

We welcome you joining us on the Liturgy journey from Epiphany to Transfiguration Sunday. This material reflects the Sunday sermons ensuring the whole church are on the same page and can take the learnings deeper with scripture readings, daily devotions and questions for group discussions. May you draw closer to God whilst learning His truths, find the journey transformative and experience God's love for you in a very deep and real way.



Oceans (Where Feet May Fail) - Hillsong United lyrics https://youtu.be/6GGFb6LcX3U?si=PtOlOQdjXJmVYoyj

WEEK 5 - 9 FEBRUARY Push Out into Deep Water



Isaiah 6:1-8, (9-13) Psalm 138 1 Corinthians 15:1-11 **Luke 5:1-11**

Luke 5:1-11 The Message

Push Out into Deep Water

5 1-3 Once when he was standing on the shore of Lake Gennesaret, the crowd was pushing in on him to better hear the Word of God. He noticed two boats tied up. The fishermen had just left them and were out scrubbing their nets. He climbed into the boat that was Simon's and asked him to put out a little from the shore. Sitting there, using the boat for a pulpit, he taught the crowd. 4 When he finished teaching, he said to Simon, "Push out into deep water and let your nets out for a catch." 5-7 Simon said, "Master, we've been fishing hard all night and haven't caught even a minnow. But if you say so, I'll let out the nets." It was no sooner said than done—a huge

haul of fish, straining the nets past capacity. They waved to their partners in the other boat to come help them. They filled both boats, nearly swamping them with the catch.⁸⁻¹⁰ Simon Peter, when he saw it, fell to his knees before Jesus. "Master, leave. I'm a sinner and can't handle this holiness. Leave me to myself." When they pulled in that catch of fish, awe overwhelmed Simon and everyone with him. It was the same with James and John, Zebedee's sons, coworkers with Simon. ¹⁰⁻¹¹ Jesus said to Simon, "There is nothing to fear. From now on you'll be fishing for men and women." They pulled their boats up on the beach, left them, nets and all, and followed him.



Monday, February 10: Psalm 115; Judges 5:1-11; 1 Corinthians 14:26-40; Tuesday, February 11: Psalm 115; 1 Samuel 9:15-10:1b; 1 Timothy 3:1-9; Wednesday, February 12,: Psalm 115; Isaiah 8:1-15; Luke 5:27-32; Thursday, February 13: Psalm 1; Jeremiah 13:12-19; Acts 13:26-34; Friday, February 14: Psalm 1; Jeremiah 13:20-27; 1 Peter 1:17-2:1; Saturday, February 15: Psalm 1; Jeremiah 17:1-4; Luke 11:24-28;



This week was written by: Nadja Atkinson (Pastoral Care)

Do you sometimes get so caught up in your life: the challenges, worries, demands, and other's expectations that you get to the end of the day and realise that you haven't even said good morning to God? Your busyness has drained the joy from your life. You are frustrated, empty,

broken, and it feels like there is no meaning or purpose to your long days?

If you want to change, it is time to get out of the shallows into deeper water. God is ready and willing to meet you where you are and lead you to go beyond what you can even imagine your life could be. Are you ready to kick start (or re-start) your life with him?

Who is God to you and what role does he play in your life? Is he a Sunday chat or the anchor of your life? We cannot love what we do not know (intimately). You need to connect with him constantly. It is important to carve time out in your day to spend time with him. Your diary often reflects what you value: re-discover God and stop wasting time on things that do not have lasting value. He has unending love and patience to guide you on the journey - even when you feel fearful, inadequate or lost. He is the same yesterday, today and tomorrow. (Luke 18:27 "What is impossible with man is possible with God").

We cannot live in God's will without radical obedience. This means that God is centre of your life, being, and thoughts: you keep him in mind before you do anything! Can you open your mind and heart and cast your net wide (out of your existing comfort zone) to go where he leads you? It may feel overwhelming, but hasn't he always been there for you? (John 15:7 "If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you").

You do not need a safety net. He's got you! He has miraculous powers: He can fill previously empty nets to brim over with fish. He can turn water into wine (John 2:1011) and raised Lazarus from the dead (John 11:38-44). You only need to call on his name, he is with you, his hands will protect you. He will not fail you. (Lamentations 3:22 "Because of the Lord's great love we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail".).

He is knocking on your door, inviting you into a life where you are truly living, abundantly loved, filled with adventure. As you draw closer to him, you change and become His hands and feet. You start loving his children with passion and drawing closer those that seek him. You feel alive! Your life has purpose and meaning and it is focussed on the right things. So, hear this: he calling you to trust him, he's got you: JUMP!



- 1. What is causing you to doubt that God can radically change your life around? Or if he has, share how God has changed your life.
- 2. Are you fishing in the shallows? What areas in your life do you need to go deeper in?
- 3. Who needs to hear about Jesus and his transforming powers

in your life? How will you reach out to them?



FAMILY TIME: Written by Jenny Blake CHILDREN'S PASTOR jennyb@bmc.org.za

Week 5 - Push Out into Deep Water

Scripture: Luke 5:1-11 (The Message)

Key Verse: "Simon said, 'Master, we've been fishing hard all night and haven't caught even a minnow. But if you say so, I'll let out the nets." (Luke 5:5)

Introduction

Have you ever tried something again even when you thought it wouldn't work? Maybe you didn't think it would make a difference, but then something amazing happened! Today's story is about trusting Jesus, even when things seem impossible.

Bible Story Recap

Jesus was teaching by the lake when He noticed some fishermen washing their nets. Their boats were empty because they hadn't caught any fish all night. Jesus asked Simon to push his boat out into the water so He could teach the crowd from there.

When Jesus finished teaching, He told Simon to push out into deeper water and let down the nets again. Simon hesitated—after all, they'd tried all night without success—but he decided to trust Jesus. When they let down the nets, they caught so many fish that their boats began to sink!

Simon was amazed and humbled. Jesus told him, "Don't be afraid. From now on, you'll be fishing for people." Simon and his friends left everything to follow Jesus.

Family Discussion

- 1. Why do you think Simon was willing to try again, even after a long night of failure? Talk about how Simon trusted Jesus and believed He could do something amazing.
- 2. What does it mean to fish for people?

 Discuss how following Jesus means sharing His love and message with others.
- 3. How can we trust Jesus when things seem hard or hopeless? Share a time when trusting God made a difference in your life.

Activity: Trust and Try Again

As a family, build a small tower out of blocks or other objects. If it falls, encourage everyone to try again, just as Simon trusted Jesus and let down his nets. Talk about how trusting God can help us keep going, even when things are tough.

Prayer

"Dear Jesus, thank You for teaching us to trust You, even when things seem impossible. Help us to follow You and share Your love with others. Remind us to keep trying and to rely on Your strength. Amen."