

Luke

Carefully Investigating the Gospel ... Together

SSBC Luke Bible Study #10

Passage: Luke 5:1-11

Sermon Date: Nov 20, 2005

Introduction:

In the previous passage, Simon (also called Peter) had an amazing experience – Jesus himself came to his house, rebuked a fever from his mother-in-law, and then healed or cast demons out of who knows how many others. It's hard to imagine what that must have been like. Was there a waiting line? What did it look like when demons were cast out of people? It's not surprising that Jesus sought some solitude the next morning.

Now, some time later, Jesus stops by Peter's workplace. What would it be like to have a friend like Jesus stop by your workplace, begin sharing the word of God with everyone, and then suggest you try a very unconventional approach to your business that day? That's precisely what happens to Peter and his partners in Luke 5:1-11. As you read and study this passage, put yourself in Peter's shoes. And as you hear Jesus speaking to him in verses 4 and 10, consider the possibility that Jesus is indeed speaking the very same invitation to you today.

Pray: Imagine Jesus has called you personally aside before the Luke 5 scene begins. Is there anything you'd like to share with him privately, out of the noise and hustle of the crowds and fishermen? Take time to pray to the Lord, giving him your burdens, sharing your heart with him, asking him to help you grow more like him.

This bible study was developed by South Shore Baptist Church in conjunction with our weekly sermon series. To hear a sermon on the same scripture passage covered in this bible study, come to one of our Sunday worship services (8:30am or 11:00am) on the date listed on page 1. Or after that date you can hear it by logging on to www.southshorebaptist.com/sermons/

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Bible Study:

1. Read this week's bible passage and use the chart below to make observations and jot down any questions you have.



Scripture	Your Observations & Questions
<p>¹One day as Jesus was standing by the Lake of Gennesaret, with the people crowding around him and listening to the word of God, ²he saw at the water's edge two boats, left there by the fishermen, who were washing their nets. ³He 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.</p> <p>⁴When he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, "Put out into deep water, and let down the nets for a catch."</p> <p>⁵Simon answered, "Master, we've worked hard all night and haven't caught anything. But because you say so, I will let down the nets."</p> <p>⁶When they had done so, they caught such a large number of fish that their nets began to break. ⁷So 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.</p>	

Scripture	Your Observations & Questions
<p>⁸When Simon Peter saw this, he fell at Jesus' knees and said, "Go away from me, Lord; I am a sinful man!" ⁹For he and all his companions were astonished at the catch of fish they had taken, ¹⁰and so were James and John, the sons of Zebedee, Simon's partners.</p> <p>Then Jesus said to Simon, "Don't be afraid; from now on you will catch men." ¹¹So they pulled their boats up on shore, left everything and followed him.</p>	
<p>2. Parallel Passages: Look up the following passages where the other gospel authors tell the same story, and note similarities, differences, and your other observations and questions.</p>	
<p>Matthew 4:18-22</p> <p>Mark 1:16-20</p>	

3. Next, use this chart to **interpret some key observations**.

a. Select a few of your observations & questions from pages 2-3 that you find most interesting or important. Rewrite these below, and interpret and apply them using the columns to the right.

b. For each observation, begin to interpret by asking yourself these kinds of questions:

- What does it mean?
- Why is this important?
- What does this tell me about the Father? Jesus? The Holy Spirit?
- Are there other scriptures that could help me understand this?

Observation What does it say?	Interpretation What does it mean?

4. Now consider how you can **apply** the Word to your life. Look for:

- **S**ins to avoid
- **P**romises to believe
- **E**xamples to follow (remember "SPECK")
- **C**ommands to obey
- **K**nowledge to share

Don't just write things to write them – listen carefully to God's Word and what he seems to be teaching you, and look for relevant things that you're truly stirred to do. Then as you do them, God will help you learn, grow, and help others grow.

Application How do I apply what it means?

Fish a Little Deeper:

5. The disciples seem to have left their big catch behind before getting to enjoy the big profits it must have represented.

a. In addition to the big catch of fish, what else did Peter, James & John leave in order to follow Jesus? (see Matt 4:20,22; Mark 1:18,20)



b. In your life, what have been some of the “big catches of fish” (i.e. times when you’ve been suddenly, richly blessed such as personal achievements, financial gains, job successes, etc.)?

c. What would it have felt like to walk away from the “big catches” of your life which you listed above?

d. Do Luke 5:10 and Matthew 4:19 apply to us today? What do you think we are called to be ready to leave behind? (Consider Luke 9:23-25; 14:26-27, 33).

e. Is there anything specific you personally feel (or have felt) called to leave in order to follow Christ more closely?

6. Why do you think Jesus told Peter not to be afraid?

7. Several years later, after Jesus’ resurrection, a somewhat similar miraculous catch occurs.

a. What parallels do you see between Luke 5:1-11 and John 21:1-19?

b. How do you think experiencing a second miraculous catch may have affected the disciples who were present both times?

8. Peter and his partners had a very dramatic call to follow Jesus.

a. What have been the key turning points or highlights in your spiritual journey?

b. Looking ahead, are there any “waters” which you sense God directing you to “cast your nets into” in order to “catch men”?

For the disciples, the deep water was where they usually fished. But they fished at night, because in the daylight the fish can better avoid the nets. Jesus had them go back out in daylight – and he directed the fish into the nets. Sometimes, God calls us into “deep” waters to do bold missions. Often, God calls us to simply share the gospel in natural ways in our everyday environments, trusting God to provide the miraculous catch.

This One is a “Keeper”

9. What key insight(s) or application(s) are most on your heart & mind as you come out of this study?

