

Series: Making Much of the Master

# LAUNCH OUT INTO THE DEEP

## LUKE 5

Text: Luke 5:4

### **Luke 5:4**

<sup>4</sup> *Now when he had left speaking, he said unto Simon, **Launch out into the deep**, and let down your nets for a draught.*

Introduction:

When I was growing up and even still today one of our favorite things to do was go fishing. I would find some worms and go down on that bank of a creek or river and fish. There were times when I caught stringers full of fish, and other times when I didn't catch much at all.

In this fifth chapter of Luke it begins with a record of the two great fish-catching miracles in the ministry of Christ. The other is found in John 21.

In this passage we read about some fellows who had been on a fishing trip they would have liked to have forgotten about. They didn't talk about the one that got away, because they all had gotten away; however when the Lord showed up He took them on a fishing trip to remember.

Notice:

## **1. THE REQUEST BEFORE THE CATCH (VS. 1-3)**

### ***Luke 5:1-3***

*<sup>1</sup> And it came to pass, that, as the people pressed upon him to hear the word of God, he stood by the lake of Gennesaret, <sup>2</sup> And saw two ships standing by the lake: but the fishermen were gone out of them, and were washing their nets. <sup>3</sup> And he entered into one of the ships, which was Simon's, and prayed him that he would thrust out a little from the land. And he sat down, and taught the people out of the ship.*

Before this great miracle fish catch the Lord made a request to use one of the fishing boats belonging to Peter and his fishing partners, James and John.

Note some things regarding this request:

#### A. The Cause for the Request

*“The people pressed upon him to hear the word of God”*

Gennesaret is the old name for Sea of Galilee. The other miracle catch of fish took place in the Sea of Tiberias.

The multitudes listening to the Lord teach were pressing so close and hard upon Him that He was likely to be pushed into the sea, so He requested to use Peter's boat so that He could get in and teach from the boat.

Note not only "The Cause for the Request" but also:

## B. The Convenience of the Request

### **Luke 5:2**

<sup>2</sup> And ***saw two ships standing by the lake***: but the fishermen were gone out of them, and were washing *their* nets.

It always amazes me when we attempt to work for the Lord, He often smiles upon us and provides just what is needed for the circumstance.

Remember the Lord always knows what is need to get the job done.

Note not only "The Request Before the Catch" but also:

## 2. THE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE CATCH (VS. 4)

### **Luke 5:4**

*<sup>4</sup> Now when he had left speaking, he said unto Simon, Launch out into the deep, and let down your nets for a draught.*

The Lord rewarded the fishermen for loaning their boat. He rewarded them with a great catch of fish.

This miracle came with some additional requirements.

The blessings of God have requirements for those who want the blessings.

Note the requirements:

#### A. Launching

### **Luke 5:4**

*<sup>4</sup> Now when he had left speaking, he said unto Simon, **Launch out into the deep**, and let down your nets for a draught.*

The first requirement was launching the boat.

- First they were to launch out into the deep.

They were going to have to go further than just a few yards from the shore.

They were going to have to exert labor to get to where they need to get.

We have too many Christians and churches that are shallow water Christians in their efforts and then they wonder why their boats are not full.

Launching out into the deep involves an all-out commitment.

- Second involved the timing of this requirement

Keep in mind fished through the night and they were washing their nets.

These were seasoned fishermen and they knew the best time to fish.

Lesson:

If we want the blessings of God we must not only go where He directs us but also when He directs us.

Not only do we see the requirement of launching but also:

## B. Letting Down

### **Luke 5:4-5**

<sup>4</sup> Now when he had left speaking, he said unto Simon, Launch out into the deep, and **let down your nets** for a draught. <sup>5</sup> And Simon answering said unto him, Master, we have toiled all the night, and have taken nothing: nevertheless at thy word I will let down the net.

This requirement seemed so unreasonable.

Note:

- The Promise

The Lord promised a draught of fish.

- The Protest

Peter was a veteran fisherman; he knew when to fish and where to fish.

Letting the nets down now did not make sense at all.

Remember:

### **Isaiah 55:8-9**

<sup>8</sup> For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD. <sup>9</sup> For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways

*higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.*

Note not only “The Request Before the Catch” and the Requirements for the Catch but also:

### **3. THE RESPONSE TO THE REQUIREMENT**

***Luke 5:5***

*<sup>5</sup> And Simon answering said unto him, Master, we have toiled all the night, and have taken nothing: nevertheless at thy word I will let down the net.*

Peter initial response was based on his knowledge, but Peter obeyed.

Note:

Peter’s obedience showed respect for Christ.

Calling Him “Master” showed his respect.

Not only did Peter respect the person of Christ, but also demonstrated respect for the word of Christ.

Note: “at thy word”

We all need this attitude about the Word of God.

God Word should have a very high priority in guiding our life.

Note not only “The Request Before the Catch” “The Requirements for the Catch” and “The Response to the Requirement” but also:

## **4. THE RESULTS OF THEIR OBEDIENCE (6-7)**

### ***Luke 5:6-7***

*<sup>6</sup> And when they had this done, they inclosed a great multitude of fishes: and their net brake. <sup>7</sup> And they beckoned unto their partners, which were in the other ship, that they should come and help them. And they came, and filled both the ships, so that they began to sink.*

The result of their obedience the enclosed a great multitude of fish, so many that the net brake.

There is always benefit in obedience.

Not only is their benefit to the obedient one but also to others as well.

Their partners reaped the benefit of their obedience as well.

The songwriter said it this way:

Trust and Obey  
For There's No Other Way  
To Be Happy In Jesus  
But To Trust and Obey.

Note not only “The Request Before the Catch”, “The Requirements for the Catch”, “The Response to the Requirement”, and “The Results of Their Obedience” but also:

## **5. THE REACTION TO THE CATCH (VS. 8-9)**

### ***Luke 5:8-9***

*<sup>8</sup> When Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, Depart from me; for I am a sinful man, O Lord. <sup>9</sup> For he was astonished, and all that were with him, at the draught of the fishes which they had taken:*

There was a very pronounced reaction to the miraculous catch of fish by all the fishermen involved.

Close:

May we learn that the Lord blesses our obedience.

May we be obedient the all the Lord asks us to do.