

PETER'S CALLING

We begin a new Saturday night study about the Life of Peter. This study will last seven weeks (April 9- May 21). It will conclude with a Memorial Day family picnic at Oak Mt. State Park (11am until).

All of the seven studies on the Life of Peter will come from the following seven passages from the Book of Matthew.

- Peter's Calling – Matt.4:18-22
- Peter's Mother-in-law's Healing – Matt.8:14-17
- Peter's Walking on Water – Matt.14:22-33
- Peter's Confession – Matt.16:13-24
- Peter's at the Transfiguration – Matt.17:1-22
- Peter at Gethsemane – Matt.26:36-56
- Peter's Great Denial – Matt.26:31-35, 69-75

Today's lesson will study Peter's Calling to become a follower of Jesus Christ. It is recorded in the synoptic gospels (Matt.4:18-22; Mark 1:16-20; and Luke 5:1-11).

We will study our lesson text by the following three homiletical points.

- Fishermen (4:18-19) – vocation
- Followers (4:20-22) – voluntary
- Fish story (Luke 5:1-11) – vision

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| This lesson will study FIVE aspects of Peter's Calling to become a follower of Jesus Christ. |
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1. The first century (AD) believers were known by the following eight names.

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| • Followers | (akolouthos) | Matt.4:20-22; 16:24 |
| • Disciples | (mathetes) | Matt.28:19-20; Mark 2:18; John 8:31; 9:28; 13:35 |
| • My Sheep | (probaton) | Matt.10:6;15:24;Jn10:3,11-15,27-30;21;17;1Pet.2:25;Heb.13:20 |
| • The Way | (hodos) | John 14:6; Acts 9:1-5; 19:9, 23; 24:14, 22 |
| • Christians | (christianos) | Acts 11:26; 1 Pet.4:16 |
| • Church | (ekklesia) | Acts 20:28; Eph.1:22; 5:23; 1 Cor.12:12-13, 27 |
| • Sect | (hairesis) | Acts 24:56, 14; 28:22 |
| • Brethren | (adelphos) | Matt.28:10; John 20:17; Rom.12:10; Heb.13:1; 2 Pet.1:4-10 |

2. Jesus called them to become fishers of men – “I will make (poieo / f.a.ind) you fishers of men (halieus anthropos).” (4:19)

They understood that this meant a change of vocation (fisher of fish to fisher of men) – “And they **immediately** (eutheos / adverb) left (aphiemi / a.a.ptc) the nets and followed (akoloutheo / a.a.ind) Him.” (4:20)

Note that this was true for both sets of brothers (Andrew and Peter) and (James and John) (4:20, 22).

“So they pulled their boats up on the shore, **left everything and followed Him.**” (Luke 5:11)

3. From divine viewpoint, these brothers went from self-employment to Jesus employment.

However, from human viewpoint, other may have seen them go from employment to unemployment.

- Peter how are you going to live? (Jesus)
- Peter how are you going to support yourself, your family, and your ministry? (Jesus)
- Peter how will you get paid? (Jesus)

- Secular work (fishers of fish) + wages (selling and eating fish) = purchasing power (making a living).
- Spiritual work (fishers of men) + JESUS (1 Cor.9: 3-18) law of supreme sacrifice = grace meeting needs (Matt.14: 13-21; Phil.4: 14-20).

4. Jesus recruited them with a fishing miracle (Luke 5:1-11) the vision.

We will study Luke 5:1-11 by the following six homiletical points.

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| • Teaching | lake | (5:1) |
| • Two boats docked | loaned one | (5:2-3) |
| • Tired | labor but no fish | (5:4-5) |
| • Trolling | large number of fish | (5:6-7) |
| • Testimony | Lord, I am a sinful man | (5:8-9) |
| • Two sets of brothers | Left everything to follow Jesus | (5:10-11) |

This fishing miracle helped them make their decision to step out on faith to follow Jesus into full time ministry.

They learned that fishing without Jesus was toil and tiring but fishing with Jesus was miraculous, meaningful, and motivational.

5. Notice that the call to become fishers of men required a volitional response (4:19-22).

A volitional response is required in Christian service as well as salvation – “For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek.” (Rom.1:16).

Jesus is still recruiting fishers of men. Some are being recruited for full time with the spiritual gift of communicator (Eph.4: 11) and everyone else for part time as ambassadors for Christ (2 Cor.5: 18-21).

It is Jesus who makes us FISHERS OF MEN – “And I will make you fishers of men.” (4:19)

On this fishing day, Jesus caught four keepers – Andrew, Peter, James, and John.

They became the first four of the twelve apostles of Jesus.