



# If you met Jesus

Real stories. Honest Questions.



## IF YOU MET JESUS, PART 2: PETER: WHEN JESUS DOESN'T MAKE SENSE

Have you ever had someone try to tell you how to live your life when they didn't really know you? Maybe it was advice about your work, your family, or even your relationships—and your first thought was, “Who are you to tell me that?” Now imagine if the person giving that advice was Jesus. What would you do if he stepped into your everyday life and asked you to trust him in ways that didn't make sense?

### BIG IDEA: Trust opens the door to encounter.

#### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What's an area of life where you'd be most defensive if a stranger started giving you advice (work, parenting, relationships, school, money)?
2. Have you ever had someone who knew nothing about your work try to tell you how to do your job? How did you respond?
3. With your Bible or Bible App, [read Luke 5:1-11](#)
4. together and answer the following questions:

*<sup>1</sup> One day as Jesus was preaching on the shore of the Sea of Galilee, great crowds pressed in on him to listen to the word of God. <sup>2</sup> He noticed two empty boats at the water's edge, for the fishermen had left them and were washing their nets. <sup>3</sup> Stepping into one of the boats, Jesus asked Simon, its owner, to push it out into the water. So he sat in the boat and taught the crowds from there. <sup>4</sup> When he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, “Now go out where it is deeper, and let down your nets to catch some fish.” <sup>5</sup> “Master,” Simon replied, “we worked hard all last night and didn't catch a thing. But if you say so, I'll let the nets down again.” <sup>6</sup> And this time their nets were so full of fish they began to tear! <sup>7</sup> A shout for help brought their partners in the other boat, and soon both boats were filled with fish and on the verge of sinking. <sup>8</sup> When Simon Peter realized what had happened, he fell to his knees before Jesus and said, “Oh, Lord, please leave me—I'm such a sinful man.” <sup>9</sup> For he was awestruck by the number of fish they had caught, as were the others with him. <sup>10</sup> His partners, James and John, the sons of Zebedee, were also amazed. Jesus replied to Simon, “Don't be afraid! From now on you'll be fishing for people!” <sup>11</sup> And as soon as they landed, they left everything and followed Jesus.*

[Luke 5:1-11 \(NLT\)](#)

5. Why was Peter so reluctant when Jesus asked him to cast his nets again?
6. What do you notice about the fact Jesus steps into Peter's boat before asking anything of him? What does this indicate?
7. How do you suppose Peter might've felt when the nets began to break and the boats started sinking?
8. Why do you think Peter's response was “Lord, please leave me—I'm such a sinful man” instead of celebration?
9. What does this story show us about grace coming before obedience?
10. Jimmy highlighted some common excuses we use as self-justifications for not following God's call: timing, culture, being the exception, boundaries. Which do you resonate with most and why?
11. Have you found trusting God often seems harder when his instructions don't make sense to you? How so?
12. Can you think of a time in your life when a small step of obedience led to a surprising encounter with God? What happened?
13. What's significant about Jesus repeating the miracle for Peter after his resurrection?
14. Why do you suppose Peter's reactions in Luke 5 (falling on his knees) and John 21 (jumping into the water) are so different? What changed between the incidents?
15. Where do you sense Jesus “stepping into your boat” right now? What are the implications of this?

16. Who in your life might need to hear how Jesus meets us with grace before he ever asks for our obedience?  
How could you share that powerful truth with them?

### MOVING FORWARD

If you were to fill in the blank of this prayer— “Jesus, knowing your grace, I step out and trust \_\_\_\_\_ to you (even if it doesn’t make sense)” —what would it be today? How can you encourage each other in your group to increasingly trust everything to the Lord? Remember, trust opens the door to encounter, so look for Jesus to show up in your life as you seek to follow his calling.

### CHANGING YOUR MIND

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*Luke 5:8-9*