

Leaving the Shore
Deeper // Week 1
Pastor Tim Moore

Overview
This week launched our new series, Deeper, with a challenge to move beyond a comfortable, cultural version of Christianity and embrace what it truly means to follow Jesus. Using the story of Jesus calling Simon Peter in Luke 5, Pastor Tim reminded us that faith grows when we are willing to move beyond the shallow waters and respond to what Jesus asks of us. Peter didn't understand why Jesus was asking him to cast his nets again, but he responded anyway: "But if you say so, I'll let the nets down again."

Icebreaker
Have you ever been asked to do something that didn't make sense at the time, but you did it anyway? What happened?

Read Luke 5:1–3

- What do we learn about the circumstances Peter was in when Jesus approached him? What did Jesus ask Peter to do?
- Jesus stepped into Peter's everyday life and asked him to make his boat available. Where might Jesus be asking you to make room for Him in the ordinary parts of your life?

Read Luke 5:4–7

- How did Peter respond when Jesus told him to go deeper and let down his nets? What happened when he obeyed?
- Peter had every reason to think this wouldn't work, but he responded anyway. Is there something God has been asking you to do that you've been hesitant to follow through on? What's holding you back?

Read Luke 5:8–11

- How did Peter respond after witnessing the miraculous catch? What did he and the others do when Jesus called them to follow Him?
- Pastor Tim challenged us to consider whether we're fans of Jesus or fully committed followers. What might need to change in your daily life for you to move from simply believing in Jesus to actively following Him?

Application
Faith grows when we put what Jesus says into practice. We can't experience deeper faith by simply sitting on the shore. We must be willing to step out in obedience. Take a few minutes to reflect. Encourage everyone to identify one specific action they can take this week.

- What is one area of your life where Jesus is asking you to go deeper?
- What is one specific step you can take this week to respond in obedience?

Closing Prayer
Heavenly Father, thank You for inviting us into a deeper relationship with You. Forgive us for the times we have become comfortable staying in the shallow waters rather than fully following You. Give us the courage to trust You, even when we don't understand what You are asking of us. Show us the areas of our lives where we need to surrender, take a step of faith, and respond in obedience. Help us move beyond simply knowing about You to becoming people who truly follow You every day. May our lives reflect a deeper commitment to Jesus. In His name, Amen.

Upcoming Events:

- 11/4 – First Wednesday Prayer, 7:30 am
- 11/7 – Hope for the Holidays
- 11/22 – Baptism Sunday
- 12/6 – End of Year Offering

Resources:

- To request prayer: https://thexchurch.churchcenter.com/people/forms/13150
- To meet with a Pastor: https://thexchurch.churchcenter.com/people/forms/534644
- Financial Assistance, Sobriety Resources, grief support, and more: https://thex.church/care/

X Church Podcast: https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL8rUS49IuWYwojA6eKlA_VuAO592ZYQgd