



Road Trip: On the Road with Jesus in Galilee

Week 6: Jesus Calls His First Disciples (Luke 5:1-11)

¹ One day as Jesus was preaching on the shore of the Sea of Galilee, great crowds pressed in on him to listen to the word of God. ² He noticed two empty boats at the water's edge, for the fishermen had left them and were washing their nets. ³ Stepping into one of the boats, Jesus asked Simon, its owner, to push it out into the water. So he sat in the boat and taught the crowds from there.

⁴ When he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, "Now go out where it is deeper, and let down your nets to catch some fish."

⁵ "Master," Simon replied, "we worked hard all last night and didn't catch a thing. But if you say so, I'll let the nets down again." ⁶ And this time their nets were so full of fish they began to tear! ⁷ A shout for help brought their partners in the other boat, and soon both boats were filled with fish and on the verge of sinking.

⁸ When Simon Peter realized what had happened, he fell to his knees before Jesus and said, "Oh, Lord, please leave me—I'm too much of a sinner to be around you." ⁹ For he was awestruck by the number of fish they had caught, as were the others with him. ¹⁰ His partners, James and John, the sons of Zebedee, were also amazed. Jesus replied to Simon, "Don't be afraid! From now on you'll be fishing for people!" ¹¹ And as soon as they landed, they left everything and followed Jesus. (Luke 5:1–11 NLT-SE)

"Now all glory to God, who is able, through his mighty power
at work within us, to accomplish infinitely more
than we might ask or think."

Eph 3:20 NLT-SE

- WHAT DID THE DISCIPLES SEE, HEAR AND LEARN?

- **They saw their teacher use everything around him to communicate his message**...the crowd...the pulpit (boat) ...the lack of fish...the discouraged fishermen...the impossible catch. Jesus used it all to call these fishermen to follow him. Matthew (Matt 4:18-22) and Mark (1:16-20) covered the same story, but with much less detail (Matthew wrote to the Jews, Mark to the Romans, Luke to the Greeks, and John to everyone!).

- **He literally called them to follow him and nothing less.** His call wasn't an offer to "fix" their lives, but to change

From the 2014 movie, "**Son of God**"...

Jesus approaches Peter at the shore of The Sea of Galilee. Peter is wrapping up things on his boat after a night of fishing and no catch. Jesus asked Peter if he needs any help. He says no, but Jesus gets into the boat anyway. Peter reluctantly lets down his nets and catches a monster load of fish.

Peter: "How did this happen? What did you do?"

Jesus: "I'm giving you the chance to change your life. Peter, come with me. Give up catching fish and I will make you a fisher of men."

Peter: "What are we going to do?"

Jesus: "Change the world."

the world! In his first year of ministry, Jesus mostly went it alone. There seemed to be a distinct shift in his ministry after the death of John the Baptist. Jesus jumps into Peter's life when he gets into the boat that day.

- **Is Jesus still calling disciples?** For us, the question is, "Can you be saved and NOT be a disciple?" Do you see evidence of "the called out ones" in the American congregational church? What do these disciples look like and what are they doing?
- **Did Peter leave everything and follow Jesus because of the miraculous catch or Jesus' promise to make him a fisher of men?** Either/or, both/and? Does it make a difference? Peter was overwhelmed by the experience. So were the others. ALL OF THEM left everything to follow Jesus. What if he were to call you today? What would it mean for YOU to leave everything and follow him?