

Victoria Fellowship Church
International & Interdenominational
Bible Study Worksheet – May 2, 2021

Theme: The Life of Jesus Topic: Jesus: His Making of Disciples

Main Text: Luke 5: 1-11; Luke 6:12-18

Key verse: Luke 5:11 “So when they had brought their boats to land, they forsook all and followed Him.” (NKJ)

INTRODUCTION: The term ‘Disciple’ is a New Testament concept. Generally, the term is used to refer to a follower or adherent of a teacher. But in Christianity, the term refers to a dedicated follower of Jesus Christ. Our main text showed Jesus’ calling of His earliest disciples. In addition to the account in Luke 5, the other three Gospels also record various aspects of Jesus calling His disciples. Matthew 4:18-22, Mark 1:16-20, and John 1:35-51. The disciples called in our text today were all fishermen practicing their trade at the time of their calling. Jesus was by the lake of Gennesaret, and a crowd was pressing to hear the word of God. To gain some platform from which to teach the teeming crowd, Jesus stepped into one of the boats standing by the lake. That boat happened to belong to Peter.

1. (a) What can we learn from the fact that Jesus chose to call to discipleship, ordinary people like Peter and his associates? (b) Why do you think Jesus went to Peter’s boat and not to some other person’s boat? See John 1:40-42 (c) Read Luke 5:3-5, 8, 10. What was Jesus looking for in a would-be disciple?

When Jesus stepped into Peter’s boat, He asked him to push it out into the water. Peter obviously did not mind the interruption to his task or preparing his net for the next day’s fishing expedition. He probably needed something to take his mind off the poor catch of the previous night. After the sermon, Jesus then directed Peter to “*go out where it is deeper and let down your nets to catch some fish.*” (Luke 5:4b NLT). This time, Peter had some objection. He however, obeyed, and the result of his obedience was the big catch. Interestingly, this miracle affects Peter in a most unusual way – he falls at Jesus’ feet, confessing his sinfulness.

2. Read Luke 5:3-5, 8, 10-11. (a) Trace the progression of how Jesus’ built Peter’s faith. What can we learn from Jesus about disciple making? (b) How would you say the incremental call to obedience helped Peter in his eventual decision to leave the large catch of fish to follow Jesus? (c) Is it possible to be a disciple of Jesus Christ without living in obedience to His word? See John 8:31

When Jesus saw that He had the attention of Peter and his companions, He did not waste time in revealing His plan for them, and for all who would follow Him. Jesus said to them, ‘*Don’t be afraid! From now on you’ll be fishing for people!*’ (Luke 5:10). And so, the trio left all that bountiful catch of fish and followed Jesus. Eventually, others also joined Jesus’ growing band of followers. A time came when it became necessary to raise the commitment bar. So, Jesus spent a considerable time in prayers. Afterwards, He selected twelve out of the band of followers. These twelve He designated as apostles (Luke 6:12-18). Jesus’ objective for choosing these men remained the same as when He called Peter and his friends: “*that they might be with Him and that He might send them out to preach*” (Mark 3:14). Right before Jesus ascended into heaven, He reiterated this objective when He commissioned His disciples to: “*Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations ... and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age*” Matt 28:19-20.

3. (a) Does Jesus require every disciple to ‘leave everything’ to follow Him? Explain your answer (b) What would you say is Jesus’ overriding goal in His disciple making? See Luke 5:10; Mark 3:14; Matthew 28:19 (c) In the light of lessons from this study, what adjustments do you think we need to make individually and as VFC to align with Jesus’ goal for disciple making?

Prayer: *Father, thank you for today’s teaching from the life of Jesus on discipleship. I pray that you enable me to be a true disciple of Jesus who disciple’s others for the Lord, in Jesus’ name, Amen.*