

Living Water Fellowship

4th Sunday after the Epiphany – 2nd February 2025

COME TO JESUS

PRE-SERVICE MEDITATION SING (SOVEREIGN GRACE MUSIC)

SONG: All Creatures of Our God and King

WELCOME & PRAYER:

GROW IN HIS GRACE

BIBLE READING: Luke 5:1-11

¹ One day as Jesus was preaching on the shore of the Sea of Galilee, great crowds pressed in on him to listen to the word of God. ² He noticed two empty boats at the water's edge, for the fishermen had left them & were washing their nets. ³ Stepping into one of the boats, Jesus asked Simon, its owner, to push it out into the water. So he sat in the boat & taught the crowds from there.

⁴ When he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, "Now go out where it is deeper, & let down your nets to catch some fish." ⁵ "Master," Simon replied, "we worked hard all last night & didn't catch a thing. But if you say so, I'll let the nets down again." ⁶ This time their nets were so full of fish they began to tear! ⁷ A shout for help brought their partners in the other boat, & soon both boats were filled with fish & on the verge of sinking.

⁸ When Simon Peter realized what had happened, he fell to his knees before Jesus & said, "Oh, Lord, please leave me—I'm such a sinful man." ⁹ For he was awestruck by the number of fish they had caught, as were the others with him. ¹⁰ His partners, James & John, the sons of Zebedee, were also amazed. Jesus replied to Simon, "Don't be afraid! From now on you'll be fishing for people!" ¹¹ As soon as they landed, they left everything & followed Jesus.

CHILDREN'S TIME:

SONG: Shout to the North

FAITH CHAT:

1. Have you ever been part of a group project that failed? What was that like?
2. Where in your own life might God be calling you into long-term obedience despite previous failure or present objections?

THE MESSAGE: ANSWERING THE "WHY?": CALLED BY GOD

OFFERING SONG: Filled my Life with Grace (AT 524)

PRAYERS:

THE COMMUNION:

The Words of Institution & The Lord's Prayer:

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, & the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

Worship during Communion:

VIDEO – A THOUSAND HALLELUJAHS

GO IN HIS POWER

THE BLESSING:

**(Name), † child of God,
God has called you to go deeper with Christ & let down your nets!
Amen.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

SONG: Dreams and Visions (AT 249)

SHOW HIS LOVE

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Group Bible Study/Discussion:

1. Read Luke 5:1-11. What questions immediately come to mind? What strikes you as you read this text?
2. What is significant about the setting of this story in Luke 5:1-2?
3. Jesus first asks Simon to push out a bit from the shore so he can use the boat as a platform for teaching the crowds. What's Jesus' point in telling him to go deeper & let down the nets? How does Jesus' interaction with Simon differ from his interaction with the crowd?
4. What stands out to you about Simon's response to Jesus in the first half of verse 5? Is that a reasonable response given that Simon was already "*washing their nets*"? How is the second half of verse 5 & verse 6 an indication of what disciples eventually learn?
5. Have you ever, like Simon here, taken a step of obedience when what Jesus calls you to do seemed unlikely to succeed or was unreasonable? What happened? If you can't think of an example from your own life, about whom is that most telling: Jesus? or You?
6. Why do you think Simon reacted the way he did to the miraculous catch? What do you discover about Jesus when he acts contrary to your expectations? Do you live differently thereafter? Why/not?
7. What is significant about the nets beginning to "*tear*" & the boats being on "*the verge of sinking*"? What might get in our way of believing that, in our lives, Jesus is "*able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine*" (Eph 3:20)? What can we do to overcome this issue?
8. Why is Jesus' first word to Simon, as the boats founder filled with fish, "*Don't be afraid!*"? Why does Jesus issue his call to Simon, the others, & us immediately at this point?
9. What would compel these professional fishermen to leave everything to follow Jesus? What is the implication for us today?
10. Is there an area in your life where you sense Jesus is calling to "*go deeper*" to a place that defies conventional wisdom? What fears arise in that context? What do you need to be able to say, "*Master, if you say so, I will...*"?
11. What does Jesus, through this text, call you to do?

Remember:

Jesus calls you into his mission & provides all that is necessary for His call to yield abundantly through your obedience.

Continue praying through the week:

***Father prepare me for whatever you require today
and lead me in faith wherever you call me to go.***

In Jesus' Name...Amen.