



friendship
community church

Book of Luke Series

Luke 5:1-11

Week of March 24-30, 2019

(There are many questions to consider in this particular session this week. You can use some of them rhetorically, but be careful to not skip over them. This particular session is designed to help each of us become more self-aware, just as Peter was in this passage.)

Luke 5:1-11 (ESV)

On one occasion, while the crowd was pressing in on him to hear the word of God, he was standing by the lake of Gennesaret, ²and he saw two boats by the lake, but the fishermen had gone out of them and were washing their nets.³ Getting into one of the boats, which was Simon's, he asked him to put out a little from the land. And he sat down and taught the people from the boat. ⁴And when he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, "Put out into the deep and let down your nets for a catch."⁵ And Simon answered, "Master, we toiled all night and took nothing! But at your word I will let down the nets."⁶ And when they had done this, they enclosed a large number of fish, and their nets were breaking. ⁷They 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. ⁸But 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 that they had taken, ¹⁰and so also were James and John, sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon. And Jesus said to Simon, "Do not be afraid; from now on you will be catching men."¹¹ And when they had brought their boats to land, they left everything and followed him.

Jesus Chooses a Disciple

Why does Peter fall at Jesus' knees and react with "Depart from me, for I am a sinful man, O Lord?" Seemingly, Peter is responding to Christ and knows little about Him other than what we see here. Peter is confronted with his own sinfulness without prior knowledge of Who Jesus is. Peter just knows He is in the presence of someone holy and Peter recognizes his sinfulness. He is very self-aware. His hidden sin feels suddenly exposed. When our sin is exposed, we can rest in confession and Jesus' grace.

Peter, James and John were fishing buddies and even though they had caught nothing, now Jesus provides more than they can handle.

Jesus calls them very emphatically – Jesus tells Peter, James and John that from now on you will be catching men.

What about their former means of work? What happened to the fish? What happened to their nets? They left everything and followed Him.

What are you willing to leave and follow Him? What has He already called you to leave and follow Him and you are struggling to let go of in your life?

What is consuming your life that is sucking time away from following Him? What will it take for you to lean in and trust Him with EVERYTHING?

What would it mean for you to live like Jesus wants you to have it all and by all, All of Him? What are some things that would need to change in your life? In your family? In your job?

What about Free Will? Either Jesus is the Lord of your life or He is not.

An important point to consider is this – Jesus is Lord. Whether or not you allow Him to be the Lord of your life is your choice, however. But know this, Jesus is Lord.

Peter recognized Jesus as Lord but we know the process of continuing to allow Jesus to be Peter's Lord was an ongoing process. Peter struggled mightily in continuing to surrender as we know. There were ebbs and flows in his life. Jesus did not need Peter, the same way that He does not need us, but He chooses to use those who are willing to surrender.

How are you continuing in the process of allowing Jesus to be the Lord of your life? What are some highs and lows that you would be willing to share?

What is God calling you to do? To leave behind?

Take time to share prayer requests and pray together.