

FEBRUARY 10, 2019
FIFTH SUNDAY
AFTER EPIPHANY



Jesus calls his followers.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

These passages are related to the Lectionary texts for this Sunday.

Sunday	Luke 5:1-11	Jesus calls the first disciples
Monday	Isaiah 6:1-13	The call of Isaiah
Tuesday	1 Corinthians 15:1-11	The call of Paul
Wednesday	Numbers 27:12-23	Joshua appointed Moses' successor
Thursday	James 1:17-18	God's gifts to us
Friday	Exodus 4:10-17	Moses' miraculous power
Saturday	Psalms 138	Praise the Lord with all your heart
Sunday	Luke 6:17-26	Sermon on the plain

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

Then Jesus said to Simon, "Do not be afraid; from now on you will be catching people." When [Peter, James, and John] had brought their boats to shore, they left everything and followed him. **Luke 5:10b-11 (NRSV)**

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

Generous God, you call us by name and send us out to tell of your extravagant love for us. Give us the faith, strength, and courage to be your followers. In Jesus' name, amen.

Mealtimes Prayer:

Dear Jesus, just as you filled the nets with fish, we thank you for filling us with this gift of food. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May the Lord's steadfast love and faithfulness strengthen your soul. (Psalm 138:2-3)



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HYMN OF THE WEEK

We All Are One in Mission



CARING CONVERSATIONS



Discuss in your home, small group, or use for personal reflections:

- Name or think about some things you do well.
- How would you describe your "calling" in life?
- All Christians are called through their baptisms to be a follower of Jesus. How do you use your talents and interests to serve others and follow Jesus?

DEVOTIONS



Read: Luke 5:1-11.

What does it mean to be "catching" people for Jesus? Would you be first in line to say, "Yes," to God? Peter didn't. Isaiah didn't. Moses didn't. Jeremiah didn't. Countless others in the Bible rushed to the end of the line, not the beginning. Thanks be to God that our calling to follow is based on God's call, not on our own decisions. The Apostle Paul puts it well in 1 Corinthians 15:9-10a: "Last of all, as to one untimely born, [Christ] appeared also to me. For I am the least of the apostles, unfit to be called an apostle because I persecuted the church of God. But by the grace of God I am what I am." Fortunately, Christianity is based on God's grace, not our choices. At the same time, God's call frees us to love our neighbor and share God's love with others. Like Peter, James, and John, we all join in the ministry of catching people in the net of Jesus Christ. Why is it important to trust God's call to us and not our own choices?

Pray: Dear Jesus, we thank you for calling us as disciples to go out into the world to share God's love and grace. Amen.

SERVICE



God uses ordinary people like those who catch fish, those who tend flocks, and those who harvest the fields to do the extraordinary work of helping others be gathered into the community of saints, the church. How can your ordinary talents and interests be used to share God's love with others?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS



In Isaiah 6:1-8, Isaiah was involved in worship when he received his call as a prophet. The word worship comes from "worth-ship" or being made worthy. We worship not only to praise God but to receive our worthiness as those loved and sent by God into the world. Jesus told us to personally worship through charitable giving, praying, and fasting (Matthew 6:1-18). Take time as a follower of Jesus to worship this week in your home. Set up a charity alms jar to put loose coins into, say the Lord's Prayer, and fast through a lunchtime.



In addition to *Taking Faith Home*, celebrate milestones in your daily life as an effective faith formation tool. Go to: www.milestonesministry.org