



The Gospel According to Luke Wk. 21 "The Path to Discipleship" By Pastor Jody May

Luke 5:1-11

Jesus Calls the First Disciples

5 On one occasion, while the crowd was pressing in on him to hear the word of God, he was standing by the lake of Gennesaret, ²and he saw two boats by the lake, but the fishermen had gone out of them and were washing their nets. ³Getting 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. ⁴And when he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, "Put out into the deep and let down your nets for a catch." ⁵And Simon answered, "Master, we toiled all night and took nothing! But at your word I will let down the nets." ⁶And when they had done this, they enclosed a large number of fish, and their nets were breaking. ⁷They 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. ⁸But when Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, "Depart from me, for I am a sinful man, O Lord." ⁹For he and all who were with him were astonished at the catch of fish that they had taken, ¹⁰and 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." ¹¹And when they had brought their boats to land, they left everything and followed him.

HEART or CONFLICT & CONVICTON

HEAD or CONFIDENCE:

HANDS or CONDUCT:

Since we met last time, we had wrapped up our little mini trilogy which basically asks how do you see Jesus? Are you too familiar with Him (rejection), hostile towards him (authority), or just want him for what He can do (compassion)? All of this took place near his home where He grew up, where He was known in Nazareth and Capernaum.

During these encounters Jesus has been laying out evidence for His life, as to who God said He was back in chapter 3:22 *"You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased."* To be the Son of God means you are equal to Him, you are divine, God in the flesh, it was the title for the promised Messiah, meaning He was able to do miracles that no one else could do. **When a Son of a King speaks for His father it is the same as if the Father was present, there is no differentiation in the authority.** This means that when Jesus speaks on earth that He is speaking as God, for God, there is no difference. Look at the proof...



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In Chapter 4 Jesus uses a word that evokes power, it is the word **ἐπιτιμάω** [epitimáō], ep-ee-tee-mah'-o; from **G1909** and **G5091**; *to tax upon, i.e. censure or admonish; by implication, forbid:—(straitly) charge, rebuke*. It is the ability to say you are wrong, to pass judgment, and demand that it be fixed. In 4:35 Jesus rebukes the demon and say be silent and come out and the demon listens, in vs. 39 Simon's mom is sick and He rebukes the disease and it leaves her, and then in vs. 41 he rebukes a whole Cagle of demons and they leave taking their sickness with them. All these miracles that people are witnessing aren't happening by the slight of hand but are happening by Jesus authority in His words. **Unlike Harry Potter words have no magical power and no life but words used by someone that has authority gives life.** (Wrestling Illustration)

This word ep-ee-tee-mah'-o is a way of speaking that He does not allow His disciples to use, as when they tried it when a group of women and children were trying to see Him. They spoke as if speaking for God, and Jesus denied them that action. Jesus' use of this type of rebuking authority shows that He is speaking for God. **Luke wants us to see Jesus is King and He has all the authority to do what must be done.** Let me ask you a question, is that a thing that can be witnessed in your life this morning? Does Jesus speak to you and you listen?

Theologically speaking this is how this works: Jesus dies on the cross and is resurrected if he has no authority from God then He is not allowed to distribute His propitiation, Him in our place for us, for He has no right to do so because God has already condemned us in Genesis. But if Jesus has the authority to do so, then He can extend that penalty payment to us as God. He speaks for Him. We already know that Jesus' life was able to procure resurrection, that is because it was perfect therefore death could not claim Him. But if He has not the authority to act for God, He cannot extend that to us either.

That leaves us with this to combat this morning. Do you follow Jesus as the King that speaks for God, **THAT GIVES LIFE** and if so, what are you going to do about your rebellion problem of not listening to Him? Because here's the deal, the way that Jesus speaks His authority, the way He directs and leads to new life, is by His Word. Jesus said, **"My sheep know my voice"** (John 10:27) because sheep prove the authority and power of a shepherd by following Him not by their rebellion.

¹ Stongs NT 2008. <https://www.blueletterbible.org/lang/lexicon/lexicon.cfm?Strongs=G2008&t=ESV>



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In chapter 5 Luke is showing that Jesus is ushering in the test that we must all take if we desire to be a disciple of His. If so, then we need to hear His Words and respond to His authority because the desire of God is to make Disciples (Mat. 28), so let us give attention to our calling here at HCC: **"Making Disciples that Serve Jesus"** - Responsive, obedient, and productive disciples; sheep that know His voice. Chapter 5 of Luke is going to focus us a little more of that.

The first example is really my favorite because out of all the people in the Bible I associate the most with Peter; the emotional, the blue collared, the untrained, raw, speaks before he thinks sometimes and sometimes shouldn't speak after he thinks disciple. If Peter can be used to usher in the age of the Church then by God's Grace I know I have some hope in pastoring this little church. In this account from Luke today we will see that Peter's calling into discipling is the same path we should adhere to as Jesus calls us to follow Him. And if we want to be faithful Servant Disciples of Jesus here at HCC then I want us to remember this main point this morning.

Main Point:

"Christ is the power for 'Real Change' BUT 'Humble Servants' are the Instruments of Christ."

This morning we are going to see 4 attributes or signs that tell you that you are on the right path towards discipleship and it is my hope and prayer that we learn and emulate what Peter lived out here:

1. Disciples are first taught to hear the Words of Jesus.

³Getting 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.

Peter was a captured audience, he couldn't go anywhere while Jesus taught the people. But this was not his first run in with Jesus. We know from chapter 4 he actually had Jesus in his house because Jesus healed his mother-in-law and one assumes that the reason Jesus was over there was because Jesus was invited to Peter's house after their church service at the synagogue on that Sabbath. Peter is a guy that grew up in church, has a working knowledge of



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the Torah, pays his tithe first, pays his taxes second, takes care of his mother-in-law, a family man, runs a fishing company, and yet all those things did not make him ready for Jesus, Jesus didn't walk up to Peter when he got to town and say come on let's go! Peter's mind had to be opened up to the truth of scripture, to hear a super natural Spirit infused preacher giving him the gospel, on multiple occasions, and as you see by his words in a moment, helps him to understand his works as a good Jew were not saving him.

If it took Peter that much personal time with Jesus to start understanding that Jesus has authority how much will it take for you? **Do we value as a corporate body above all things the preaching of God's Word first?** When we miss, does it bother us enough to catch the sermon on-line? The path to discipleship is filled with the Gospel being preached to you over and over and over again.

Romans 10:13-15 ESV

¹³For "everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."

¹⁴How then will they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard? **And how are they to hear without someone preaching?** ¹⁵And how are they to preach unless they are sent? As it is written, "How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good news!"

If we are going to be a church that makes servant disciples for Jesus by planting multiple churches in this area, then **we need to grasp that Jesus' power for change comes first through the declaration of His Word creating in us the hearts of humility to be his instruments as Peter would soon become.** This leads us to our next point because it shows the birth of a humble heart in this pathway to being a disciple.

2. Disciples obey when they are addressed by Jesus.

⁵And Simon answered, "Master, we toiled all night and took nothing! **But at your word I will let down the nets.**"

There is a relationship starting here between these two guys. Jesus is starting to push in on Simon in areas that will trigger Simon to a response. Let's remember Jesus understands what pushes our buttons. Simon is getting comfortable with Jesus as you can see by how he answers Jesus. He reminds Jesus that he's the fisher and that Jesus is the teacher. You see



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you go fishing at night when the fish are out, up to the top of the water to use nets. You don't go out in the middle of the day when the sun is beating down making it hot and not allowing the fish to hide. Peter is faced with Jesus making a petition to Peter to do *what doesn't make sense...*

Let me just say following Jesus 90% of the time will seem like you are getting the impression that He is asking you to do things that just don't make sense. They will be things where you think you know best. They will often be things that go against the logic of the world. You will be asked to do things that you are not comfortable with and that go against the logic in your head but this is where we all learn how to do the thing that separates Christians from the rest of the world, this is **when we learn HOW TO OBEY.**

"But at Your Word" – translated to *Because you say so*

- I will not date someone that doesn't share my same faith but will wait upon you...
- I will begin to give to the church to do my part even though it is hard and I must sacrifice...
- I will put the interest of my spouse first over my feelings and need to be made happy...
- I will surrender my free time to those in need around me even though that thought angers me...
- I will stick with my church family and work on friendships here even though it challenges me in every way imaginable

"But at your Word", 4 of the most powerful words that you will ever say because without saying them you cannot begin this path to discipleship. Here's where that obedience will take you.

3. Disciples become Humbled when they see Jesus.

⁸ But when Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, "Depart from me, for I am a sinful man, O Lord."

Peter just got schooled on how to fish by a man who was a carpenter and teacher. As you saw this was no ordinary haul. This was the haul of a lifetime, in the heat of the mid-day, it was miracle that not only showed the power of Jesus but it also showed that Jesus had compassion for a man that was not scared to use sarcasm with Him. It is in this moment that moment that Peter is graced with enough faith to see the Truth. Jesus used His authority/power for a man



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that did not deserve anything from Him. **You see it is impossible to become Humble without first seeing the HOLINESS of God.**

It is the same experience that Isaiah had when he was called into service for God.

Isaiah 6:5 ESV

⁵ And I said: "Woe is me! For I am lost; for I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips; for my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts!"

It is not until we see the holiness of God, until we see the ugliness of our sin, that we are ready to walk in the ways of the Lord. "Woe is me"; "Depart from me" or **ἁμαρτωλός (hamartōlos)** To be **devoted to sin; wicked²**, these are the words of men that have seen the hopelessness in their lives, their work, and no they are destined for eternal death.

Without a God-enlightened Humility we cannot be a disciple of Jesus for if our Pride is never confronted, we will only make disciples of things we love not of what God loves. We must all go through our "Woe is Me" and that must be something that happens ongoing. This is where on the path of discipleship that God does His greater work, HE gives grace and changes a man and makes him come to life.

4. Disciples Treasure Jesus above all else.

¹⁰ ... 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.

At the lowest of our lows we finally see why Peter loved Him so much, **why we should love Him so much**. You see, you have got to remember Jesus knows what Peter is thinking, he knows that Peter has seen his separation from God and knows his hopelessness and it is here that Jesus saves Him by His authority and he speaks for God; "FEAR NOT". **Because Jesus is also looking ahead 2 years and knows He will die for Peter and that Peter will endure his own trials.**

And Jesus gives Simon/Peter the answer for His life which is the answer for all our lives. From now on you will be catching men – you will be fulfilled not by the work of this world but by

² Strong's G268. <https://www.blueletterbible.org/lang/lexicon/lexicon.cfm?Strong's=G268&t=ESV>



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servant me. Peter gets what he wants most, a way of life that says you are not a hopeless sinner because you have found something else greater than you to live for, Jesus.

He then puts all his hope in Jesus, he puts the boats ashore and leaves it all behind and follows Him. Jesus has the power for change in your life too, but it comes through your path of humility because the way Jesus saves us is He makes us His instruments of Glory. My church family I hope today that this little piece of scripture has helped you treasure Jesus just a little more than when you can in, and I pray that we all have moved a little further down the road of becoming a Disciple that Serves Jesus.

PRAYER

COMMUNION

BENEDICTION

Go in the name of the Father that gifts you with the Grace to see the Glory of His Son to know that He alone is worthy to be praised.

Go in the name of the Son that extends to all of us a fear-extinguishing call to follow Him.

Go in the name of the HS that grants us the vision to see Christ our treasure so we can leave it all behind and follow Him.