

Community Group Study Guide
For the Week of May 14th - 20th

Please read Luke 5:1-11.

1. When Luke says that the crowd was listening to the word of God what does he mean?
 - a. Does he mean that they were listening to Jesus? (See John 1:14)
 - b. Does he mean that they were listening to Jesus speaking about God? (See Luke 8:11, 21)
 - c. Does he mean that they were listening to God speaking through Jesus? Please explain. (See Acts 8:12-14)
 - d. Does he mean all of these things? Why or why not?

2. The miracle of the fish is very similar to a post-resurrection miracle recorded in John 21:1-14.
 - a. Do you think the two evangelists were talking about the same miracle? Please explain your answer.
 - b. If so, does it matter whether or not the miracle occurred before or after the resurrection? Why or why not?
 - c. If not, why do you think the miracles are so similar?
 - d. How do the disciples recognize Jesus in John 21:6-7?

3. Jesus teaches the crowd from near the shore (verse 3), but then has Simon go into deeper water for the great catch (verse 4).
 - a. Do you think this has any significance for the analogy of fishing and fishing for men? Please explain.
 - b. How could Simon fall at Jesus feet in a sinking boat?

4. Why did Simon Peter ask Jesus to depart?
 - a. Was he worried that Jesus might drown? Why or why not?
 - b. Was he afraid of Jesus? Please

explain. (see verse 10)

- c. Had he done something wrong when he doubted that they would catch anything? Please explain.
- d. Did he feel condemned by Jesus' presence? Please explain your answer. (See Isaiah 6:5)
- e. Does he recognize the catch of the fish as a call to ministry? Why or why not?
- f. Does "Lord" mean something more than "Master"? Please explain your answer.
- g. Does Simon Peter call Jesus, "Lord" because he recognizes him as divine at this point? Please explain.

5. Is Jesus' statement that from now on Simon will be catching men a command or a prophecy?

- a. What was Jesus fishing for when he was in the boat with Simon?
- b. Do you think it's a bad thing to be a fisher of men, given what happens to the fish? Why or why not?
- c. When the fishermen left everything to follow Jesus, did they leave the fish they had just caught as well? Please explain.
- d. What does this response (leaving everything) say about the level of commitment required for these men to follow Jesus?
- e. Is there a difference between following Jesus as a disciple and the call of these men? Please explain your answer.
- f. Does the fact that the disciples can follow Jesus indicate that Simon has been forgiven of his sins? Why or why not?