

Bible Study for Sunday, Sunday February 9, 2025

Our texts for this Sunday are:

- Isaiah 6:1-8
- Luke 5:1-11

Read Luke 5:1-11

5 Once while Jesus was standing beside the lake of Gennesaret, and the crowd was pressing in on him to hear the word of God, ²he saw two boats there at the shore of the lake; the fishermen had gone out of them and were washing their nets. ³He got into one of the boats, the one belonging to Simon, and asked him to put out a little way from the shore. Then he sat down and taught the crowds from the boat. ⁴When he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, "Put out into the deep water and let down your nets for a catch." ⁵Simon answered, "Master, we have worked all night long but have caught nothing. Yet if you say so, I will let down the nets." ⁶When they had done this, they caught so many fish that their nets were beginning to break. ⁷So they signaled their partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both boats, so that they began to sink. ⁸But when Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, "Go away from me, Lord, for I am a sinful man!" ⁹For he and all who were with him were amazed at the catch of fish that they had taken; ¹⁰and so also were James and John, sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon. Then Jesus said to Simon, "Do not be afraid; from now on you will be catching people." ¹¹When they had brought their boats to shore, they left everything and followed him.

What questions do you have for this text? Why is this story in the Bible and what do you think we are supposed to learn from it?

What might Jesus want the people to learn about Himself in these verses? What is your favorite part of this story and why?

What are your thoughts on who should do evangelism? If your answer was everybody, do you see yourself as an evangelist? Why or why not?

In this story Simon Peter was done for the day. He had fished all night and caught nothing. He was "washing his nets." Jesus told him to go out into the deep and cast his nets.... again.

- Have you ever been to the point spiritually in your service to God that you were *done*?
- Share a time when you were done...but then when you didn't quit you were glad that you didn't.

Discuss the statement: "It's not that the Church has a mission from God, but that God's mission has a Church." How does this statement impact how we understand the role of the church (that would be us) in the activity of God in the world?

Throughout Scripture we see often that human inadequacy is no obstacle for God. God calls imperfect and often doubtful people to do God's work all the time. What do you make of Peter's response that he was unworthy and sinful? Is this a valid excuse?

On the surface this story looks like it is about fishing and catching things. But I wonder if it's more about taking risks and stepping outside our comfort zones? Why does sharing our faith (that is clearly important to us) often feel so scary?

What are some pros and cons (if any) of Christians being **trained** to share their faith?

If you were to receive some *training* for talking about your faith, what would be helpful? Why do you think *that* would be helpful?

What is the scariest aspect of being involved in evangelism for you?

Isaiah 6:1-8 In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lofty; and the hem of his robe filled the temple. ²Seraphs were in attendance above him; each had six wings: with two they covered their faces, and with two they covered their feet, and with two they flew. ³And one called to another and said: "Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory." ⁴The pivots on the thresholds shook at the voices of those who called, and the house filled with smoke. ⁵And I said: "Woe is me! I am lost, for I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips; yet my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts!" ⁶Then one of the seraphs flew to me, holding a live coal that had been taken from the altar with a pair of tongs. ⁷The seraph touched my mouth with it and said: "Now that this has touched your lips, your guilt has departed and your sin is blotted out." ⁸Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?" And I said, "Here am I; send me!"

What part of this text do you like? How would you feel if this vision happened to you? Would you tell anyone about the vision?

Why do you think God gave this vision to Isaiah at the beginning of his ministry?

What was God doing in verse 7? What might God be taking away?

Talk about why Isaiah and the people are described as having unclean lips? What does "unclean lips" mean to you? Is there any significance to this particular body part being called out?