

Luke 5 pt 1

Luke 5:1-11

5 So it was, as the multitude pressed about Him to hear the word of God, that He stood by the Lake of Gennesaret, ² and saw two boats standing by the lake; but the fishermen had gone from them and were washing *their* nets. ³ Then He got into one of the boats, which was Simon's, and asked him to put out a little from the land. And He sat down and taught the multitudes from the boat.

⁴ When He had stopped speaking, He said to Simon, "Launch out into the deep and let down your nets for a catch."

⁵ But Simon answered and said to Him, "Master, we have toiled all night and caught nothing; nevertheless at Your word I will let down the net." ⁶ And when they had done this, they caught a great number of fish, and their net was breaking. ⁷ So they signaled to *their* partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both the boats, so that they began to sink.

⁸ When Simon Peter saw *it*, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, "Depart from me, for I am a sinful man, O Lord!"

⁹ For he and all who were with him were astonished at the catch of fish which they had taken; ¹⁰ and so also were James and John, the sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon. And Jesus said to Simon, "Do not be afraid. From now on you will catch men." ¹¹ So when they had brought their boats to land, they forsook all and followed Him.

1. Multitudes pressed about Him to hear the Word of God
 - a. His fame spread quickly
 - b. So many had needs

2. Jesus taught the Word of God by the Lake of Gennesaret
 - a. Tiberius
 - b. Kinneroth (harp)
 - i. It's on this harp of beautiful music that the Lord will illustrate the call

3. The Call to be a disciple
 - a. How
 - b. Why
 - c. What

I. How - in a unique way

1. We notice that God is very consistent in His approach
 - a. He doesn't repeat Himself
 - b. Every person has their unique encounter with God and how God deals with them
 - c. Sometimes Jesus used simple methods like He did with Nathaniel and simply spoke
 - d. **John 1:47** Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward Him, and said of him, "Behold, an Israelite indeed, in whom is no deceit!"
48 Nathanael said to Him, "How do You know me?"
Jesus answered and said to him, "Before Philip called you, when you were under the fig tree, I saw you."
49 Nathanael answered and said to Him, "Rabbi, You are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!"
 - e. **For Nathaniel, that's all it took**
 - f. **For some people, a simple encounter is all it takes**
 - g. For others, it sometimes takes a bit more
 - h. **Like Moses who needed something supernatural to have his attention drawn**
 - i. Joshua's call came through the laying of hands by Moses
 - j. David's call was through a Cruz of oil poured by Samuel
 - k. Saul had Jesus appear to him on the road to Damascus
 - i. We're not to request that God do anything miraculous for us to grab our attention

- ii. He decides what we need
 - iii. He knows who the stubborn ones are
 - iv. Peter's method was not used again by the Lord
 - v. Just as our relationship with God is unique, each person has a custom tailor made call
 - vi. I'm not to copy yours and you are not to copy mine
 - vii. We can learn from one another, but not imitate or request the same experience
- i. For Simon, something a bit more drastic has to happen to capture his attention**
- i. I will make you a fisher of men
 - ii. Launch out into the deep and let down your nets for a catch
 - iii. Master, (Boss) we have toiled all night and caught nothing...
 - 1. We're the fishermen, you're the preacher/carpenter
 - 2. Leave the fishing to us and you stick to preaching
 - 3. We're supposed to fish at night
 - a. I'm tired
 - b. I need to provide for my family...
 - c. He could have given numerous excuses
 - 4. **God never forces anyone to do anything**
 - 5. If Peter had listed reasons for not being willing, Jesus would have walked away

6. Jesus would have found another person to use, but Peter would have missed out

iv. **Nevertheless at your word I will let down the net**

m. Please notice, it was while working that the Lord gave the call

i. God directs moving objects

n. In the meantime, do what your hand finds to do

o. "I will let down the net"

i. A hesitant obedience is better than no obedience at all

ii. It's as if Jesus is looking for an excuse to bless Peter

iii. A miracle happens and the boats almost sink

2. Peter recognizes the miracle and falls at Jesus' feet "depart from me, for I am a sinful man, O Lord"

a. Peter had seen miracles before at the wedding in Cana

b. He'd witnessed demons being cast out and people being healed

c. He saw his mother in law get healed

i. This miracle hit home a bit closer - It's custom made

ii. Peter is concerned about providing for his family - rightly so

iii. Jesus is showing Peter that He is Lord over all of creation and can provide abundantly more by way of Peter's obedience

iv. Toiling all night in your own strength is not going to make it happen

- v. A full surrender to the Lord and His call will not only allow God's provision in a supernatural way, it will satisfy the deepest longing of the soul
- vi. This is what Peter was created to do

II. Why Peter - because he didn't think he could do it.

1. When you recognize your own frailty and weakness, you're a great candidate to be used by God
2. Depart for me Lord, I am a sinful man
3. His awareness of his own sinfulness didn't disqualify him from ministry
 - a. The Lord delights in using the weak
 - i. Moses saw himself as weak and unuseful
 - ii. Gideon said...I am the least in my father's house (Jud 6:15)
 - iii. **David: 2nd Sam 7:18** ... "Who am I, Sovereign LORD, and what is my family, that you have brought me this far?"
 - iv. John the Baptist said, I'm not worthy to untie His shoes
 - v. Paul the Apostle said, I am the least of all the Apostles...
 - b. Those who believe they have something to offer to God are deceived and have missed the point and are not usable.
 - c. If you sense weakness and inability today, you are in great company

III. To do What - Do what you've been designed to do

1. The way you are wired is by design
2. Vs. 10 **Do not be afraid, from now on you will catch men**
3. I am going to use the skills and talents I've given you and use it in touching others
 - a. That natural leadership quality
 - b. That teaching gift
 - c. Your ability to make people feel comfortable
 - i. The joy you feel when you open your home to people
 - d. Your love for serving others practically
 - e. That joy you feel in giving to others
 - f. The passion you have in encouraging others
 - i. The warmth you have in showing mercy
 - g. I desire to use that to minister to others
4. The Lord is responsible for the fruit
 - a. I'm only responsible to be faithful and obedient
 - i. Their net was breaking because of all the fish
5. Not everyone is called into full time ministry
 - a. But we're all called to be disciples
6. So when they had brought their boats to land, they forsook all and followed Him
7. Jesus is speaking to the church today saying, follow Me, be my disciple

8. It begins by being disciples and followers of Jesus

9. Someone may say, how do I know if the Lord is speaking to me?
 - a. How do we hear the Lord today anyway?

 - b. **Heb 1:1** God, who at various times and in various ways spoke in time past to the fathers by the prophets, ² has in these last days spoken to us by *His* Son

 - c. God will generally use His Word to speak to you and transform you

 - d. Many of the revivals that began in the church were due to people getting into God's Word

 - e. Or better yet, God's Word got into them