

Luke 5:1-11



A miraculous catch of fish!

The text – Luke 5:1-11

1. This is a beautiful event in the life of Jesus. There are no opponents to Jesus in this account – no devil, no demons, no despisers or grumblers. People were “crowding around him and listening to the word of God” (5:1). What does that mean? What do these people believe about Jesus?
2. The miraculous catch of fish is the heart of this portion of Scripture. Carefully read Luke 5:4-10. Perhaps read it through several times. Take the part of Simon Peter in the story. Try to imagine what he saw, heard, felt etc. What insights do you gain?
3. The word for “catch” is used in 5:4 and 9 and then again in 5:10. (In the NIV it is translated “will fish” in 5:11.) Why is this an important word? What are some comparisons and some contrasts between catching fish and catching people?
4. Why did these fishermen pull their boats up on shore, leave everything and follow Jesus? Discuss what it meant to be a disciple when Jesus was living and ministering on the earth.

The Scriptures – Luke 5:1-11 as a portion of the Scriptures

5. There are echoes of Isaiah 6:1-8 in this passage from Luke. Read Isaiah 6:1-8 and talk about the similarities between these two portions of Scripture.
6. In Luke 5:8, Peter says that he is a “sinful man”. This is the first time in Luke’s writing that the word for “sin” is used. What does it mean? Look at several other references to “sin” in the book of Luke. Consider any or all of the following – Luke 5:29-32; Luke 15:1-2; Luke 15:3-7 and Luke 19:1-10. What do you learn about Jesus from these passages?
7. After the resurrection of Jesus, John writes about another instance when Jesus revealed who he was through a miraculous catch of fish. Read John 21:1-14. This is another really significant event in the life of Simon Peter and the disciples. Read it and make comparisons with the passage in Luke.

Our lives – walking the way of Jesus in response to Luke 5:1-11 as a portion of the Scriptures

8. How does this event in Luke’s account of the life of Jesus impact you? What does it mean for you and I to obey Jesus’ command to “catch” people?
9. What is the main context (home, work etc.) for your witness to Jesus? How hard is it for you to be a witness to Jesus among your family and friends? Spend some time praying for people that you want to see come to know Jesus.