

Maranatha Fellowship CRC

Farmington, NM 87401

Sunday, February 19, 2023, 10:00 AM

Message Series: Seeking the Lost – Jesus’ Ministry in Galilee

Week 7– Jesus Calls His First Disciples

Scriptures: Luke 5:1-11

Brief Preview: Luke, a gentile physician, builds his gospel narrative around a historical and chronological presentation of Jesus’ ministry in Galilee and Judea. Jesus is the longest and most comprehensive of the four Gospels, presenting Jesus Christ as the God-Man, the Son of Man who came to seek and save sinful men. Growing belief and growing opposition develop side by side. Those who believe His claims are challenged to count the cost of discipleship; those who oppose Him will only be satisfied once the Son of Man hangs lifeless on a cross. But the Resurrection ensures that His ministry of seeking and saving the lost will continue in the person of His disciples once they have been equipped with His power.

Context: Jesus' gathering together of a band of followers included several disciples, which means "learners." They came from different vocations of life: fishermen, tax collectors, political zealots, and ordinary folks. Later, Jesus will continue them to be his disciples. In this particular scenario, Jesus preaches to the people from Simon's boat; he uses one of the borrowed boats lying on the shore and preaches to the people. After speaking, Jesus said to Peter, “Put out into deep water and let down the nets for a catch.” He shared his situation about the previous night and said, “Master, we’ve worked hard all night and haven’t cut anything. But because you said so, I will let down the nets.” Indeed, they had a miraculous catch. Later, Peter said, “Go away from me, Lord; I am a sinful man!” Jesus answered, “Don’t be afraid; from now on, you will fish for people.” Jesus takes sinners and transforms them into instruments of God’s use.

Outline:

- I. Introduction
 - A. Sometimes, even those who are most diligent in their businesses often meet disappointments.

Illus.: ‘Saving the Business of Hobby Lobby’
 - B. Luke Presents the Scenario of the Day on the Lakeshore of the Gennesaret:

Jesus’ Preaching, the miraculous catch, and the call of the first disciples.

- II. Jesus Preaches to People from Peter’s Boat (v. 1-3)
 - A. A Big Crowd attended (v.1)
 - i. The people were crowding around him (v.1b)
 - ii. None of the rulers or Pharisees believed in him, but the people were listening to the Word of God (v.1c)
 - B. Jesus used humble facilities for Preaching.
 - i. He was standing by the Lake of Gennesaret (v.1a)
 - ii. He saw two boats left by the fishermen at the water’s edge, and they were washing their nets (v. 2)
 - iii. Christ got into Simon’s boat, begged it for a pulpit, asked him to put it out a little from the shore, and then he sat down and taught the people from the boat (v.3)

- III. Christ’s Recompense to Peter for Loaning His Boat
 - A. Christ’s acquaintance with the fishermen
 - i. When Jesus had finished preaching (v. 4a)
 - ii. He said to Simon, “Put out into deep water; let down the nets for a catch (v.4b)
 - iii. Practical Implications
 - B. Peter attends Christ's Preaching and accompanies him in fishing.
 - i. Peter told Jesus his situation (v. 5a)
 - ii. Peter, with his friends, obeys Christ when he says, “But because you say so, I will let down the nets (v.5b)
 - iii. Practical Implications and **Illus.:** ‘You can’t beat the real thing!’

- C. The miraculous catch and fishermen farewell their business to follow Christ.
- i. It was a big catch, and their nets began to break; they signaled their partners in other boats to come and help them; they came and filled both boats so full that they began to sink (v. 7)
 - ii. Peter said, "Go away from me, Lord; I am a sinful man." (v. 8)
 - iii. The impression made on Peter was very remarkable; his companions were astonished at the catch (v.9)

IV. Conclusion:

- A. The fishermen's response to the call of Jesus
- i. Peter thought himself unworthy of the favor of Christ's presence in his boat and said, "Go away from me, Lord; I am a sinful man!" (v. 8)
 - ii. Connection with Christ: Peter and his partners, the sons of Zebedee, and his accompanies, James and John, were astonished at the catch of fish they had taken. Jesus said, "Don't be afraid...you will fish for men" (v. 9-10).
 - iii. The fishermen farewell their business to follow Christ (v. 11)
- B. Some Practical Implications
- i. The miraculous fish catch centered around Jesus' instructions and Peter's response.
 - ii. Peter is willing to go where Jesus leads; he is humble and fully committed.
 - iii. A genuine disciple of Jesus must realize that there is so much to learn!
 - iv. Verse 5:11 shows that the call is not unique for everyone
 - v. The most crucial element is a call to walk with Jesus; this must take priority so that we are whatever or whoever God calls us to be

Questions and Answers (Refer to Luke 5:1-11, NIV for answers)

1. What happened 'one day' as Jesus was standing by the Lake of Gennesaret? _____: (v. 1)
 - A. The people were crowding around him. B. They were listening to the word of God C. Both D. None
2. When he finished speaking, what did he say to Simon? (v. 4) A. Put out into deep water. B. let down the nets for a catch C. Both D. None
3. What was Peter's answer to Jesus? (v. 5) A. "Master, we've worked hard all night and haven't caught anything." B. "But because you say so, I will let down the nets." C. Both are correct. D. None is correct
4. Refer to Luke 5:6-11. Mark: True (T) False (F)
 - A. When Peter and his accompanies did so, they caught so many fish that their nets began to break (v.6) T F
 - B. When Simon Peter saw, he fell at Jesus' knees and said, "Go away from me, Lord; I am a sinful man!" (v. 8) T F
 - C. Peter and all his companions were astonished at the catch of fish they had taken, and so were James and John, the sons of Zebedee, Simon's Partners (v.9-10a). T F
 - D. Then Jesus said, "Don't be afraid; from now on, you will fish for people. They pulled their boats up on shore, left everything, and followed him (v. 10b-11). T F
5. **What's the take-home lesson today?** (Mark all that apply to you)
 - A. The metaphor fishing is used for evangelism. It's teamwork, which requires tremendous effort and God's lead.
 - B. We should be willing to follow the Lord's leading even if it looks on the surface as if we will have a problematic and unfruitful task.
 - C. With the presence and leading of Jesus and the working of His Spirit through us, like Peter, we, too, can respond fruitfully to the call of Jesus – 'Catching men.'
 - D. For me, the Lord's call of '**Catching men**' means i. I am reaching out to coworkers at my workplace and praying for them; ii. I am testifying my faith to my family members at home; iii. I am participating in prayer and worship ministry in our church iv. Teaching children and tweens ministry Or, v. _____(Fill in the blank)