SUMMARY | From her home in Kodiak Island, Alaska, author Leslie Leyland Fields joins Discover the Word to share “Insights from a Fisherwoman about Following Jesus.”

We live in a time when so many are “unfollowing” Jesus and leaving the church. Leslie’s experience in her family-owned commercial fishing business provides a unique perspective on what it meant for those first fishermen—those first disciples—to follow Jesus and what it means for us today.

This Week’s Discussion Questions

1. Why would Jesus choose fishermen instead of synagogue students to be His closest followers?

2. What did each of the disciples give up to follow Jesus? Why is this important to note?

3. Read Mark 4:35–41. What do the disciples question when they wake Jesus in the boat during the storm? When are you most likely to question whether Jesus cares about you? Why do you think that is?

4. What kinds of people/products/groups do you follow on social media? What would it take for you to “unfollow” them? Why do some people decide to “unfollow” Jesus?

5. What sorts of things do you expect Jesus to give you? How do you feel when He doesn’t? How about when He does? How has following Jesus been different than you expected?
Challenge

Reflect on your expectations for God. Why do you have those expectations? What doubts do you have? How do you feel about trusting God? Write down your thoughts and bring them to God in prayer. Then, meet up with a trusted Christian friend this week to talk about your journey with Jesus so far.

Commit To Memory

Jesus called out to them, “Come, follow me, and I will show you how to fish for people!”

Matthew 4:19 (NLT)

Prayer

Dear Lord Jesus, thank You for inviting me to follow You. Help me, especially when I’m tempted to unfollow, to see how much You love me and to understand that following You is the best and safest place I can be.

Sincerely, Your follower, (your name). Amen.