



Feb. 10, 2019 Luke 5: 1-11 & Is. 6: 1-8

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ENTERING THE SCENE:

In both our readings today we encounter the moment of a call. Both Isaiah and Peter are very aware of their limitations and at first resist their calls. Both men are told not to be afraid. Whatever limits they have will be the way that God uses to show the people that they are not speaking for themselves, but for God. Today Peter confronts his limitations, but also risks ridicule and work so as to do what Jesus asks. In doing this he, and those around him realize that it is God at work in and through them, which causes them to leave their old way of being in the world for one that no one could imagine at the time. We have a new year now to enter into this same reality. We wonder what "nets" we will be asked to put out into the **deep** in order to follow Jesus.

LUKE 5:1-11

1 As the **crowd pressed** in on Jesus to hear the word of God, 2 he saw two boats moored by the side of the lake; the fishermen had **disembarked** and were washing their nets. 3 He got into one of the

boats, the one belonging to **Simon**, and asked him to **pull out** a short distance from the shore; then, remaining **seated**, he continued to teach the **crowds** from the **boat**. 4 When he had finished speaking, he said to **Simon**, "Put out into the **deep water** and lower your **nets** for a **catch**." 5 **Simon** answered, "**Master**, we have been hard at it all **night** long and have caught **nothing**; but if you say so, I will lower the **nets**." 6 Upon doing this they **caught** such a great number of **fish** that their **nets** were at the **breaking** point. 7 They signaled to their **mates** in the other **boat** to come and help them. These came, and together they filled the two **boats** until they nearly **sank**. 8 At the sight of this, **Simon** Peter fell at the knees of Jesus saying, "Leave me, Lord. I am a **sinful** man." 9 For indeed, **amazement** at the catch they had made **seized** him and all his **shipmates**, 10 as well as **James** and **John**, **Zebedee's** sons, who were partners with **Simon**. Jesus said to **Simon**, "Do not be **afraid**. From now on you will be **catching** men." 11 With that they brought their **boats** to **land**, left **everything**, and became his **followers**.

DISCUSSION QUESTION: Jesus asks Peter to put out into the deep and trust him to make it worth his time and effort. Have you ever been asked to go beyond your 'common sense' ways and trust that God is calling you to a new way of being in the world?

PRAYER: Carpenter Jesus, you ask the professional fishermen to follow your advice which makes them risk work and ridicule for something they could not imagine. But your words have opened them to new possibilities and they do just that. In this coming year of possibilities, help me as I, like they, take the chances you offer me to draw others to you like they did. Amen.