

New Hebron Missionary Baptist Church

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Pastor Rodney E. Smith, Sr. Bible Study

"...from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation..."

(2 Tim. 3:15)

The Importance of Scripture

{Luke 5:1-7}

v.1) "And it came to pass, that, as the people pressed upon him to hear the word of God, he stood by the lake of Gennesaret,"

- "it came to pass..." literally means "now it happened". This means that an undetermined amount of time has passed following the events at the end of chapter 4.
- Jesus is still in Galilee where He's been healing and casting out demons {Lk. 4:40,41}, and preaching the word {Lk. 4:44}.
- "pressed upon Him..." the were pushing Jesus to the edge of the water.
- The Jewish historian Josephus estimated that the population of Galilee ws about three million people and many of them lived around the lake of Gennesaret (Sea of Galilee, sea of Tiberius, or Sea of Chinnereth).
- "hear the word of God..." Jesus was a gifted communicator and He never neglected an opportunity to preach the Word.
- These people displayed a desire to hear the word of God because it had value to them. We need to search our hearts and ask God to help us value His Word. {Ps. 119:105}

v.2, 3) "And saw two ships standing by the lake: but the fishermen were gone out of them, and were washing their nets. (*) And he entered into one of the ships, which was Simon's, and prayed him that he would thrust out a little from the land. And he sat down, and taught the people out of the ship."

- "washing their nets" fishermen had to wash their nets to remove debris such as dead fish and plants as well as keeping the nets from rotting and eventually breaking. Fish can see a dirty and that makes fishing more difficult.
- We see an aspect of their character that would make them good potential disciples...they were hard workers!

- We should all make sure that in our personal lives and in our service to God that we are organized and responsible workers for Him. {1 Cor. 14:40}
- "into one of the ships...taught the people" Peter had every reason to turn Jesus down but he submitted to the will of the Master teacher and it gave a greater opportunity for others to hear the Word.
- Although Jesu healed people and performed many miracles His true calling was preaching and teaching gather Word. {2 Tim. 4:2}

v.4,5) 'Now when he had left speaking, he said unto Simon, Launch out into the deep, and let down your nets for a draught. (*) And Simon answering said unto him, Master, we have toiled all the night, and have taken nothing: nevertheless at thy word I will let down the net."

- Jesus now turns His attention to Simon (*Peter*) and gives him a command. Peter hesitates but finally submits to Jesus and he reaps the benefits. {Lk. 5:6,7; Ps. 37:4}
- Peter's submission was based on the Word of Christ. Although he was tired and occupied with other responsibilities he put it all aside and was obedient to Christ's command.

Notes:	