



Morningside Church

Sermon Discussion Guide

Title: A Call to Follow

Date: March 3, 2024

Scripture Text: Luke 5:1-11

Notes:

We all experience special moments in our lives, moments that many times in hindsight have dramatic impact. For anyone who has accepted Christ as their personal Savior, that is one such moment. At that moment we were called to be His follower, aka disciple. A disciple is a follower, learner, and imitator. In today's scripture text we see such a moment in the life of a fisherman, Simon Peter. Jesus asked to borrow Peter's boat so He could speak to a crowd. Before He was done, He would call Peter to follow Him, and he was forever changed. Let's look at how we too, as we are called to follow Jesus, are changed as well.

I. A Call to Follow: The Request (Luke 5:1-4)

Peter had been out all-night fishing and caught nothing. Here comes Jesus, who is not a fisherman, telling Peter where to cast his nets. What Jesus asks us to do may not make sense. It's better to give than receive, love your enemies, the blessings that come with serving Him, etc. These are contrary to what the culture practices. But as His disciples, ours is not to understand why, but to obey.

- If you were Peter, what would you be thinking when Jesus told you to let down your nets for a catch after a night of catching nothing?
- What are other examples in the Bible where Jesus' requests made no sense?
- What happened in each of those events?

II. A Call to Follow: The Response (Luke 5:5)

Peter heard what Jesus told him to do. It is now his choice how he responds. Will he respond based on what makes sense to him, or obey Jesus regardless if he understands. He chose to obey Jesus.

- How does Peter demonstrate respect and submission to Jesus?
- How do these two elements help us obey Jesus, even if we don't understand?
- Describe a time in your life when Jesus asked you to do something that didn't make sense.
 - How did you respond? What happened?



Morningside Church

Sermon Discussion Guide

Notes:

III. A Call to Follow: *The Reward* (Luke 5:6-7)

Peter does as Jesus instructed and caught so many fish the nets began to tear. This catch far exceeded Peter's expectations. Because of his obedience, he experienced the work of Jesus first-hand, more than he could've imagined ([Eph. 3:20-21](#)).

- How was this event unmistakably from God?
- Why is it important to be able to recognize the unmistakable work of God?
- Describe a time when God exceeded your expectations.

IV. Call to Follow: *The Realization* (Luke 5:8-9)

Peter realizes he has experienced the work of God through Jesus. As a result, he falls to his knees and recognizes his sinfulness. When we experience the work of God, it puts things in perspective. It's a reminder of who He is and who we are in Him.

- Why do you think Peter responded as he did (not celebrating the catch, but humble respect for Jesus)?
- How can reminders of who God is and who we are in Him motivate us to be better disciples of Jesus?

V. Call to Follow: *Jesus' Request* (Luke 5:10)

Jesus calls Peter and his partners, James, and John to follow Him ([Matt. 4:19](#)) and be fishers of people. Just like with Peter, Jesus brought the fish, but He asked Peter to cast the net. He allowed Peter to be part of His work. He does the same for us today.

- How was the catch of fish Jesus provided Peter an illustration of what He was calling Peter, James, and John to do?
- How is it an illustration for what He calls us to do today?

VI. Call to Follow: *Our Response* (Luke 5:11)

Peter, James, and John dropped everything and followed Jesus. As followers of Jesus, we too need to make sure that Jesus is most important to us. Literally or figuratively, we too are to leave all behind and follow Him.

- How did Peter, James, and John's actions demonstrate the importance and worthiness of Jesus?
- What are things you can do to demonstrate Jesus' importance and worthiness?