

Luke 5:1-3 ESV

On one occasion, while *the crowd was pressing in on him to hear the word of God*, he was standing by the lake of Gennesaret, (2) and ***he saw two boats*** by the lake, but the ***fishermen had gone out*** of them and were ***washing their nets***. (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.

The mindset of the fishermen - they were washing their nets

- They were ***anticipating going home*** (breakfast and bed) - washing the nets
- They were ***tired*** - they had worked all night
- They were ***discouraged*** - they caught nothing - nothing worse for a fisherman

He Specifically Chose Simon's Boat

- I think he is after something in Simon Peter's life (call it a test perhaps)
- He didn't ask to get INTO the boat - He simply stepped into the boat then ASKED **something of Simon that required a response** -
- **He is probing this man's heart**

He ASKED something of Simon -----The Progression of the Ask Process

1) We Ask God and He Answers As We Would Hope

(This is where we want to live forever - but it is not real deep)

- Luke 4:38 NIV Jesus left the synagogue and went to the home of Simon. Now Simon's mother-in-law was suffering from a high fever, and they asked Jesus to help her.

2) We Ask God and He Does NOT Answer As We Would Hope (turning point)

(Many people stop following, trusting or asking - they are disappointed - this is deeper)

- Mark 1:35-38 ESV And rising very early in the morning, while it was still dark, he departed and went out to a desolate place, and there he prayed. (36) And Simon and those who were with him searched for him, (37) and they found him and said to him, "***Everyone is looking for you.***" (38) And he said to them, "***Let us go on to the next towns***, that I may preach there also, for that is why I came out."

3) He Asks Of Us - "Put out a little from the Land"

(How will we respond? - this is deeper still)

- Joh 6:5-6 NIV When Jesus looked up and saw a great crowd coming toward him, he said to Philip, "Where shall we buy bread for these people to eat?" 6 ***He asked this only to test him, for he already had in mind what he was going to do.***

When He ASKS we take baby steps - He asks for a little, then for a little more

Luke 5:4 And when he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, "Put out into the deep and let down your nets for a catch."

- 1st "put out a little from shore"
- 2nd "Put out into the deep" AND
- 3rd "let down your nets for a catch" (that you just washed)

Luke 5:5

(5) And Simon answered, "Master, we toiled all night and took nothing! ***But at your word*** I will let down the nets."

We can Miss it with our own Reasoning

- Peter is a fisherman - Jesus is a carpenter
- Jesus doesn't know how all this works
- We know there are no fish right now
- We know it is counterproductive to drop the nets in the daytime as the fish will see them

BUT AT YOUR WORD - I will let down the nets

- This is a key principle

When He ASKS of Us - He Has a Plan - We Can Respond in Confidence

- With the loaves and fish - he was about to do a miracle
- with Peter he was about to change his life forever

What if He asks and I don't respond?

- The word of the LORD came to Jonah a second time

Luke 5:6-10 (a)

Peter's life was forever changed because he responded to the ASK

(6) And when they had done this, they enclosed a large number of fish, and their nets were breaking. (7) They signaled to their partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both the boats, so that they began to sink. (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." (9) For he and all who were with him were **astonished [Gk Dumbfounded]** at the catch of fish that they had taken, (10) and so also were James and John, sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon.

Because he responded to the ask He was blessed materially with fish

- This was probably a record haul for Peter and his team
- His response was not - How can we do this again - what was His technique
- His response was not - Let's get 2 more boats and do this again tomorrow
- It was depart from me I am a sinful man

Because he responded to the ask He had a deeper understanding of Who Jesus is

- The realization that HE KNOWS EVERYTHING and CAN DO ANYTHING

Luke 5:10(b)-11

Because he responded to the ask - he embraced his life's calling for the first time

And Jesus said to Simon, "Do not be afraid; from now on you will be catching men." (11) And when they had brought their boats to land, they left everything and followed him.

Peter would become

Peter would preach the first sermon of the early church and 3000 would be saved

Peter would open the door for the Gentiles when he went to Cornelius

Peter would be used to raise a young girl from the dead

The LORD used Peter to heal the lame man at the gate beautiful

People wanted to sit in the shadow of Peter to receive healing

Peter was miraculously set free from prison by an angel

Eventually he was martyred (hung upside down)