

Reflection Questions: Luke 5:1-11

For the message, "Going Fishing with Jesus" given by Pastor John Ferguson at Mercy Hill Church in Bryan/College Station, Texas, on February 24, 2019

These reflection questions are designed to help you apply the message from the Scriptures by helping you think through application to your personal life, your church life, and your city's life.

You can use these by yourself for reflection, or with your family or small group for discussion.

To review the message, go to MercyHillBCS.org/resources/messages.

INTRODUCTION

Pray. Take a moment to ask God to guide you in reflecting upon the Scripture text.

Read the Scripture text: Luke 16:1-15

1 On one occasion, while the crowd was pressing in on him to hear the word of God, he was standing by the lake of Gennesaret, **2** and he saw two boats by the lake, but the fishermen had gone out of them and were washing their nets. **3** Getting into one of the boats, which was Simon's, he asked him to put out a little from the land. And he sat down and taught the people from the boat. **4** And when he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, "Put out into the deep and let down your nets for a catch."

5 And Simon answered, "Master, we toiled all night and took nothing! But at your word I will let down the nets." **6** And when they had done this, they enclosed a large number of fish, and their nets were breaking. **7** 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** But 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 that they had taken, **10** and so also were James and John, sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon. And Jesus said to Simon, "Do not be afraid; from now on you will be catching men." **11** And when they had brought their boats to land, they left everything and followed him.

A summary of the message

This is what it means to be a disciple of Jesus: we release our hold on our life and turn it over to Jesus, entrusting him with our very selves, our future, and everything we've got. Simply because he is worth it.

Key Points:

- Our sin, though it should disqualify us from standing in the presence of Jesus, actually qualifies us for his grace.
- Jesus doesn't ask us about our abilities or inabilities, but only our availability.

Key Quotes:

- NT Wright, "When Jesus calls, he certainly does demand everything, but only because he has already given everything himself, and has plans in store for us and the world that we would never have dreamed of."

Bottom Line:

- Following Jesus looks like moving out of our comfort zones and joining him in his mission of changing the world.
-

Let's get started...

- What initially grabs your attention in this text? How are you challenged, convicted, encouraged, or surprised by this text? What questions or thoughts arise as you reflect on what its saying?

QUESTIONS

1. Let's think about how this text applies to our lives as individuals.

- How does this text help us to understand our personal stories in the light of God's story of redemption?
- How does this text clarify what God wants to do in my life? How would you answer the question, "What kind of me is God calling me to be?"
- Do you find it easy or difficult to believe that Jesus wants to use you for his kingdom purposes? Explain.

2. Let's think about how this text applies to us as a community of Jesus' followers.

- How does this text help us to understand the kind of church we want MHC to be? In other words, what does God want to do not merely for us or in us, but through us?
- What would it look like for us a church community if we are to live out this text in our city? What would we need to change? What would we need to repent of? How would we need to grow both in terms of intentionality and motivation?

3. Let's think about how this text applies to our city.

- How does this text help us understand God's mission in our city, what he wants to do right here in BCS? How might we align ourselves with what God is doing in this city?
- What is the cost, not only for us but also for this city, if we ignore the message of this text?

CONCLUSION QUESTION

What is the one thing you want to take away from this study to remember or to make a change in your life?

PRAYER

What are some ways you can turn what you are learning into prayer? List them as bullet points....

- _____
- _____