



The following is the summary of the Sunday sermon that is sent to the body at Steadfast in an email called "The Weekly"

Luke 5:1-11

Transformed by Christ

We exist as a church to see Jesus transform lives! The word transformed in the Greek is where we get our English word **metamorphosis** (2 Corinthians 3:18). It gives the idea of a change on the outside that is a result of a change on the inside. There are many examples of this in the Bible and some of the best examples are the disciples. Let's take Peter for example. In Luke 5:1-11, Jesus is teaching by the Sea of Galilee while Peter and a few of his fishing companions were cleaning their nets from a night of fishing where they caught ZERO fish. To better address the crowd of people on the shore Jesus gets in Peter's boat and asks him to push the boat out a little ways from the shore. There, Jesus sat down and continued to address the crowd. You better believe Peter was listening. When Jesus was finished teaching, he told Peter to push out into the deep and let down his nets to catch fish. Can you imagine what was going through Peter's mind after a whole night fishing and having caught nothing? Peter along with the others in his boat obeyed and ended up with more fish in their boat than they could handle. They had to call their partners on the shore to come and help them. There were so many fish in both boats that the boats began to sink. As the fishermen were rowing back to shore, something hits Peter. He realizes what just transpired was no accident and that only the Messiah could have caused this to happen. Only God could have done this! Immediately, in the midst of trying to keep his boat from sinking and making sure all the fish remain in the boat, Peter leaves whatever he was doing and goes and falls down at Jesus feet. At the feet of Jesus he says, "Go away from me Lord, for I am a sinful man." When you get a right view of Jesus, you get a right view of yourself and your sin. Peter knew he was a sinner and felt that Jesus being who He was would want nothing to do with him. In fact, it was just the opposite. Jesus tells him along with Andrew, James, and John not to fear because from now on they will be catching men. When they got back to shore these four left everything (think about that) and followed Jesus.

The question must be asked, "How do we go from this Peter to the Peter who a few years later would be preaching powerful sermons and ended up writing two books of the Bible? How do we go from this Peter to a man whose influence and power was so great that people used to put their sick on cots hoping that his shadow would fall on them as he walked by? How do we go from a Peter who denied Christ three times right before His crucifixion to a man who was the leader of the church of Jesus Christ? The answer, "Metamorphosis (transformation)!" His life had been radically transformed by Jesus! It was the same skin but not the same man! Transformation starts at salvation but it doesn't end there.

As a church, we want to see Jesus transform lives and we believe that happens through His Word, prayer, and loving relationships. If you take seriously being in and obeying God's Word, your life will be transformed (2 Corinthians 3:18, Joshua 1:8, Romans 10:17, James 1:25). If you take prayer seriously your life and others lives will be transformed (Matthew 7:7, 1 John 5:14-15). How awesome is it that because of what Jesus has done for us, we have the privilege to commune with the God of the universe! If you engage in Christ like loving relationships your life will be transformed (John 13:34-35). We need one another. We need to demonstrate Christ like love to one another. We need to fight for one another and not with one another. We need to comfort one another, work with one another, encourage one another (everyday), and pray for one another.

Let's all pray that we as a church would have the privilege of seeing Jesus transform lives (including our own) through His Word, prayer, and loving relationships.

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