

MIRACLE MAN

Miracle Man Week 6 – Luke 5:1-11

Pray as you begin your group. Ask the Holy Spirit to speak into your group through God's Word and through each other. Read the passage and take a few minutes to quietly consider what it has to say to you and your group.

In week 6 of a series examining the miracles of Jesus Christ, we explore Luke's account of the miracle surrounding Jesus' call of his first disciple. We find Jesus at the Lake of Gennesaret (aka Sea of Galilee) with Simon Peter, who was a fisherman by trade. On the water, Jesus teaches Simon Peter and establishes his friendship and respect. Jesus, a former carpenter, then challenges Simon Peter by directing him to put out his net into the deep despite a night of fishing with no success. Simon Peter trusts Jesus, and we see Jesus' power illustrated through the abundant supply of fish the men receive. Simon Peter's response of fear is tempered by Jesus telling him not to be afraid, and calling him to discipleship.

Discussion Questions:

What are your thoughts/feelings from the sermon this week?

- Did God teach you something new or challenge you in any way?

We see in verse 5 Simon Peter's appropriately placed "but" in the face of trusting in Jesus: "Master, we've worked hard all night and haven't caught anything. But because you say so, I will let down the nets."

- How are the "buts" positioned in your circumstances? What comes after the "but"... Excuses? Selfishness? Avoidance? Fear of failure?

Who has the power to change the position of the "but"? What can transform our hearts and lives in such a way that we see the world differently?

- Consider who is in your boat: Do you feel like you are traveling alone? Or have you acknowledged the presence of Jesus in the boat with you?

When Peter witnesses the power of this miracle it gives him a glimpse of who Jesus really is. Seeing Jesus for who He really is caused Peter to see himself for who he really is. Simon pointed out on Sunday that when we really see Jesus, we begin to really see ourselves. Consider Peter's reaction in verse 8.

- Why is Peter's response appropriate?
- How should a view of Jesus Christ change what we think of ourselves? Talk about this one for a bit.

Many of us hate being told what to do, especially by someone who does not work in our profession. Simon Peter was a fisherman. Jesus was potentially a mediocre carpenter. What needs to take place before we start listening to the voice of a failed carpenter?

- Consider how we think we know what is best for ourselves.
How is this thinking problematic?

Look at verse 8 again. We see Simon Peter recoiling in fear after the revelation of Jesus' power and Holiness, which is a natural response in the presence of the divine. Jesus reassures Simon Peter by telling him: Do not be afraid, I know who you are, and it's not a problem! He stepped into Simon Peter's life, and changes everything.

- Jesus wants desperately to be in your life. Consider what that means.
What fears or hesitations do you have about Jesus telling you how to do things? How will letting go of the fears and trusting in Jesus change your worldview?