



Morningside Church

Sermon Discussion Guide

Title: Trusting Jesus

Date: August 17, 2025

Scripture Text: Luke 5:1-11

Notes:

As Jesus was getting started on His earthly ministry, He called those who would follow Him and be His disciples. These guys would be given the opportunity to change the world by sharing the good news of the redemptive work of Christ. These men gave up all they had to follow Him. To do so required a great deal of trust. They were asked to take a step of faith by trusting the word of Jesus and accepting the fact that He was the promised Messiah. Jesus asks the same of those who want to follow Him today. They must trust Him; that salvation is only available through Him and that He has our best in mind as we serve Him. Even if hardships or persecution comes our way because of following Jesus, we are assured He will never leave us or forsake us ([Heb. 13:5](#)). What have you done lately that demonstrates your trust in Jesus? Let's take a look at the first disciples Jesus calls and the elements of trust needed for them to follow Him.

I. Trusting Jesus Demands Taking Jesus at His Word ([Luke 5:1-7](#))

Simon Peter, along with his fishing partners, the sons of Zebedee, James and John, had been out fishing all night. They caught nothing. They were busy washing their nets when Jesus walks up and uses Simon Peter's boat to teach from. After Jesus finishes He turns to Peter and tells him to go back out and let down their nets. Peter, a seasoned fisherman, who knows the waters, and what it takes to make a living catching fish out of the Sea of Galilee (Gennesaret) now had a choice. Would he follow the instructions of a rabbi, or his own experiences as a fisherman.

- How did Peter respond to Jesus when He asked him to "put out into the deep and let down your nets for a catch"?
- Although there was initial hesitation, Peter agreed to follow Jesus' instructions. What was the result of Peter's obeying Jesus?
- Jesus prompts us through His word, the Bible, and through the Holy Spirit as He gives us instructions for how to live. When was a time you had a choice like Peter, to respond based on your experiences, or based on Jesus' instructions?
- How would you compare the outcome to what Peter experienced?
 - How have you been blessed by trusting Jesus at His word?



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II. Trusting Jesus Demands Seeing Jesus for Who He Truly Is (Luke 5:8-10a)

Peter knew immediately. “What he saw Jesus do revealed divine power and placed him in the presence of God. Only God could bring such amazing fishing results. But this meant Peter stood facing God. His was the normal reaction to revelation: confession of sin. The holy purity of deity brings consciousness of the unholy sinfulness of humanity.” (Butler)

- Peter’s reaction to Jesus was essentially the same as Job ([Job 42:6](#)) and Isaiah ([Is. 6:5](#)). Why do these men respond in this way?
- When was a time when you were in God’s presence but felt unworthy to be there?
- What was the reason for the unworthy feeling?
- How does sin become a barrier to our relationship with God?
- How does recognizing who Jesus truly is help us trust Him more?

III. Trusting Jesus Demands Prioritizing Jesus Above All Else (Luke 5:10b-11)

Peter did not have to fear when facing a holy God. God accepted him as he was. Like Peter, when we realize our own shortcomings and approach God with humility and awe, we discover that God responds not with condemnation or judgement, but with an invitation to be part of His work.

- To be part of Jesus’ work, Peter left the greatest catch he had ever seen. But it paled when compared to the ‘catch of people’ that would come after Jesus’ ascension. When was a time when you experienced abundance beyond your expectations as a result of being part of Jesus’ work.
- When Peter, James and John were called by Jesus, “they left everything and followed Him” ([vs. 11](#)). Why does it take trust to leave everything and follow Jesus?
- What are examples of things people may ‘leave’ to follow Jesus?
- Jesus said to be His follower (disciple) you need to “deny yourself and take up your cross daily” ([Luke 9:23](#)). What does that look like practically? How is that prioritizing Jesus above all else?
- In [Matt 6:24](#) Jesus states “no one can serve two masters.” To be a follower of Christ, there can be nothing of more importance. How did the actions of Peter, James, and John demonstrate that they had no higher priority than Jesus?
- How do you demonstrate Jesus is top priority in your life?
- How can trusting Jesus help you make Him the priority He expects?