

“Master,” Simon replied, “we worked hard all last night and didn’t catch a thing. But if you say so, I’ll let the nets down again.”

Luke 5:5 (NLT)

Because

Will you do what I ask of you? Does what I ask of you always need to make sense to you? Do you need to understand fully what I am asking of you in order for you to obey me? Will you go and do what I ask of you even when it does not seem to make sense to you at the time? Will you obey me simply because I asked you to do something for me? This is an interesting group of questions for me to consider. My quick answer is that I will obey you simply because you have asked me to do something for you. Who am I that I would think that I would need to fully understand everything before I would obey you? I am not all wise. I know in part. You know in full. I see in part. You see in full. You see the future. I can only see the past. **What has your past experience with me shown you?** You are likely to ask me to do things for you that I don't fully understand. As a matter of fact, it is very unlikely that I will ever fully understand all that you ask me to do for you. Only by looking in the past have I been more fully able to understand some of what you have asked of me. **What has happened to you when you have obeyed me even when you have not fully understood what I have asked of you?** I have passed your test. You have helped me to obey you. Your blessing has come into my life. You have allowed me to bear fruit for your kingdom and bring glory to your name. You have grown my faith in you. You have filled me with joy in my knowing that I have done what you have asked of me. **This is all true.**

When have you been tempted to not obey me? What must you be on guard against? I have been tempted to not obey you when I have been tired and worn out. In those moments I have sometimes wrongly thought that you couldn't be asking me to do something else for you. But, I am learning that you will give me the strength to do whatever you ask of me. **Yes, I will. What else?** There have been times when I have set myself up as an expert. I have thought that I didn't need any advice, suggestions and direction from anyone. At these times I have wrongly thought that you couldn't be asking me to do something for you because it did not line up with my own understanding, expertise and experience. But, I am learning that you know far better than I what needs to be done, when it needs to be done, and why it needs to be done. So, I am learning to say yes to you simply because you have asked me to do something for you. **That is very good.**

Lord, I know I have mistakenly set myself up as an expert that didn't need to receive advice or direction. Forgive me. That's over. Now, I will go and do all you ask of me. I don't need to understand everything. All I need to know is that you have asked me. Amen

If *You Say So*
Simon answered, "Master, we've worked hard all night and haven't caught anything. But because you say so, I will let down the nets."
NIV Luke 5:5

If *At Your Word*
And Simon answered, "Master, we toiled all night and took nothing! But at your word I will let down the nets."
ESV Luke 5:5

If *You Say So*
"Master," Simon replied, "we worked hard all last night and didn't catch a thing. But if you say so, I'll let the nets down again."
NLT Luke 5:5

If *At Your Word*
But Simon answered and said to Him, "Master, we have toiled all night and caught nothing; nevertheless at Your word I will let down the net."
NKJV Luke 5:5

If *You Say So*
Simon answered, "Master, we have worked all night long but have caught nothing. Yet if you say so, I will let down the nets."
NRSV Luke 5:5

If *You Say So*
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."
MSG Luke 5:5

If *On The Ground Of Your Word*
And Simon (Peter) answered, Master, we toiled all night [exhaustingly] and caught nothing [in our nets]. But on the ground of Your word, I will lower the nets [again].
AMP Luke 5:5

If *You Say So*
"Sir," Simon replied, "we worked hard all last night and didn't catch a thing. But if you say so, we'll try again."
TLB Luke 5:5

If *As You Say*
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."
NASB Luke 5:5

If *But You Say*
Simon answered, "Master, we worked hard all night trying to catch fish, and we caught nothing. But you say to put the nets in the water, so I will."
NCV Luke 5:5

You Say So

Year _____ Week _____ Day _____ Date _____

If – Luke 5:5

In Context: *Read Luke 5*

Begin With Prayer:

Here I am Lord. I Am Listening.

Meditating On God's Word: ***(What is God speaking to your heart?)***

"Master," Simon replied, "we worked hard all last night and didn't catch a thing. But if you say so, I'll let the nets down again."
Luke 5:5 (NLT)

Considering The Words: ***(What words speak to your heart?)***

"Master," | Simon replied, | "we | worked hard | all | last night | and | didn't | catch a thing. | But if | you say so, | I'll | let | the nets | down again." Luke 5:5 (NLT)

Praying The Scripture:

(What prayer from your heart will you write?)

Lord, I know I have mistakenly set myself up as an expert that didn't need to receive advice or direction. Forgive me. That's over. Now, I will go and do all you ask of me. I don't need to understand everything. All I need to know is that you have asked me. Amen

What It Means: ***(What questions speak to your heart?)*** *(Suggested questions for small group discussion are in bold)*

Why can you be certain that the Lord will ask you to do something for Him that you don't fully understand?

Why is it very dangerous to consider yourself to be an expert who does not need to receive advice and direction?

When have you failed miserably at something because you relied solely on your own expert advice?

How have you tried to test and discern what you thought the Lord was asking you to do for Him?

When have you regretted not going and doing what the Lord was prompting you to do for Him?

How has the Lord brought blessing into your life as a result of your going and doing what He asked of you?

How has your faith in the Lord grown as you have gone and done what He asked of you?

Living It Out:

(What action step is God guiding your heart to take?)

Say yes to the Lord and go and do all that He asks of you even when it doesn't all seem to make sense to you.

Seeing It Happen:

(What are you trusting God for in your heart?)

Have faith that the Lord will ask you to do things for Him that won't always seem to make sense to you at the time.

Get Ready To Share:

(What can you share with others from your heart?)

Share with another person or your small group what you have done for the Lord that didn't seem to make sense to you.

Close With Prayer:

Quiet Yourself Before The Lord

Pause And Offer Prayers Of...

With An Attitude Of Faith Listen To What The Lord Wants To Say To You

Adoration... _____

Thanksgiving... _____

Confession... _____

Intercession... _____

Petition... _____

Journal

As You Quiet Yourself Before The Lord

What Do You Want To Say To Me Lord?

What Prayers Are You Praying Today?

Prayer Of Blessing

(What Prayer Of Blessing Can You Pray For Another?)

May you do what the Lord asks of you even when you don't understand why.

Prayer To Carry

(What Prayer Would You Like To Carry Throughout Your Day?)

Lord, I will do what you ask of me even when I don't understand why.

What Do You Want To Remember About Today?

A Question To Ask God

(What Would You Like To Ask God?)

Lord, what are you asking me to do for you today?
