

## Luke 5:1-11      Messed-up by Jesus

One day as Jesus was standing by the Lake of Gennesaret, the people were 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.

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

5 Simon answered, "Master, we've worked hard all night and haven't caught anything. But because you say so, I will let down the nets."

6 When they had done so, they caught such a large number of fish that their nets began to break. 7 So they signaled their partners in the other boat to come and help them, and they came and filled both boats so full that they began to sink.

8 When Simon Peter saw this, he fell at Jesus' knees and said, "Go away from me, Lord; I am a sinful man!" 9 For he and all his companions were astonished at the catch of fish they had taken, 10 and so were James and John, the sons of Zebedee, Simon's partners.

Then Jesus said to Simon, "Don't be afraid; from now on you will fish for people." 11 So they pulled their boats up on shore, left everything and followed him.

## COME TO THE PARTY (5 Sessions in Luke): Leader's Notes

### Read & Discuss:

- Read the biblical story out loud.
- Give a few minutes of quiet for each person to read the story again on their own and note things that are interesting or confusing.
- Ask open-ended questions that keep the conversation focused on the biblical story.
  - **What do you notice about Jesus and how he interacts with people? What impresses you about him?**
  - **Which of the characters do you find most interesting? Why?**
  - **What do you find surprising or troubling?**
  - **What does the story communicate about God?**
- Let the scripture speak for itself and don't worry about coming to agreement or answering all your friends' questions.

### Share & Invite:

- Share a story of how Jesus has been real to you. To prepare, ask the Holy Spirit to show you what part of your story your friend needs to hear. Consider for yourself:
  - **What character in the biblical story do you identify with? Why?**
  - **How has Jesus touched your life and brought healing?**
  - **How has Jesus answered your questions or resolved your doubts?**
  - **Do you relate to my story or to one of the characters in the passage?**
- Ask them to pick a need, struggle, or situation in their life that they can invite Jesus to interact with, e.g. **Is there a place in your life where you've worked hard, but haven't gotten the results you are hoping for? What would it be like to invite Jesus into that area?**
- **What do you think Jesus might want you to do?**

### Pray & Watch:

- **I realize it might be new to you to talk to Jesus directly, but let's ask him to interact with your life as he did in the biblical story.** Give your friend the option to pray out loud or silently.
- Finish by praying out loud in a natural way for the areas shared.
- Trust God to get involved in your friend's life. Remember, Jesus is always seeking the lost.
- As you see God speaking to your friend, take a risk to invite them to become a follower of Jesus, e.g. **It looks like Jesus is pursuing you. Would you like to say yes to following him?**
- A great resource for new believers is [launch.intervarsity.org](http://launch.intervarsity.org).