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## *Devotion for September 27<sup>th</sup>, 2021*

### *Matthew 4:12-25*

**Today's verses come from Matthew 4:12-25.** We have a very robust account of Jesus' birth but following that, we aren't given much until His baptism and the beginning of His ministry. As I'm always reminding my religion classes, if it's not in the Bible, it wasn't important for us to know, but that means what we are given is clearly important. God's Word is a wonderful gift He's given us to be able to learn about who He is and what He's done.

In this section of Matthew, we are told of Jesus calling His disciples. It's rather noteworthy that this is how He began His earthly ministry. He was teaching us by example. He established the beginnings of the early church by gathering these men to Him and imparting His teachings to them.

Notice that the text says "immediately" they dropped what they were doing and followed Jesus. They recognized His importance, and the importance of the ministry He was beginning. We, too, have all realized how vital it is to share the Gospel with all those we encounter, and to do so with the fellowship of all believers. There is no one Christian who exists alone; we are blessed with our brothers and sisters in Christ who can uplift and encourage us.

I pray that you might be encouraged by Jesus' example, and to surround yourself with faithful people who will encourage and uplift you in your work and days as you share the Gospel.

*God's blessings,  
Marissa Kroenke, Deaconess Intern  
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