

Suggestions for Further Reflection and Action

Personally

Take time to reflect on the call of Jesus. How do you feel when you hear his words 'Follow me'? Excited? Confused? Nostalgic? Fearful? Energised? Find a trusted friend to talk with about your thoughts and feelings.

Who do you know who might be finding the adventure particularly challenging at this time? What support might you offer to them?

Locally

In what ways does your local Christian community, your church offer opportunities to explore the call of Jesus to follow?

Reflect on Drake's poem. One of the biblical metaphors for the church is a boat. Imagine your church as a sailing boat. Where is that boat at the moment? In the safety of the harbour? Heading out to sea? Caught in a storm? How strongly is the wind of the Spirit blowing through your sails? How could you catch a fresh wind?

Globally

Let you and your fellowship be inspired by the adventures of others following Jesus around the world. Plan an adventure in partnership with a church in another country.

Consider how you can pray for, campaign for and support those in greatest need and danger in the world at the moment. How might you be able to offer help or hospitality to those fleeing their homes and seeking refuge?

A Biblical Passage to Reflect On

- Mark 1:9–20

What do you notice in this passage?

What will you do or change in the light of what you have read and noticed?

Disturb Us Lord

The need for active, adventurous disciples of Jesus is as urgent as ever. There is a broken world in need of healing, good news to be shared and Kingdom work to be done, all energised by the charismatic Spirit so powerfully present at the baptism of Jesus¹³ and the birth of the church at Pentecost.¹⁴

The great explorer Sir Francis Drake, who knew a thing or two about adventure, made this his prayer:

Disturb us, Lord, when
We are too well pleased with ourselves,
When our dreams have come true
Because we have dreamed too little,
When we arrived safely
Because we sailed too close to the shore.
Disturb us, Lord, when
With the abundance of things we possess
We have lost our thirst
For the waters of life;
Having fallen in love with life,
We have ceased to dream of eternity
And in our efforts to build a new earth,
We have allowed our vision
Of the new Heaven to dim.
Disturb us, Lord, to dare more boldly,
To venture on wider seas
Where storms will show your mastery;
Where losing sight of land,
We shall find the stars.
We ask You to push back
The horizons of our hopes;
And to push into the future
In strength, courage, hope, and love.