

Learning from Peter's Journey of Faith 2 Pt 3:18

"Grow in Grace and in the Knowledge of our Lord and savior Jesus Christ"

Guided Growth with Pastor Keith @ CBC Wed. Apr. 14

Learning to "walk by Faith" is not entirely unlike learning to walk physically in both require:

- Someone to help "guide" us. (*Teach us how to walk.*)
- Someone to help "guard" us. (*Identify obstacles that might trip us up.*)
- Someone to help "grow" us. (*Encourage us to develop our muscles and skill and Help us to get up when we stumble.*)

We won't get too far on this "journey of faith" before we walk into a "Crisis"!

The word "crisis" comes from krisis which means *"a decision or turning point (in a disease)."*

A "Crisis" is something that causes us to "decide" or "turn" in a new direction!

As such, God can use times of crisis to help "guide" as well as "grow" our Faith!

Consider Peter's journey of faith.

1. Begins as Curious: Jn 1:29-43

A. Andrew was a disciple of John.

1) He heard John's declaration. v36

2) He followed Jesus. Vs 37-39

3) He shares with Peter. John 1:40-42 *"He first findeth his own brother Simon, and saith unto him, We have found the Messiah, (the Christ) And he brought him to Jesus. When Jesus beheld him, he said, Thou art Simon the son of Jona: thou shalt be called Cephas, which is by interpretation, A stone. "*

Who did God use to introduce you to Christ?

B. Becomes part of a "congregation" Lk 5:3

1) Jesus *"taught the people"* From Peter's Boat! Vs 3 (Peter is a "captive" audience.)

The seed must be sown to take root. (Mt 13:3-23; Ro. 10:17)

What has Jesus taught you?

What affect does it have on your life?

2. Curiosity becomes Conviction. Mt. 4; Lk 4

A. Began with a Call to Repentance. Mt 4:17 *"Repent, for the Kingdom of God is at hand."*

1) This echoed the message of John the Baptist. (Lk 3:3)

2) This was a consistent theme of Jesus. Lk 13:3,5; Mk 6:12;

3) Peter echoed this theme at Pentecost. Acts 2:37-38

B. Communicated through Preaching truth. Lk 5

1) Jesus "taught the people" From Peter's Boat! Vs 3

C. Reinforced with Relationship! Lk 5:3-8

- 1) Jesus had spent the day with Peter in the boat.
- 2) Jesus cared about Peter's needs. Vs 5 *"we have toiled all night and taken nothing"*
- 3) Gave Peter some specific instructions. Vs 4 *"Launch out into the deep, and let down your nets"*

Why do you think Jesus did this?

- a) Tested Peter's obedience. Vs 5 *"Master, (Epistat'ēs: commander!) we have toiled all the night, and have taken nothing: nevertheless at thy word I will let down the net."*
- b) This Affected others. Vs 6-7 *"when they had ... they enclosed a great multitude of fishes: and their net brake. (Probably because of their partial obedience) they beckoned to their partners. ..they came, and filled both the ships, so that they began to sink."*

How might Your responses to God be affecting those around you?

D. This challenged Peter. Lk 5:8-11 *"When Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, Depart from me; for I am a sinful man, O Lord."* Kyrios: Supreme Authority!

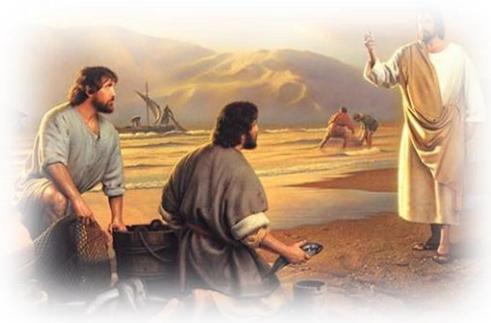
Do you see Jesus as a "Master" (Commander) or Lord (Supreme Authority)?

How might your partial obedience be affecting your life?

3. Conviction leads to a Call: *"Follow Me"* Mt 4:19

A. This call produces a Choice. Luke 5:10-11

- 1) It's challenging. *"Jesus said unto Simon, Fear not; from henceforth thou shalt catch men."*
- 2) It's changing. *"from henceforth thou shalt catch men. And when they had brought their ships to land, they forsook all, and followed him"*



➤ What did this call "cost" Peter?

His Family?

➤ How did Jesus provide for Peter's family?

In Luke 14:25-32 Jesus discusses the importance of "Counting the Cost" of following him.

Lk 14:33-35 *"So likewise, whosoever he be of you that forsaketh not (apotassō: to arrange in order) all that he hath, he cannot be my disciple. Salt is good: but if the salt have lost his savour, wherewith shall it be seasoned? It is neither fit for the land, nor yet for the dunghill; but men cast it out. He that hath ears to hear, let him hear."*

After the Rich Young Ruler walks away from Jesus in Mt 19:16-22; Peter asks Jesus in vs 27-30 *"Behold, we have forsaken all, and followed thee; what shall we have therefore? And Jesus said unto them, Verily I say unto you, That ye which have followed me, in the regeneration when the Son of man shall sit in the throne of his glory, ye also shall sit upon twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel. And every one that hath forsaken houses, or brethren, or sisters, or father, or mother, or wife, or children, or lands, for my name's sake, shall receive an hundredfold, (1,201,064,595,207,167,685,882,431,343,616) and shall inherit everlasting life. But many that are first shall be last; and the last shall be first."*