



# Being with Jesus:

A Devotional From the Book of Mark

Week 1  
Being With God

Day 3

## Scripture

“Passing alongside the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and Andrew the brother of Simon casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen. And Jesus said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you become fishers of men.” And immediately they left their nets and followed him. And going on a little farther, he saw James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, who were in their boat mending the nets. And immediately he called them, and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired servants and followed him.” — Mark 1:16-20

“My son, do not make light of the Lord’s discipline,  
and do not lose heart when he rebukes you,  
because the Lord disciplines the one he loves,  
and he chastens everyone he accepts as his son.” — Hebrews 12:5-6

## Prayer:

Jesus, thank you for making me into something better. Help me to trust You even when the path is hard. Give me vision to see the end goal so I can endure temporary hard times. Amen.

## Reflection

Sometimes when we become disciples, God turns our world upside down. He calls us to totally abandon the way we were living and take on a new mission and way of life for Him. This may mean we leave certain behaviors behind; or like the disciples in the verse above, God may call us to do something different with our time or jobs. Sometimes the path God calls us to walk is difficult, but even in the pain God is treating us like his children and doing what is best for us even if it hurts. C. S. Lewis wrote about how God sometimes uses painful things to make us more like himself:

Imagine yourself as a living house. God comes in to rebuild that house. At first, perhaps, you can understand what He is doing. He is getting the drains right and stopping the leaks in the roof and so on: you knew that those jobs needed doing and so you are not surprised. But presently He starts knocking the house about in a way that hurts abominably and does not seem to make sense. What on earth is He up to? The explanation is that He is building quite a different house from the one you thought of—throwing out a new wing here, putting on an extra floor there, running up towers, making courtyards. You thought you were going to be made into a decent little cottage: but He is building a palace. He intends to come and live in it Himself.

God’s goal is to make us like Himself. Sometimes this means big and painful changes, but it also means He’s making us into something greater than we would have imagined. Remember that when you are going through a hard time.

## Questions

Have you ever “left” something so you could follow God?

In what ways have you seen God changing you for the better?

How can you keep God’s goodness in mind when things are hard?