

## HOW TO RESPOND WHEN JESUS CALLS

December 1, 2013 Various Texts by Bob Branch  
Blessed To Be A Blessing, Part 7

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**MAIN IDEA:** In the Gospel, God is speaking, revealing himself, beckoning to us. What response God is looking for?

### 1. **BELIEVE** Him.

“these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.” **John 20:31**

Believing is **more than intellectual ascent**

“You believe that there is one God. Good! Even the demons believe that—and shudder.” **James 2:19**

It is believing a person & aligning yourself with him.

“For this is the will of my Father, that everyone who looks on the Son and believes in him should have eternal life, and I will raise him up on the last day.” **John 6:40**

“we have believed, and have come to know, that you are the Holy One of God.” **John 6:69**

**Believe ME.**

### 2. **RECEIVE** Him.

“He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him. Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God—children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband’s will, but born of God.” **John 1:11-13**

“Here I am! I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with that person, and they with me.” **Revelation 3:20**

**Receive ME.**

### 3. **TURN TO** Him.

**2 words:** change your mind/direction; turn toward God

“You know that I have not hesitated to preach anything that would be helpful to you but have taught you publicly and from house to house. I have declared to both Jews and Greeks that they must turn to God in repentance and have faith in our Lord Jesus.” **Acts 20:20-21** (Mk. 1:15)

“Repent, then, and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped out, that times of refreshing may come from the Lord” **Acts 3:19**

“The Lord’s hand was with them, and a great number of people believed and turned to the Lord.” **Acts 11:21**

**Parable of Prodigal Son** Luke 11

**Turn to ME.**

### 4. **FOLLOW** Him.

“As Jesus passed on from there, he saw a man called Matthew sitting at the tax booth, and he said to him, “Follow me.” And he rose and followed him.” **Matthew 9:9**

**The Gospel calls each one into an Apprenticeship with Jesus.**

I like the word apprentice because it means I’m *with* Jesus learning to do what he did. When you look at the first disciples, that’s what they were doing. They watched Jesus and listened to him, and then he said, “Now you do it.” **Dallas Willard**

The **new life has motion, direction**... Jesus is the direction-setter.

Jesus said, “I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.” **John 8:12**

“Then Jesus told his disciples, “If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me.” **Matthew 16:24**

**Follow ME.**