19:10 and Luke 24:47–48 reveal about the mission of Jesus?
- Why should following Jesus eventually turn our attention toward other people?
- The sermon said:
“Every disciple is called to be a disciple-maker.”
What does that look like practically in everyday life?
- **Who are you helping follow Jesus right now?** If no one comes to mind, who might God be placing in your life?

Disciple-Making Connection

The Disciple-Making Focus this week was:

“We follow Jesus—and help others do the same.”

- How do the three movements of this sermon—**FOLLOW Jesus, BECOME like Jesus, FISH for people**—give us a simple picture of disciple-making?
- Why is becoming like Jesus essential to helping someone else follow Jesus?
- What has this series taught you about disciple-making that you did not understand as clearly before?
- As this sermon series ends, what is one intentional step you want to take to continue living as a disciple who makes disciples?

Close Together

Spend time praying together.

Pray that God would:

- Help you continue following Jesus wherever He leads.
- Form you increasingly into the character of Jesus.
- Give you His heart for people who are far from Him.
- Show you someone you can intentionally help follow Jesus.
- Make your group a community of disciples who make disciples.

Weekly Challenge

Each morning this week, pray:

“Jesus, I choose to follow You today. Make me more like You. Give me Your heart for people, and show me someone I can help take another step toward You.”

Then intentionally do three things this week:

Follow Jesus somewhere obedience leads you.

Practice one specific characteristic of Jesus.

Help someone take one step closer to Him.

The sermon series may be ending.

But the mission doesn't.