

Jesus Calls His First Disciples

One day as Jesus was standing by the Lake of Gennesaret, the people were crowding around him and listening to the word of God. He saw at the water's edge two boats, left there by the fishermen, who were washing their nets. He got into one of the boats, the one belonging to Simon, and asked him to put out a little from shore. Then he sat down and taught the people from the boat.

When he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, "Put out into deep water, and let down the nets for a catch."

Simon answered, "Master, we've worked hard all night and haven't caught anything. But because you say so, I will let down the nets."

When they had done so, they caught such a large number of fish that their nets began to break. So they signaled their partners in the other boat to come and help them, and they came and filled both boats so full that they began to sink.

When Simon Peter saw this, he fell at Jesus' knees and said, "Go away from me, Lord; I am a sinful man!" For he 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.

Then Jesus said to Simon, "Don't be afraid; from now on you will fish for people." So they pulled their boats up on shore, left everything and followed him.





First...introduce yourselves.
Feel free to use the basket of resources, they are your nets and fishing poles!

Discuss the passage together.
Use the questions below to help guide you.

*Optional: Write your findings in the Bible Study Worksheet provided.

Observe:

- Key Verse: Which verse stands out the most? Why?
- Context: What is the broader context of this passage?
 - ie. Book, chapter, surrounding verses, author & recipient
- Question: What questions does this passage raise for you?

Interpret:

- Meaning: What do you believe this passage means?
- Commentary: Compare your interpretation with a trusted commentary.

Apply:

- Application: How can you apply this passage to your life?
- Action Steps: What specific steps can you take to put this passage into practice?
- Challenges: What obstacles might you face in applying this passage?





NOW, LET'S READ THE AFTER-SUMMARY TOGETHER

In Luke 5:1-11, Jesus encounters Simon Peter along the shores of a lake, where He is teaching a large crowd. To avoid being overwhelmed by the gathering, He steps into Peter's boat and asks him to push out a bit from the shore. After teaching, Jesus instructs Peter to head into deeper waters and let down his nets for a catch. Despite having fished all night with no success, Peter decides to trust Jesus' word and complies. The result is astonishing: the nets are filled to the breaking point with fish, requiring the assistance of a second boat. Struck by the miracle, Peter falls to his knees, feeling unworthy to be in Jesus' presence. However, Jesus reassures him, declaring that from now on, Peter will "catch men" instead of fish. Moved by this calling, Peter, along with James and John, leave everything behind to follow Jesus.

This passage of scripture offers profound lessons. It underscores the importance of obedience to God, especially when His guidance contradicts our understanding or past experiences. Peter's willingness to act on Jesus' word, despite his doubts, led to an outcome beyond his expectations—a reminder that faith often requires stepping into the unknown. Additionally, the story illustrates Jesus' ability to transform ordinary lives into something extraordinary. Peter, a simple fisherman, is called to a higher purpose, symbolizing that our true potential is realized when we respond to God's call, even if it means leaving behind what we once thought was essential.



LET'S CONCLUDE WITH REFLECTION QUESTIONS:

- In what areas of my life am I hesitant to trust God's guidance, and how might stepping out in faith lead to unexpected blessings or growth?
- How can I recognize and respond to the potential God sees in me, especially when faced with challenges or feelings of inadequacy?
- What might I need to leave behind in order to fully embrace the purpose and calling God has for my life?

Our Prayer For You...

Father, we recognize and acknowledge that we are nothing without you. It's only by your grace and mercy that we are here. We are grateful that you have called us, to partner with you in expanding



your Kingdom. Forgive us for taking this for granted in the past. Today, we commit to diving deeper into your Word, into relationship with you and with others. May we personally and collectively see the results of trusting you on a deeper level. And we commit to always giving you the honor and the glory. In Jesus name, amen!

This week's survey:

