

LET DOWN YOUR NETS LK. 5:4

INTRO:

A. Read Luke 5:1-11

- (1) Describe the account of that day.
- (2) Relate the fishing in Columbia.
- (3) Relate the feelings of Peter as he was asked to go out and let down the nets; finished for the night; tired.
- (4) Who was this Jesus? He's not a fisherman!!!

I. AT THY WORD, I WILL LET DOWN THE NET.

A. "At Thy Word" is a remarkable statement when we consider the context.

- (1) Truly Peter must have considered Jesus a special man.
- (2) Perhaps, he had been moved by the sermon that Jesus had just delivered from his boat to the multitude.
- (3) Perhaps, simply because there was a multitude following this man, he was important enough to listen to.

B. What might our reaction have been if he had said to us,

"Let down your nets."

- (1) We just worked all night.
- (2) The nets are now clean.
- (3) We are tired.
- (4) Who do you think you are.
- (5) We know about fishing, we didn't catch a thing all night.

C. Perhaps, Peter withdrew to deeper water quite reluctantly, yet some faith in the words of Jesus was present.

- (1) Question: Have you ever had someone inexperienced at a job you were doing to come by and offer a suggestion. What do we really feel like when this happens?
  - go away
  - you don't know anything
  - we think he has never even dirtied his hands at this.

D. NOTE: This was not an ordinary request from an ordinary man.

- (1) This was Jesus of Nazareth.
- (2) His deeds were becoming known by many at this time.
- (3) He was the Son of God.

II. WHAT RESULTED?

A. Was it a dry run? Did the net come up empty?

- (1) No!!!

- B. It was perhaps the greatest catch of their lives.
  - (1) so many fish the net "brake"
  - (2) they had to call James & John to help
- C. This we know: Jesus is able to bless, he can & will give.
  - (1) Eph. (3):20

### III. LET DOWN YOUR NETS!!!

- A. This was the command to Peter.
  - (1) It produced a great blessing.
- B. There are times when Jesus invites us to "Let Down Our Nets".
  - (1) When sick and down trodden:
    - Jesus says, "Let down your nets"
    - (1) prayer = will fill the net so that it breaks.
    - (2) Because we need revival and encouragement:
      - a. Jesus says, "Let down your nets"
        - (1) Worship = will fill the net
    - (3) When we feel discouraged:
      - a. Jesus says, "Let down your nets"
        - (1) Brothers & Sisters will fill the net.
          - (a) "Bear ye one anothers burdens and so fulfil the law of Christ"
    - (4) Because we need spiritual strength:
      - a. Jesus said, "Let down your nets"
        - (1) The Bible is a source of great strength. Through it Jesus fills our nets.
          - (a) Josh. 1:8 "This book of the law shall not depart out of your mouth; but you shall meditate therein day and night, that you may observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success."
          - (b) Luke 11:28 "blessed are they that hear the word of God, and keep it."
    - (5) Concerning Evangelism:
      - a. Jesus says, "Let down your nets"
        - (1) Souls will fill the net.
        - (2) Let us not react toward evangelism as Peter could have toward the request to "let down your nets".
        - (3) We must move out into the sea of men and let sown the nets.
        - (4) Let us not say:
          - It can't be done
          - People won't listen
          - I'm tired and don't have time
        - (5) Let's "Let down the net".
          - "necessity is laid upon me" to preach.
          - "I planted, Apollos watered, God gives the increase"

CONCLUSION:

A. Close with this thought: God help me to trust you.

- (1) Help me to always let down the net as I travel through life, knowing that you will fill it.

==END==