

Hindrances

And He saith unto, Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men. And they straightway left their nets and followed Him. Matthew 4: 19-20

In this passage we see that when Jesus saw Peter and Andrew casting their fishing net into the sea, He called them and they answered by leaving their possessions and following Him. Quite a contrast from the account recorded in Luke 9:57-62. The men in Luke wanted to follow Jesus but were not willing to make it their first priority. They had other priorities.

The first man in Luke 9 said, *I will follow Thee whithersoever thou goest (v. 57)*, but Jesus explained that following might mean giving up the comforts of home. There are many things that keep us from following Christ. Things keep us from putting God first. God blesses us with material goods, but He intends us to use them as tools to His glory not toys.

The second man in Luke 9 told Jesus that first he had to go fulfill his obligations. Are we using our responsibilities as an excuse for not making God our number one priority? God expects us to view our obligations in light of our obligation to Him.

The last man in Luke 9 told Jesus that he had to go back before he could follow. We need to have a willingness to keep our eyes on the goal God has given us. Instead of looking back, we need to look ahead for what God has for us. What does God want you to do?