



**April 19, 2026**

Our Urgent and Primary Task

**Luke 5:1-11**

**Remembering 7 Years:**

- How MOHC started
- At AG Middle School
- Covid!!
- Hope Farm
- River Place in Fort Mill, S.C.
- Movement Mortgage
- Providence Day School
- Providence Square

How all this relates to **Luke 5:1-11**

**Luke 5:1**

*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,*

- A crowd is following Jesus because of his:

- Healings
  - Casting out demons
  - His preaching about the gospel of the kingdom/reign of God coming to earth
- On one occasion, the crowds grew, pressing in to hear...
  - Jesus was preaching the word of God
  - Beside the Lake of Gennesaret (Sea of Galilee/Tiberias)

### **Luke 5:2-3**

*and he saw two boats by the lake, but the fishermen had gone out of them and were washing their nets. 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.*

- Jesus saw two empty boats by the Lake of Gennesaret
- The fishermen were washing their nets
- Jesus gets into Simon's fishing boat (they knew each other)
- Jesus had healed Simon's mother-in-law
- Simon was in business with James and John, Jesus's "cousins"
- Their mother was Salome, Mary's sister
- Family ministry
- Put yourself in Simon's shoes:
  - Exhausted after a long night's work with no results
  - Just wants to go home and rest
- But he says "yes" and Jesus enters his boat and he goes a bit offshore
- Jesus continues his teaching of the word of God (a boat as a pulpit)
- Jesus knew (and created!) the reality of sound waves and echoes
- People could hear better with his voice bouncing off the water to the shore
- We don't know what Jesus taught here

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

*And when he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, "Put out into the deep and let down your nets for a catch." And Simon answered, "Master, we toiled all night and took nothing! But at your word I will let down the nets."*

- Jesus says to Peter, "Put out in the deep and let down your nets for a catch"
- Trying to empathize with Peter:
  - Tired, sleepy
  - They'd just washed the nets
  - Fish aren't near the surface during the day!
  - The farther out you go, the deeper the fish are!
  - Our nets won't reach them!
- **Excuses! Excuses!** Me and MOHC 7 years ago
- Simon responds, "Master" (means Commander, General, Boss)
- He gives an excuse: "We toiled all night and took nothing"
- Peter was basically saying, "You're a carpenter. We are fishermen. You don't know what you don't know."
- Then maybe Peter remembered Jesus's miracles he'd seen? His mother-in-law?
- *"But at your word..."* Peter said
- We say, **"But God"** and give all our excuses
- God simply wants us to say, **"But God"**
- Believing in faith that nothing is impossible with God
- With one word, God created everything
- With one word, God can change your entire life
- Simon obeyed — tired, exhausted obedience is still obedience
- He went out and let down the nets in the deeper waters

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

*And when they had done this, they enclosed a large number of fish, and their nets were breaking. 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.*

- Immediately, they enclosed many fish
- So large that the nets were breaking (remember the night before)
- So large was the number that they signaled for the other boat to come
- Both boats were so filled that they began to sink
- They were experiencing a double blessing:

### **Zechariah 9:12**

*Return to your stronghold, O prisoners of hope; today I declare that I will restore to you double.*

### **Isaiah 61:7**

*Instead of your shame there shall be a double portion; instead of dishonor they shall rejoice in their lot; therefore in their land they shall possess a double portion; they shall have everlasting joy.*

### **Job 42:10**

*And the Lord restored the fortunes of Job, when he had prayed for his friends. And the Lord gave Job twice as much as he had before.*

- The persecuted Chinese church

### **Luke 5:8–11**

*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 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. 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.*

- Simon Peter falls at Jesus's knees (he must be on his own knees)
- He realizes his total sinfulness — the first step in following Jesus
- Our utter depravity before a holy God
- Everyone was astonished at the catch (double blessing — two boats full of fish!)
- As were James and John, Peter's partners (extended to Jerusalem?)
- Jesus to Simon: "Do not be afraid"
- Fear kills faith and keeps the double blessings from occurring
- But a new assignment: "Be catching men" (catching alive)
- They brought their nets to land
- They left everything
- They followed Jesus as disciples (learners) — a peripatetic teaching style:

- To learn how to pray as Jesus prays
- To learn how to think like Jesus thinks
- To learn how to act like he acts
- The greatest honor possible to be selected by a rabbi to walk with him

## **Our Next 7 Years?**

1. Live out our mission statement: to make disciples who know, grow, and go
2. Emphasize your development in:
  - Scripture
  - Theology
  - Wholeness
  - Outreach
3. Go fishing for the rest of your lives

## **Remember these truths:**

- Every day is a fishing expedition (pray your day)
- Change your fishing holes if they become dry
- Listen to the Holy Spirit — where and to whom you are supposed to cast your bait
- The gospel is our bait (a holy God, sinful man, the Cross and forgiveness)
- It's called fishing, not catching for a reason
- You're in sales, not management
- There's no greater joy

*Anything else about MOHC's next 7 years?*

## **Praying for another Great Awakening in America**