

## Launch out with your net

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Luke 5:4 Now when he had left speaking, he said unto Simon, Launch out into the deep, and let down your nets for a draught.

Enter in His rest for a moment with me. Think. Imagine that you have just finished hearing Jesus speak to you and thousands of others and he says your name "Simon, launch your boat out into the deep water. Let down your nets and sweep the sea for fish..." Now that is a translation of 16th century English as it speaks to us today.

I admit I haven't given this scripture a lot of attention until it was brought to my attention today while in prayer. I can only imagine the thoughts of Simon and his shipmates. Now there is also a mystery to this scripture. It says the men have toiled all night and caught nothing yet it also says that Jesus got into the ship and taught the people. So there is one of two things this means to me. One is that there was a passage of time not mentioned. The more intriguing aspect is that Jesus taught the people while Simon and his shipmates rowed the shallow waters near shore with their nets overboard. I've never heard this taught about before but it speaks to me as a Christian that Jesus didn't hesitate to utilize the men around him as illustrations to the people on the shore.

Scripture goes on to say that after Jesus had finished speaking he wanted them to launch out into the deep. They were tired after having worked all night but they, especially Simon, went at his word. The Bible tells us that they got so many fish that their nets break and it also says they had to call their other ship, a partner in the fishing business, until both ships were so full they began to sink.

Lets think about this as believers. We have Jesus who is sitting on the ship teaching the people on shore, apparently during the night hours. Call it a night sermon. In a way we have a huge net we'll call faith. Jesus said through Johns writing 12:32 And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all [men] unto me.

This is the description a fisherman would make. To draw was a form of draught. Think of Jesus in a big ship drawing men in his net. Now imagine that night where he was drawing fish into his net but these were people on the shore and perhaps those who were drawing their nights in the shallower waters. In other words other fishermen and their ships. But if we can speak metaphorically here for a moment there seemed to be another listening audience that night. The fish of the sea.

A number of years ago I had a dream where God showed me being part of a great fish catch. The fish I was after were among the biggest in the sea. I don't know if I'm having an impact as yet here in the shallows but the time is coming when God will say to me to launch out into the deep. I don't want to go alone. I don't want to fight alone. I want people in this venture with me.

Not to give glory to but to help me in the catch that is coming. There is a catch of men that is coming that is going to be so big that no matter how well prepared myself and my 'partners' are I and they will not be ready for the harvest.

It is ironic in a way how God works. I don't have a net but God showed mom and I being held in captivity by the works of the enemy. He used a super strong net but God showed me that I would break free and when I did so that I I would help mom break free as well. I think God is giving me the resources, even as I speak, of the nets, of the needs, of the people who will help me in the harvest that is coming. For me my ship is the computer and my net is the Inter net. The Internet has become widespread and I am a big thinker. I believe the time will come when God will show me the exact time to launch out into the deep and exactly how to do so. I don't believe I'll be alone. I believe God is preparing people and the net was meant to be used by the enemy but God is even now cleaning it up and repairing it and getting it ready for what I'll call a reversal. It will sweep around the world and it will catch a harvest of souls. And when that happens I will rejoice in the Lord and perhaps shed a few tears but hopefully rejoice more. For I know God is alive and I know this story is true. And I believe the time for breaking free from the enemy is at hand.

So people awake from your slumber and get ready for a harvest. You've been working all night and your tired like me. But the time is coming for us to point to the risen Christ so that He, Jesus, can draw all men unto him. And we can be there for the harvest. I'm hopeful and I'm excited.

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