Willing to Leave Everything? May 8, 2022

*Luke 5:1-11 Series: How It All Began*

"Sorry, I don't want any adventures, thank you. Not today. Good morning!" – Bilbo Baggins in The Hobbit

Intro: It’s hard to recruit people for an adventure

1. Recognize Jesus’ authority in your life
2. Crowds will come and go

v. 1 *the crowd was pressing in on him to hear the word of God*

Mark 15:14 *And Pilate said to them, “Why? What evil has he done?” But they shouted all the more, “Crucify him.”*

1. You follow advisers when you agree with them

v. 3 *Getting 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.*

1. You follow authorities when they speak

v. 4 *Put out into the deep and let down your nets for a catch.*

v. 5 *Master, we toiled all night and took nothing!*

v. 5 *But at your word I will let down the nets.*

John 14:15 *If you love me, you will keep my commandments.*

Luke 6:46 *Why do you call me ‘Lord, Lord,’ and not do what I tell you?*

* This encounter with Jesus on the boat was pivotal for Peter. Before this, how do you think he thought about Jesus?
* Have you ever obeyed God when it didn’t make sense?
* We’d all like to think that we’re like Peter, but how do we know that we’re not more like the crowd?

1. Recognize how lost you are
2. There’s a blessing in obedience

v. 6 *And when they had done this, they enclosed a large number of fish, and their nets were breaking.*

v. 7 *And they came and filled both the boats, so that they began to sink.*

1 John 5:3 *For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome.*

1. Until you see the true condition of your heart, you’re still in the crowd

v. 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.”*

Isaiah 6:5 *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!*

Job 42:5-6 *I had heard of you by the hearing of the ear, but now my eye sees you; therefore I despise myself, and repent in dust and ashes.*

Judges 13:21-22 *Then Manoah knew that he was the angel of the LORD. And Manoah said to his wife, “We shall surely die, for we have seen God.”*

* How would the effect of the miraculous catch of fish have been different if it had happened without Jesus directing them? How would it have been different if they hadn’t spent the night fishing already?
* Why does the huge catch of fish cause Peter to tell Jesus to leave? Have you ever felt anything like that?

1. Recognize how great Jesus’ grace is
2. Jesus isn’t going anywhere

v. 10 *And Jesus said to Simon, “Do not be afraid …”*

1. Jesus has great plans for broken people

v. 10 *from now on you will be catching men*

Isaiah 6:8 *And I heard the voice of the Lord saying, “Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?” Then I said, “Here am I! Send me.”*

Acts 1:8 *But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.*

1. Jesus is the pearl of great price

v. 11 *And when they had brought their boats to land, they left everything and followed him.*

* Peter has just asked Jesus to leave, why doesn’t He?
* Why does Jesus start talking about “catching men” after Peter has become overwhelmed with his own sinfulness?
* What are some ways that you or your group could reach out to others this summer?

Study ahead: Next week, we’ll study Luke 5:12-16

Notes