

Breaking The Spirit of Failure

Luke 5:1-10 – Four Fisherman Called as Disciples - 5 So it was, as the multitude pressed about Him to hear the word of God, that He stood by the Lake of Gennesaret, ² and saw two boats standing by the lake; but the fishermen had gone from them and were washing *their* nets. ³ Then He got into one of the boats, which was Simon's, and asked him to put out a little from the land. And He sat down and taught the multitudes from the boat.

⁴ When He had stopped speaking, He said to Simon, "Launch out into the deep and let down your nets for a catch."

⁵ 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." ⁶ And when they had done this, they caught a great number of fish, and their net was breaking. ⁷ So they signaled to *their* partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both the boats, so that they began to sink. ⁸ When Simon Peter saw *it*, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, "Depart from me, for I am a sinful man, O Lord!"

⁹ For he and all who were with him were astonished at the catch of fish which they had taken; ¹⁰ and so also *were* James and John, the sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon. And Jesus said to Simon, "Do not be afraid. From now on you will catch men."

When I started studying the Bible,

- **I didn't start** studying the Bible to preach.
- **I didn't start** to get a message, or to perfect a ministry.
- **Nor did I start** so that **I might be able to argue theologically** with those who are astute in scriptures.

I started reading the Word of God because I was drowning, and I needed desperately to find a lifeline or a reason to keep living.

I started ***reading the Word of God*** because

- I was tired of listening to the words of men.
- I was tired of their counsel and thoughts.
- The tunnels and the burrows, as it were, **that I dug into the Word of God** -
- ***To find healing for myself***, became cisterns, wells of living water -
- ***That begin to bless other hurting people***.

There are ***biblical words and concepts*** that have ***so much life in them***,

- They are stronger than therapy, greater than psychology, reaching deeper than psychiatry.
- They can calm the rampant beating and the stressful taunting and flaunting of the enemy that comes against you, to overwhelm you.

He is the only one I know who can speak a word now.

- That goes back into your past, heals your yesterdays, secures your today, and anchors your tomorrow.
- ***He is absolutely awesome....***

One of the things ***that really excited me about God***, was beginning to realize that:

- He is **sovereign**, and indicative of success.
- That He is **in control**, and He has **absolute power**.
- It was interesting to find that He foreknew me,
- That He **knew me** before I was born,
- That my mother and father did not get the first look at me.

They were not the first ones to see me.

- That God had searched me, before I was born.
- He had chosen me; He had monitored my mother's pregnancy.
- He had secured me. He had protected me in the womb.

That in fact, before He had formed me in the belly,

- He knew me, ordained me, sanctified me, to be a prophet unto the nations.
- He did it before, that I might be.....,

He was saying that I was going to be, in the future, what He had prepared before, in the past!

There are no surprises in God. God says, "I already know all about you!"

- "You will never surprise me!"
- "Your thoughts, will not surprise me,
- I already know your thoughts before you think them!"

"I know what you are going to do before you do it!"

- "Before I formed thee in the belly, I knew thee!" "I ordained you!"
- "You couldn't have been a still-born, I ordained you!"
- "You couldn't have been a terminated pregnancy, an aborted baby, couldn't have died a crib death, I ordained you!"

"I sanctified you.....," When did you sanctify me?

- ***Was it when I was baptized, and You cleaned up my life?***
- "I sanctified you before I formed thee...!"
- "Your hands were still webbed in your mother's womb,
- When you were just a bleeping on the monitor, I sanctified you!"
- "Before they could determine your gender, *I sanctified you!*"

- "Before the first trimester of your mother's pregnancy, I sanctified you!"
- "Before you were a gleam in your father's eye, *I sanctified you!*"

"That means that I set you apart, and that speaks more than cleanliness, it speaks to a line of demarcation!"

"It means that I marked you, before you got here!"

- "I put my mark on you, you are mine!" "I sanctified you!"
- "I set you apart, and *that clearly means that I meant for you to be different!*"
- "I did not mean for you to fit in!"

What a ministry to understand.

- He never meant for you to be in the clique or in the club.
- He never meant for you to be accepted.
- He marked you!
- He sanctified you!
- He set you apart!

You were meant to be an outcast with people, so that you could be an in cast with God!

Jeremiah 1:5 - “Before I formed you in the womb I knew you; Before you were born I sanctified you; I ordained you a prophet to the nations.”

The good thing about God is that when He ordains you, knows you, and sanctifies you to be, you don’t have to worry about anybody else that doesn’t want you to be!

Isaiah 54:17 - No weapon formed against you shall prosper, And every tongue which rises against you in judgment You shall condemn.

- **Because you are sanctified! You are on a mission from God!**
- You are a stone thrown, an arrow shot, a bullet propelled from the **heavenlies into the earth realm!**
- You were sent from eternity into time!

Your mother became the birth canal, the conduit, from eternity into time,

- That in the **fullness** of time that God would bring you into this world
- For a designated purpose!
- You are a **marked** man, woman, boy or girl!

- You are set apart!
- **God has** a definite agenda for your life!
- He is setting you up for a great move!
- He wants to move mightily in your life!

There are some things that only you can do!

- You are distinctly different from anybody else!
- You are forbidden to imitate other people!
- You are forbidden to copy other people! **You are marked!**

When God wanted you, He created you!

- **When He called you,** He called you **because He wants you!**
- You never have to be stressed out trying to be anybody other than yourself! **He wants you!**

Your fingerprint is distinctly different from all the other billions of people in this world, ***God never repeated on your fingertips, with anybody else, the same print!***

- There has **never been anyone** ever that has had your fingerprint, ***nor will there ever be!***
- You are **special to God!** You are **set apart!** He has **an agenda for you!**

The enemy is terrified of people that have been sanctified!

- He is terrified, and **consequently,**
- He will set traps, obstacles, and bondages to keep you
- From entering your purpose ***because he is terrified of you!***
- **Don't waste time being terrified of him, he is terrified of you!**

The greater the struggles that you face, the greater the challenges, the greater the turmoil in your life, is an indication that the devil has assigned assassins to terminate you from reaching your designated target!

He will do anything to overwhelm, belittle, rid you of confidence and self-esteem.

- He doesn't mind how much **you shout and dance, if you don't have any confidence, faith, or integrity!**
- He doesn't mind how excited you get, as long as ***when you get done shouting, you have no character!***

2 Timothy 3:5-7 - 5 having a form of godliness but denying its power. And from such people turn away! 6 For of this sort are those who creep into households and make captives of gullible women loaded down with sins, led away by various lusts, 7 always learning and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth.

- He wants to **rip you until you become impotent in your spirit,**
- **Until** you are **an empty building a ghost town, a vacant house!**
- **Your lights are on, but nobody is at home!**
- You are going **through the motions of life** with **a form of Godliness but denying the power thereof!**
- He doesn't mind how many days you live, **if you don't really live in those days you have!** He wants to **rob you and abuse you of your destiny!**

The potter meant for you to be a successful vessel!

- That you might be meat for the Master's use!
- You were not meant to fail! You were not meant to die!
- You were not meant to quit, or collapse, ***you were meant to live!***

Deuteronomy 28:13 - The Lord will make you the head, not the tail. If you pay attention to the commands of the Lord your God that I give you this day and carefully follow them, you will always be at the top, never at the bottom.

- You were not meant to lose it! To lose control, kick the dog, slap the cat!
- You were not meant to be a failure!
- You were not meant to be destitute and lonely, to be hungry, to be isolated!

You were meant to be the head and not the tail!

You were meant to be above only and not beneath!

You were meant to prosper and live in goodly houses!

You are children of the King!!!!

When you read the Word of God, you begin to understand the magnitude, the awesome, tremendous, awe-inspiring, mind-renewing, thirst quenching magnitude of the deposit of the Holy Spirit that was put in you from the foundations of the world.

If you do not understand the deposit that God has placed inside of you, then you will be ill-prepared when He comes back to make the withdrawal!

The enemy will use your childhood, your past, your broken home, your broken dreams, or whatever he can get on you!

- He doesn't care what he goes after, **he will kill anything that He can to destroy you** from reaching your potential!
- I came to tell you today that **you are on Hell's Hit List!**

The enemy is after your mind! He is after your joy! Your peace! Your confidence! Your self-esteem!

- **Don't let anybody tell you that Christianity is a negative, dead-beat religion for rejected broken people!**

The devil is a liar!

Christianity is jump-starting power to a broken dead celled battery that has gone through a cold world and needs to be renewed! God is able!

With twelve, broken, rejected, ostracized men, He turned the world upside down!

Psalm 118:22 - The stone which the builders rejected Has become the chief cornerstone.

- When Jesus found them, they were pre-occupied with building mountains of nothingness! Going Nowhere!!!!
- *They did not recognize the tremendous deposit that God had buried into their eternal spirits, but at the voice of Him who called them,*

He ignited and exploded inside them and caused them to recognize that you are more than your circumstances!

- I hate to be radical today, but I came to tell you that you who have spent years trying to be ordinary,
- God is about to turn your whole life upside down!
- You are not going to be able to be ordinary and normal!
- Quit trying to fit in with the clique, club, or ritual, or routine!
- God has an agenda for you! He spared you for that agenda!
- He saved you for that agenda!
- The reason you didn't die in that car wreck, lose your mind, die from cancer, made it out of surgery, is because God has an agenda for you!

Destiny is inside of me! It's drawing at me! Tugging me! Yanking me!

Destiny, eternal purpose is inside of me!

I am more than my conditions; I am greater than my circumstances!

I am on my way somewhere! God is pulling me through test, trials, and trauma!

Destiny is inside of me!

You are a King's Kid, and you are headed somewhere!

It doesn't take a lot of people to bring about a change!

He will do a Gideon revival and reduce the troops until he can get people together that will touch and agree!

God always starts a revolution with one man!

It doesn't take twenty men; He can do it with one man!

If He wants to start a new nation, He can get hold of an Abraham!

If He wants to overthrow an Egyptian Pharaoh with six hundred chosen chariots, He will take a Moses!

If He wants to bring a lineage that has a Canaanite thread, He will get a prostitute named Rahab, pull her out of the red-light district and say, "I want you!"

Jesus boggles my mind. He comes down to the Sea, down by the Lake of Gennesaret, to do Kingdom business.

He is going to preach, and He comes to the Lake preparing to espouse *the infallible Word of Truth*. You know that thing that He did that wrecked and turned upside down, cities?

Preaching! The foolishness of preaching! He could just talk and bring about havoc! He was the Eternal Word!

CLOSE: He was coming down by the Lake Gennesaret, there are some men who are on the seashore, washing their nets. It was a normal sight to see. When I first read it, I paid it no attention at all, after all it is the Lake Gennesaret. Fishing was a primary industry in those days!

It was natural that at a certain point, men would come in and wash their nets.

- There seems to be no oddity, initially, in the text.
- But, on closer examination and scrutiny, there is a disturbing detail!

There were no fish in the boat, and it was morning!

They had caught nothing, and they were washing their nets!

If you are not an inquisitive person, you would just keep right on reading, but I am concerned, why would these men wash their nets that had never been used?

I know it's just a small point, but obscure points are filled with revelatory knowledge!

These men had given up! They had given up and quit trying!

Jesus is recruiting potential disciples, and *He can only choose twelve men*, and here **He is talking to some losers! Some quitters!**

Now if it was me and I had to choose, I would not choose dead-beat quitters, but maybe that's because I don't know the deposit that the Master has ordained and placed in these fallen princes! **He stops and watches as they wash their nets!**

They had decided that nothing else was going to happen.

- **Their confidence and faith** were violated, and ***they believed that the way it is***, is the way it's going to be!
- So, they decided **to wash their nets!**

The washing of the nets means that **you are giving up**, and you are convinced that **nothing is going to get any better!**

- **It is not an action, or a characteristic,**
- It can happen to the wealthy as well as the impoverished,
- the intellectual as well as the illiterate,
- **It is a giving up, quitting, tired feeling, it is the spirit of failure!**

The Spirit of Failure!