

Back in the Same Boat -- Again?

Many people wanted to hear what Jesus had to say. Some were merely curious but others committed themselves to following Jesus as a disciple. Wherever you are on your spiritual journey, Jesus wants to be involved in your life.

Read Luke 5:1-11:

- ¹ One day as Jesus was standing by the Lake of Gennesaret, the people were crowding around him and listening to the word of God. ² He saw at the water's edge two boats, left there by the fishermen, who were washing their nets. ³ He got into one of the boats, the one belonging to Simon, and asked him to put out a little from shore. Then he sat down and taught the people from the boat.
- ⁴ When he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, "Put out into deep water, and let down the nets for a catch."
- ⁵ Simon answered, "Master, we've worked hard all night and haven't caught anything. But because you say so, I will let down the nets."
- ⁶ When they had done so, they caught such a large number of fish that their nets began to break. ⁷ So they signaled their partners in the other boat to come and help them, and they came and filled both boats so full that they began to sink.
- ⁸ When Simon Peter saw this, he fell at Jesus' knees and said, "Go away from me, Lord; I am a sinful man!"

 ⁹ For he and all his companions were astonished at the catch of fish they had taken, ¹⁰ and so were James and John, the sons of Zebedee, Simon's partners.

Then Jesus said to Simon, "Don't be afraid; from now on you will fish for people." ¹¹ So they pulled their boats up on shore, left everything and followed him.

For discussion and reflection:

- 1. After Peter had just worked a night shift, what did Jesus ask him to do?
- 2. Describe how Peter may have felt about going back to work. What can you learn from Peter's story?
- 3. Compare Peter's relationship with Jesus in verses 8-11 with verses 2-3. What changed?
- 4. Why did Peter leave everything and follow Jesus? What do you need to leave behind to actively follow Christ on your campus?
- 5. Think about nursing as similar to Peter's fishing career. How can you "get into the boat" and allow Christ to have an effect on your nursing practice?