



04 | Mon – A borrowed boat | Read Luke 5:1-3

Isn't it interesting in this story that Simon (Peter) had something that Jesus needed? Usually we are the ones doing the asking...I need a job, I need more money, I need wisdom...the list goes on. What happens when we realize we have something that Jesus 'needs' from us? How does it change your perspective?

05 | Tue – The illogical thing to do | Read Luke 5:4

Professional fishermen of Jesus' time worked at night when the fish were less likely to see the nets. Imagine Simon shaking his head at this carpenter's suggestion to go fishing in the middle of the day. Yet Simon had just been listening to this man's teaching and apparently respected Jesus enough to humor him. Is God asking you to do something that seems illogical? Will you do it out of respect for the One who asks?

06 | Wed – Humor me | Read Luke 5:5-6

Simon's obedience to a seemingly futile request - fishing in broad daylight - was rewarded with a miracle. So many fish that the nets began to break, and so much that both boats started to sink. What a blessing Simon would have missed if he had argued with Jesus instead of doing the one thing he was asked to do. Can you think of a time when you received a blessing because of simple act of obedience?

07 | Thu – The bigger picture | Read Luke 5:8-9

Do you think Jesus' purpose was just to bless Simon and his fishing partners with this amazing catch of fish or did this miracle have a bigger purpose? Look at Simon's response (verse 8). Do we sometimes get caught up in the blessings of life and miss connecting with the Giver? How did this event change Simon's perspective? How can it change ours?

08 | Fri – It's not about the fish | Read Luke 5:10

In one moment Simon's eyes were opened. He realized who Jesus was...and he was brought to his knees as he looked inside his own heart. This was more than just about fish. It was a life-altering moment. How wonderful it is when we see ourselves for who we really are and want to hide, only to have Jesus respond with "Don't be afraid; I've got big plans for you!"

09 | Sat – Choice | Read Luke 5:11

What started out as a wasted day was transformed by this encounter. Jesus' famous words "*from now on you will be 'fishers of men' (or catch men)*" signaled a new beginning. Jesus' call was so compelling that Simon, James, and John left everything, including the miracle fish, to follow him. Their 'yes' to Jesus changed the world, literally. Do you hear that quiet voice calling you? How will you respond?

January 10 | Sun – Facing Issues That Divide: Practicing Politics While Keeping the Faith



Hastings United Methodist Church