



LIFE *On* MISSION

ADVENTIST CHURCH *in Sydney*

The Call

It is the line that Ethan Hunt (played by Tom Cruise) in the *Mission: Impossible* thriller film series has come to expect: “Your mission, should you choose to accept it, is to...” As soon as Ethan hears this line in the recording device, he knows what his next mission is. He knows that he is in for another thrilling and even life-threatening adventure!

If you were to write the next *Mission: Impossible* movie script, with you acting the part of Ethan Hunt, what adventure story would you like to take the lead in?

Digging into the Bible

It was another ordinary day down by the Lake of Galilee and near the town of Capernaum. The fishermen and tax collectors were busy at their work. They thought that it would be no different to any other work day. Read about how Jesus turned their whole lives upside by calling them to follow Him in **Mark 1:16-20** and **Matthew 9:9**.

1. How do you think these guys felt when Jesus called them?
2. What was Jesus asking them to do? What did His call actually involve?
3. What do you think the fisherman and tax collector thought Jesus was asking them to do when He called them?
4. Do you think it was hard for them to accept this call?
5. What would have happened if they had decided not to accept the call?

Making It Personal

In many ways, we are similar to those fishermen and tax collectors. We are busy in our studies, work or caring for people like our children, and often think our work is our highest priority.

6. What value does Jesus see in our work?
7. Does Jesus have a higher calling for us? What is that call?
8. How can we accept Jesus’ call to mission while still providing for our own needs and the needs of our families?

In the beautiful book about the life of Jesus called *The Desire of Ages*, Ellen White observes:

Every true disciple is born into the kingdom of God as a missionary. The person who drinks of the living water becomes a fountain of life. The person who receives becomes a giver. The grace of Christ in the soul is like a spring in the desert, welling up to refresh all, and making those who are ready to perish eager to drink of the water of life.¹

9. How do you feel about being called to be a missionary?
10. Is there someone close to you that really needs the water of life?

Talking with the Master

Spend time praying conversationally as a group. Ask Jesus to speak to you through the Holy Spirit so His call for you to join His mission becomes really clear and unmistakable. Will you choose to accept your mission?

¹ Adapted slightly from *The Desire of Ages*, p195.