

REACHING FURTHER

LUKE 5:4-11

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Take a quick examination of where you are right now. Do you need to reach further than where you are? If so, practice the following disciplines.

1. LISTEN TO THE LORD – v. 4

a) The Lord speaks publicly – 4a

The Lord still speaks publicly whenever you listen to the Word preached or taught. *Matthew 7:28-29*

b) The Lord speaks privately – v. 4b

Jesus turned his attention to Peter. God loves to get us alone in the deep places of our thoughts and deal with us on a one-on-one basis away from the crowd.

c) The Lord speaks with a purpose – v.4c

He wanted to help Peter grow in his faith and understanding and commitment of Who He was.

2. OBEY THE LORD – v. 5

a) Peter looked at life realistically – v. 5a

As an experienced fisherman he made an indirect argument with what Jesus asked Him to do. God asks us to do the “unrealistic” because He wants us to walk by faith! Obeying the Lord will require us to step outside of human reasoning to trust Him for the outcome. *2 Kings 5:9-12*

b) Peter obeyed whole-heartedly

Trusting God by faith is a matter of obedience. He waits for you to say “NEVERTHELESS” with obedience.

3. WATCH THE LORD – vs. 6-7

a) You are abundantly blessed by God – v.6

Some of us are missing “a great quantity of something” because we refuse to obey God. *2 Kings 5:14 b)*

Others are abundantly blessed by you – v.7

Because of Peter’s obedience the entire fishing business was blessed!

4. WORSHIP THE LORD – vs. 8-10a

a) Jesus’ Sovereignty Recognized – v.8a

Because Peter recognized Jesus to be the Sovereign God!

b) Peter’s Sinfulness & Shock Revealed – v. 8b-9

Nothing can grip us more at the heart than to have the God of the universe interested in us as sinful creatures.

5. FOLLOW THE LORD – vs. 10b-11

This experience was designed for Peter to understand that his ultimate calling in life was to advance the kingdom of God by following the Lord and by going out to tell others about Him.