

# Blessings of Obedience

## Luke 5:1-5

### Luke 5:1-5 (NASB)

<sup>1</sup>“Now it happened that while the crowd was pressing around Him and listening to the word of God, He was standing by the lake of Gennesaret;

<sup>2</sup>and He saw two boats lying at the edge of the lake; but the fishermen had gotten out of them and were washing their nets.

<sup>3</sup>And He got into one of the boats, which was Simon's, and asked him to put out a little way from the land. And He sat down and *began* teaching the people from the boat.

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

<sup>5</sup>Simon answered and said, “Master, we worked hard all night and caught nothing, but I will do as You say *and* let down the nets.”

In [John 14:15](#), Jesus taught His disciples, “If you love Me, you will keep My commandments.” He repeated the connection between love and obedience several times because of its great importance. ([John 14:23](#); [1 John 5:3](#); [2 John 1:6](#).)

### John 14:23 (NASB)

<sup>23</sup>“Jesus answered and said to him, “If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word; and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our abode with him.”

### 1 John 5:3 (NASB)

<sup>3</sup>“For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments; and His commandments are not burdensome.”

### 2 John 1:6 (NASB)

<sup>6</sup>“And this is love, that we walk according to His commandments. This is the commandment, just as you have heard from the beginning, that you should walk in it.”

Following God’s agenda amounts to telling Him, “I love You.” Having the correct view of obedience—namely, that it’s an expression of love toward our heavenly Father—enables us to endure any difficulties in our life. And God also pours out His blessings on those who obey Him.

Consider Peter’s example. Jesus asked for use of his boat to preach to the crowd. Having been up all night without catching any fish, Peter might have given Jesus an excuse—too tired, too discouraged, a lot of cleaning up to do. Instead, he responded positively to Jesus’ request and took a step into a life of obedience and blessing. On the surface, lending his vessel and helping Jesus did not appear to be important beyond the moment. But God had more in mind than a one-time loan of a boat. He was going to use Peter’s life and make him a fisher of men ([Matthew 4:19](#)).

### Matthew 4:19 (NASB)

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

Because we cannot foresee what our Lord has in mind, we may not comprehend the importance of what He asks of us. We could be tempted to modify the request to suit ourselves, to delay until a more convenient time, or just to skip it all together. Such actions are always unwise.

God rewarded Peter with service in His kingdom. He wants to do the same for all believers. How is the Holy Spirit prompting you, and what is your response?