

REVIEW

1. Influence

- a) John the Baptist
- b) Andrew
- c) The Lord Jesus Christ

2. Impact

- a) Ministry of John the Baptist
- b) The Word he preached about the Messiah
- c) The general impact

3. Individual Response

- a) Different for each individual
- b) Individual response must be carefully considered
 - i) Group response
 - ii) Individual response

THE CALLING OF THE FIRST DISCIPLES

1. General Notation

- a) In Matthew's Gospel
Matthew 4:18-22
- b) In Mark's Gospel
Mark 1:16-20
- c) In Luke's Gospel
Luke 5:1-11
- d) In John's Gospel
John 1:35-42
Pre-call Visitation

2. A Special Feature

Luke 5:1-11

- a) Explanation of how Peter came to decide that he would follow Jesus
- b) This highlight's the focus on "The Individual response" angle

CONTEXT

1. Location

- a) Galilee
- b) Lake of Gennesaret Luke 5:1
This was Luke's term of reference
 - i) Fresh water lake
 - ii) River Jordan feeds it
 - iii) Underground springs
- c) Other names
 - i) Sea of Galilee
 - ii) Sea of Tiberias

2. Timing

- a) The fishermen were washing their nets Luke 5:2
- b) The fishing is done in the night

3. Ministry of the Lord Jesus Christ

- a) Preaching to the Multitudes
- b) Teaching the Multitudes from a boat belonging to Simon Luke 5:3

4. End of teaching ministry

- a) Jesus spoke to Simon directly Luke 5:4
Note the focus on Simon as an individual

b) “Launch out into the deep, and let down your nets for a catch” Luke 5:4
An unusual word. Three things may be noted:

i) Catching of fish was near the shore... And not “the deep”

ii) Fishing was done in the night... And not in the day

iii) A catch was promised... How could anyone make such a claim?

5. Simon’s response to Jesus

a) Master Luke 5:5a
Greek “Epistata”

i) General term of respect

ii) Greek general reference equivalent to a “Teacher” (Rabbi)

b) Puzzled statement of Peter

i) He had not been known for speaking much (John 1)

ii) “We have toiled all night and caught nothing” Luke 5:5b

iii) “Nevertheless, at Your word I will let down the net” Luke 5:5c

6. A miracle

a) Fishing was not done alone

b) A team of fishermen had to work together (trawling)
Peter and Andrew (Family team)

c) To the great surprise of all the fishermen

i) They caught a great number of fish Luke 5:6a

ii) Their net was breaking Luke 5:6b

d) They signaled to their partners
Possibly James and John

i) They were in the other boat Luke 5:7a

ii) They came to offer help Luke 5:7b

iii) They filled their boats and they were beginning to sink Luke 5:7c

7. Peter's response

a) When Peter saw it

i) Understanding dawned on him

ii) He began to fathom who Jesus really was

b) Peter's response

a) He fell down at Jesus' knees Luke 5:8a

b) "Depart from me for I am a sinful man" Luke 5:8b

i) Sinfulness was felt

ii) Jesus did not say a word to Peter about his sin

iii) Consciousness of sin and guilt

c) "O Lord"

i) "Master" Epistata... Not a good enough word now

ii) Jesus was addressed appropriately as "Lord" (kurios)

iii) He was more than a Master, more than a Rabbi

iv) His brother Andrew was right

v) Jesus was the Messiah... the Lord!

8. Response of Peter and all who were with him

a) They were astonished at the catch of fish Luke 5:9

b) They had seen a miracle right before their eyes

c) James and John were mentioned as "partners" with Simon Luke 5:10a

9. Jesus personal word to Simon

a) "Do not be afraid" Luke 5:10b

b) "From now you will catch men" Luke 5:10c

10. After returning to the shore

a) They forsook all

b) They followed Jesus Luke 5:11

i) Simon and Andrew

ii) James and John

INDIVIDUAL RESPONSE

(Peter's example)

1. Consciousness of who Jesus really is

a) Saviour

b) Lord

2. Conviction of personal sin

a) Sinfulness confessed

b) Unworthiness expressed

3. Commitment

a) To forsake all

b) To follow Jesus