

Turning Points

“What was a point when big changes happened in your life?”

Lives that changed when they met Jesus

- Not all lives changed
- **What happened in the lives that did?**

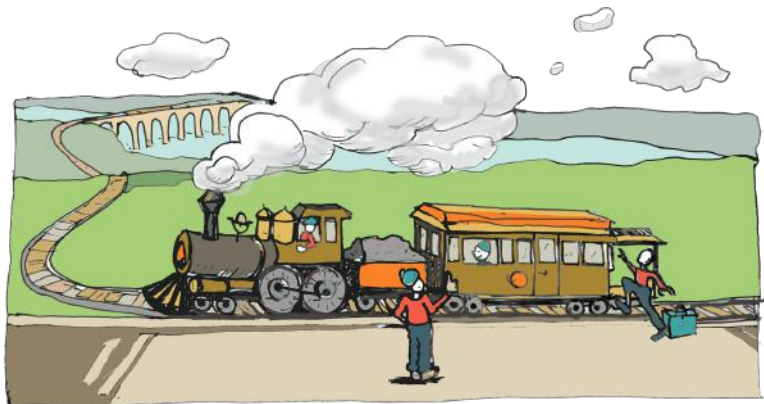


1

Encountering Jesus

Luke 5:1-11

ref.ly/Lu5;niv



2

Setting

This Advent: Who is this baby
in the animal feeding box?

The Gospel of Luke

- History → actual events in a real place & time
- Luke's Purpose
 - Not: just so that we would know history
 - Not: just so that we would be confident
 - **Rather: so that our lives will be transformed**

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The Setting in Luke

Luke 4

14-20: Jesus brought good news
to those who bring nothing but their need

21-34: More than just words,
He delivered people from all evil powers

Luke 5

1-11: A picture of a life changed by Jesus

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Luke 5:1-3

¹ One day as Jesus was standing by the Lake of Gennesaret, the people were crowding around him and listening to the word of God. ² He saw at the water's edge two boats, left there by the fishermen, who were washing their nets. ³ He got into one of the boats, the one belonging to Simon, and asked him to put out a little from shore. Then he sat down and taught the people from the boat.

Simon is the focus → an encounter with Jesus

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Luke 5:4-10a

⁴ When he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, 'Put out into deep water, and let down the nets for a catch.'

⁵ Simon answered, "Master, we've worked hard all night and haven't caught anything. But because you say so, I will let down the nets." He obeyed Jesus

⁶ When they had done so, they caught such a large number of fish that their nets began to break.

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⁷ So they signaled their partners in the other boat to come and help them, and they came and filled both boats so full that they began to sink.

⁸ When Simon Peter saw this, he fell at Jesus' knees and said, "Go away from me, Lord; I am a sinful man!" ⁹ For he and all his companions were astonished at the catch of fish they had taken, ¹⁰ and so were James and John, the sons of Zebedee, Simon's partners.

Simon's purpose: submit to Jesus' holiness and greatness
He worshiped Jesus

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Luke 5:10b-11

Then Jesus said to Simon, "Don't be afraid from now on you will fish for people." ¹¹ So they pulled their boats up on shore, left everything and followed him.

They left everything to follow Jesus

Jesus calls and commissions sinners

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The Big Idea

Jesus calls and commissions sinners

When Jesus approached Simon, Simon ...
obeyed Jesus → went out a little & a lot
worshiped Jesus → humbly bowed
left all to follow Jesus

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When the train leaves the station, we can...



10

When the train leaves the station, we can...



Wave goodbye

The crowd

Or try to make it stay

Capernaum

11

When the train leaves the station, we can...

Try to join the train
AND stay at home

The rich young ruler

"But first" disciples



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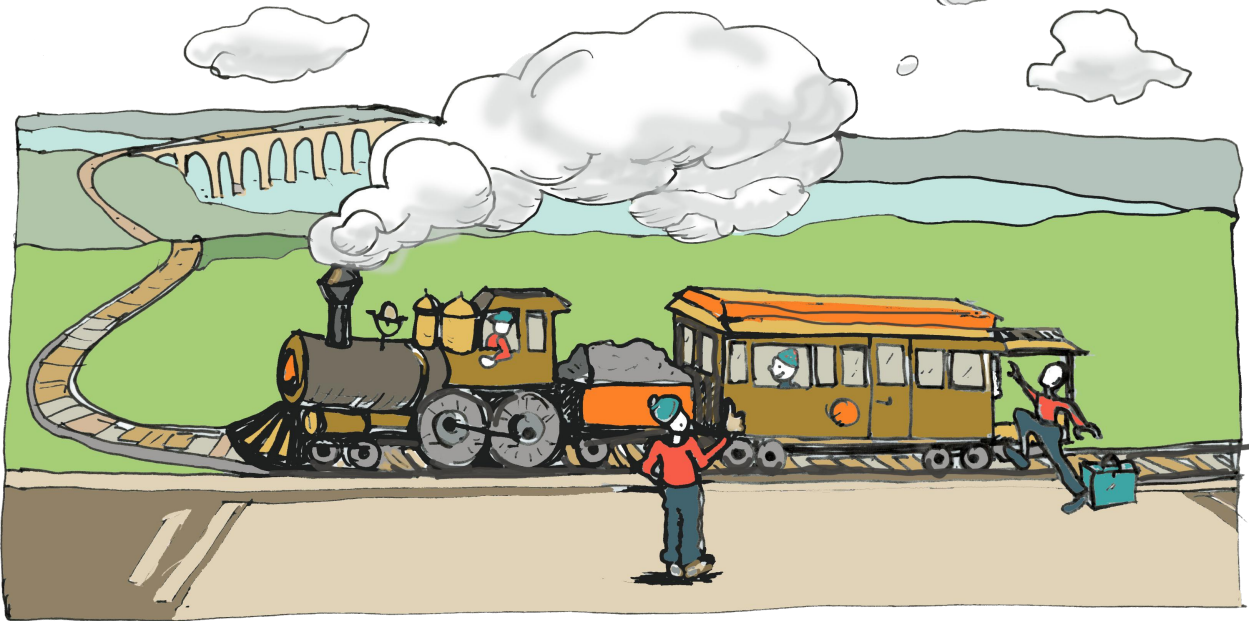
When the train leaves the station, we can...

Eagerly board the train
Simon, James, and John



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Jesus is calling us. What are we doing?



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The Big Idea

Jesus calls and commissions sinners

When we encounter Jesus, we are to...

- obey Jesus → smaller steps
- worship Jesus → humbly bow
- leave all to follow Jesus

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Application

Obey Jesus

- What steps is He asking us to take today?
- Like Simon, going out a little & a lot
 - being in church today
 - confessing to God or to someone else
 - being honest with ourselves or someone else
 - forgiving ourselves or someone else
 - asking God for help, or asking people for help
 - giving some of our scarce resource
 - sacrificing in order to know Jesus more

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Application

Worship Jesus

- Admit His greatness and holiness and our smallness and unholiness
 - Letting go of our bitterness
 - Letting go of our objections
 - Letting go of our rights
 - Admitting our sin and shame, and letting them go
 - Admitting our inability to change on our own
 - Admitting our total inadequacy before Jesus
- Submit to His total authority over us & the world

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Application

Leave all to follow Jesus

- Jesus said, we **CANNOT** serve 2 masters
 - Pride, bitterness, our rights, justice for us, control, autonomy, desires, comfort, self-pity, ...
 - Money, family, career, self-fulfillment, hobbies, identity, country, ethnicity, tribe, people's praise or criticism, ...



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Application

Leave all to follow Jesus

Jesus said...

- "Sell your possessions and give to the poor. ...For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also." Luke 12:33, 34



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Application

Leave all to follow Jesus

Jesus said...

- "If anyone comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters—yes, even their own life—such a person cannot be my disciple" Luke 14:26

hate = put Jesus before them



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Application

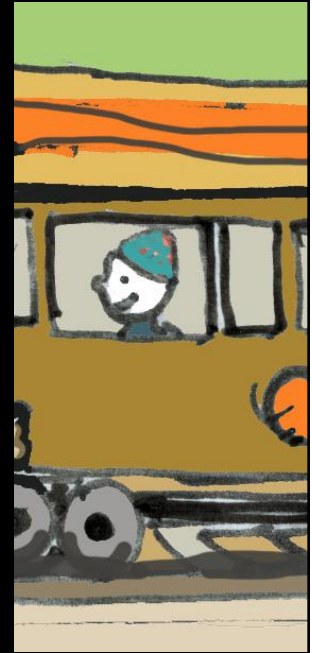
Leave all to follow Jesus

If we follow Jesus...

- "Truly I tell you, no one who has left home or wife or brothers or sisters or parents or children for the sake of the kingdom of God will fail to receive many times as much in this age, and in the age to come eternal life."

Luke 18:29-30

Wonderfully blessed by God!



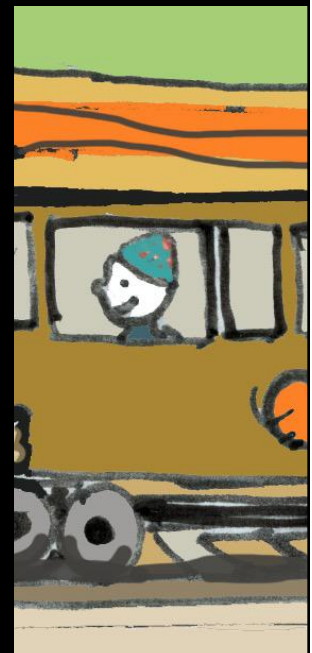
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Application

Leave all to follow Jesus

If we follow Jesus...

- We join in the very work of God
- By the power of Spirit
- In the joy of the Lord



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The Big Idea

Jesus calls and commissions sinners

When we encounter Jesus, we are to...

- obey Jesus → first steps
- worship Jesus → humbly bow
- leave all to follow Jesus

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Then Jesus said to Simon, "Don't be afraid; from now on you will fish for people." 5:10

Jesus says to us, "Don't be afraid; from now on you will be doing the blessed work that God made you to do."

What do we fear?

Worship Jesus who is greater than our fear

"I came that they might have life to the full!"

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