

3 - 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?