

“ReIntroduce” Series

Echo Church | Week 40 | October 5, 2025 | Rich Saunders Jr. |

Part 1 | Luke 5:1-11 (NKJV)

Luke 5:1-11 (NKJV)

1 So it was, as the multitude pressed about Him to hear the word of God, that He stood by the Lake of Gennesaret, 2 and saw two boats standing by the lake; but the fishermen had gone from them and were washing *their* nets. 3 Then He got into one of the boats, which was Simon's, and asked him to put out a little from the land. And He sat down and taught the multitudes from the boat. 4 When He had stopped speaking, He said to Simon, “Launch out into the deep and let down your nets for a catch.” 5 But Simon answered and said to Him, “Master, we have toiled all night and caught nothing; nevertheless at Your word I will let down the net.” 6 And when they had done this, they caught a great number of fish, and their net was breaking. 7 So they signaled to *their* partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both the boats, so that they began to sink. 8 When Simon Peter saw *it*, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, “Depart from me, for I am a sinful man, O Lord!” 9 For he and all who were with him were astonished at the catch of fish which they had taken; 10 and so also were James and John, the sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon. And Jesus said to Simon, “Do not be afraid. From now on you will catch men.” 11 So when they had brought their boats to land, they forsook all and followed Him.

Introduction

What's up, family. Let's be honest: familiarity can be a blessing and a curse. It's good to be familiar with the route to work, but it's dangerous to get so familiar with God that He becomes predictable. We get our systems, our strategies, our spiritual rhythms, and we think we've got God figured out. We've professionalized our faith. We've got the data on how He's supposed to move. But what happens when your all-night hustle produces nothing? What happens when your expertise hits a wall? That's not a crisis; it's an invitation. It's the moment God steps into your situation to ReIntroduce Himself. He must interrupt your routine to initiate a revelation. Today we're going to see how Jesus reintroduces Himself not just as a provider of things, but as the provider for a purpose that will rearrange, your methods, your motives, and your entire mission.

Point 1: The Position for the Word

Luke 5 Anchor: Verses 1-3

Overview: The crowd was so hungry for a word from God that they literally pressed in on Jesus, forcing Him to find a new place to speak. He gets into Simon's boat—a workspace, a place of recent failure—and repositions it as a platform. Many of us want a word, but only if it's convenient and comfortable. We want it delivered to our preferred address. God is showing us that a real word requires you to be repositioned, and He loves using the empty things in your life as the stage for His greatest work.

Supporting Scriptures:

Isaiah 55:11:“So shall My word be that goes forth from My mouth; It shall not return to Me void, But it shall accomplish what I please...”

Hebrews 4:12: "For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword..."

1 Corinthians 1:27: "But God has chosen the foolish things of the world to put to shame the wise..."

"We want a word from God that fits our schedule, but God is looking for a schedule that will fit His Word."

Point 2: The Pressure of the Promise

Luke 5 Anchor: Verses 6-7

Overview: After Simon's "nevertheless" moment of obedience, the blessing that shows up is a problem. The nets—his tools, his talents, his strategies—start breaking. The boats—his capacity, his business structure—start sinking. The abundance God provides is so great it overwhelms the very systems they trusted in. Notice they aren't panicking; they are managing an overflow. God reintroduces Himself as a provider whose supply is designed to break your categories and prove He is also your sustainer in the middle of a blessing that feels too heavy to handle.

Supporting Scriptures:

Ephesians 3:20: "Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think..."

Malachi 3:10: "...And try Me now in this... If I will not open for you the windows of heaven And pour out for you such blessing That there will not be room enough to receive it."

2 Corinthians 12:9: "And He said to me, 'My grace is sufficient for you, for My strength is made perfect in weakness.'"

"God doesn't give you a net-breaking blessing for you to fix your net; He gives it to you to fix your focus."

Point 3: The Encounter Over the Experience

Luke 5 Anchor: Verses 8-9

Overview: The miracle of the fish was just the catalyst. The main event was the revelation it produced. When Simon Peter saw the catch, he didn't celebrate the catch; he fell at Jesus' knees and confessed his sin. He went from calling Him "Master" (a good teacher) to "Lord" (the Holy God). We chase emotional experiences and call them encounters, but a true encounter isn't about the feeling you get from the miracle; it's about the identity check you get from the Redeemer. It shifts your attention from what He did to who He is.

Supporting Scriptures:

Isaiah 6:5: "So I said: 'Woe is me, for I am undone! Because I am a man of unclean lips... For my eyes have seen the King, The LORD of hosts.'"

Job 42:5: "I have heard of You by the hearing of the ear, But now my eye sees You."

John 4:29: "Come, see a Man who told me all things that I ever did. Could this be the Christ?"

"An experience makes you feel good about yourself; an encounter makes you honest about yourself before a holy God."

Point 4: The Pursuit Over the Provision

Luke 5 Anchor: Verses 10-11

Overview: Jesus gives Simon a new mission: "From now on you will catch men." Then, the unthinkable happens. They bring their boats to shore, filled with the biggest financial windfall of their lives, and they leave it all. They forsook the provision to follow the Provider. This is a direct challenge to our culture of contentment. We beg God for the fish, and when we get them, we stay on the shore counting our blessings while He walks on. It was never about us getting what we wanted; it was about Him getting all of us.

Supporting Scriptures:

Philippians 3:8: "Yet indeed I also count all things loss for the excellence of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them as rubbish, that I may gain Christ."

Matthew 6:33: "But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you."

Luke 14:33: "So likewise, whoever of you does not forsake all that he has cannot be My disciple."

"Don't let the blessing God gave you become the bribe that keeps you from Him."

Conclusion

God wants to ReIntroduce Himself to you today. Not as a concept, but as a commander. Not as a helper, but as the Holy One. For some of you, you've been toiling all night in your career, your relationships, your finances, and you have nothing to show for it. The invitation is to give Him your "nevertheless." To subordinate your expertise to His instruction. For others, you've received the provision, but you stayed on the shore. You chose the catch over the Caller. The invitation is the same: forsake all. Leave the nets, leave the fish, and follow Him. The greatest catch of your life is not a substitute for the Caller of your life. It's time for a reintroduction.

BONUS: How Jesus ReIntroduced Himself

In this one story, Jesus reintroduced Himself as:

The Word Made Priority: He demonstrated that His word takes precedence over any other activity.

The Repurposer: He took a fishing boat (an office) and made it a pulpit.

The Counter-Cultural Strategist: His instruction defied all conventional wisdom and data.

The Overwhelming Provider: He gave a supply that exceeded their capacity to contain it.

The Sustainer: He kept them afloat even when the blessing made them sink.

The Holy One: His power revealed His divine nature, prompting worship and repentance.

The Caller: He repurposed their skills for a Kingdom mission.

The Multiplier: He turned fishermen into disciple-makers.