

03062022 A Journey to Jesus Luke 5:1-10

One of the beauties of the Bible is that it presents people as they really are, under inspiration of the Holy Spirit, the biblical authors did not ignore biblical heroes faults but presented them as the flawed but faithful people they were...Perhaps no New Testament figure is a better example of this than Simon Peter.

- **He like many of us was quick to learn...and quick to forget...**
- **His growth as a follower of Jesus could best be described as inconsistent...which we will witness as we journey through the Gospel of Luke**
- **His success and failures truly demonstrate the process of growth that all followers of Christ are called to experience ...**
- **And these accumulated experiences build us into effective builder's of the Kingdom of God.**

Peter and the rest were as rough diamonds to be polished on the wheel of service by the master jeweler.

But before you are used by God ...he has to call you! And to be called you have to have certain perquisites ...

Mark sums them up...you must be sick and a sinner

Mark 2:16 But when the teachers of religious law who were Pharisees^[b] saw him eating with tax collectors and other sinners, they asked his disciples, "Why does he eat with such scum?"^[c]" ¹⁷ When Jesus heard this, he told them, "Healthy people don't need a doctor—sick people do. I have come to call not those who think they are righteous, but those who know they are sinners."

Jesus won't draft you unless you are sick and a sinner What kind of a world changing strategy is that?

- **Terrible if you're depending on human skills and wisdom...but outstanding if you're depending on God's skill and wisdom....why?**

- **First of all no one will be able to boast about themselves...which is a great temptation for all men...but it will be obvious ...that the glory goes to God when one sees the changes in the character and lifestyle of the people he uses.**

ZEC 4:6 So he said to me, "This is the word of the LORD to Zerubbabel: 'Not by might nor by power, but by my Spirit,' says the LORD Almighty.

As all the characters recorded in scripture pass before us single file, we cannot escape their limitations, frailties, and humanness, all of which formed the material for the divine sculptor .

Each one whom God chooses has a journey to Jesus... And Jesus knows how to reach each one given to him by his father...

Today we will learn much from the call of Peter because he is so much like us... Peter began the preparation of ministry without ever knowing he was being prepared for ministry...and that would call would impact all nations and all ages

But he was in the natural another Jew waiting for the messiah but about the business of his life.....

The Call

- **The way Jesus calls his apostles is common ...in other words it happens very much the way he calls you and I ... **...Somehow and in some way and in some condition. He gets our attention..****
- **Peter's first meeting with the Lord goes back to the very beginning of Jesus' public ministry...Jesus' baptism...it happened like this the day after Jesus baptism...**

NLT John 1: 29 The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him and said, "Look! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! 30 He is the one I was talking about when I said, 'A man is coming after me who is far greater than I am, for he existed long before me.' 31 I did not recognize him as the Messiah, but I have been baptizing with water so that he might be

revealed to Israel.” ³² Then John testified, “I saw the Holy Spirit descending like a dove from heaven and resting upon him. ³³ I didn’t know he was the one, but when God sent me to baptize with water, he told me, ‘The one on whom you see the Spirit descend and rest is the one who will baptize with the Holy Spirit.’ ³⁴ I saw this happen to Jesus, so I testify that he is the Chosen One of God.^[1]”

³⁵ **The following day John** was again standing with two of his disciples. ³⁶ As Jesus walked by, John looked at him and declared, “Look! There is the Lamb of God!” ³⁷ **When John’s two disciples heard this, they followed Jesus.** ³⁸ Jesus looked around and saw them following. “What do you want?” he asked them. They replied, “Rabbi” (which means “Teacher”), “where are you staying?” ³⁹ “Come and see,” he said. It was about four o’clock in the afternoon when they went with him to the place where he was staying, and they remained with him the rest of the day. ⁴⁰ **Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother, was one of these men** who heard what John said and then followed Jesus.

Apparently that night Andrew went to find Peter...The fourth day after Jesus Baptism...

⁴¹ Andrew went to find his brother, Simon, and told him, “We have found the Messiah” (which means “Christ”). ⁴² Then Andrew brought Simon to meet Jesus. Looking intently at Simon, Jesus said, “Your name is Simon, son of John—but you will be called Cephas” (which means “Peter”).

Simon means to hear...Peter means Rock... Jesus looked at his heart and knew that now you are shifting sand...you hear but you have other priorities...but you will become solid like a rock...he prophesied his future...

Peter hears the word... as does Andrew, ...goes right back to what he has been doing the running of his fishing business ...about one year or so passes

- **In that time... Jesus spent 40 days in Desert...month’s in Galilee teaching ...then to Nazareth then back to Galilee to Capernaum)**

- **Jesus finds them again...Mark give us the details...their second recorded meeting but they had others as Jesus preached in the area they lived...**

NLT MK 1:16 One day as Jesus was walking along the shore of the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew throwing a net into the water, for they fished for a living. ¹⁷ Jesus called out to them, "Come, follow me, and I will show you how to fish for people!" ¹⁸ And they left their nets at once and followed him. ¹⁹ A little farther up the shore Jesus saw Zebedee's sons, James and John, in a boat repairing their nets. ²⁰ He called them at once, and they also followed him, leaving their father, Zebedee, in the boat with the hired men.

The Crawl This event caused Peter, Andrew, James and John...to immediately follow him that day.....

- **They had obviously been following Jesus' ministry from a distance...**
- **Attending services now and then...hearing of miracles and possibly even witnessing them...But still fishing full time it was their business and occupation...**
- **Peter might have even brought his wife a number of times to witness the radical Rabbi in town...**
- **When Jesus says to follow him...they did at least for that day....**
- **I wonder how pleased James and John's dad was with them just getting up and leaving the job...**
- **They are starting a greater commitment to the Lord...obedience to his word took temporary precedence over their business...**
- **Jesus then leaves to go to Nazareth ...as we covered two weeks ago...gets rejected and goes back to Capernaum**
- **Stays at Peter's house (last week) heals mother in law and many others...but must move on...**

We move to his conversion a while later!!

Luke picks up the story.....

LK 5:1 **One day** as Jesus was standing by the Lake of Gennesaret, with the people crowding around him and listening to the word of God, ² he saw at the water's edge two boats, left there by the fishermen, who were washing their nets. ³ **He got into one of the boats, the one belonging to Simon,** and asked **him** to put out a little from shore. Then he sat down and taught the people from the boat.

- **Jesus has a way of isolating us ...one on one...making us a captive audience....**
- **He knows what to do and how to do it...and often meets us in what were doing presently and often what he needs to remove or adjust...**
- **We do not know how long the message was...but Peter had no place to go ...he was in the boat...and had to paddle to keep Jesus near the shore...**

The message Jesus preached and Peter had been hearing for over a year...

NLT MK 1:14Jesus went into Galilee, where he preached God's Good News. ¹⁵ "The time promised by God has come at last!" he announced. "The Kingdom of God is near! Repent of your sins and believe the Good News!"

NLT Luke 4:43 But he replied, "I must preach the Good News of the Kingdom of God in other towns, too, because that is why I was sent." ⁴⁴ So he continued to travel around, preaching in synagogues throughout Judea.

- **The kingdom of God was near...Jesus was from that kingdom and had come to earth ...the good news is near...**

NLT LK 5: 4 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." ⁵ "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." ⁶ And this time their nets were so full of fish they began to tear! ⁷ 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.

⁸ 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.” ⁹ For he was awestruck by the number of fish they had caught, as were the others with him. ¹⁰ **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!” ¹¹ And as soon as they landed, they left everything and followed Jesus.

Peter had the moment of clarity the moment of conversion...Jesus did not change...his encounters with Peter were moving Peter a step at a time to this moment...

What changed was Peter’s heart...he moved from belief to conversion...

...And with conversion ...He was given a new purpose in life to follow Jesus and fish for people...he had no idea what that would mean ... or how it would look ..and not only him but Andrew, James and John..

*Luke 5: ¹⁰ **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!” ¹¹ And as soon as they landed, they left everything and followed Jesus.*

He responded in obedience...he left his business, Jesus provided for his family and the other’s families as he always does...with such a huge catch ...they could pay their living expenses and take time away to be with Jesus...

- **I wonder how his wife handled this decision at first? Changing careers...it was not for a safer or more financially secure job...though they did not know that at the time...**
- **The cost of following Jesus will begin to real after a short while and Peter informs Jesus of what he has given up to follow him...**

NLT MK 10: ²⁸ Then Peter began to speak up. “We’ve given up everything to follow you,” he said. ²⁹ “Yes,” Jesus replied, “and I assure you that

everyone who has given up house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or property, for my sake and for the Good News, ³⁰ will receive now in return a hundred times as many houses, brothers, sisters, mothers, children, and property—along with persecution. And in the world to come that person will have eternal life.

• We know Peters wife ...whose is unknown to us came alongside her husband on missionary journeys..

1CO 9: 5 Don't we have the right to take a believing wife along with us, as do the other apostles and the Lord's brothers and Cephas? (Peter)

- **God's plan included the families...so never give up...**
- **The journey to Jesus is one thing...the journey with Jesus is a whole other animal...**
- **Peter like you and I was required to dock the boat get out and follow Jesus ...a whole new journey of life begins...one in which he will learn much more about himself ...then he will actually do for the Lord...**
- **thinking we give it all to God...is only true until another part of our lives is revealed ...demonstrating that we have not given him it all....**

end

NLT John 6:44 For no one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draws them to me...

NIV John 6:39 And this is the will of him who sent me, that I shall lose none of all those he has given me, but raise them up at the last day