

Transformed – Simplify

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Matthew 4

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Discussion Questions for Personal Life and Community Gathering

1. Catching Up. Spend a few brief moments catching everyone up on your holiday time with family and friends. What was your favorite gift given or received?

2. Invitation. Read Matthew 4:18-22. Consider the cause and effect in this calling.

Discuss the nature of the invitation. (Who initiated? What was the invitation? What was the promise?).

3. Response. Reread verses 20 and 22.

Discuss the nature of the response. (Timeline? Sacrifice? Implications?)

What did the response cost the disciples immediately? Long term?

4. Leaving our Nets. Consider the previous discussion.

Are you in position to leave your nets?

What has Jesus called you to this year?

What is prohibiting you from *immediately* following Jesus?

5. Simplify. Hopefully you got to spend some relaxing moments with family during this season, but now you will resume the chaos and busyness that characterizes our lives. Please evaluate your life this week. What is one thing or many things that you can remove from your life that will allow you to simplify so that you may focus on spiritual things and family worship?

Please consider sharing this with someone in your group so that they may hold you accountable.

Close in a time of prayer expressing gratitude for the potential in this new year. Pray that we will become more sensitive to the voice of our Father both in our homes and in our church. Finally, pray that we would be able to position ourselves in such a way that we may drop our nets and immediately follow Jesus when He calls.

Suggested Reading (Available in Summit Crossing Resource Library):

The Life You've Always Wanted: Spiritual Disciplines for Ordinary People. John Ortberg. 2002

Next Week: Transformed, Generosity