

## **“Cultivate, Plant, Water, Harvest: Lord, Help Me!”**

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Luke 5:1-11

“One day as Jesus was standing by the Lake of Gennesaret, the people were crowding around Him and listening to the word of God. <sup>2</sup> He saw at the water’s edge two boats, left there by the fishermen, who were washing their nets. <sup>3</sup> 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.

<sup>4</sup> When He had finished speaking, He said to Simon, “Put out into deep water, and let down the nets for a catch.”

<sup>5</sup> 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.”

<sup>6</sup> When they had done so, they caught such a large number of fish that their nets began to break. <sup>7</sup> 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.

<sup>8</sup> When Simon Peter saw this, he fell at Jesus’ knees and said, “Go away from me, Lord; I am a sinful man!” <sup>9</sup> For he and all his companions were astonished at the catch of fish they had taken, <sup>10</sup> 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 catch men.” <sup>11</sup> So they pulled their boats up on shore, left everything and followed Him.”

### **Learning to Be Led By the Spirit**

#### **1. Jesus leads us by the Holy Spirit.**

*“If you love me, you will obey what I command. And I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Counselor to be with you forever – the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept Him, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him. But you know Him, for He lives with you and will be in you.”*  
John 14:15-17

#### **2. Learn to recognize the Holy Spirit’s voice.**

*“One day as Jesus was standing by the Lake of Gennesaret, the people were crowding around Him and listening to the word of God. <sup>2</sup> He saw at the water’s edge two boats, left there by the fishermen, who were washing their nets. <sup>3</sup> 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.”*

- a. God’s Word, the Bible
- b. Any counsel or direction that agrees with God’s Word
- c. A sensitivity to the voice of God in your spirit

*“His sheep follow him because they know his voice...”* Jn. 10:4

### **3. Learn to identify the distracting voices and block them out.**

*“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.””*

*“Live by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the sinful nature. For the sinful nature desires what is contrary to the Spirit, and the Spirit what is contrary to the sinful nature. They are in conflict with each other...” Gal. 5:16-18*

### **4. Learn to rely on each other as you live in the Spirit.**

*“When they had done so, they caught such a large number of fish that their nets began to break. <sup>7</sup> 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.”*

*“For lack of guidance a nation falls, but many advisors make victory sure.” Prov. 11:14*

### **5. Learn to abandon “until now” and live “from now on.”**

*“When Simon Peter saw this, he fell at Jesus’ knees and said, “Go away from me, Lord; I am a sinful man!”<sup>9</sup> For he and all his companions were astonished at the catch of fish they had taken,<sup>10</sup> 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 catch men.”<sup>11</sup> So they pulled their boats up on shore, left everything and followed Him.”*

*“Those who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God.” Rom. 8:14*

- Do I consistently meditate on God’s Word?
- Do I apply God’s Word to my daily circumstances?
- Do I trust God’s Word even when it doesn’t make sense to me?
- Do I make every effort to pray and stay as close to God as possible?
- Do I obey the voice of God immediately when I feel the conviction?
- Have I evaluated my life for distractions and ruthlessly cut them out?
- Have I surrounded myself with Spirit-led people to help me in my journey?

*“Jesus said, “Come, follow Me and I will make you fishers of men.”” Mark 1:17*