

Peter and Andrew are fishing, they did this to earn a living, but Jesus calls them and they follow Him. Then Jesus also calls James and John, also fishermen, who are mending their nets with their father Zebedeos, and they also follow Him.

What is striking about Peter , Andrew , Jacob and John , is how directly and with conviction they leave everything behind and follow Christ. Last week we heard about this ; whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me. Because the love for father or mother , that is a natural love , and that is good , but that love belongs to our fallen nature , the love for which you get love in return . Here the disciples encounter supernatural love, the love that transcends it all. And all that property they leave behind, we wouldn't be so quick to do that. Because what it is about property, we think we own it, but in fact it owns us. And as it is with property , it demands our attention . Here you see that Jacobos and Johannes are repairing their nets, they were busy with it and so are we, we are busy with the things we have acquired and still hope to acquire. And the symbolism of the nets is beautiful, because nets are not only for fishing and for our livelihood but we can also get entangled in them and most of the time we do. We become so obsessed with the things of this world that God has given us for our sustenance, that we put that same God aside; we are too busy to follow Christ .

What this gospel is all about is the unwavering conviction to follow Christ and that means letting go of the things of this world. The worldly life is the life centered on my desires , my concerns , my insights , my comforts , my interests , my passions too . When we are no longer of this world, we will serve. We serve at work, we serve our families, we serve our parents and our children to lead them to Christ, often at the expense of our own interest , our own well-being. The things that were first for ourselves then become Christ's.

The disciples were Jews, they had the law and the scriptures to prepare them for the coming of the Savior, Christ. And when they were called, their hearts were so with God that they followed Christ and could leave their daily worries behind. We have not only the Old Testament but also the New Testament, the Gospels and thereby the Church, the sacraments, the Holy Spirit. Let us not get entangled in the nets of this world but follow the call of Christ.