

**CAN YOU HEAR ME NOW?
FATHER'S DAY, 2004
LUKE 5: 1-11**

Our nation is full of men and women that refuse to honor God and honor their covenants. The majority of our children will not have both of their birth parents living in the same home as they grow up. Many children feel abandoned by their fathers, even when the father is in the home. The fathers carry much of the blame for the problems of society.

God is still looking for men (and women) to follow Him. He is able to call us back into service even though we keep starting and stopping.

BACKGROUND VERSES

Matthew 4:18-22

And Jesus, walking by the Sea of Galilee, saw two brothers, Simon called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea; for they were fishermen. [19] Then He said to them, "Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men." [20] They immediately left their nets and followed Him. [21] Going on from there, He saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee, and John his brother, in the boat with Zebedee their father, mending their nets. He called them, [22] and immediately they left the boat and their father, and followed Him.

I. JESUS WANTS YOU TO HEAR HIM TALKING DIRECTLY TO YOU

(Luke 5:1-4) So it was, as the multitude pressed about Him to hear the word of God, that He stood by the Lake of Gennesaret, [2] and saw two boats standing by the lake; but the fishermen had gone from them and were washing their nets. [3] Then He got into one of the boats, which was Simon's, and asked him to put out a little from the land. And He sat down and taught the multitudes from the boat. [4] When He had stopped speaking, He said to Simon, "Launch out into the deep and let down your nets for a catch."

- A. If you have walked away from a commitment you made to Christ, He wants you to come back.
- B. Don't waste your one life on shallow living. Learn the potential of a deeper life.

II. JESUS WANTS YOU TO OBEY BEFORE YOU UNDERSTAND

[5] 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." [6] And when they had done this, they caught a great number of fish, and their net was breaking. [7] 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.

- A. God can hinder our hardest efforts to succeed when we are out of His will
- B. A godly man will obey God's word even when it defies logic (v.5)
- C. It takes teamwork to bring in the catch that God has for the Church (v.7)

III. JESUS WANTS YOU TO BOW DOWN AND WORSHIP HIM

[8] 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 which they had taken; [10] and so also were James and John, the sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon.

- A. Real worshippers know they don't deserve to be loved by a Holy God
- B. A real man is not ashamed to get involved in all aspects of worship (body, soul, spirit, and emotions)

IV. JESUS WANTS TO DELIVER YOU FROM FEAR OF FAILURE

And Jesus said to Simon, "Do not be afraid. From now on you will catch men." [11] So when they had brought their boats to land, they forsook all and followed Him.

- A. God knows our secret fears. He wants us to trust His promises
- B. Jesus wants you to let go of whatever keeps you from following Him.

JESUS IS SPEAKING. CAN YOU HEAR HIM NOW?

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