



CONNECTION TO MESSAGE 1

John 1:42 - "You are **Simon** ... you shall be called **Peter**."

BIG IDEA

Jesus calls us to **trust His word**, confronts us with **who He is**, and transforms our lives for **His purposes**.

EMPTY NETS > CHRIST'S WORD > OVERFLOWING GRACE > A NEW PURPOSE

LUKE 5:1-11 IN CONTEXT

- Peter has already met Jesus through Andrew (John 1:35-42).
- Jesus has entered Simon's home and healed his mother-in-law (Luke 4:38-39).
- Jesus steps into the part of life Peter understands best: fishing.
- The story is not mainly about Peter catching fish. Jesus uses the fish to **capture the fisherman**.

I. JESUS ENTERS THE **ORDINARY PLACES** OF OUR LIVES AND SPEAKS WITH DIVINE AUTHORITY. (vv. 1-3)

- The crowd presses around Jesus to hear the word of God.
- The fishermen are washing their nets; human effort has reached its limit.
- Jesus gets into **Simon's boat** and teaches the crowd.
- Christ claims **ordinary places** for divine purposes.
- No area of life is outside His authority or usefulness.
- Jesus first uses Peter's boat as a **pulpit** before He transforms Peter into a **preacher**.

II. JESUS CALLS US TO TRUST **HIS WORD** BEYOND WHAT WE THINK WE KNOW. (vv. 4-7)

- Peter's **experience** says no; Christ's **word** commands obedience.
- Peter responds: "At **Your word**, I will let down the nets."
- Peter's confidence is not in the power of his own words. Peter acts because Jesus has spoken.
- Empty nets reveal the limits of **human ability**; full nets reveal the authority of **Jesus**.

PETER'S EXPERIENCE VS. CHRIST'S WORD

- Experience: We worked all night.
- Evidence: We caught nothing.
- Expertise: Peter knows these waters.
- Faith: "But at **Your word** ..."

THE OVERWHELMING CATCH

- The nets begin to break.
- Both boats begin to sink.
- The abundance is not a reward formula; it is a revelation of Christ's authority.

NOTES

AT YOUR WORD - FOLLOW-ALONG GUIDE

III. JESUS REVEALS HIS GREATNESS AND EXPOSES OUR SINFULNESS. (vv. 8-10a)

- Peter moves from **Master** - epistates to **Lord** - kyrios.
- The catch fills the boats; the presence of Jesus empties Peter of self-confidence.
- Peter says, "Depart from me." Jesus answers, "**Do not fear.**"
- The miracle reveals who Jesus is before it reveals what Peter must do.

CHRIST REVEALED

Omniscience | **Sovereignty** | **Omnipotence**
Holiness | **Grace** | **Authority**

A RESTRAINED OBSERVATION

- Luke first uses "Simon Peter" at 5:8, but Jesus addresses him as "Simon" in 5:10.
- The wording is worth noticing, but the text does not explain its significance, so we should not overstate it.

KEY WORD - LUKE 5:5

rhema (RAY-mah) - **word** / **saying** / **utterance**; something spoken.

- Logos and rhema overlap in the New Testament; context determines the nuance.
- Avoid the rigid distinction: Logos = Bible / Rhema = private revelation.
- What matters here: **Peter acts because Jesus has spoken.**

IV. JESUS CALLS SINNERS TO FOLLOW HIM AND GIVES THEIR LIVES A NEW PURPOSE. (vv. 10b-11)

- Matthew 4:19 / Mark 1:17: **FOLLOW ME** = Christ's call.
- **I WILL MAKE YOU** = Christ's work.
- **FISHERS OF MEN** = Christ's purpose.
- They leave the greatest catch they have ever seen to follow the One who gave it.
- They do not follow the blessing. They follow **Jesus**.

THEOLOGICAL GUARDRAIL

NOT Work harder > obey correctly > receive material abundance.

BUT Human inability > Christ's word > Christ revealed > sin confessed > grace received > a new purpose.

THE TAKEAWAY

Peter's **empty nets** taught him the limits of his own ability. Christ's **word** taught him the limitless authority of Jesus. The miracle brought him to his **knees**, and grace put him back on his feet with a **mission**.

REFLECTION & APPLICATION

1. Where is Christ calling me to trust His word beyond what I presently understand?
2. What has failure exposed about the limits of my own ability?
3. How does a clearer view of Christ change the way I see myself?
4. Am I following Jesus Himself - or am I mainly following Him for what I hope He will put in my net?

FOLLOW ME / I WILL MAKE YOU

NOTES
