

***It is important to ensure fellowship with God before the study of the Word.***  
If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness (1 John 1:9).

**Luke 5:1-11** (in review)

**QUESTION: Does one have to leave everything to follow the Lord?**



Lake of Gennesaret or Sea of Galilee

Vs. 1 -

- Jesus Christ is “. . . standing by the lake of Gennesaret.”
- The people are teeming to hear Him teach and they are crowding Him.

Vs. 3 -

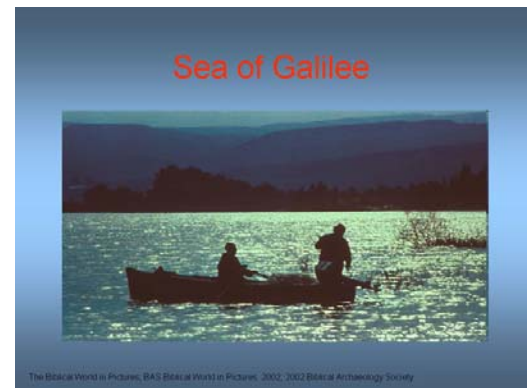
- The Lord steps into Peter’s boat and He asks Peter to position the boat just off the shore so He can effectively teach.
- The Lord was teaching them about His kingdom – remember the kingdom was being offered to the nation.
  - **Matthew 3:2** – “Repent for the kingdom of heaven is about to be instituted.”

Vs. 4 -

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

**5** Simon answered and said, “**Master** . . .

- Remember that this is a term used for an official who has authority to command.
- Peter recognizes the Lord’s authority to commandeer his boat and use it however He sees fit.



**POD (Review): When the Lord directs, we are to simply orient to His authority.**

“... we worked hard all night and caught nothing, *but upon your word, I will let down the nets.*”

Peter is standing at the ready to do whatever the Lord directs because he is oriented to the authority of the Lord Jesus Christ.

**Are you oriented to the Lord's authority?**

Vv. 6-7

**6** When they had done this, they enclosed a great quantity of fish, and their nets began to break;

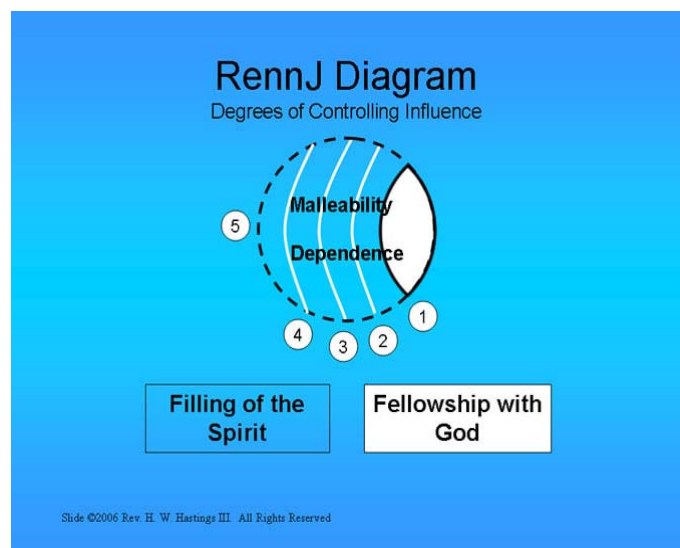
**7** so they signaled to their partners in the other boat for them to come and help them. And they came and filled both of the boats, so that they began to sink.

**POD (Review) - Great things happen when we are oriented to our Savior's authority and allow Him to use whatever we have for His glory.**

*Peter responds with the utmost of humility in the presence of Jesus Christ.*

**8** “... Go away from me Lord, for I am a sinful man, O Lord!”

**POD (new) - The believer who resides in the RennJ diagram with genuine humility, faith, and authority orientation is a vessel at the Lord's disposal.**



When you are “*purified from all unrighteousness,*” you are in a perfect and absolute state of harmonious rapport – the place where God the Holy Spirit **fills you**. From that place He has the liberty to fulfill all that He was sent to do in your life as a born again believer.

Filled when “in fellowship”

The Holy Spirit was sent to fulfill these functions in the life of the believer.

When you are involved in sin, the Holy Spirit is ***grieved***.

When you do not follow His lead in these areas, the Holy Spirit is ***quenched*** or resisted.

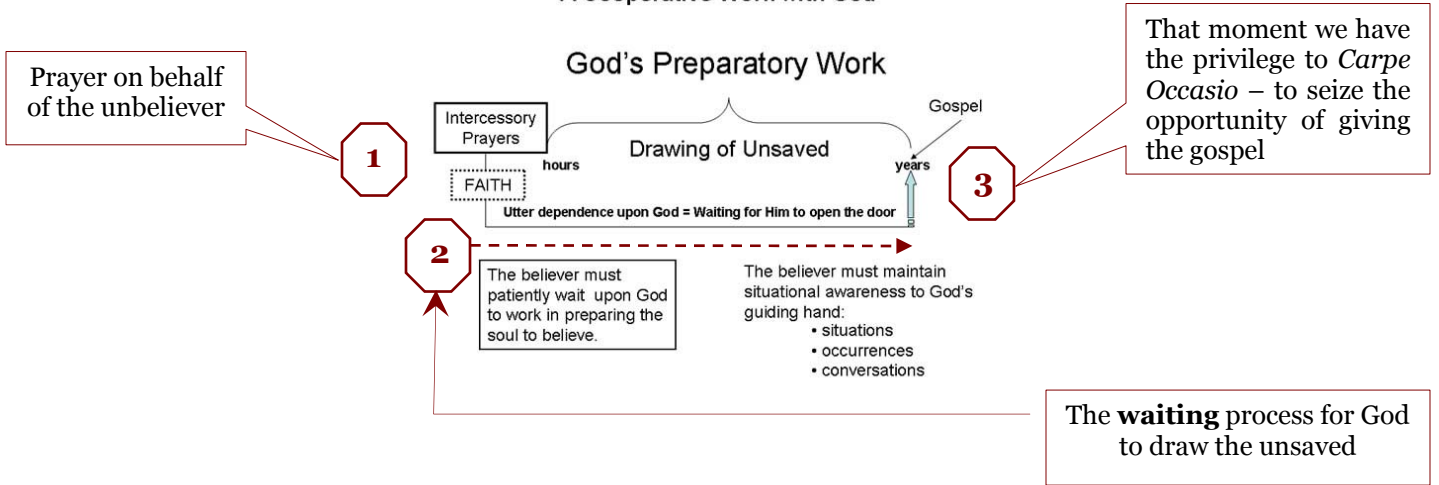
- Indwelling  
1 Cor 3:16
- Filling  
Eph 5:18
- Guiding  
Jn 16:13
- Illuminating  
1 Cor 2:10
- Teaching  
Jn 14:26
- Applicational  
Recall  
Jn 14:26
- Bearing Witness  
Rom 8:16; 9:1
- Leading  
Gal 5:18  
Rom 8:14
- Intercession  
Rom 8:26-27



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Fellowship + Genuine Humility + Faith + Authority Orientation = ingredients for being used by the Lord when He chooses

### Dynamics of Personal Evangelism A Cooperative Work with God



### Dynamics of Personal Evangelism

- Personal evangelism is the responsibility of every Christian in light of his ambassadorship status (DW/G 20).
- It begins with intercessory prayer.
- It is a process in which we depend wholly upon the Lord to act.
- It is only then that we will arrive at the right time and place with the situational awareness to present the Gospel and depend upon the Spirit to do His work in the soul of the unregenerate.
- Jesus Christ exemplified the dynamics of personal evangelism.

**The Lord responds with wonderful compassion.**

<sup>10</sup> “. . . Do not fear, from now on you will be catching men.”

<sup>11</sup> When they had brought their boats to land, **they left everything and followed Him.**

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**QUESTION - Does one have to leave everything to follow the Lord?**

**ANSWER - I simply must be *willing*.**

**- What is your answer to that question?**

**- Are you oriented to the Lord's authority?**

**The Lord directs “follow Me.”**

**Matthew 4:18-22**

<sup>18</sup> Now as Jesus was walking by the Sea of Galilee, He saw two brothers, Simon who was called Peter and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea; for they were fishermen.

<sup>19</sup> And He said to them, “**Follow Me and I will make you fishers of men.**”

<sup>20</sup> Immediately they left their nets and followed Him.

Malleability demands that you must be **willing** to do whatever it is the Lord directs you to do.

It's simply the attitude of willingness in a soul that is oriented to the authority of Christ over one's life.

**The sooner the Christian recognizes the Lord's authority over him, the sooner he stands at the ready to be used by the Lord.**

- What authority have we seen our Lord demonstrate so far?
1. Over the **Elements** as the Creator (turning water into wine)
  2. Over **Angelic Realm** (commanding the demons to come out – and they obey Him)
  3. Over **Sickness** (healing the sick – rebuked the fever in Peter's mother in law)
  4. Over the **Animal Kingdom** (the great catch of fish; how about Jonah?)
    - Over Peter's boat and even Peter himself
    - He even has authority over us, whether we know it or not.
    - Look what happens when someone **is** oriented to that authority.

**Vs. 22 - John & James leave the family business and their father.**

<sup>21</sup> Going on from there He saw two other brothers, James the *son* of Zebedee, and John his brother, in the boat with Zebedee their father, mending their nets; and He called them.

<sup>22</sup> Immediately they left the boat and their father, and followed Him.

**The authority of Jesus Christ supersedes everything – even parental authority.**

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**QUESTION - Does one have to leave everything to follow the Lord?**

For those of you who answered **YES** to the question – watch out for asceticism.

- Definition of asceticism - Extreme self-denial as a means to attaining spirituality or pleasing God – no matter how sincere.

The willing soul is always waiting on the Lord to direct, and when He does, the believer follows.

Example - You own a car collection . . .



The willing soul stands at the ready because he is oriented to the authority of his Savior.

Orientation to the Lord's authority is not **"IF, THEN I WILL."**  
It's simply **"I WILL."**

If you answered **NO** to the question you are definitely not with Peter.

- Your attitude is not one of willingness.
- You are resistant.
- You may find yourself saying, **"If, then I will."**
  - That's conditional.
  - We do not put conditions on the Lord.

**POD - The malleable believer who is willing to do whatever it is the Lord wants Him to do will act when the Lord directs through the Mentorship of God the Holy Spirit.**

**POD - If you are going to walk with the Lord, you must *be willing* to go wherever He wants you to go and do whatever it is He wants you to do at a moment's notice.**

*We are **willing** when we are oriented to His authority.*

*Are you truly **oriented** to His authority?*

*Are you His boat or your own boat?*

*All Scriptures quoted are from New American Standard unless otherwise noted.*