

A person wearing a yellow jacket and a blue backpack is seen from behind, looking out over a vast mountain range. The mountains are partially covered in snow and have a blueish tint. The scene is framed by a white, torn-paper-like border. In the top left corner, there is a grid of small brown dots. In the bottom right corner, there is another grid of small brown dots.

Committed

TO GOD

"There are no casual Christians"

or
Committed

TO SELF

COMMITTED TO GOD'S REACH

Luke 5:1-11

THE CALL TO FISH



JOHN 1:35-42

- John 1:40–41 ⁴⁰ One of the two who heard John *speak*, and followed Him, was Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother. ⁴¹ He first found his own brother Simon, and said to him, “We have found the Messiah” (which is translated, the Christ).



WARREN WIERSBE SAYS OF SIMON PETER

- Simon's interview with Jesus changed his life. It also gave him a new name—*Peter* in the Greek, *Cephas* in the Aramaic that Jesus spoke—both of which mean “a rock.” It took a great deal of work for Jesus to transform weak Simon into a rock, but He did it! **“Thou art ... thou shalt be” is a great encouragement to all who trust Christ. Truly, He gives us the “power to become” (John 1:12).**

COMMITTED TO GOD'S REACH

I. The Fisherman Needs to Reach Out

A. The Lord Involves Us in the Process

If We Are Open (v. 1-3)

LUKE 5:1-3

- Luke 5:1–3
- **5** So it was, as the multitude pressed about Him to hear the word of God, that He stood by the Lake of Gennesaret, ² and saw two boats standing by the lake; but the fishermen had gone from them and were washing *their* nets. ³ Then He got into one of the boats, which was Simon's, and asked him to put out a little from the land. And He sat down and taught the multitudes from the boat.

FISHERS OF MEN

- Luke 5:10¹⁰ 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.”**



INTENTIONAL WITNESSING

• **If you want to be involved in being a witness for the Lord, you need to be intentional. Know that it will cost something. It isn't always going to be convenient. It will involve:**

- **Planning**
- **Prayer**
- **Effort**
- **Finances**
- **Time**
- **Hospitality**
- **Your whole heart!**

FBC INTENTIONAL WITNESSING OPPORTUNITIES

In 2023,

- Free Market, Sat, May 6 – connect and serve our neighborhood
- Day Camp – 4 wks- June 19- July 14 minister to our community families
- Short term Mission Trips- Taiwan/ El Cajon
- Easter, Thanksgiving and Christmas Programs
- Harvest Carnival- Fri, Oct 27
- Sports Ministries- Pickleball, Basketball & Volleyball

COMMITTED TO GOD'S REACH

I. The Fisherman Needs to Reach Out

A. The Lord Involves Us in the Process If We Are Open (v. 1-3)

B. Listens to God's Instruction (v. 4-5)

LUKE 5:4-5

- Luke 5:4–5 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.”

COMMITTED TO GOD'S REACH

- I. The Fisherman Needs to Reach Out
 - A. The Lord Involves Us in the Process If We Are Open (v. 1-3)
 - B. Listens to God's Instruction (v. 4-5)
 - 1. God Gives Direction (v. 4)

THE GREAT COMMISSION

- Acts 1:8 ⁸ But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.”

COMMITTED TO GOD'S REACH

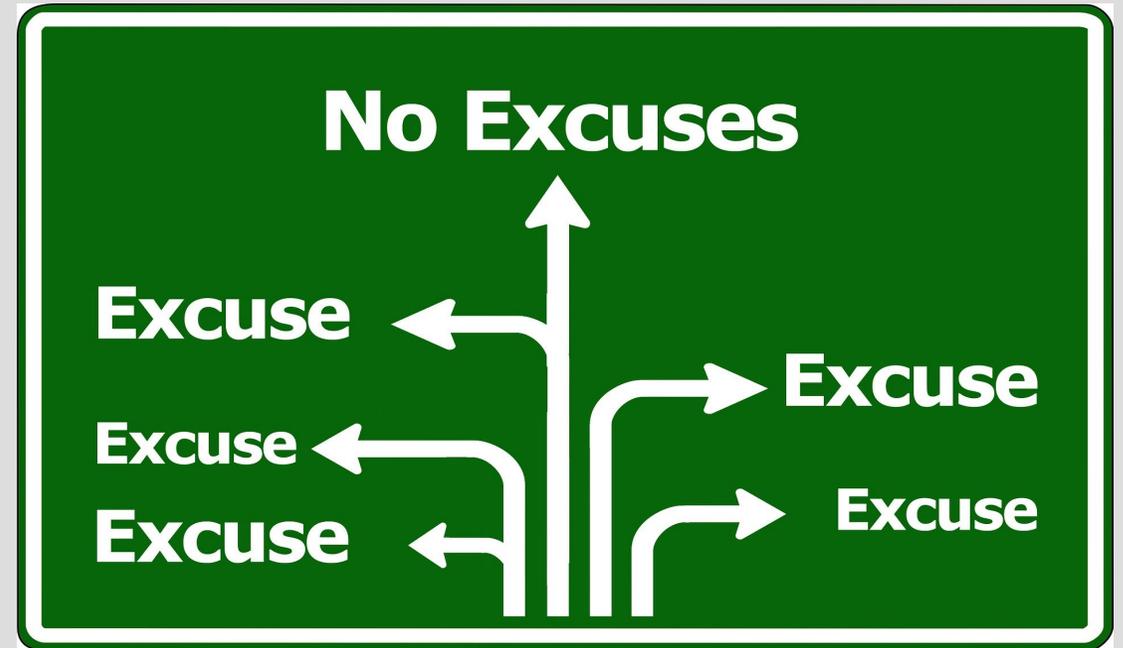
I. The Fisherman Needs to Reach Out

A. The Lord Involves Us in the Process If We Are Open (v. 1-3)

B. Listens to God's Instruction (v. 4-5)

1. God Gives Direction (v. 4)
2. Set Aside Excuses (v. 5)

2. SET ASIDE EXCUSES



COMMITTED TO GOD'S REACH

I. The Fisherman Needs to Reach Out (v. 1-5)

A. The Lord Involves Us in the Process If We Are Open (v. 1-3)

B. Listens to God's Instruction (v. 4-5)

1. Jesus Gives Direction (v. 4)

2. Set Aside Excuses (v. 5)

II. God Always Reaches Out (v. 6-11)

A. God Brings the End Result (v. 6-7)

2 PETER 3:9

- God's Heart for Man
 - 2 Peter 3:9 -
 - ⁹ The Lord is not slack concerning *His* promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance.

LUKE 5:6-7

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.

TODAY'S GENERATIONS

- Millennials (b. 1981- 1996- age 27-42),
- Gen Z population (1997- 2009- age 11-26)
- GenAlpha (b. 2010-25- age 0-10)

“HE GETS ME” COMMERCIALS

- "Our research shows that many people's only exposure to Jesus is through Christians who reflect him imperfectly, and too often in ways that create a distorted or incomplete picture of his radical compassion and love for others," **He Gets Us** spokesperson **Jason Vanderground** declared when asked to respond to ongoing attacks. "We believe it's more important now than ever for the real, authentic Jesus to be represented in the public marketplace as he is in the Bible."

\$100 MILLION- 1 BILLION OVER SEVERAL
YEARS- CHRISTIAN DONORS

- "The goal is that the two commercials will not only inspire those who may be skeptical of Christianity to ask questions and learn more about Jesus, but also encourage Christians to live out their faith even better and exhibit the same confounding love and forgiveness Jesus modeled."

BEING THE BEST POSSIBLE WITNESS

1. Take time to develop a friendship with people.
2. Have a genuine love and care for the individual.
3. Listen to people better
4. Look for opportunities to connect with the individual
5. Share the clear message of the Gospel when God gives you opportunity
6. Be willing to share self, possessions and hospitality

COMMITTED TO GOD'S REACH

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1. Jesus Gives Direction (v. 4)

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II. God Always Reaches Out (v. 6-11)

A. God Brings the End Result (v. 6-7)

B. All Recognizes God's Power and Work (v. 8-9)

LUKE 5:8-9

- Luke 5:8–9 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;

PHILIPPIANS 2:8-11

- Philippians 2:8–11 ⁸ And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to *the point of death*, even the death of the cross. ⁹ Therefore **God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name,** ¹⁰ **that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth,** ¹¹ **and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord,** to the glory of God the Father.

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B. All Recognizes God's Power and Work (v. 8-9)

C. Greater Call to "Catch Men" and follow Christ (v. 10, 11)

LUKE 5:10-11

- Luke 5:10–11 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.

9 MARKS OF A HEALTHY CHURCH

- **In order to fulfill Jesus' command to make disciples of all nations (Matt. 28:19), churches must:**
 1. Relentlessly preach the gospel.
 2. Teach people to obey everything Jesus commanded.
 3. Equip every member to personally evangelize.
 4. Seek opportunities to partner with missionaries in other nations.
 5. Pray that God would raise up members who would bring the gospel to other nations.

CONCLUSION

- 1. God wants us to be intentional in being a witness for Christ. It is easy to hide, defer or ignore our need to witness. God commands it because it is good for our spiritual walk – boldness, compassion for others, selflessness, dependence on God.
- 2. What are you doing to connect with people and look to share the Gospel? Are you hiding more and not considering the souls of your family, friends and neighbors?
- 3.





