



## JESUS, PART 2: FISH TRICKS

When you read the Gospels, two things are abundantly clear. Being a sinner doesn't disqualify you from following Jesus. And being an unbeliever doesn't disqualify you from following Jesus. So, what does that mean for you?

**THE BIG IDEA:** Whatever your next step is, take it!

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Do you tend to be trusting or skeptical? How has that tendency positively or negatively affected your relationship with God?
2. During the message, Chris said, "Being a sinner doesn't disqualify you from following Jesus. It's a prerequisite." How does that idea challenge your assumptions about following Jesus?
3. [With your Bible or Bible App, read Luke 5:1-7.](#)

*<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.*

[Luke 5:1-7 \(NLT\)](#)

4. Have you ever trusted God even though doing so didn't seem to make sense at the time? If so, What happened?
5. [With your Bible or Bible App, read Luke 5:8-11.](#)

*<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 5:8-11 \(NLT\)](#)

6. Chris said, "Peter had no idea what hung in the balance of this decision. We have no idea what hangs in the balance of our decision to say, "Yes" to what God wants us to do next." What is God prompting you to do?
7. [With your Bible or Bible App, read 1 Peter 2:23-24.](#)

*<sup>23</sup> He did not retaliate when he was insulted, nor threaten revenge when he suffered. He left his case in the hands of God, who always judges fairly. <sup>24</sup> He personally carried our sins in his body on the cross so that we can be dead to sin and live for what is right. By his wounds you are healed.*

[1 Peter 2:23-24 \(NLT\)](#)

8. On a scale of 1 to 10, how well does your life reflect the truth that by Jesus' wounds you have been healed?
9. In what area of your life do you need to dial up your trust in Jesus? What is your best next step? How can this group support and encourage you as you take that step?

### MOVING FORWARD

What is your next step—coming back, confessing, reconciling, choosing purity, taking a year off, getting into a group, serving, giving? Whatever your next step is, take it. You don't know what hangs in the balance.

### WEEKLY READING

Spend some time this week reading and reflecting on Luke 5.