

'Destiny in the Deep'

Luke 5:1-11

24th November 2019

Key Scripture: Luke 5:1-11

5 One day as Jesus was standing by the Lake of Gennesaret,[a] 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.

Summary:

This is all about an invitation from Jesus to go deeper with Him. For some it's about the deep waters of destiny as was true for the fishermen in this story. For others, it's about knowing that Jesus is with you in the deep waters of life that you face.

When we find ourselves in deep water, don't always assume you need to get out of it - sometimes, Jesus has called you there. Also don't disregard what happens in the deep water. On Sunday, Chris gave three observations of what was happening in the deep water here in Luke 5.

1. In the midst of the miracle, the fishermen experienced the breaking of their nets and the sinking of their boats. Sometimes we experience brokenness and feelings of being overwhelmed in the deep waters of destiny.
2. Sometimes the deep waters of life require us to seek help. For some of us we find asking other people for help the hardest thing and for others it's asking Jesus for help that is hard. Maybe it's both but either way, if you find yourself in deep water, help is important.
3. Learning to relax and let go is key if we are to really access the deep places with Jesus. The fishermen responded to Jesus' initial command in verse 4 and they also 'let down' their nets.

Remember, if you feel out of your depth in the deep water, you are never out of Jesus' depth.

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Questions:

1. Can you remember a time when you felt out of your depth? What did it feel like/what response did it evoke in you?
2. Right at the beginning of the story, the people are pressing in on Jesus to hear His words. What do you think it means for you to 'press in' towards Jesus in your life?
3. How do you respond to the invitation of Jesus to go deeper with Him? What are the exciting things about this invitation and what might the scary things be?
4. How do you think Jesus might want to use the brokenness in your life to shape and mould you?

5. Are there areas in your life right now where you might need to ask for some help, either from people or from Jesus?
6. What are you struggling to let go of at the moment? Might there be things in your life that Jesus is asking you to 'relax and let go' of?