

I. Intro

A. Last week, talked about how to read your Bible

1. Summarize the story
2. Summarize the larger story
3. Summarize what is required of you

B. Approach is very helpful when reading the gospels (Mt, Mk, Lk, Jn)

1. Story is plain to see – gospels are narrative
2. Larger story can either be:
 - a) Old Testament callbacks, allusions, or echos
 - b) Deeper lessons within the story (hidden meaning, secret, or mystery)
3. What is required – directed to the disciples, but for us also
 - a) Jesus is speaking to the 12 disciples, but also for ALL disciples

C. Using this modified approach, let's explore Luke 5

II. Text

A. Luke 5:1-11

1. What is the story?
 - a) Jesus was teaching near Galilee, saw 2 boats with no fish
 - b) Jesus gets in a boat, teaches, closes His message with a lesson on fishing
 - c) Fisherman obey Jesus and catch enough fish to sink 2 boats
 - (1) On the surface this story is about a miracle
 - (2) An increase for the fisherman – a blessing to their business and family
2. What is the larger story (hidden meaning, secret, or mystery)?
 - a) Hidden meaning isn't fish, it is the kingdom of God
 - (1) It's about how mankind is captured by this message
 - (2) It's about the salvation found in being captured
 - (3) It's about how God makes disciples to throw the net
 - b) The mystery of this story is what Jesus is asking these men to do
3. *What is Jesus asking these men to do, and us as well?*
 - a) *Realize how insufficient you are, and how badly you need Jesus*

- b) *Fall to your knees in reverence and awe over His greatness and your sin*
- c) *Leave everything behind and follow Him*

B. Luke 5:12-26

1. What is the story?
 - a) Jesus was traveling around Galilee, healing people's bodies
 - b) Healed a leper and a paralyzed man
 - c) Religious leaders grew upset, but the people glorified God
2. What is the larger story (hidden meaning, secret, or mystery)?
 - a) The Leper
 - (1) Jesus told the leper to follow the cleansing law of Moses [Lev 14:2-32]
 - (2) In obeying the law, Jesus forced the priests to affirm His power and divinity
 - (3) Hidden meaning – whole system is set up to testify FOR Jesus
 - b) The Paralytic
 - (1) Man needed his sins forgiven more than he needed to walk
 - (a) But, what is easier to say "sins forgiven" or "get up and walk"
 - (b) Obviously, sins are forgiven – because you can't test it, or see it
 - (2) The secret – the healing proves the power to forgive sins
 - (a) If you can't see if sins are forgiven, how do you know?
 - (b) You look to what you can see, a healed body points to a healed soul
3. *What do these stories require?*
 - a) *The same thing the first story required*
 - (1) *A complete and total surrender*
 - (2) *An awareness that you don't have, in your power, what you need*
 - (a) *You are fishless, unclean, and strapped to a stretcher*
 - (b) *Your only move is to put your faith in Jesus and let Him change your life*
 - b) *This story requires a posture from you:*
 - (1) *A posture that says "Lord, if you don't move, work, speak, I'm done for"*
 - (2) *A deep dependency on Jesus in everything you do*
 - (3) *A real, honest-to-goodness, poverty of soul that cries out for Christ*

C. Luke 5:27-39

1. What is the story?
 - a) Jesus calls a tax collector, Levi (Matthew), to follow Him
 - b) In Levi's joy, he leaves everything and throws a party to celebrate
 - c) Religious leaders get upset and question why the disciples don't fast
2. What is the larger story (hidden meaning, secret, or mystery)?
 - a) The Physician
 - (1) Jesus says, "those who are well have no need of a doctor"
 - (2) The secret – nobody is well, everyone is sick
 - (3) Think you are well? You broadcast, you have no need for Jesus.
 - b) The Old and the New (fabric and wine)
 - (1) New fabric on old, and new wine in old skins – doesn't match, always tears
 - (2) Old things are old and new things are new – they don't mix
 - (3) The mystery (vs39) – anyone who has tasted the old, doesn't like the new
 - (4) Like the old ways? You proclaim, you have no need for Jesus.
3. What is required?
 - a) *We all need a greater understanding of our real needs*
 - (1) *This world has a sin problem. The church has a sin problem.*
 - (2) *The problem comes from thinking we are healthier than we are*
 - (3) *The problem comes from liking old, sinful things – not new glorious things*
 - b) *Whatever the cause, the solution is the same*

D. Conclusion

1. *What is this solution I am speaking about?*
 - a) *The solution fishermen, Simon, the leper, the paralytic, and Levi found*
 - b) *The solution – complete and total surrender to Jesus*
 - (1) *Not the superficial mixing of Jesus with this world*
 - (2) *Not the embrace of a hippie Jesus who loves everything*
 - (3) *Not the outward appearance of surrender with no death to your flesh*
2. *Luke 5 – leave everything behind, come to Jesus, He will change your life*