

Living in Obedience

- **Day One—Read Luke 5:1-11.**

Put yourself in Simon Peter's sandals. You've tried to fish and there are none! You've cleaned the nets and you're done! Now Jesus asks you to try again. Really? Is he kidding? Does obedience to Jesus ever feel like you tried that before and it doesn't work? These are the opportunities for real faith!

Pray and thank Jesus that he knows more than you do. Surrender yourself to him anew and ask for a willingness to obey his word.

- **Day Two—Read Luke 5:1-11 (again).**

What are the situations in your life right now that seem to be without results? You've tried, but ... nothing! Maybe in your personal life, your marriage, your family, your business ... you know what Jesus is calling you to do (again!) and you feel like you've tried it before and it doesn't work! Will you trust and obey?

Pray – Right now, pray for faith to trust and obey the commands of Jesus. Confess your doubt and fear and ask for his mercy and grace.

- **Day Three— Turn the page over and choose one of the commands listed at the bottom of the page that is most challenging for you right now. Read the references below it.**

What is Jesus asking you to do?

Pray – Ask Jesus for the grace to do what you need to do and believe that as you move out in faith, he will infuse your efforts with the power of his Holy Spirit! Trust, obey, and ... “just do it!”

New Life Lessons
March 6th, 7th & 8th, 2015
Pastor Ron Salsbury

“When Obedience Makes No Sense”

More Great “Buts” #4

Luke 5:1-11; Proverbs 3:5-6

Luke 5:1-11 (NIV) ¹ One day as Jesus was standing by the Lake of Gennesaret, with the people 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 catch men."**

¹¹ So they pulled their boats up on shore, **left everything and followed him.**

Jesus Command Seemed Senseless

- ***It Was Poor Timing***
- ***They Had Already Tried***

Luke 5:5 (NIV) 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.**"

Who Were These Guys?

Simon Peter and his Brother Andrew

James and John, sons of Zebedee

Luke 6:12-16 (NIV) ¹² One of those days Jesus went out to a mountainside to pray, and spent the night praying to God.

¹³ When morning came, **he called his disciples to him and chose twelve of them, whom he also designated apostles:**

¹⁴ **Simon** (whom he named Peter), his brother **Andrew, James, John, Philip, Bartholomew,** ¹⁵ **Matthew, Thomas, James** son of Alphaeus, **Simon** who was called the Zealot, ¹⁶ **Judas** son of James, and **Judas** Iscariot, who became a traitor.

"Disciple" vs. "Apostle?"

Lessons from the "Great Catch"

1. We Must Hear the Words of Jesus.

Luke 5:4 (NIV) ⁴ When he had finished speaking, he said to **Simon**, "Put out into deep water, and let down the nets for a catch."

Matthew 7:24 (NIV) ²⁴ "Everyone who **hears these words of mine** and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock. John 8:31; 14:23; 20:30-31

How Does Jesus Speak Today?

Hebrews 4:12 (NIV) ¹² **The word of God is living and active.** Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart.

2. We Must Trust the Words of Jesus.

Luke 5:5 (NIV) 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.**" Proverbs 3:5-6

Hebrews 11:6 (NIV) ⁶ Without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must **believe that he exists** and that he **rewards those who earnestly seek him.**

3. We Must Obeey the Words of Jesus.

Luke 5:6 (NIV) ⁶ **When they had done so,** they caught such a large number of fish that their nets began to break.

John 14:15 (NIV) ¹⁵ "If you love me, **you will obey what I command.**"

2 John 1:6a (NIV) ⁶ **And this is love:** that we walk in obedience to his commands.

Matthew 28:19-20a (NIV) ¹⁹ Go and **make disciples** of all nations, **baptizing them** in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ^{20a} and **teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you.**

Love	Forgive	Pray	Fast	Give
John 13:34 Matthew 22:37-39	Matthew 6:12,14 Matthew 18:21	Matthew 6:5-13 Matthew 18:19-20	Matthew 6:16-18 Luke 5:35	Luke 6:38 John 13:13-17

Reconcile	Seek	Abide	Shine
Matthew 5:23-24 Matthew 18:15-17	Matthew 6:33 Matthew 7:24	John 15:1,4 John 8:12,31-32	Matthew 5:16 Matthew 5:14-15