

## Cultivate Gospel of Luke Study

### Lesson Ten

Read and meditate on Luke Chapter 5 this week  
and prayerfully answer the following questions before Tuesday's class.

As Jesus began His public ministry, He traveled throughout the region of Judea. He preached in the synagogues and was healing the sick. Stories of Jesus' miracles were spreading. As a review, Read Luke 4:38-44.

Read Luke 5:1-10.

Warren Wiersbe notes that, "This event is not parallel to the one described in Matthew 4:18–22 and Mark 1:16–20. In those accounts, Peter and Andrew were busy fishing, but in this account they had fished all night and caught nothing and were washing their nets. (If nets are not washed and stretched out to dry, they rot and break.) Jesus had enlisted Peter, Andrew, James, and John earlier, and they had traveled with Him in Capernaum and Galilee (Mark 1:21–39), but then they went back to their trade. Now He would call them to a life of full-time discipleship."

Luke 5:1, *"Now it happened that while the crowd was pressing around Him and listening to the word of God, He was standing by the lake of Gennesaret;"*

This body of water is also known as the Sea of Galilee, or the Sea of Tiberias (John 6:1).

Everyone was wanting to get close to Jesus. They were "pressing in". The Oxford Dictionary – "to move in a specified direction by pushing".

Could you imagine trying to preach to a crowd that was pressing in on you?

Matthew Henry – "See how the people relished good preaching, though under all external disadvantages: they pressed to hear the word of God; they could perceive it to be the word of God, by the divine power and evidence that went along with it, and therefore they coveted to hear it."

Jesus uses the landscape and empty ships to His advantage to create a kind of "stage". Hence, separating Himself from the crowd so He can deliver a message to the eager crowd. Think about the disciples, tired and weary from a night of fruitless fishing, yet they were there to hear from Jesus.

1. How eager are you to hear God's Word? Do you take for granted the ability to hear God's Word preached whenever and wherever you want? Do you make hearing and studying God's Word a priority?

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2. List some verses that focus on hearing God’s Word. What stands out to you?

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Warren Wiersbe – “Peter was a ‘captive audience’ as he sat in the ship listening to the Word of God...In a short time Peter would have to exercise faith, and Jesus was preparing him.”

Sometimes God will choose us to stand by so He can minister to us and prepare us for the times to come. This is true of all of us, including those that are called to more full-time ministry. It is important to remember that no matter where God has us, the message isn’t just for others, it’s for me, too.

Read Luke 5:4,5

Simon was a fisherman by trade. He knew his business. They had just been out all night without a successful catch. Yet, he listened to Jesus and did what He said to do.

Read John 14:15 and Deuteronomy 27:10

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Pastor Chuck Smith states that Peter acted on obedience out of faith also known as blind faith. “Blind faith is doing it because You (Jesus) said to do it, but not because my mind tells me it’s a wise thing to do.”

3. What other events in the Bible, did God ask people to do something that would not make sense to our human understanding? What was the result of their obedience?

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4. What was the result of Peter's obedience?

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5. What was a result of you being obedient to something the Lord asked you to do, even if it didn't make sense to you at the time?

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Read Isaiah 55:8,9 and 1Corinthians 1:25.

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6. Read Luke 5:8,9, then Genesis 3:8-10 and Isaiah 6:5. What did these men realize about themselves and God, that caused them to react in this way?

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Chuck Smith – "We never truly see ourselves until we see ourselves in the recognition of who Jesus is."

7. What was Jesus' response to Simon in Luke 5:10? What did He mean?

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8. List some examples from the Bible that show Peter being a "catcher of men".

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It is never too late to answer the call of Jesus on your life. He uses the ordinary to proclaim His message.

*“When they had brought their boats to land, they left everything and followed Him.”* Luke 5:10

Have you done the same? Take time to examine yourself. Is there anything from your past that you are still holding on to? Something you have not fully given up to follow Jesus?

9. Read Matthew 19:16-30. What did you learn from these verses?

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Jesus wanted the disciples to follow Him. What does that mean? It means they followed Him. Wherever Jesus went they went; whatever He did, they emulated. This is discipleship.

Skip Heitzig -

“The stages of discipleship.

1. I do it.
2. I do it, you watch.
3. I do it, you help.
4. You do it, I help.
5. You do it, I watch.
6. You do it!!!!

JUST FOLLOW JESUS!”

Are you in need of discipleship? If so, reach out! There are women in our church family that want to come along side you. There are forms at the reception desk that you can fill out and someone will contact you about starting one on one discipleship.

Read 5:12-16

Leprosy was known as “the walking death” and there was no known cure.

Jesus reached out when others would have run. Isn't that what God does for us when we are at our lowest?

Notice the begging leper's attitude. *"If you are willing."* Not, *"If you are able."* He had fullness of faith that Jesus could heal him.

Even Jesus was subject to the will of the Father.

Read Mark 14:35,36

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10. Why would Jesus heal people then tell them to keep quiet about it?

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Read Leviticus 13:9-17 about the law regarding leprosy.

11. Do you think it's odd that Jesus, being God, told him to go show himself to the priest and make an offering? \_\_\_\_\_

12. If God healed this man, why would that be necessary?

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13. What did Jesus say in Matthew 5:17?

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14. Does this verse mean we have to follow the Law of Moses? \_\_\_\_\_ Explain your answer, using Scripture.

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Verse 16-

*“But Jesus Himself would often slip away to the wilderness and pray.”*

From Gill’s Exposition- “And he withdrew himself into the wilderness,.. Into a desert place, that he might have rest from the fatigues of preaching and healing diseases; and being alone, and free from company, **might have an opportunity for private prayer to God...** this is to be understood of Christ, as man: **as God, he is the object of prayer**, and petitions are often addressed unto him; and **as mediator, he offers up the prayers of all saints**, and presents them to his Father; which are acceptable to him, through the incense of his mediation; **and as man, he prayed himself**: what he now prayed for, is not known; sometimes he prayed for his disciples, and for all that should believe; for their conversion, sanctification, union, perseverance, and glorification; and sometimes for himself, that the cup might pass from him, and he be saved from death; **but always with submission to the will of his Father.**

15. How is your prayer life? Is it active and thriving?

Do you keep a prayer journal, to guide you in your times of prayer?

Do you intercede for others, as Jesus does?

Do you remember to pray for your personal needs as well?

Do you have prayer habits that you can share with others to help someone that may not have a vibrant prayer life?

What are some obstacles that keep you from prayer?

Record some notes about prayer to share during your group discussion.

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