

Slide 1




Image: Fishermen, probably Saints Peter and Andrew (detail). Copyright © The Art Archive/SuperStock. Used by permission.

Slide 2

Jesus Calls as Disciples

- Remember from Children's Sermon, the story of Jonah:
- Just when we think God is punishing us, or leaving us alone, we find out that God is really saving us.
- God cannot fully and completely save us without saving everyone — including our enemies.



As we ponder Jesus calling us as his disciples this morning, here's the points we need to carry over from the Children's sermon:

- Just when we think God is punishing us, or leaving us alone, we find out that God is really saving us.
- God cannot fully and completely save us without saving everyone — including our enemies..

Slide 3



This sets us up to take stock of whether and how this call to discipleship is Good News. Nadia Bolz-Weber is the most sought-after preacher in the ELCA right now. She does a memorable job in this video clip of helping take realistic stock of the Good News Jesus calls us to follow and proclaim: Video clip, ending with: "This is like the worst good news I've ever heard."

[This video can be found at: <http://store.augsburgfortress.org/store/product/18966/Animate-Bible-digital-lesson-Gospels?c=249849>

Slide 4

The Worst Good News You've Ever Heard

- Says things like, "The first shall be last...."
- Jesus dies an entirely preventable death.



The worst Good News you've ever heard. Nadia gave a few examples. First shall be last. Jesus dies an entirely preventable death.

Slide 5

Discipleship 101: Mark 8-10


- Predicts his own death three times
- "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me."
- "For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it."
- "Whoever wishes to become great among you must be your servant, and whoever wishes to be first among you must be slave of all."

But let's focus this down to our discipleship, too. It's not just Jesus, but Jesus asking us to follow him. Here's several highlights of Discipleship 101

Slide 6

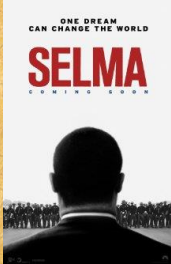
Discipleship as the worst good news ever ... unless...

- Remember the story of Jonah with today's Gospel: the irony of going to fish for people and getting swallowed by a big fish
- Just when we think God is punishing us, or leaving us alone, we find out that God is really saving us.
- God cannot fully and completely save us without saving everyone — including our enemies.



In short, being called as disciples of Jesus is the worst good news ever . . . unless . . . we remember the story of Jonah


Slide 7



- An example of the discipleship we've just talked about.
- Wonderful scene of calling to hear "Precious Lord, take my hand."

Slide 8

ELCA Pastor Joe Ellwanger



- 1967-2001 Pastor at Cross Lutheran, Milwaukee
- 1958-67 Pastor at St. Paul Lutheran, Montgomery, AL (near where 4 girls died in church bombing)
- Helped MLK, Jr., organize march from Selma to Montgomery

Slide 9



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