

Community Groups are used extensively as the primary vehicle for discipleship at The Gathering and run on a quarter system. There is one in the fall, one in the winter and one in the spring. During the summer weeks we don't meet in Community Groups but we still offer the Growth Guides as a tool to help you grow personally. The Growth Guides are designed to help you dig deeper into the weekly sermon on your own or with your family and are available each week along with the note sheets at church as well as online.

COMMUNITY GROUPS ARE BETTER WHEN MEMBERS COME PREPARED. THIS GUIDE HAS BEEN PROVIDED AS A TOOL FOR THAT.

Consider...

Use the summary and discussion below to review and apply this week's message:

Message Summary

Have you ever noticed that the smaller a person's life feels, the bigger the tales are that he or she tells to make up for it? How sad that our big talk is so often dwarfed by our small lives. It reminds me of fishermen tales where the size of the fish grows with every telling! In Luke 5, though, we meet some real fishermen who experienced a real catch of fish that was bigger than they'd ever seen before, and yet still so much smaller than the catch they were being called to. A big God calls small men to great things, and in Luke 5, he used a BIG CATCH to do it!

Discuss

Use the following questions to review and apply the points learned in the message.

- What takeaway – if any – did you have from the message this week?
- Paul shared 9 observations about BIG CATCHES (they interrupt us, they take us beyond what we know, they require more effort, they happen after simple obedience, they often break things, they require better partnerships more than bigger boats, they reveal the greatness of Jesus, they change the course and purpose of our lives and they are worth risking everything for). Which one really spoke to you? Why?
- As great as the catch of fish was, the big catch wasn't about the fish as much as it was about the fishermen. What do you think Simon was feeling in each of the following verses – vv. 5, 7, 8?
- What 3 words come to mind (any 3, not necessarily a phrase) when you hear "fisher of men?"
- Perhaps many of us feel the same way about fishing for men that Peter did about fishing for more fish in verse 5 – frustrated, tired, a little put off by our lack of success. But that doesn't change the fact that there are SOULS OUT THERE who need us to be obedient like Peter was. What do we learn about evangelism from the following verses? Matthew 9:37-38 (there is work still to do); Matthew 28:18-20 (it's a command, not an option); John 10:16 (we WILL succeed); Acts 1:8 (we've been given power specifically for it); Romans 10:11-15 (if we don't tell ABOUT Jesus, they can't call ON Jesus); Philemon 6 (evangelism helps us grow in our faith)
- Final thought: Jesus had these men fish AGAIN where they always fished, and they found fish they'd never seen before. How does this apply to you and your circumstance? Where do you need to fish again? Work? Home?