

# The Call of Simon

## *Meditation on Luke 5*

- Invite you on a journey back in time with St. Luke
  - ↳ Close eyes
- Imagine a beach...
  - ↳ Picture yourself walking down a beach—sand under your feet; wind in your face; smell salty sea air.
  - ↳ Let your heart become quiet there...
- It's a quiet day till you notice up ahead in the distance, there's a commotion with people in a crowd.
  - ↳ You wonder, "What's going on?"
  - ↳ You come closer.
    - As you approach, you feel that there's lots of excitement all around you
    - Keep coming closer
- As you look through the people in the crowd, you see that in the middle of all these people in this small mob, Jesus is there
  - ↳ He's walking along the beach but everyone is so close they keep pushing up against Him.
    - Can you picture Jesus as He walks along?
  - ↳ With so many people pushing in on Him, however, He's not getting very far.
- Then you see Jesus turns His head and sees two boats that are just on the waters' edge. He goes over to them and He climbs in one of them.
- Inside the boat there are two men who are cleaning their fishing nets, minding their own business, not really listening to Jesus, but just doing their everyday work.
  - ↳ What do these men look like?
    - See how tired they are after working all night. They are fishermen.
    - Their hair is messed up
    - Maybe they look like they just want to go home and go to bed...
  - ↳ You look at Jesus again. He sees them. He knows how tired they are. He knows that inside, they feel frustration because they worked hard all night, and caught nothing.
  - ↳ And yet Jesus climbed right into their boat!
- Jesus turns around and begins to face all the crowd of people who are on the seashore now.
  - ↳ Imagine seeing yourself in this crowd of people.
  - ↳ You sit down on the sand... not sure what to expect next.
- Jesus scans the crowd with His eyes, and then He stops when He gets to you.
  - ↳ You notice that He is looking straight in YOUR direction.
  - ↳ What do you feel inside when you realize that Jesus is looking at YOU, even in midst of all these people, He's looking at YOU...
  - ↳ Then you see that Jesus motions for you with His hand and calls YOU over... ME???
  - ↳ Do you feel nervous as He calls you over?
    - You look around to make sure He's not talking to someone else around you, but no, no one else is there in that direction, only you.
    - You get up and start walking.
    - Your feet get wet as you step up on the water and into the boat.
- Now there are four of you on board: The two men, Jesus and you.
- Then you hear Jesus say to the two men, "Put out into the deep and lower your nets for a catch"
- One of the men, looks a bit annoyed that Jesus is telling him how to do what he already knows how to do—He is a fisherman; he knows his job;
  - ↳ Then the man lowers his head and says: "Master, we have worked hard all night and caught nothing... but at your command I will lower the nets."
  - ↳ Now, you're all sailing off
  - ↳ Imagine: what does being in a boat feel like for you?

- Can you feel how it rocks back & forth?
  - Feel how the wind pushes against the sail so that the boat moves forward...
- After a few minutes, the men stop the boat and they begin to push yard after yard of net over the side of the boat.
  - ↳ You are quiet and you just watch: you watch the men, you watch Jesus, you watch the water ... and you wait
  - ↳ Look over the boat in your mind... you begin to notice small waves in the water...
    - Then the waves get bigger and it seems like a big dark shadow forms around the boat...
      - What is it, you wonder?
  - ↳ Then you see that the ropes become tense and tighten up and the two men go over and begin to pull them up as hard as they could, but they're struggling...
    - It's so heavy!
  - ↳ You run over and try to help lift this up...
- As you pull the nets in, the whole boat becomes absolutely full of fish!
  - ↳ Fish are everywhere... all over your feet... practically up to your knees!
  - ↳ All over, all you see and smell is FISH!
- When the fishermen see this, you see that he literally falls down on his knees in front of Jesus and he says to Jesus: "Leave me Lord, I am a sinful man..."
  - ↳ What are you thinking as you see this?
  - ↳ Look around at all the fish.
  - ↳ What do you feel like doing?
- Do you find yourself also falling down on your knees in front of JC Jesus? With your eyes closed, look up at Jesus right there in the boat.
  - ↳ Look at His face...
  - ↳ Look at His eyes...
    - What do those eyes tell you about Him?...
    - What do those eyes tell you about yourself?...
  - ↳ What's going on in your heart now?...
    - Tell Jesus what is in your heart...
    - Stay with Him a while there, in the boat, with all the fish...



