**Pastor Demetric Felton Sr, March 5, 2023**

**The Goodnews Of The Kingdom**

Matthew 4:12-25

**Key Truth:** To live for Christ means His call on our lives takes priority over everything else.

**The Public Ministry Of Jesus Begins:**

1. Jesus Christ ministry was built on the teaching, preaching,

 and healing dimensions of the Kingdom of God.

**The** **Calling Of His First Disciples:**

1. Jesus was calling them to abandon everything else and find their source of security, identity, and purpose in Him.

**The Demonstration Of The Kingdom Of God:**

1. Jesus is showing through His healing that God’s Kingdom has

 dominion over the devil, demons, and disease.

**What We Learn:**

1. God’s light comes to those who are least expecting it!

2. Though it may seem like the darkness is winning; however

 God’s Kingdom is shining bright in the hearts of His people.

 John 1:4, 9-13, John 3:19-21

3. Not every disciple is called to quit their job, but every disciple

 is called into fulltime ministry. 2 Corinthians 5:20

4. The church is the training ground for learning how to attract

 people to the gospel.

 A. Four things God uses to draw the world to Himself:

 1. Our lifestyle.

 2. The preaching of the Word of God.

 3. Our love for God’s church.

 4. Our love for people.

**Taking It Beyond The Walls:** Thank God for the call to follow Jesus. Ask Him to continue to help you embrace what it means to follow Him and be an ambassador for His kingdom.

**Connection Group Homework:**

Looking back at your notes, was there anything that particularly caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?

Matthew 4:18-22: What are some reasons why Jesus’ call to these men is surprising? What does this reveal about what Jesus is looking for in His followers? (See also Acts 4:13)

Jesus intentionally chose ordinary people to build His kingdom. Does that mean Jesus needs us to do His work? Why or why not?

In order to fish for people, we have to be with people. How does Jesus’ incarnational ministry inform the way we pursue discipleship?

Jesus said that He will make us fish for people. What do we miss when we neglect the power and presence of Jesus in our mission?

Read Romans 12:1-2: According to Romans 12:2, what is the outcome of having a transformed mind? How does that affect your life?

Read John 4:35-42: Jews in Jesus’ day predominantly looked upon Samaritans with disdain, yet Jesus chose to first reveal His identity to a Samaritan—and an adulterous woman at that. What person or group of people are you currently critical of? How would Jesus interact with this group?

In what ways could you use your relationship with them to exemplify Jesus’ grace and goodness? How could it draw you both into a deeper relationship with Him?

Read 2 Corinthians 5:14-21: Why do you think that it’s the love of Christ that compels us into the world?

Why is that attitude key if we are to be ambassadors for Christ?