

# GROWTH GROUPS

October 21, 2012

Matthew 4:18-25

## **Conversation Starter –**

What first drew you into relationship with Jesus or what causes you to continue loving Jesus?

## **Understanding –**

This passage serves as a bit of an introduction to the “Sermon on the Mount” which begins in chapter 5. In the sermon, Jesus will explain what it looks like to be a genuine follower of his. Our passage raises the implicit question, “What causes someone to follow Jesus in the first place?”

1. Why do you think the first disciples were drawn to Jesus? Read our passage as well as Luke 5:1-11 which parallels our passage for a fuller picture.
2. What attracts people to Jesus today? What responsibility do Christians have to attract people to Jesus? Consider both the main verse, Matthew 4:19 and the conclusion of Matthew’s gospel, Matthew 28:16-20 as you answer.
3. The statistics that the pastor shared on Sunday reveal that fewer and fewer Americans are choosing to identify with Jesus. This is especially true among the young. In what ways is the church in America failing to reflect the attractive nature of Jesus? What behaviors do we personally need to change if we are going to attract people to Jesus?

First Presbyterian Church of Maumee

<http://fpcmaumee.org> Email [staff@fpcmaumee.org](mailto:staff@fpcmaumee.org)

200 East Broadway, Maumee, Ohio 43537

Phone 419-893-0223 Fax 419-893-0327