

Overview

It's human nature to like things the way they are- to think we know best and to trust in the ways we know and are comfortable with. In Luke 5, we see Peter acting just like the rest of us in one moment- telling Jesus that he's already done it a certain way- but in the next moment, acting in obedience despite what he thinks he knows! The result is a tremendous catch of fish that overwhelms his boat and changes the life direction of Peter and his friends, and in turn, the rest of the world. Peter teaches us a valuable lesson- **everything changes**- and shows us that God wants us to say yes to Him, even if contradicts everything we think we know!

Themes and Ideas

LUKE 5: 1-7 *JESUS CHALLENGES PETER TO DO SOMETHING A DIFFERENT WAY*

“On one occasion, while the crowd was pressing in on him to hear the word of God, he was standing by the lake of Gennesaret² and 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.⁴ And 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.⁷ 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.” -ESV

BARRIERS TO OBEDIENCE

Confidence in our own ideas and experiences

- “In Luke 5:1-11, we find Peter, a previously accomplished fisherman, who had been fishing all night and had caught nothing. He had **come to the end** of where his prior knowledge and previous understanding that had been gleaned from past seasons could take him in this ‘NOW new day.’” - Jason Hooper
- Peter “was going to have to launch out of what he had known and leaned on in times past to now enter into where he had been created to be! He was going to have to trust the Lord and choose to lean not on what had been familiar and safe to his natural mind in order to discover that his entire life, up until now, was simply training for where he was about to go.” –Hooper
- **Proverbs 3:5-6- “Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.”** -ESV

Worry about what others will think

- “There is something about trusting and obeying the One who created the fish that you are fishing for that requires **transparency** and **a willingness to let go of your personal concerns** connected with what others will think if you really ‘go for it!’” –Hooper
- “These ‘concerns,’ and the fear of man that typically empowers them, are oftentimes the hindrances that keep so many from finding their voices, their creative medium, and eventually their calling.” – Hooper
- “...It is much easier to act like a Christian than it is to react like one. Most of us are good actors- we

can play the part. But our reactions reveal who we really are. And maybe that is why Jesus focused so much of His teaching on **reconditioning reflexes**. *Pray for those who persecute you. Love your enemies. Bless those who curse you. If someone forces you to go one mile, go with him two miles. If someone strikes you on the right cheek, turn to him the other also* [Matthew 5; Luke 6].” –Mark Batterson

LUKE 5: 8-11 **PETER’S RESPONSE CHANGES EVERYTHING**

“But 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,¹⁰ and 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.” -ESV

God wants us to say yes to Him

- “Its’ time to trust Him, obey His Word, and let down your proverbial net.” –Jason Hooper
- Peter shows the way to fruitful response to Jesus’ call and presence.... **casting out his net, bowing before Jesus, and leaving all to follow Him.**” - Bock
- Peter’s response is exactly what the Lord is looking for- a disciple, a learner, who doesn’t have all the answers but trusts in the One who does have all the power and insight.
- A disciple/learner must know they always have a lot to learn!
- “The word forsook [left, ESV] means to leave behind. **In one day, they abandoned their entire way of life and everything that had been so familiar to them in times past to pursue Him and to know God!**” –Hooper
- **Isaiah 1:19-** “**If you are willing and obedient, you shall eat the good of the land.**” –ESV
- “Dear Lord, I choose today to lay aside the weight of what’s been and the fear of ‘what ifs.’ I ask You for Your grace to leave the shores of my comfort zone and dive in to the depths of Your plans and purposes for my life. Today, I declare I am crossing a line and my tide is beginning to turn. I trust You to bring Your Word to pass in my life as I launch out and dive into your promises and purposes for my life. Amen.” –Jason Hooper

The **world** changes when we listen to Jesus and act on what He tells us

- “What has taken place [with the catch of fish] is no accident; only an agent of God could have produced such a catch in the middle of the day.” –Darrell Bock
- “What Jesus announces to Simon is not a wish, but a **declaration**: ‘You will be catching people.’ Is that statement also addressed to us -- both as individuals and congregations? If so, what’s keeping us from ‘filling up our nets so that they are about to break?’ What’s keeping us from having so many new people that we are required to seek extra staff to ‘haul in’ all these people?” –Brian Steffregen
- “We are about to step into a day where what we have previously chased in our own strength is going to now chase us as we enter into the fullness of fellowship with Him, bringing us into perfect **alignment for our new assignments.**” – Jason Hooper