

BREAKING OPEN THE WORD

February 10, 2013
Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Gospel Lk 5:1-11

While the crowd was pressing in on Jesus and listening to the word of God, he was standing by the Lake of Gennesaret. He saw two boats there alongside the lake; the fishermen had disembarked and were washing their nets. Getting into one of the boats, the one belonging to Simon, he asked him to put out a short distance from the shore. Then he sat down and taught the crowds from the boat. After he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, "Put out into deep water and lower your nets for a catch." Simon said in reply, "Master, we have worked hard all night and have caught nothing, but at your command I will lower the nets." When they had done this, they caught a great number of fish and their nets were tearing. They signaled to their partners in the other boat to come to help them. They came and filled both boats so that the boats were in danger of sinking. When Simon Peter saw this, he fell at the knees of Jesus and said, "Depart from me, Lord, for I am a sinful man." For astonishment at the catch of fish they had made seized him and all those with him, and likewise James and John, the sons of Zebedee, who were partners of Simon. Jesus said to Simon, "Do not be afraid; from now on you will be catching men." When they brought their boats to the shore, they left everything and followed him.

Spiritual Reflection:

When Peter's realizes Jesus is God, Peter recognizes his own sinfulness and begs Jesus to leave. The good news in today's Gospel is that Jesus already knows that Peter is a sinner and does not only want to be with Peter but Jesus also has a new job for Peter as His co-worker. The more we acknowledge our sinfulness the closer we realize we are to God.

Spiritual Questions:

1. How can you go deeper in your faith?
2. Why is it that the closer you are to God the more of your sinfulness you see?
3. Why is it that God chooses to work with sinners?
4. Have you had a moment when you realized God was real and in your life?
5. What are you willing to give up to follow Jesus?

ST. MATTHEW



ST. MARK



2013

