

“I am a sinful man!”

Luke 5:1-11

“I am a sinful man!”

Luke 5:1-3

1 One day as Jesus was standing by the Lake of Gennesaret, the people were 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.

“I am a sinful man!”

[Sitting down was] “The usual position of teaching. The boat provided an ideal arrangement, removed from the press of the crowd, but near enough to be seen and heard.”

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“I am a sinful man!”

Luke 5:4-7

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.

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“...at Jesus’ word Peter agrees to cast the nets. This indicates potential in Peter, for he responds to Jesus’ leading...The boat overflows with fish and begins to sink... In the rush, something profound dawns on Peter. What has taken place is no accident, only an agent of God could have produced such a catch in the middle of the day.”

“I am a sinful man!”

Luke 5:8-10a

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.

“I am a sinful man!”

**“The nearer people come to God,
the more they feel their own
sinfulness unworthiness...”**

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Genesis 18:27

Then Abraham spoke up again:

**“Now that I have been so bold
as to speak to the Lord, though I
am nothing but dust and ashes,**

“I am a sinful man!”

Job 42:1-6

1 Then Job replied to the LORD:

2 “I know that you can do all things; no purpose of yours can be thwarted. **3** You asked, ‘Who is this that obscures my plans without knowledge?’ Surely I spoke of things I did not understand, things too wonderful for me to know.”

4 “You said, ‘Listen now, and I will speak; I will question you, and you shall answer me.’ **5** My ears had heard of you but now my eyes have seen you.

6 Therefore I despise myself and repent in dust and ashes.”

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Isaiah 6:5

“Woe to me!” I cried. “I am ruined! For I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips, and my eyes have seen the King, the LORD Almighty.”

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Revelation 1:17

When I saw him, I fell at his feet as though dead. Then he placed his right hand on me and said: “Do not be afraid. I am the First and the Last.

“I am a sinful man!”

Luke 5:10b-11

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.

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Mark 1:16-20

16 As Jesus walked beside the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the lake, for they were fishermen.

17 “Come, follow me,” Jesus said, “and I will make you fishers of men.” **18** At once they left their nets and followed him.

19 When he had gone a little farther, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John in a boat, preparing their nets.

20 Without delay he called them, and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men and followed him.

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John 1:35-51

35 The next day John was there again with two of his disciples. **36** When he saw Jesus passing by, he said, “Look, the Lamb of God!” **37** When the two disciples heard him say this, they followed Jesus. **38** Turning around, Jesus saw them following and asked, “What do you want?” They said, “Rabbi” (which means “Teacher”), “where are you staying?”

39 “Come,” he replied, “and you will see.” So they went and saw where he was staying, and they spent that day with him. It was about the tenth hour. **40**

Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother, was one of the two who heard what John had said and who had followed Jesus. **41** The first thing Andrew did was to find his brother Simon and tell him, “We have found the Messiah” (that is, the Christ).

42 And he brought him to Jesus. Jesus looked at him and said, “You are Simon son of John. You will be called Cephas” (which, when translated, is Peter). **43** The next day Jesus decided to leave for Galilee. Finding Philip, he said to him, “Follow me.” **44** Philip, like Andrew and Peter, was from the town of Bethsaida.

45 Philip found Nathanael and told him, “We have found the one Moses wrote about in the Law, and about whom the prophets also wrote — Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph.”

46 “Nazareth! Can anything good come from there?” Nathanael asked. “Come and see,” said Philip. **47** When Jesus saw Nathanael approaching, he said of him, “Here truly is an Israelite in whom there is nothing false.”

48 “How do you know me?”
Nathanael asked. Jesus answered,
“I saw you while you were still
under the fig tree before Philip
called you.” **49** Then Nathanael
declared, “Rabbi, you are the Son
of God; you are the king of Israel.”

50 Jesus said, “You believe because I told you I saw you under the fig tree. You will see greater things than that.”

51 He then added, “ I tell you the truth, you will see heaven open, and the angels of God ascending and descending on the Son of Man.”

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“The disciples respond to Jesus’ call by leaving all and follow Him. That was the last time they spent the day just as fishermen. Jesus changes people’s priorities. A call to ministry transcends their previous vocation.”

Darrell Bock

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“Luke used this incident as a paradigm to show what it means to be a Christian. Being a Christian involves following Jesus and leaving everything (Luke 5:11).”

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Irresistible grace/Effectual calling:

“Simply put, the doctrine of irresistible grace refers to the biblical truth that whatever God decrees to happen will inevitably come to pass, even in the salvation of individuals. The Holy Spirit will work in the lives of the elect so that they inevitably will come to faith in Christ.”

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“The Bible teaches that the Holy Spirit never fails to bring to salvation those sinners whom He personally calls to Christ. At the heart of this doctrine is the answer to the question: Why does one person believe the Gospel and another does not?”

Applications

- **Jesus does the calling:
“Follow Me”**
- **When Jesus calls, you will follow**
- **He’s in control**

Final Thoughts

“In the midst of teaching many, Jesus calls a few people to more focused service. Everyone has a ministry, and all are equal before God, but some are called to serve Him directly. Peter has the three necessary qualities Jesus is looking for. He is willing to go where Jesus leads, he is humble, and he is fully committed.”

Darrell Bock

Final Thoughts

Matthew 11:25-30

25 At that time Jesus said, “I praise you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and learned, and revealed them to little children. **26** Yes, Father, for this is what you were pleased to do.

27 “All things have been committed to me by my Father. No one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and those to whom the Son chooses to reveal him. **28** “Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.

29 Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.

30 For my yoke is easy and my burden is light.”