

LIFE APP

August 28-29, 2021



Go Where the Fish Are

Luke 5:4-11 NKJV: When He had stopped speaking, He said to Simon, “**Launch out into the deep and let down your nets for a catch.**” But Simon answered and said to Him, “Master, we have toiled all night and caught nothing; nevertheless at Your word I will let down the net.” And when they had done this, they caught a great number of fish, and their net was breaking. So 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. When Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus’ knees, saying, “Depart from me, for I am a sinful man, O Lord!” For he and all who were with him were astonished at the catch of fish which they had taken; and so also were James and John, the sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon. And Jesus said to Simon, “**Do not be afraid. From now on you will catch men.**” So when they had brought their boats to land, they forsook all and followed Him.

LIFE GROUP / PERSONAL STUDY:

Since every believer has been called to be “fishers of men,” we need to continue to learn what that looks like in our every day lives. So far, we’ve seen that we have to make sure that our nets are clean and repaired, but this week we’re going to focus on the fact that we cannot be effective at our fishing if we just hang our nets on the wall of the boathouse. It’s necessary for us to literally “Go Where the Fish Are.” So let’s continue to delve into the instructions Jesus gave, so that we can learn where and how to do the best fishing possible and experience the satisfaction of reaching others for Christ.

Read Luke 5:1-3 and Matthew 4:18-20:

1A) Compare these two passages and answer the following questions:
Where was Jesus and what was He doing?

Who else was in this place and what were they doing?

1B) According to Luke 5:4, what did Jesus tell Simon to do?

1C) What was Simon’s response? Verse 5

2) PERSONAL: Describe a time when you had worked and worked with no results and you just wanted to give up.

3A) PERSONAL: Explain what you think it would look like in your life to “launch out into the deep.”

3B) PERSONAL: How difficult do you think this would be

1) on your own or

2) with the help of Jesus?

4) Explain how the following people were called by God to “launch out” or take a step of faith.

Abraham - Genesis 12:1:

Moses - Exodus 3:4, 10:

5A) PERSONAL: Explain what you think it would look like in your life to “let down your net for a catch.”

5B) PERSONAL: How does the mission statement of Jesus found in Luke 19:10 give you a better understanding of this concept of being fishers of men?

6A) According to Luke 5:6-11, what were the results of Simon doing what Jesus told him to do?

6B) Who else was affected by what happened?

6C) PERSONAL: How does this prove that your actions and steps of faith could make an eternal difference to other people around you?

7A) PERSONAL: Think about the different aspects of once the net is let down for a catch, how important is it for the fishermen to “lift up” the catch and bring it into the boat?

7B) PERSONAL: With the idea of “catching men,” explain what “lifting the catch up” might look like in your life? What practical steps would be involved?

ACT: Jesus has literally called His followers - all of us - to be “fishers of men!” In order to do this, we must make sure that our nets are clean and repaired, but then we must also be willing to push the boat away from the shoreline and “launch out into the deep” so that we can let down our nets for a catch and then lift all those new fish into the boat of the kingdom of God. By obeying this command, we can - with the help of Jesus - make an eternal difference in the lives of others and we will experience the joy and immense satisfaction of sharing in the work of our Savior and Lord! Are you ready every day to go fishing?

Daily Devotional: It always helps to look at the context of the passage. Then try to answer the following questions about the passage. Who is involved? What is going on? Where is the action taking place? When? How can this concept apply to my life? Why is it important? Also look for Commands, Warnings, and Examples to follow or not to follow.

- This week let's explore passages that describe various ways that we need to be lifted up.

Monday:

Job 22:29 NIV

When people are brought low and you say, 'Lift them up!' then he will save the downcast.

Tuesday:

Psalm 20:5 NIV

May we shout for joy over your victory and lift up our banners in the name of our God. May the Lord grant all your requests.

Wednesday:

Psalm 134:2 NIV

Lift up your hands in the sanctuary and praise the Lord.

Thursday:

Psalm 145:14 NIV

The Lord upholds all who fall and lifts up all who are bowed down.

Friday:

Psalm 146:7-8 NIV

He upholds the cause of the oppressed and gives food to the hungry. The Lord sets prisoners free, the Lord gives sight to the blind, the Lord lifts up those who are bowed down, the Lord loves the righteous.

Saturday:

Isaiah 52:8-9 NIV

Listen! Your watchmen lift up their voices; together they shout for joy. When the Lord returns to Zion, they will see it with their own eyes. Burst into songs of joy together, you ruins of Jerusalem, for the Lord has comforted his people, he has redeemed Jerusalem.

Sunday:

James 4:10 NIV

Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will lift you up.

