

You are only truly balanced when you are moving forward!

2 Peter 3:18 "But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and forever. Amen."

Ephesians 6:12 KJV ¹² For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.

Luke 5:1-5 "So it was, as the multitude pressed about Him to hear the word of God, that He stood by the Lake of Gennesaret, ² and saw two boats standing by the lake; but the fishermen had gone from them and were washing their nets. ³ Then He got into one of the boats, which was Simon's, and asked him to put out a little from the land. And He sat down and taught the multitudes from the boat. ⁴ When He had stopped speaking, He said to Simon, "Launch out into the deep and let down your nets for a catch." ⁵ But Simon answered and said to Him, "Master, we have toiled all night and caught nothing; nevertheless, at Your word I will let down the net." ⁴ When He had stopped speaking, He said to Simon, "Launch out into the deep and let down your nets for a catch."

You may feel safe in the shallow waters of faith but your blessing is in the deep.

Isaiah 55:8-9 "For My thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways My ways,' declares the Lord. 'For as the heavens are higher than the earth, So are My ways higher than your ways and My thoughts than your thoughts."

Hebrews 11:6 "And without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is and that He is a rewarder of those who seek Him."

Why God Calls Us to the Deep:

- ✓ He wants us to experience his love and personal interest in us.

Ephesians 1:4-5 "Long before he laid down earth's foundations, he had us in mind, had settled on us as the focus of his love, to be made whole and holy by his love. ⁵ Long, long ago he decided to adopt us into his family through Jesus Christ."

- ✓ He wants us to experience his blessings.

Ephesians 1:6 "What pleasure he took in planning this! He wanted us to enter into the celebration of his lavish gift-giving by the hand of his beloved Son."

Going Deep:

1. Faith starts with a relationship.

Luke 5:3 "Then He got into one of the boats, which was Simon's, and asked him to put out a little from the land. And He sat down and taught the multitudes from the boat."

Matthew 11:28-29 "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. ²⁹Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls."

2. Faith is strengthened through obedience.

Luke 5:4-5 "When He had stopped speaking, He said to Simon, "Launch out into the deep and let down your nets for a catch."

⁵ But Simon answered and said to Him, "Master, we have toiled all night and caught nothing; nevertheless, at Your word I will let down the net."

1 John 3:21-22 CEV Dear friends, if we feel at ease in the presence of God, we will have the courage to come near him. ²²He will give us whatever we ask, because we obey him and do what pleases him.

3. Faith is fulfilled in community.

Luke 5:6-7 "And when they had done this, they caught a great number of fish, and their net was breaking. ⁷So they signaled to their partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both the boats, so that they began to sink."

Romans 1:11-12 ESV – For I long to see you, that I may impart to you some spiritual gift to strengthen you ¹²that is, that we may be mutually encouraged by each other's faith, both yours and mine.