Message Based Small Group February 20, 2011

NET RESULTS Message: "Called On" Luke 5:1-11

INTENTION

Group members will learn that the best investment of your of life is not in money or the things money can buy, because those things are temporary. People however are eternal. Jesus set the example. He spent his entire ministry investing in people. We, as human beings, were considered worthy. We should use things and value people and not the reverse.

INTRODUCTION

This section gets the group thinking about fishing.

- 1. Tell the group that as a team, we are going to play a game similar to "Outburst."
 - a. The object is to guess as many expression or phrases as you can that are on the official list. You do this by listing as many expressions, sayings, or phrases as you can think of that have to do with the subject in 90 seconds (or until the sand timer runs out, if you have one).
 - b. The group needs to appoint an official scribe to write down the expressions or phrases as people say them.
 - c. The group also needs a timer to yell "stop" when time is up.
- 2. Say:
 - a. Begin the game by saying: "The subject is "fish" or "fishing" and then say "Go."
 - b. After 90 seconds or time expires, say "Stop."
 - c. Now read the expressions on the attached list and have the group secretary circle answers any that match the official list.
 - d. Have the secretary count and report the total number of matches.
 - e. Say: Your group grade is as follows:
 - i. 5 or less: Take away your fishing license: you have no business near the water.
 - ii. 6-10: You are allowed to go fishing, but have someone bait your hook for you.
 - iii. 11-15: Grab you gear, you're getting "fish fever."
 - iv. 16 or above: Congratulations, You've made the cover of "Field and Stream!
- 3. Say: It may not be fishing, but in life, we all have a priority list of things we value. The passage we are about to look at details how to get that list in the proper order.

INVESTIGATION

In this section group members study to see how Jesus began his relationship with Peter.

- 1. Say: One way to tell the emphasis of a passage of Scripture is to look for repeated words. As we read our passage, try to keep track of words, or forms of a word that are repeated
- 2. Have a volunteer from the group read Luke 5:1-11.
- 3. Ask:
 - a. What words did you notice being repeated? (Boat, Nets, Catch, Fish)
 - b. How many times were each repeated (fisherman also counts for fish)
 - c. Who were the primary people involved in the story?

- 4. Now ask a volunteer to repeat the story, as well as they can with out looking at the text.
- 5. Allow other group members to help fill in details the storyteller may have forgotten to mention.

INTERACTION

Group members will begin to relate this story to the priorities they have in their own lives. 1. Ask:

- a. Why do you think the words surrounding fish and fishing were so dominant in this story?
- b. Why do you think Jesus choose to focus on fishing when dealing with Peter?
- c. What point do you think He was driving at?
- 2. Say: Think about your own life; Let's not respond for a minute, just think about it the questions:
- 3. Read the following questions, pausing a momentarily between each one to allow the group to consider it?
 - a. If someone close to you were to describe your life, what words would come up over and over?
 - b. After allowing group members to consider the questions, ask if anyone would like to share any thoughts or reflections about that came to mind from these questions. (*Review the questions one more time if necessary*)
 - i. Where do you spend most of your time?
 - ii. Is there a topic that dominates your thoughts; your conversations?
 - iii. What about?
 - iv. What about where you spend money or exert the most energy?

IMAGINE

This section encourages group members to transpose Peter's experience with Jesus into their own lives.

- 1. Say: Suppose you could retell Peter's story in modern day?
- 2. Imagine: Suppose that instead of Peter at the lakeshore, the story was about you!
 - i. Where would the story take place?
 - ii. Would other group members be there with you?
 - iii. What might Jesus do to make his point about priorities?
 - iv. What kind of amazing miracle would He perform to illustrate His point? (Encourage group members to brainstorm ideas together to stretch their imaginations and have fun creating a potentially miraculous intervention by Jesus).

IMPLEMENTATION

This section encourages group members to weight their priorities on the scale eternal values.

- 1. Say: At the conclusion of this story Jesus told Peter, "From now on you will fish for people. Jesus wanted Peter to see the contrast between things that are temporary and people who live eternally.
- 2. Ask: Is there any statement you think Jesus might be making to your right now?
- 3. Close by bringing fellow group members needs to God in prayer.

FISHY EXPRESSIONS

- Give a man a fish, feed him for a day. Teach a man to fish, feed him for a lifetime.
- Sleeping with the fishes
- Something's fishy (something smells fishy)
- The one that got away
- We got our lines tangled
- A big fish in a small pond
- Fishing for a compliment
- Like shooting fish in a barrel
- Fishnet stockings
- o Company is like fish, after three days they start to stink
- o Fish-tales
- We've got bigger fish to fry
- Swallowed hook, line, and sinker.
- A fish out of water
- o Fish or cut bait
- Going on a fishing expedition
- Red herring
- o Holy mackerel
- Like shooting fish in a barrel
- o Green around the gills
- Living in a fishbowl
- Packed in like sardines
- $\circ \quad \text{A cold fish} \quad$
- o Drinks like a fish
- This is a fine kettle of fish
- There are plenty of other fish in the sea.