

Session 2

‘UN-QUALIFIED’



Reading:

Mark 1:16-20 & Mark 2:13-17

Introduction:

What has been the hardest test/exam/interview you've had?

Share a time when you have failed a test/exam/interview.
How did you feel about the situation and about yourself?

WORD:

Read - Mark 1:16-20

These first disciples Jesus were fishermen. They hadn't achieved the right level of religious instruction (which would have included memorising the whole of the Jewish scriptures) to be worthy of being a disciple of a rabbi.

(Note - to be a disciple of a rabbi was aspirational, an epic achievement, only the best of the of the best would have been accepted. It showed that the rabbi believed that the follower could actually become like them - to carry on their teaching, their way of life, their values)

Simon (Peter), Andrew, James and John would have been classed as unqualified to be a disciple.

Where do you feel unqualified:

- *In your Christian faith?*
- *In your Christian witness?*
- *In your ability to follow Jesus?*

Read - Mark 2:13-17

The second disciple that we are focusing on was Levi or Matthew. The calling of this disciple catalysed an **explosive response!** When the Pharisees, who saw the type of person that Jesus had just chosen, *and* Levi's friends - they were up in arms - "why does he eat with such scum!?" (2:16)

These people were worse than unqualified they should have been **disqualified** to be disciples.

- *Look at the passage, what was Levi's response to being called?*
- *What was the impact on others when Levi was called?*
- *Take a moment to reflect in quiet, where do I feel disqualified to be a disciple of Jesus?*

PRAYER:

What prayer response does today's reading and discussion invite?

ACTION:

In my feelings of being unqualified or disqualified, how can I let Jesus speak into those? How can I in turn have an impact on others who may feel unqualified or disqualified?