

Disciples Indeed

Luke 5:1-11

Luke's first reference to Lord's "disciples" – Luke 5:30

- Jesus met Peter earlier . . .
 - a. Jn.1:42, "Peter"
 - b. Mk.1:16-18, casting nets
 - c. Lk.4:38-39, Simon's house

The night they caught nothing – Luke 5:1-11

1: Jesus aroused attention.

- Lake Gennesaret; crowds; open air.

2: two boats; washing nets; would catch men

3: Jesus taught from boat.

4: finished; put out into deep “for a catch.”

- His certainty: they will catch these fish; this place; wrong time; great number.
- Mt.17:24-27... Lk.19:28-36

The night they caught nothing – Luke 5:1-11

5: Peter knows this is foolish, but...

- Peter had fished at right time, all night; caught nothing...
- Word of Messiah prevails.

6: multitude of fish...wrong time / record time

7: signaled partners for help

The night they caught nothing – Luke 5:1-11

8a: Peter knows Jesus not from around here:

1. fell at feet
2. go away
3. I am sinner
4. you are Lord

8b: greatest *catch*: disciples; realization: *Lord*

1. Miracle in Peter's field...
2. He asks Lord to go away... Ex.20; Is.6.

The night they caught nothing – Luke 5:1-11

9: all astonished at the miracle.

10a: “do not be afraid” forbids continuance –
stop being afraid.

10b: “from now on, catch men alive”

11: left everything

I. The Master, 1-4

Jesus appealed to men on their level

- They knew boats, nets, fish, sea better than anything. He went to their world.
- He expected Peter to let Him use his boat.
- He asked Peter to help Him.
- He worked this miracle, not to catch fish, but . . . to catch disciples.

I. The Master, 1-4

II. The Disciples, 5-11

1. Disciple responds to master's orders, 4-5

- His command made nonsense of their reason and experience.
- It was ridiculous to cast nets at midday.
 - He tested their faith.
 - Peter's response:
 - Master. Of disciples for Jesus... because of His authority. Lk.8:24-25.
 - At Your word. A command he did not understand – because Jesus said it.
 - Lk.6:46. Jn.8:31-32

2. Disciple respects power of God, 6

- Night: fish come near shore...
- Day: fish go deep...

Lord never commands something without providing power to do it.

- Method of this miracle??
 - Omnipotence? (Jon.1:17)
 - Omniscience? (Mt.17:27)
- What happened? Broken nets, sinking boat

3. Disciple relies on God, not self, 5-9

- 6-7: what next?
 - Peter falls at Jesus' knees
 - Jesus is not merely a human friend
 - Jesus is Lord of all – supreme even in their area of expertise
- Peter's first reaction: fear over own sins
 - Peter is qualified to follow Him.
 - Phil.4:13

4. Disciple rejoices in Lord's acceptance, 10a

- Peter faced not only a holiness that condemned him, but a forgiving love that gave him blessed assurance.
- Lk.5:30, 33, other 'disciples' did not enjoy this assurance.

5. Disciple receives his assignment, 10b

- Catch men alive (2 Tim.2:26).
- Jesus had secured great catch of fish under most unfavorable circumstances – a fore-taste of the way He would guide disciples in fishing for men. Cf. Ac.2:41, let down the net, caught 3000!
- Disciples would face opposition, discouragement, failures as they caught men. How could they do it?
- Lk.9:23

6. Disciple renounces all rivals, 11

- They left boats, fish, all things. . .
- This explains their success. The Lord became their priority. We need this zeal.
- Lk.14:26-27, 33.
- A disciple puts Christ first.

“A religion that gives nothing,
costs nothing, and suffers nothing,
is worth nothing.”

Conclusions (1)

1. Peter's progress: from wasted night to wonderful day; from lack to big lots; from fear to follower of Christ. 1 Tim.1:15.
2. All places are set apart for gospel's influence.
3. Jn.21: another great fish catch after night of nothing.

Conclusions (2)

4. The fishermen caught what we should catch in our assemblies.
 - a. Message from Son of God. “At Your word” (Mt.7:21-23; Ac.2:...41)
 - b. Display of divine power. Ro.1:16
 - c. Encounter with holy God. 1 Co.14:24-25
 - d. Revelation of our true state. Ph.2:19
 - e. Motivation to follow Jesus. 1 Pt.2:21
5. Would we let Jesus use our boat? ...time?
...energy? ...work? Ro.1:16