



Small group discussion questions June 2017

Chapter & verse – Francis Brienen (page 18)

Read Matthew 4:12-23, followed by Francis Brienen's article.

1. The opening paragraph gives examples of people who have 'given up much to follow a calling'. Can you think of other examples?
2. Paragraph three describes the qualities of the 'ordinary men' Jesus called. What are your own, your group's or your church's strengths? Are there ways in which these strengths are used for God's glory?
3. Paragraphs five and six provide insight into how and why Jesus calls the disciples to 'fish for people'. What does Jesus' calling to 'fish for people' mean to you?
4. Francis says that Jesus' sermon on the mount makes 'absolutely clear' what discipleship means. Are there other examples that help explain what it is to follow Jesus?
5. Paragraph seven describes 'God's new order'. How might the new order's priorities play out today?
6. In closing, Francis says that the disciples' calling 'starts with the overturning of [their] own world'. In what ways can your world be overturned by following Jesus?

For further reflection: 'I will put my spirit within you, and make you follow my statutes ... Then ... you shall be my people, and I will be your God.' Ezekiel 36:27-28

Prayer: Gracious God, thank you for calling us, ordinary people, to follow you. Help us to better live and walk in your ways. Now and always. Amen.

