

Discipleship 101 | Luke 5:1-11

Sermon Discussion Guide

Purpose of Discussion: Studying the moment when Jesus calls his disciples, we can be challenged by the ways we follow Jesus in our everyday lives.

Icebreaker: It's been said before that we're all disciples of something. If someone were to look at your life – whose books and podcasts you listen to most, celebrities you watch on tv, influencers you "follow" on social media, etc. – who would they say you're a disciple of?

Discussion

Read:

Luke 5:1-11 –

"One day as Jesus was standing by the Lake of Gennesaret, the people were crowding around him and listening to the word of God. ² He saw at the water's edge two boats, left there by the fishermen, who were washing their nets. ³ He got into one of the boats, the one belonging to Simon, and asked him to put out a little from shore. Then he sat down and taught the people from the boat.

⁴ When he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, "Put out into deep water, and let down the nets for a catch."

⁵ Simon answered, "Master, we've worked hard all night and haven't caught anything. But because you say so, I will let down the nets."

⁶ When they had done so, they caught such a large number of fish that their nets began to break. ⁷ So they signaled their partners in the other boat to come and help them, and they came and filled both boats so full that they began to sink.

⁸ When Simon Peter saw this, he fell at Jesus' knees and said, "Go away from me, Lord; I am a sinful man!" ⁹ For he and all his companions were astonished at the catch of fish they had taken, ¹⁰ and so were James and John, the sons of Zebedee, Simon's partners. Then Jesus said to Simon, "Don't be afraid; from now on you will fish for people." ¹¹ So they pulled their boats up on shore, left everything and followed him."

1. Simon Peter responds three times to Jesus's words or actions in this passage. How does he respond, and how does each response challenge you?

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Transition: Jesus doesn't call us *away* from what we do during our days, but he rather challenges us to serve him *in* them.

2. How are you tempted to leave Jesus out of your work, or day-to-day?
3. What would need to change, for you to follow Jesus there?

Transition: In the sermon, Keith discussed how Jesus calls ordinary people with ordinary lives to come and follow him.

Read:

1 Corinthians 1:26-27:

²⁶ Brothers and sisters, think of what you were when you were called. Not many of you were wise by human standards; not many were influential; not many were of noble birth. ²⁷ But God chose the foolish things of the world to shame the wise; God chose the weak things of the world to shame the strong."

4. How does this challenge common perceptions of what it means to be a follower of Jesus?
5. Which of those assumptions do you tend to place on yourself or the people around you?
How does that usually play out?

Transition: In v. 5, Peter let down his nets at Jesus's word. This moment showed that Jesus's word had authority in Peter's life – more than Peter's experience, feelings, or the other fishermen around him.

6. If you were being honest, what kinds of voices, people, or influences have authority in your life, other than Jesus or his word?
7. Why do you tend to trust those things?

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Optional Dig Deeper Questions:

- Peter fell at Jesus's feet (v. 8) at Jesus's miraculous catch. What does Peter's response reveal about how he viewed Jesus? Himself?
- As you've grown in your faith, would the same posture be true of you? Why or why not?

Sharing and Prayer:

Transition: Peter trusts Jesus before Jesus ever proves himself worthy. Peter lets down his net before Jesus ever proved himself to be a master fisherman, and leaves everything to follow him before his ministry began, his death, and resurrection.

- What kinds of things – from Scripture or from your own life – has Jesus done to prove himself worthy to be followed?

After people share, end in prayer – thanking God for who he is and what he's done, and that you would be challenged to respond like Peter in following Jesus.