

BRINGING OUT THE DIVINE DESIGN IN OTHERS

Jesus spoke to Simon Peter — Luke 5:4

- What did Jesus ask?
- Do we know why this was a foolish thing to suggest/command?
- How do we think Simon Peter felt about the command?
- What might be 'deep water' for any of us, or for Beacon Church, at this time?

Simon Peter spoke to Jesus — Luke 5:5

- What does Simon Peter call Jesus? Compare with verse 8. What is the significance of the change?
- Simon Peter is just out of an experience of failure. Very often in Scripture failure precedes breakthrough. Why do we suppose that is?
- "Because you say so, I will..." Why and how is this a door-opening statement?

Jesus commands fish in to the net – but why?

This was a major act of provision. It was literally a 'when your boat comes in' moment — something like finding someone wants to buy out your business for a ridiculously large sum of money.

Simon Peter realises from this miracle that Jesus could use his powers and be rich. But Jesus wasn't rich. So that means that Jesus was not ruled by the need to acquire, or to be popular, or to be cool, or any other 'master'. Jesus was actually free to follow the Father's divine design for his life to be the Saviour of the World. And Peter feels dirty beside Jesus, because he realised that he was driven by the desire to get rich, or to be popular, etc.

- Compare what Simon says to Jesus in v. 8 with what Isaiah says to YHWH in Isaiah 6:1-8. What is similar? What is different? Why are these moments important?

There are two other recorded occasions when Jesus arranged for Peter to have a miraculous catch of fish.

- Read Matthew 17:24-27 and John 21:3-7. Andrew taught that Jesus was setting up a pattern for Peter to notice and continue in. In each of these events Peter had to do something. What was it?
- This something Peter did was often done without any success at all (on other occasions, agreed?). But sometimes that same act was done with huge success — such as these three occasions. Have we seen patterns like this in our own experience walking with Jesus? Think back and identify these patterns.
- The experiences Simon Peter had fitted with the Father's divine design for Peter — i.e. that he would be used to catch miraculous numbers of fish/people. See also Acts 2:14 and 41.
- Father does similar things with each of us. He uses us to make a difference in a situation or person, a difference far beyond the impact of our action. Have we realised what anointing we each carry — that we should keep moving in? It may be encouragement, healing knees, administration, doing youth work, starting businesses, etc. Discuss. Speak in to each other's lives.