Back 2 Basics: Christianity 101

Discipleship

Discipleship…

- …is following Jesus and inviting others to follow Him alongside you.
- *Disca* (Latin) student/learner.
- Information or Transformation?
- "The data points to a clear and sobering reality: Within the context of the local church, discipleship is widely affirmed but inconsistently defined, unevenly practiced and rarely measured.” - Lifeway Research

Luke 5:1-11 (CSB)

As the crowd was pressing in on Jesus to hear God’s word, he was standing by Lake Gennesaret. 2 He saw two boats at the edge of the lake; the fishermen had left them and were washing their nets. 3 He got into one of the boats, which belonged to Simon, and asked him to put out a little from the land. Then he sat down and was teaching the crowds from the boat.

4 When he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, “Put out into deep water and let down your nets for a catch.”

Luke 5:1-11 (CSB)

5 “Master,” Simon replied, “we’ve worked hard all night
long and caught nothing. But if you say so, I’ll let down
the nets.”

6 When they did this, they caught a great number of fish,
and their nets began to tear. 7 So they signaled to their
partners in the other boat to come and help them; they
came and filled both boats so full that they began to sink.

8 When Simon Peter saw this, he fell at Jesus’s knees and
said, “Go away from me, because I’m a sinful man, Lord!

Luke 5:1-11 (CSB)

9 For he and all those with him were amazed at the catch
of fish they had taken, 10 and so were James and John,
Zebedee's sons, who were Simon's partners.

"Don't be afraid," Jesus told Simon. "From now on you
will be catching people." 11 Then they brought the boats
to land, left everything, and followed him.

I. A Disciple's Response

- Luke 5:5 "But if you say so…" At your word. I will…
- A disciple's response is to Trust and Obey.
- Trust = inward assurance based upon Who Jesus is.
- Obedience = often is shown through outward action.
- Result? Luke 5:6-7
- Apply: How can you Trust and Obey Jesus today?

II. A Disciple's Posture

- Luke 5:8
- A disciple's posture is bowed low before the feet of Jesus.
- God shows no partiality. He looks on the heart.
- Peter's kneeling = Admitted his lowliness, inability and his sin.
- ***Admitting one's sin and inability is the best prerequisite for serving the Lord.***
  - I am sinful → prerequisite for righteousness
  - I am broken → prerequisite for wholeness.
  - I cannot but God can → prerequisite for Discipleship.

II. A Disciple's Posture (cont'd)

- CS Lewis, *"Man approaches God most nearly when he is in one sense least like God. For what can be more unlike than fullness and need, sovereignty and humility, righteousness and penitence, limitless power and a cry for help?"*
- James 4:8-10 *"Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded…Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will exalt you."*
- Peter's posture of kneeling in a sinking boat perfectly encapsulates the posture of a disciple.
- *"It is not those who are healthy who need a doctor, but those who are sick. I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance."* Luke 5:31
- What's your heart posture? Is it the posture of a disciple?

III. A Disciple's Responsibility

- Disciple's responsibility is to fish for people and leave everything to follow Jesus.
- Luke 5:10b, Fishing.
  - Fishing for Fish vs. Fishing for People
    - Fish: Caught, flayed, devoured. DEATH to fish. Negative figure.
    - Men: Caught from fallen world, rescued from death/sin. LIFE to men. Positive figure.
    - For both, fishing requires preparation, labor, and teamwork.
- Discipleship (*Following*) and Evangelism (*Fishing*) go together!
- Luke 5:11, LEAVING EVERYTHING. The paradigm of discipleship.
- You are only Jesus' disciples to the degree that you are no longer a disciple of anything or anyone else.
- Apply: Every disciple has a responsibility to leave everything to follow Jesus and to fish for people.

Testimony: Steven Bancarz



Recap

- What does God show us about Discipleship in Luke 5:1-11?
  - A disciple’s response is trust and obey.
  - A disciple’s posture is bending of knee and heart.
  - A disciple’s responsibility is to leave everything and fish for people.
- Questions
  - Is there any area of my life that I have not fully surrendered to Jesus?
  - Remember, the disciples “left everything” and followed Him. Have you?