

SHIFTS HAPPENS, on to my NEXT SEASON

Week 1 -Day 2

“Come Follow Me,” Jesus said, “and I will make you fishers of men.” Mark 1:7

Established yesterday through Scripture that John the Baptist was the messenger sent to prepare the way for the Lord. In our lesson today we will learn how John was instrumental in Peter’s life by examining the events that led to Peter’s decision to leave his fishing nets in order to cast nets of greater significance.

READ: Mark 1:9-14

After being tempted, Jesus returned to the desert region when John the Baptist preached, and this is where Simon Peter had his first encounter with Jesus.

READ: John 1:35-42

Who was Andrew, according to verse 40?

How was John the Baptist instrumental in Simon Peter’s eventual call to be a disciple of the Lord?

In verse 42, by what name did Jesus tell Simon he would be called?

Jesus wasn’t just giving him an insignificant nickname: He was changing Simon’s very identity!

Do you think that Peter fully grasped the meaning of his new name at the time?

Peter at this point in life was anything but strong and significant. In fact, even the name “Simon” was extremely common.

READ: Acts 4:13

What does this tell us about Peter?

I love this: EVEN THOUGH Simon Peter was ordinary and unschooled, Jesus saw the great spiritual leader this fisherman would one day become. The Lord has done the same thing for us, He meets us where we are, but sees our underlying potential.

Every time you see Jesus referring to Peter he is reminding him of the man he would become, “a rock” a significant and strong apostle for Jesus.

READ: Mark 1:14-20 and write down verse 18.

READ: Luke 5:1-11 which goes into further detail.

When Peter saw the abundance of fish Jesus enabled them to catch, he was overwhelmed by feeling of unworthiness and he cried “Go away from me, Lord; I am a sinful man! Peter most likely felt undeserving of the blessing and couldn’t conceive that Jesus would accept him as he was.

What about you? Have you ever, through actions or words, told the Lord to go away? If so, briefly reflect on that time or those times. Why did your action or words say go away?

Although we feel unworthy, if we listen rather than turn away, we will hear words similar to what Jesus told Peter in Luke 5:10. Write those words down.

Peter was accepted. He didn’t allow his feelings of unworthiness stop him from responding to the Savior. Jesus accepted Peter and promised to use Peter to bring others to do the same. Peter experienced the grace of God through Jesus, and his life was forever changed. He had a new name that reflected his future character, and he had a new profession that reflected his future passion. As we follow Peter’s journey, we will witness the transformation that took place in his life.

End by reading Philippians 1:6 and rejoice in the glorious promise it contains.