

# LET DOWN YOUR NETS

LUKE 5:1-11

CHURCH GROUP SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE – FEBRUARY 1, 2026

---

## SCRIPTURE READING

*Read Luke 5:1-11 The full passage is essential for today's discussion.*

## SERMON RECAP

The theme in this week's passage "Let Down Your Net" is about the kind of faith that calls us to surrender our "yes" to Jesus. Three (3) ways the story in Luke 5:1-11 unfolds:

1. **The Call** - Whenever Jesus calls us to do something, it's never ultimately about that thing. It's always ultimately about HIM.
2. **The Response** - Jesus' call requires us to choose whether we trust Him enough to do what he says or to settle for what we know.
3. **The Adventure** - Jesus calls us to step into a life of adventure with Him more than we could ever imagine. His call is an invitation to participate in something bigger than what we can see.

Pastor Mike outlined what the call to Let Down Your Nets means for us as a Church Family – Vision 2030.

- This will include taking intentional steps of faith together, believing that God wants to move in and through our lives in ways that can only be explained by His power.
- **1-5-10-20** below is a summary of four (4) strategic ways MBC envisions responding to Jesus' call to *Let Down Our Nets 1-5-10-20*

1-5-10-20	
REACH 01	<i>We are going out of our way to reach one (1) person at a time for Christ personally and intentionally</i>
START 05	<i>Together, we are committed to starting five (5) congregations in the DMV so more neighbors are within reach of a gospel-centered church family.</i>
DISCIPLE 10K	<i>Together, we are committing to helping the 10,000 people who attend MBC move from attendance to actively following Jesus</i>
IMPACT 20K	<i>Together, we are committed to praying, giving, and going in order to impact 20 million around the world with the good news of Jesus</i>

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

*Observation: What does this passage say?*

1. Read Luke 5:1-11 as a group. Let group members share observations. Try not to move into interpretation of the passage or application of what you read quite yet. Simply share what you observe.
2. Where is Jesus at the beginning of the passage, and what was He doing? Luke 5:1-3
3. Who is present with Jesus, and what are they doing as the scene unfolds? Luke 5:1-2
4. What specific instruction does Jesus give to Simon in verses 3-4?
5. How did Simon initially respond to Jesus' command? and what reason does he give for his initial response? Luke 5:5
6. What happens when Simon follows Jesus' instruction? What do Simon and the others witness? How did they react? Luke 5:6-9
7. What words of encouragement does Jesus speak to Simon? Luke 5:10

8. What command does Jesus give in verse 10? How did Simon, James and John respond? Luke 5:11
9. How would you summarize Luke 5:1-11?

***Interpretation: What does the passage mean?***

1. When Jesus said, “Put out into the deep and let down your nets”, what was this a precursor to in v4? Matthew 28:19-20
2. Put yourself in Simon’s shoes: how might he have been feeling? What was he thinking about Jesus’ command in v4.
  - What makes his response, “But at your word I will let down the nets,” so remarkable? Luke 5:5
  - What does his response teach us? Ezekiel 37:4-7; Hebrew 11:6
3. Why was this miracle necessary for the disciples to experience before being called to “catch men”? Luke 5:6-7
4. What does Simon’s reaction, “depart from me, for I am a sinful man” reveal about his understanding about Jesus in Luke v.8?
  - What do we learn from others with similar reactions being in God’s presence? Isaiah 6:1-8; Ezekiel 1:28
  - What was Jesus’ response to Simon in Luke 5:9-10, and what do you learn from it? James 4:6, 10; 1 Peter 5:5
5. What does it mean to leave “everything” to follow Jesus? Luke 5:11; Matthew 16:24-25; Luke 9:57-62
  - What does this reveal about the cost of following Jesus compared to the value of knowing him? Philippians 3:7-11
6. What does it mean for us as a church family to Let Down our Nets?

***Application: How can we apply this passage to our lives?***

1. When have you sensed Jesus asking you to do something that didn’t make sense or seem illogical or impossible at the time, similar to Simon being told to let down the nets again?
  - How did you respond? What did you experience?
  - How much weight do you give to Jesus’ words when they contradict your feelings or logic?
2. What areas in your life is Jesus calling for you to let down your nets and surrender your “yes: to Him?
  - Is every area of your daily life at Jesus’ disposal?
  - What are some comforts, distractions, sins, or unbelief in your life that you are finding it hard to leave behind to say yes to Jesus?
  - What “empty nets” may be tempting you to rely on your own experience or effort instead of trusting Jesus?
  - How are you experiencing fear or discouragement, or finding it difficult to trust Jesus right now? How can your Church Group be praying for you?
3. Individually and as a Church Group, what could God do through you if you were willing to give Him your “Yes”?
  - In what ways do you sense Him calling, or even commanding, you to take a step of faith?