**Wednesday Night Bible Study**

**Wednesday 06 July 2022**

**Queens Chapel UMC \* 7410 Muirkirk Road \* Beltsville, MD 20705**

**Instructor: Rev. Dr. Will Butler**

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**The Gospel of Luke**

**Luke** **5:1-11**

**(NIV)**

 1 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.

**NLT**

 *1 One day as Jesus was preaching on the shore of the Sea of Galilee, great crowds pressed in on him to listen to the word of God.*

 *2 He noticed two empty boats at the water’s edge, for the fishermen had left them and were washing their nets.*

 *3 Stepping into one of the boats, Jesus asked Simon, its owner, to push it out into the water. So he sat in the boat and taught the crowds from there.*

 *4 When he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, “Now go out where it is deeper, and let down your nets to catch some fish.”*

 *5 “Master,” Simon replied, “we worked hard all last night and didn’t catch a thing. But if you say so, I’ll let the nets down again.”*

 *6 And this time their nets were so full of fish they began to tear!*

 *7 A shout for help brought their partners in the other boat, and soon both boats were filled with fish and on the verge of sinking.*

 *8 When Simon Peter realized what had happened, he fell to his knees before Jesus and said, “Oh, Lord, please leave me—I’m such a sinful man.”*

 *9 For he was awestruck by the number of fish they had caught, as were the others with him.*

 *10 His partners, James and John, the sons of Zebedee, were also amazed.*

*Jesus replied to Simon, “Don’t be afraid! From now on you’ll be fishing for people!”*

 *11 And as soon as they landed, they left everything and followed Jesus.*

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There are several principles we can learn from this event:

**I. Yielding all that we own to Him—Stewardship is part of**

 **Discipleship:**

 **Luke 5:1-3**

 **1 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.**

1. There is no shared ownership in God’s Kingdom
2. There are no partnerships or additional signatories on any deeds or titles—God owns it all

 **Psalms 89:11 (NLT)**

 “The heavens are yours, and the earth is yours; everything in the world is yours—you created it all.”

 **Revelation. 4:11**

 “You are worthy, O Lord our God, to receive glory and honor and power. For you created all things, and they exist because you created what you pleased.”

1. Since we’re Jesus’ disciples, God should have direct access to everything we own.
2. God has trusted us with freedom, responsibility, and opportunity to manage all that God has entrusted to us.
3. What we do with our time, talents, and the treasures God has entrusted to us, is up to us.

 **Q = Does God have direct access to our possessions?**

1. **When we’re willing, like Peter, to give or surrender our possessions to the Lord, it’s wonderful how He uses them and rewards us too.**

 **Q = How have you been blessed upon yielding your time, talent**

 **and treasures (finances) to God?**

**II. Kingdom service rendered apart from Christ’s wisdom, power and**

 **direction will not be successful**

**Luke 5:4-5a**

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

 **5a Simon answered, “Master, we’ve worked hard all night and haven’t caught anything…**

1. Peter was an experienced fishermen and knew when the fish should be biting.

1. If Peter came on shore without fish, they were not biting.
2. Yet, for reasons beyond our understanding, Peter obeys this Rabbi / carpenter from Nazareth

**Matthew 7:24-25**

 24 Therefore whoever hears these sayings of Mine, and does them, I will liken him to a wise man who built his house on the rock:

 25 "and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it did not fall, for it was founded on the rock.

**Proverbs 3:5-6**

 5 Trust in the LORD with all your heart, And lean not on your own understanding;

 6 In all your ways acknowledge Him, And He shall direct your paths.

**III. Peter placed humility over knowledge and experienced the**

 **rewards of listening to the Words of Christ**

**Luke 5:5b**

 **“…But because you say so, I will let down the nets.”**

1. Peter’s faith was tested by:
2. A strange command
3. His complete dependance upon Christ’s Command
4. His willingness to try something that seems useless

 **Q = How does James 1:2-4 speak to Peter’s situation?**

 2 My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials,

 3 knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience.

 4 But let patience have its perfect work, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking nothing.

 **What was Peter’s trial?**

 **How was Peter’s faith tested?**

 **What did Peter learn from this experience that will benefit us**

 **today?**