

# Encountering Jesus

Luke 5:1-11



## 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?

## 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 or just so that we would be confident

**Rather: so that our lives will be transformed**

## 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

## Luke 5:1-11

**1-3: Simon is the focus → an encounter with Jesus**

**4-10a: Simon encounters the Son of God**

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

He worshiped Jesus

**10b-11: Jesus calls and commissions sinners**

They left everything to follow Jesus

## 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

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

Wave goodbye → the crowd

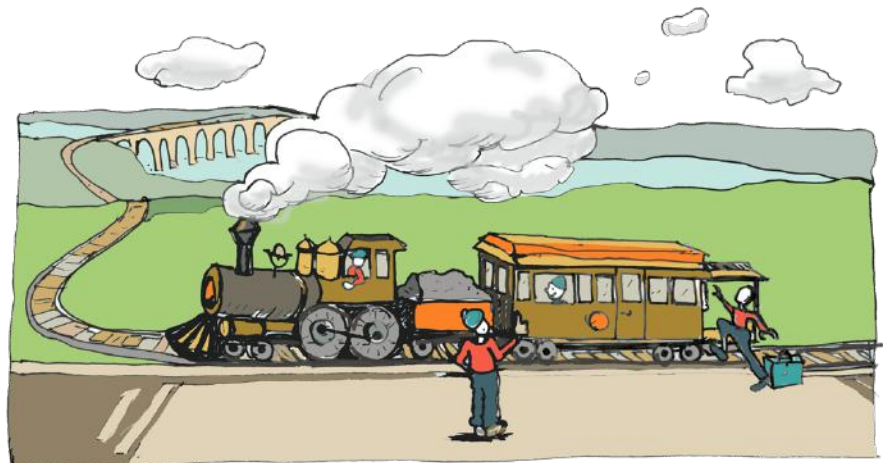
Try to make it stay → Capernaum

Try to join the train AND stay at home

The rich young ruler. “But first” disciples

Eagerly board the train → Simon, James, and John

**Jesus is calling us. What are we doing?**



## 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

### 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

### 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, ...

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

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

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

If we follow Jesus...

We join in the very work of God

By the power of Spirit

In the joy of the Lord

### Encountering Jesus

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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### Reflection Questions for later today or this week...

1. How would you answer the question, "What is Jesus asking me to do today, as a small step to go out into the shallow water, or to go out into the deep water?"
2. What does it mean to worship Jesus? How does the image of Simon bowing before Jesus and recognizing his own sinfulness illustrate worship?
3. What do you fear when you think of leaving all to follow Jesus?
4. What is the joy-filled expectation that motivates you to follow Jesus?

### Conversation starter

What do you think it would have been like to meet Jesus in person?