

SERMON APPLICATION GUIDE

A NEW NORMAL

LUKE 5:1-11

APR.19, 2015

TAKEAWAYS

Write out your one-sentence takeaways. Consider writing these on a notecard and putting it on your mirror, desk, or car dashboard.

What part of the sermon do you not want to forget?

What do you need to put off and put on?

What do you need to share with someone?

NEXT STEPS

Here are some possible next steps to walk in this truth this week.

- Make time this week to take a prayer-filled inventory of your life. Ask God to show where you may not be fully committed to Him, and have a spouse or friend help you in this process.
- Confess the areas of which you have fallen short, and then thank the Lord for His grace and forgiveness.
- Put together an action plan to attack your weaknesses in the power of the Spirit and with the help of your small group. Focus on one area of your life at a time.
- Listen and worship the Lord listening to songs like: "All I Have is Christ" by Sovereign Grace Music and "All Glory be to Christ" by Kings Kaleidoscope.

FOR FURTHER STUDY

For those wanting to study some of the key ideas in more detail here are some cross-references and resources.

- For a book that walks through the commands of Jesus, read John Piper's *What Jesus Demands from the World*.
- For a great resource on the ordinary disciplines of the Christian life look check out *Spiritual Disciplines for the Christian Life* by Don Whitney.
- If you're looking to learn more about the disciples take a look at John MacArthur's book *Twelve Ordinary Men*.
- **What Jesus commands of his disciples:** John 3:3, Matt. 4:17, John 8:31-32, Mark 12:29-30, Matt, 6:24, Luke 18:1
- **Cost of following Jesus:** Matt. 10:37-38, Luke 14:25-33, I John 3:13, Mark 8: 34, Matt. 8:22, Luke 18:18-30, I Cor. 6:19-20, I Peter 4:12-16

APPLICATION & DISCUSSION

These questions focus on the sermon text and message. We've highlighted key ones but use however many your group needs.

1. In what ways have the members of your group seen evidences of grace from God? Celebrate together God's activity in your lives!
2. What part of the sermon was most impactful to you and why?
3. In Luke 5:1-11 we see Jesus call his first disciples. Looking at the passage, what do you think it means to be a disciple of Christ? What are the qualities of true disciples? Make a list of these qualities, but make sure Scripture supports each one. (Luke 5: 1,5,8,9,10), (See John 6:56-71, and the "Further Study" passages for help).
4. As you look at your list, what are some things in this world that make it difficult to follow Jesus into the "deep" water? What about for you personally? What are some ways or areas in your life it is hard to be "all in" for Christ? Explain your answer.
5. What was Peter's reaction after he saw Jesus' miracle? Why did he bring up his sinfulness? When we encounter Jesus in the Word, His creation, in our lives or in the lives of others how do we usually react? Is it similar to Peter's reaction? Why or why not?
6. At the end of our passage we see the fisherman leave everything and follow Jesus. Why do you think they did this? Why have you decided to follow Jesus? What makes Jesus worth leaving everything else behind?
7. How can your group encourage one another to surrender all of areas of life to Christ? See "Next Steps" for further application.

HOW TO PRAY

Pray over the praises and requests of those around you but here are some additional ways to pray into our passage this week.

- Praise God for opening your eyes to see the beauty and majesty of God, then lift up specific characteristics of Jesus that you're thankful for.
- Confess to the Lord where you have lacked faith and trust in God's promises, and ask Him to increase your faith in those areas.
- Have each person in your group pray for someone they know who is not a believer. Ask the Lord to open a door for the gospel, and boldness to share the good news of Jesus with them.
- Pray for SERVE|15 in these ways:
 - Thank God for the close to 800 volunteers and 43 team leaders registered for SERVE.
 - Pray that the projects would truly serve our partners and our city.
 - Pray for gospel conversations to take place during the projects.
 - Pray that people would see our good works and glorify our Father in heaven.