**Home Group Notes Luke 5:1-11**

There is a lot here, so you might want to cherry pick to suit your group 😊

Have any of those in the group been fishing? If so let them share what is needed to successfully fish?

Read the Scripture Luke 5:1-11.

See if you can imagine yourself in the place of the Peter, John, Andrew and James. Skilled fishermen and yet at the end of a long night of nothing, Peter is asked to put his boat out to help this wandering Rabbi / Teacher.

**Question(s):**

How might you feel in this situation? What about at the end of a long day doing the things you have to, when someone comes along and asks you to do something else that you hadn’t expected? If we are honest, there is likely to be a least a little bit of “On no, just when I thought I was done …”.

Read Luke 10:38 – 48

The situation is different and yet, business is involved and a sense of lots to do and angst at someone else not helping. But again Jesus is teaching and his response to Martha is both gentle and telling. Setting aside time in our busy schedules to listen to Jesus is important.

**Question:** How might that situation relate to each of us?

All of us have skills and abilities, some are experts as some things. The fishermen would have known their trade, yet this teacher, after teaching, tells them to go out again to catch fish. What does he know of fishing? Likely that this is the wrong time of day for fishing, and yet …

**Question:** Why do you think they responded and did as Jesus told them?

Maybe because they had heard Jesus before (Jhon 1 suggests this)?

Perhaps because something about his teaching had “hooked” them?

One of the key things here is that Jesus askes them to obey him, putting the boat out so that he can teach and later to go fishing again. It’s a taste of what is to come, for those who he calls to “follow him”. There is a sense here that humility was required for the fishermen to go with what Jesus told them to do. Trusting him when he said go fishing again, rather than relying on their own knowledge or abilities. This is important as it is something all disciples need to cultivate in their lives.

Faith in Jesus asks us for humility and a level of obedience, which for many of us comes hard. God asked this of his people during the Exodus, which resulted in Moses reading the law.

**Exo 24:7**  Then he took the Book of the Covenant and read it to the people. They responded, "We will do everything the LORD has said; we will obey."

Jesus also tells us that one of the marks of a disciple is to obey his teaching.

Joh\_14:23  Jesus replied, "Anyone who loves me will obey my teaching. My Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them.

**Question:** How easy or not do we find it to obey Jesus’ teaching and commands? Why?

As we approach the Latter part of the verses, we see Jesus’ direction. He is asking Peter, and the other fishermen to leave everything and follow him. Some of us have had that call and have responded to it. Others are not called in that way but all disciples are called to give up their lives to gain life.

**Read Matthew 16:24-26**

Discuss your reactions to this.

Coming before Jesus, Peter knows that he is a sinful man and in his thinking not worthy of Jesus’ attention. We can often feel them same, before accepting Jesus and even after. Jesus response to Peter is hopefully a tonic to those who feel like that.

“Don’t’ be afraid, from now on you will fish for people”.

A little but if Text 😊 The Word translated fish in this is the Greek word for catch. “zōgreō” or “ζωγρέω” its literal meaning is to catch alive. Which is exactly what Jesus is going to teach them to do. Fish for, catch alive, those who will be saved and drawn into the kingdom of God. That may well mean going and doing things that didn’t work previously (fishing all night) and trying again.

**Question:** As we relate this to the mission we have at St Margarets, what might that mean both to the church and to us?

In the sermon a report was mentioned – The Bible Societies – “The Quiet Revival”. In it some very telling statistics are given to us from the survey carried out in the UK in 2024.

More than a third of young non-churchgoers would attend if invited. 30% of over 24’s said the same.

**Question:** How prepared are we to invite a contact / friend family / colleague to a church event or service? How prepared is our church?

During lent many of us agreed to spend time each day praying for 2 people to come to know Jesus. Have we managed to invite any of those we are praying for to Alpha, Fun day, Church …?

**Pray:** Spend some time praying over the things raise, discussed and any thoughts for actions you might want to take individually or as a group.