

**Luke**  
**See Jesus**  
**Addition By Multiplication**  
**Luke 5:1-11**

*Grace Fellowship Fort Thomas / Pastor Peter LaRuffa / February 7, 2021*

**I. You need to remember you worship a Savior King for Whom nothing is impossible!**

**A. Jesus is omniscient.** He knows everyone and everything.

**Luke 5:4** “And when He had finished speaking, He said to Simon, ‘Put out into the deep and let down your nets for a catch.’”

Jesus knows all there is to know about every single solitary creature that He created.

**John 1:3** “All things were made through Him, and without Him was not any thing made that was made.”

**Hebrews 1:2** “But in these last days He has spoken to us by His Son, whom He appointed the heir of all things, through whom also He created the world.”

**Colossians 1:16** “For by Him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through Him and for Him.”

**B. Jesus is omnipotent.** He’s all-powerful.

**Luke 5:6-7** “And when they had done this, they enclosed a large number of fish, and their nets were breaking. <sup>7</sup> They signaled to their partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both the boats, so that they began to sink.”

**Psalms 104:24-30** “O Lord, how manifold are Your works! In wisdom have You made them all; the earth is full of Your creatures. <sup>25</sup> Here is the sea, great and wide, which teems with creatures innumerable, living things both small and great. <sup>26</sup> There go the ships, and Leviathan, which You formed to play in it. <sup>27</sup> These all look to You, to give them their food in due season. <sup>28</sup> When You give it to them, they gather it up; when You open Your hand, they are filled with good things. <sup>29</sup> When You hide Your face, they are dismayed; when You take away their breath, they die and return to their dust. <sup>30</sup> When You send forth Your Spirit, they are created, and You renew the face of the ground.”

**C. Jesus is holy.** He’s 100% pure.

**Luke 5:8-10a** “But when Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus’ knees, saying, ‘Depart from me, for I am a sinful man, O Lord.’ <sup>9</sup> For he and all who were with him were astonished at the catch of fish that they had taken, <sup>10</sup> and so also were James and John, sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon...”

**II. You need to remember that oftentimes the comfort of Christ precedes a commission from Christ.**

**Luke 5:10b** “...And Jesus said to Simon, ‘Do not be afraid; from now on you will be catching men.’”

- Matt. 14:27, Jesus says “Do not be afraid...” and then calls Peter to walk on water.
- Matt. 28:10, Jesus says “Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee, and there they will see me.”
- Luke 1:13, the angel says to Zechariah “Do not be afraid...” and calls him to fatherhood.
- Luke 1:30, the angel says to Mary “Do not be afraid...” and tells her she’s pregnant with the Son of God.
- Acts 18:9, the Lord told Paul, “Do not be afraid, but go on speaking and do not be silent...”
- Acts 27:24, the Lord said “Do not be afraid, Paul; you must stand before Caesar.”

Instead of judging Simon for his disbelief, Jesus comforts him and then invites him to join a mission of multiplication that would literally change the world.

### III. You need to know when it comes to building the church and reaching people for Christ, “addition by multiplication” is the way to go.

**Luke 5:10b** “...And Jesus said to Simon, ‘Do not be afraid; from now on you will be catching men.’”

A. Addition by multiplication works best if everyone’s active in ministry, not just a few people active for everyone.

**Ephesians 4:11-12** “And He gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers, <sup>12</sup>to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ...”

B. Addition by multiplication only works if you’re willing to entrust God with the long-term fruits of your labor instead of going for an instant return on your investment.

How exciting would it be if God brought 1,000 people/month to our church who heard the Gospel, and gave their lives to Christ? In 30 years, 360,000 people would’ve heard the Gospel.

Imagine you trained one person each year to share the Gospel with one person, who then trains another person to do the same. If they each do that for 30 years, 1 billion people will have heard the Gospel.

1,000 people/month feels better now, but isn’t nearly as effective in the long run as every person consistently serving in ministry over the long haul.

C. Addition by multiplication works if you see our worship services as the starting line for the week ahead.

**Luke 5:11** “And when they had brought their boats to land, they left everything and followed Him.”

The fact that Simon caught more fish in one fishing trip than ever before was exciting, but it pales in comparison to what Jesus had in store for his impact on the world for the rest of his life. Great Sunday worship experiences should cause us to be reminded of who we are in Christ, His love for us, our love for the saints, and serve as the starting line in our life of ministry.

### IV. Since Christ is omnipresent, omniscient & omnipotent, Christians don’t “go fishing.” We “go catching!”

**Luke 5:4** “And when He had finished speaking, He said to Simon, ‘Put out into the deep and let down your nets for a catch.’”

**Luke 5:10** “And Jesus said to Simon, ‘Do not be afraid; from now on **you will be catching men.**’”

**Luke 10:2** “And He said to them, ‘**The harvest is plentiful**, but the laborers are few. Therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest.’”

#### Questions for Personal Reflection and/or Community Group Discussion:

1. How do you feel when you reflect upon what Pastor Peter referred to as “God’s omni’s” (omniscient = all knowing; omnipotent = all powerful; omnipresent = always everywhere)? What does that indicate about your relationship with God?
2. When have you experienced the comfort of God? How did that come about?
3. Pastor Peter said “Oftentimes the comfort of Christ precedes a commission from Christ.” Recall a time when God’s comforting grace preceded an opportunity to serve Him.
4. Eph. 4:16 says when each part of the body is working properly, it makes the body grow so that it builds itself up. What part can you play in casting the net so that the body of Christ would grow?