

## Pk-News Kenn Bongiorno

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Hi Friends, I pray you are doing well. There is a passage in Matthew 4:18 that I'm identifying with this evening. It's the calling of the disciples. It reads like this:

Matthew 4:18-22 (NIV)

18 As Jesus was walking beside the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon called Peter and his brother Andrew. They were casting a net into the lake, for they were fishermen.

19 "Come, follow me," Jesus said, "and I will make you fishers of men."

20 At once they left their nets and followed him. 21 Going on from there, he saw two other brothers,

James son of Zebedee and his brother John. They were in a boat with their father Zebedee,

preparing their nets. Jesus called them, 22 and immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

I identify with it, because just as Jesus called them, he called me. He called me out of a life of spiritual deadness, into a relationship with him. He called me to leave my home and go to school to learn the basics of ministry. He called me to New England way back when I was 21 years old, though I did not have a clue what states made up New England. Each time he called; I did my best to follow.

I believe that when my wife and I came to New Bedford it was because Jesus called us to follow him here. It's been over twenty years that we've served CFC and New Bedford. There is not a doubt in my mind, nor was there ever a doubt, that Jesus asked us to follow him here.

We are so glad we answered the call and followed him here. It's here, that God galvanized Gracie's and my relationship. It's here, that our children grew up to love the Lord and learn how to live for him in this world. It's here that we experienced the love of a church family. It's here, that we rode the wave of God's amazing Spirit moving upon this ministry, resulting in the salvation of many souls and the building up of people's faith. It's here, that we have grown so much.

Jesus is calling us. He's calling us to follow him. He is calling us to let go of New Bedford and follow him. I know this because he has lifted the vision from my heart. I no longer carry the burden of a vision for our church. As much as I want to experience the vision that will take us to the next place as a church, it is not in my spirit. I know that it's because he is calling us out of CFC and calling someone else to carry on a fresh vision.

I have no regrets. I did my job, sometimes successfully and other times not so successfully, but I always gave 100%. Thank you for inviting me/us into your life. I/we have experienced your graciousness and love that has carried us for 21 years.

I am going to transition out of CFC as the lead pastor over the next few months. I have a plan for the transition that is in a video that Pastor Brian Dube and I taped the other day. Please watch it. It is on our web page [cfc818.org](http://cfc818.org) or you can hit the link below to watch it.

I love you with all my heart,

Following Jesus,  
PK  
Mail: No subject

