

“Who’s Counting On You?”

Part 3

Tuesday, March 19, 2019

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Luke 5:1-11 (KJV) And it came to pass, that, as the people pressed upon him to hear the word of God, he stood by the lake of Gennesaret, ² And saw two ships standing by the lake: but the fishermen were gone out of them, and were washing their nets. ³ And he entered into one of the ships, which was Simon's, and prayed him that he would thrust out a little from the land. And he sat down, and taught the people out of the ship. ⁴ Now when he had left speaking, he said unto **Simon, Launch out into the deep, and let down your nets for a draught.** ⁵ And Simon answering said unto him, Master, we have toiled all the night, and have taken nothing: **nevertheless at thy word I will let down the net.** ⁶ And when they had this done, they inclosed a great multitude of fishes: and their net brake. ⁷ And they beckoned unto their partners, which were in the other ship, that they should come and help them. And they came, and filled both the ships, so that they began to sink. ⁸ When Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, **Depart from me; for I am a sinful man, O Lord.** ⁹ For he was astonished, and all that were with him, at the draught of the fishes which they had taken: ¹⁰ And so was also James, and John, the sons of Zebedee, which were partners with Simon. And Jesus said unto Simon, **Fear not; from henceforth thou shalt catch men.** ¹¹ And when they had brought their ships to land, **they forsook all, and followed him.**

(T) Mark 1:17 “Come follow me and I will transform you into men who catch people instead of fish!”¹⁸ Immediately they dropped their nets and left everything behind to follow Jesus.

Peter was already a fisherman- he came from a whole family of fishermen. When it came to fishing Peter knew what he was doing... “match the hatch..” etymology- study of bugs

“I will make you fishers of Men”

Mark 1:17- “Come follow me and **I will** transform you into men who catch people instead of fish!”¹⁸ Immediately they dropped their nets and left everything behind **to follow Jesus.** “I will make you fishers of Men”

Jesus Told Peter... “I am going to take you out of the life you are familiar with!”

“What you are comfortable with, knowledgeable about,”

“I’m bringing you to a place to do something you have never done before!”

“When I am finished with you, **You will have a new mission in life,**”

“When I’m finished with you, **you will be changing other people’s destiny!**”

“I am moving you from making money – to making a difference”

Ever gone fishing and not catch anything?

What do you do? – You have to do something different!

Keep doing nothing, or the same thing and you will see the same – unfruitful results!

How many churches are content to simply **keep doing the same things** and not seeing results? Just keep throwing the same lure- week after week, day after day...

Sometimes – when God has a mission and a plan for your life –

It does not mean that you always want to do it!

Not everyone likes God's plan!

There is a difference between Who I am, and Who I am called to be.

Jesus Said **“Follow Me”**

Don't follow the career, a calling, money, self, mommy and daddy, the crowd, the people.

Jesus Said **“Follow Me, Follow Jesus! -and I will Make YOU!**

“What you are not yet today! - “I will “MAKE” you into

An effective soul winner I will Fashion, mold and shape you” “fishers of men”

When you consider the choice Jesus made- ... “PETER”

Peter... - He is a tough choice...

Peter is a bit of a hard head, Hot head, rough and tough guy!

Peter had a temper, He was always into something... yeah,,, yeah..

Cutting off peoples, ears, rebuking Jesus, “I'm the Greatest”

And yet...- God had a call on His LIFE!

I'm wondering if you today... would be willing to be honest enough with yourself, with me, and God To admit you have some issue that are standing between you, and what God has called you to do!

What a mess... God calls you something that you **are not ...**

And may not **even want to be....!**

Rev 4:11 *“Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honor and power; for Thou hast created all things, **and for Thy pleasure they are, and were created.**”*

You **don't have a vote in this**,.... – He didn't ask you, your opinion,...

He made you, He fashioned you, for His own good pleasure.

He is the Potter we are the clay.

He placed you in this period of time for His purpose to accomplish.

... Hey the Lord is talking to you!

When you chose to Follow Jesus – **He will develop you,**

Follow Jesus! Jesus will **Make** you into what He intended all along – and no devil in Hell can stop you!

Who's counting on you ... to be you!

To Get out of your sin!, To quit making excuses, To Get out of your selfishness!
Understand that God protects what He plans to use!

For some of us – the only reason why we are still here is
God has a plan for you! – He has protected your life! - in spite of our own foolishness!
Is, that you have a God who is interested in your life and has a plan for you!
He has protected from evils – even now – unknown to you!
“Acting like a fool!” - My angels won’t even ride with me... - He’s crazy- I’ll just fly-
along side...

By His *grace*, I’m still here!
By His *Mercy*, He has kept me...
He must have a plan for my life.
I’m getting old, I don’t have time for games...
If I’m ever going to do anything, I better wise up and do it now!

Who’s counting on you?

Peter was an influencer - a leader- He had the ability to motivate people. **So far in his life he had only used his influence to take people fishing.** Into his past, into his mundane, fruitless, day to day survival -way of life of only making a living – but not living the life!

Luke 22:31-34 (KJV) ³¹ And the Lord said, *Simon, Simon, behold, Satan hath desired to have you, that he may sift you as wheat: **32 But I have prayed for thee, that thy faith fail not: and when thou art converted, strengthen thy brethren.*** ³³ And he said unto him, Lord, I am ready to go with thee, both into prison, and to death. ³⁴ And he said, *I tell thee, Peter, the cock shall not crow this day, before that thou shalt thrice deny that thou knowest me.*

The Passion Trsl ³¹ “Peter, my dear **friend**, listen to what I’m about to tell you. Satan has demanded to come and sift you like wheat and test your faith. ³² **But I have prayed for you, Peter, that you would stay faithful to me no matter what comes. Remember this: after you have **turned back to me** and have been restored, make it your life mission to strengthen the faith of your brothers.” ³³ “But Lord,” Peter replied, **“I am ready** to stand with you to the very end, even if it means prison or death!” ³⁴ Jesus looked at him and prophesied, *“Before the rooster crows in the morning, you will deny three times that you even know me.”***

Peter said “Lord I’m ready!”

Jesus said, *“No, Peter you’re not ready! – Not yet...”*

“Lord I’m ready to go prison...”

“Lord I’m, ready to die...”

“Lord I’m ready to give it all..”

No Peter... *“There is still some work that needs to be done”*

I don’t know where you are in your walk with FOLLOWING JESUS!

Maybe like Peter it's time for you to turn back to following Jesus!

Maybe, you have denied Jesus, with your words, your attitudes, your friends, your family, maybe you have denied Him with your life!

Ever had someone be unfaithful to you?

Deny you in the heat of the moment? Peter did!

... it hurts... Shocking!

"I thought you loved me..."

"I thought you were committed to me?"

"We took vows..."

"I thought you were different"

"You were so kind, so caring, so, so, wonderful.... WHAT HAPPENED?"

Peter walked with God in the flesh – and still made mistakes!

How is that possible?

*³¹ And the Lord said, **Simon, Simon, behold, Satan hath desired to have you, that he may sift you as wheat: ³² But I have prayed for thee, that thy faith fail not: and when thou art converted, strengthen thy brethren.***

Do you understand that the DEVIL is Real! You have a real enemy!

He's not just out to tempt you...

Not just to seduce you...

Not just to embarrass you

Not just to humiliate you

He wants to "HAVE" you!

He wants to "own" you!

Place his stamp on you- - "child of darkness"

There is not a person in this room – that he doesn't want!

He wants to have you – TOTALLY! to control you. Dominate you, manipulate you!

You are struggling with things right now that want to dominate you.

To take you over - Totally!

"Satan desires to have you... ***"that he might sift you"***"

He doesn't even want to keep you- He wants to divide you against yourself!

Once he gets control – then he's coming in for the kill.... ***"to sift"*** you!

That's why you can't do everything you want to do.... Or feel like.

Just because you have feeling you can't act on it

Just because your frustrated you can't move out of every situation- just cause you're not happy!

!-Sometimes – you have endure hardness as a good soldier

Understand your enemy is after you... not just for you but for your purpose! – **all the lives you will touch for Christ!**

“Jesus Said “ ***BUT! -I have prayed for you! That your faith fail not!***

32 But I have prayed for thee, that thy faith fail not:

“Don’t lose your faith in me! – yourself, others, your heavenly father your destiny!” and when thou art converted, strengthen thy brethren.

Peter, stay faithful to me no matter what comes. Remember this: after you have turned back to me and have been restored, make it your life mission to strengthen the faith of your brothers.”

Just like God – He doesn’t just want to save you- He wants to use you for His glory!
Jesus Prayed for Peter. Do you have any friends that have prayed for you? You’re here today in church – because someone loved you enough to pray for you.

Jesus was Peter’s friend- and when the devil was trying to take him out- **Peter’s friend** – “Jesus” prayed for him.

Maybe we the church need to quit judging our “friends” our families and start praying for them!

Jesus called Peter- yeah the Peter,

who was trouble maker,

Peter the loud mouth

Peter who would deny him,

Peter who after his crucifixion would return to his old life of fruitless fishing!

But Peter is the only man (other than Jesus) ever recorded to walk on water, the one that had the revelation that Jesus was the Christ! – Messiah. He was the only disciple who had the guts enough to draw his sword in the garden in defense of Jesus.

Peter preached the first message at the birth of the NT Church in Acts

Acts 2: 37-39 *37 Now when they heard this, they were pricked in their heart, and said unto Peter and to the rest of the apostles, Men and brethren, what shall we do?*

38 Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.

39 For the promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as the LORD our God shall call.

– 3K Souls!

Vs 41 *Then they that gladly received his word were baptized: and the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls.*

Who’s Counting on you today church?

Who needs you to reach Christ? Who needs your prayers today?

VIDEO: Got Jesus! -

{Stop @2:18}

Reach people we have never reached, we will need to do what we have never done!