



Shepherd's Path

A Shepherd's Personal Devotions

Meet the Amazing Jesus Series

Lesson 39

Lesson Title: Have Faith That Follows Him

Take Home Point: Faith is trusting Jesus as God's Son, our Savior.

Warm-Up:

How many times in recent years have we heard the story? A famous preacher inspires his audience with glorious words of working for the Lord, only to be found out later in questionable or immoral activities. An inspirational speaker stirs an audience's thoughts and emotions to aspire to greater things, then is discovered to be abusing people or substances. Or perhaps a popular religious entertainer lifts listeners up with words and music glorifying God, but is discovered to be living in a sinful and destructive lifestyle. Someone who talks about doing one thing, then lives in a contradictory way to their words is what we call a hypocrite. We face hypocrisy frequently in this world, but it's always disappointing, especially in high-profile cases. It makes us more cautious in trusting others and can even cause a loss of trust altogether.

Read: Luke 5:1-11

Observation (What happened?):

What was Peter's reaction to the miraculous catch of fish?

What was Jesus' response to the fishermen's reaction and Peter's statement?

Interpretation (What does it mean?):

Why do you think Peter responded the way he did? How may the teaching of Jesus have affected him?

What do you think might have been going through the minds of Peter, James, and John as they left everything and followed Jesus?

Insight:

In this particular Bible event we are not told what Jesus spoke to the crowd. But knowing what we do of his later teachings, we can be confident that Peter, James, and John heard him speak of how to live for God in a sinful world in a way that would please the Father. No doubt they were stirred by his words. And when Jesus was done, he called these men to live on a different plane – the one he spoke about. His call to them was completely consistent with his teaching. They chose to trust him. Did they know what was to come? Absolutely not! But that is part of God's plan. His plan is for us to live in faith one step at a time. That is trust. Jesus is the one we can trust completely. His word, his life, his resurrection, the testimony of the Spirit in this world, all assure us we can have complete confidence in his leading through this life and to eternity.

Application (What does it mean to me?):

What step of faith is God asking you to take? How are you responding?

Take a moment to thank God that someone told you about Jesus, and that Jesus "caught" you with his saving grace.

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