

# Luke 5:10

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And so was also James, and John, the sons of Zebedee, which were partners with Simon. And Jesus said unto Simon, Fear not; from henceforth thou shalt catch men.

## Analysis

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Jesus responds to Peter's fear: 'Fear not; from henceforth thou shalt catch men.' The command 'fear not' addresses Peter's terror at encountering deity. Jesus transforms Peter's profession—from catching fish to catching men. The Greek 'zōgrōn' (ζωγρῶν, catch alive, take captive) was used for capturing prisoners in war but here means winning people for God's kingdom. Peter's fishing expertise becomes a metaphor for evangelistic ministry. Jesus takes our natural abilities, sanctifies them, and redirects them for kingdom purposes. The call isn't to abandon skills but to repurpose them for eternal significance.

## Historical Context

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Jesus' wordplay on Peter's fishing trade made His call memorable and concrete. Ancient readers would appreciate the metaphor—fishermen caught fish for physical sustenance, evangelists catch men for spiritual life. The phrase 'from henceforth' (Greek 'apo tou nyn,' ἀπὸ τοῦ νῦν, from now on) marks a decisive turning point—Peter's life trajectory permanently changes. Though he returned to fishing temporarily after Jesus' death (John 21), this call ultimately defined his ministry as apostle. The transformation from fisherman to fisher of men illustrates how God redeems and repurposes our occupations for His glory.

## Related Passages

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**Psalms 19:1** — Heavens declare God's glory

**Colossians 1:16** — All things created through Christ

## Study Questions

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1. How does Jesus' call to 'catch men' demonstrate His pattern of redeeming and repurposing our natural abilities for kingdom work?
2. What does the metaphor of fishing for men teach about evangelism's nature—actively pursuing, skillfully drawing, bringing people from death to life?

## Interlinear Text

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ὁμοίως	δὲ	καὶ	Ἰάκωβον	καὶ	Ἰωάννην	υἱοὺς	Ζεβεδαίου
so	And	And	James	And	John	the sons	of Zebedee
G3668	G1161	G2532	G2385	G2532	G2491	G5207	G2199
οἱ	ἦσαν	κοινωνοὶ	τῷ	Σίμωνα	καὶ	εἶπεν	πρὸς τὸν
which	were	partners	G3588	Simon	And	said	unto
G3739	G2258	G2844		G4613	G2532	G2036	G4314
Σίμωνα	ὁ	Ἰησοῦς	Μὴ	φοβοῦ·	ἀπὸ	τοῦ	νῦν
Simon	G3588	Jesus	not	Fear	from	G3588	henceforth
G4613		G2424	G3361	G5399	G575		G3568
ἀνθρώπους	ἔση	ζωγρῶν					
men	thou shalt	catch					
G444	G2071	G2221					

## Additional Cross-References

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**Matthew 13:47** (Parallel theme): Again, the kingdom of heaven is like unto a net, that was cast into the sea, and gathered of every kind:

**Matthew 4:19** (Parallel theme): And he saith unto them, Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.

**Mark 1:17** (References Jesus): And Jesus said unto them, Come ye after me, and I will make you to become fishers of men.

**Luke 5:7** (Parallel theme): And they beckoned unto their partners, which were in the other ship, that they should come and help them. And they came, and filled both the ships, so that they began to sink.

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