

Luke 5:4-11 **Great Catch of Fish – Fishers of Men**

⁴ When He had stopped speaking, He said to Simon, "Launch out into the deep and let down your nets for a catch." ⁵ But Simon answered and said to Him, "Master, we have toiled all night and caught nothing; nevertheless at Your word I will let down the net." ⁶ And when they had done this, they caught a great number of fish, and their net was breaking. ⁷ So they signaled to their partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both the boats, so that they began to sink.

⁸ When Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, "Depart from me, for I am a sinful man, O Lord!" ⁹ For he and all who were with him were astonished at the catch of fish which they had taken; ¹⁰ and so also were James and John, the sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon. And Jesus said to Simon, "Do not be afraid. From now on you will catch men." ¹¹ So when they had brought their boats to land, they forsook all and followed Him. NKJV

Facts Revealed:

- ✚ When Jesus finished teaching the Multitude from the boat, He instructed Simon to "Launch out into the deep and let down your nets for a catch." [Luke 5:4]
- ✚ Simon was exhausted after working all night and having caught nothing, yet at the word of Jesus he agreed to comply with the advice. [Luke 5:5]
- ✚ The resultant catch was enough to nearly sink two boats. [Luke 5:6-7]
 - ✧ By our own efforts we are powerless to accomplish anything out of the ordinary, but at the Word of Jesus we can accomplish much with a lot less effort, it is the result of God working through us by the power of the Holy Spirit. We only need to discern God's Word and obey.
 - ✧ Jesus enables us for the task ahead to accomplish His Will.
 - ✧ When it was time for the disciples to forsake their businesses and follow Jesus, our Gracious Lord Jesus provided for their family by giving them an enormous catch of fish, because they were fishermen.
- ✚ Simon Peter with his business partners James and John the sons of Zebedee were astonished at the evidence before them, and realized they had just witnessed the hand of the Lord in what they had just experienced. [Luke 5:8-10]
 - ✧ Realizing the evidence revealed that Jesus was the Messiah caused them to be acutely aware of their own sinfulness.
 - ✧ Sinful mankind is very uncomfortable in the presence of Almighty God Most High, and the normal response is to fall on ones face before God in fear. This was the primary response throughout Scriptures beginning with Adam and Eve after they sinned in the Garden of Eden, and ending with John in the book of Revelation.
- ✚ Jesus used the occasion to speak of the things He had in mind for them all.
 - ✧ "Do not be afraid. From now on you will catch men." [Luke 5:10]
 - ✧ We need to show great respect and reverence toward Jesus, but we cannot do His Will in fearfulness.
 - ✧ Jesus means it all for our good in His service, and He is eager to reveal His will for our lives when we realize Who He really is, acknowledge His command, and are willing to obey.
- ✚ So when they had brought their boats to land, they forsook all and followed Him. [Luke 5:11]
 - ✧ Their families could take care of the fish and bring them to market for their own support.