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Then He said to them, “Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men.”

They immediately left their nets and followed Him.

Matthew 4:19-20 (NKJV)

Thought for today...

Depending on which decade you grew up in, you may recall playing the game ‘follow the leader’. This children's game requires someone to lead, whilst the remaining players follow the leader's actions and go wherever the leader chooses to lead them.

Playing this game as a child, I recall that whilst finding it fun at the outset, I would quickly become bored and weary of mimicking actions I considered to be foolish. The question most pressing on my mind was “when is it going to be my turn to lead?”



In likewise fashion, I can recall a time years later, when those of us who had recently become licensed drivers and were able to purchase our first car, would - as part of a convoy - drive from our local church to attend a church service some 40 or so miles away.

On one occasion, I remember setting out behind the experienced driver leading the procession in a mini bus, becoming impatient with the speed he was driving at and also thinking that an alternative route of my choosing would be better and quicker. Wanting to lead so as to set the pace, I foolishly overtook the bus, racing miles ahead only then to realise that I was unsure how to reach my intended destination.

In John's Gospel he records that Jesus said: **"Whoever serves Me must follow Me; and where I am, My servant also will be. My Father will honor the one who serves Me."** John 12:26 (NIV).

In the Gospel of Matthew, we read that after the birth of Jesus, wise men sought to find Him so that they could worship Him, having proclaimed that they had **"seen His star in the East"** (Matthew 2:2).

The wise men are a great example of faith and obedience in action. Nowhere do we read that one of them suggested an optimal route, or demonstrated a desire to race ahead, convinced that the star was not a reliable guide as they had heard a rumour that Christ had been seen in another town; they diligently followed **'...and behold, the star which they had seen in the East went before them, till it came and stood over where the young Child was.'** Matthew 2:9 (NKJV).

Jesus said: **"I am the light of the world."** He also promised: **"He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life."** John 8:12 (NKJV).



Today, there are those who will proudly declare: "I'm a believer", but will not take the step to transition from believer to follower of Christ.

Perhaps we might consider another reason why the wise men are said to be wise? More than simply believing that the star would lead them to Christ, they put their belief into action and chose to follow; will you?