

# Together For Worship - Mark 1:4-20

## A guide to worship as a family in your home

**Set aside a time when everyone in your family is ready for a time of worship together in your home. Also, make sure to read through the text first before you begin.**

### Pray Together:

- ⊕ Spend time together praying for the Holy Spirit to move in your time of worship.

### Sing Together:

- ⊕ Sing any or all of the songs below. These are songs for corporate worship on Sunday.
  - ✓ Joy To The World (Unspeakable Joy),
  - ✓ O Come All Ye Faithful/Sing to the King (by 33 Miles)
  - ✓ Christmas Offering (Paul Baloche)
  - ✓ The First Noel
  - ✓ Go Tell It On The Mountain

### Catch the Idea Together

- ⊕ Today, we are going to talk about following Jesus.
  - ✓ Lets discuss this question: What are some things we like to follow?
  - ✓ Play a game of follow the leader
- ⊕ Some good information to read over about the background of our Scripture passage today:
  - ✓ As we saw last time, Mark recorded specific events from the life and ministry of Jesus to show and prove to a Roman audience that Jesus IS the Christ, the Messiah, the anointed one of God, the Son of God who served, suffered, died and rose again as the suffering servant depicted by Isaiah.
  - ✓ As we look today at men who followed Jesus, we see that John the Baptist was called by God to be the one to prepare the way for the coming Messiah. One way he did that was by preaching about repentance and calling for people to repent and then be baptized. (Note: This baptism was one that was one of showing repentance. Repentance had to precede baptism & so baptism was NOT the means by which sins were forgiven BUT was rather a sign indicating that one had truly repented. And so, baptism did not produce repentance, but baptism was the result of repentance). So, John was preaching and baptizing to prepare the hearts of the people for the coming Messiah. What is awesome is that we see in John 1:30 that when John realized that Jesus was the Messiah, he said "Behold, the Lamb of God, the one who takes away the sins of the world." John the Baptist knew he could follow Jesus as the Messiah, the Lamb of God. Then, we also see that God calls Peter, Andrew, James and John, all who were fishermen, to abandon their occupation and follow Him. We see in Scripture that Peter, Andrew and John had all met Jesus before this encounter we read about in Mark 1 and Andrew

and John were disciples of John the Baptist. We see in John 1:41 that Andrew realized that Jesus was the Messiah and told his brother Simon (Peter) about Him. After Andrew tells Simon this, Jesus changes Simon's name to Peter (John 1:42). These men then went back to their normal business of fishing. Later, when Jesus comes to them here in Mark 1 and calls them to follow Him, they gave up their lifestyle of fishing to follow Jesus.

### Discuss His Word Together

- ⊕ Open up God's Word and read Mark 1:4-20
  - ✓ What do you think these men had to do to follow Jesus?
  - ✓ Do you think these men found joy in following Jesus? Why?
  - ✓ Why could these men be confident in following Jesus?

### Applying What We Are Learning Together

- ⊕ Take time to think through how to apply what we are learning
  - ✓ How are you following Jesus with joy and confidence this Christmas season?
  - ✓ Do you find joy in being obedient to what God calls you to do?
  - ✓ Are you confident in following God's plan for your life?
  - ✓ Is your heart committed to follow Christ?

### Closing Prayer Together

- ⊕ Closing Prayer Points
  - ✓ Pray for God to help our family follow Jesus with all our hearts.
  - ✓ Pray that we would have joy in being obedient to what God calls us to do.
  - ✓ Pray that we would be confident in following God's plan for our lives.
- ⊕ As you pray, an idea is the A.C.T.S prayer acronym.
  - ✓ Adoration- How can we adore God in our prayer time (God you are powerful, faithful...)
  - ✓ Confession- Take time to confess your sins to God (Remember 1 John 1:9)
  - ✓ Thanksgiving - What can we praise God for this week?
  - ✓ Supplication - Talk with God about things on your heart.