

“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.’”

Luke 5:5

NEVERTHELESS

Luke 5:1-11

- Peter was a fisherman; Jesus was the carpenter's son
- This was their business
- Peter and his partners had fished all night and caught nothing
- They are done fishing until the next opportune time
- It's daytime, and Jesus is telling them to go out into the deep and let down their nets for a catch?

“NEVERTHELESS, AT YOUR WORD I WILL LET
DOWN THE NET”

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- Nevertheless = in spite of; despite anything to the contrary
- Some synonyms:
 - nonetheless; notwithstanding; yet

**“NEVERTHELESS, AT YOUR WORD I WILL LET
DOWN THE NET”**

**1. We must
obey even
though what
God says goes
against our own
reasoning**

- **God’s commands are not according
to human wisdom**
 - **Proverbs 16:25**
 - **Isaiah 55:8-9**

“NEVERTHELESS, AT YOUR WORD I WILL LET DOWN THE NET”

1. We must
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- Consider

- Abraham & Sarah

- Genesis 17:15-17; 18:9-12; 21:1-2; Romans 4:17-22

- Paul

- Acts 26:9

“NEVERTHELESS, AT YOUR WORD I WILL LET DOWN THE NET”

**1. We must
obey even
though what
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reasoning**

- The gospel is not according to human wisdom
 - 1 Corinthians 1:18-21
 - What God says may seem unreasonable
 - Acts 22:16, yet many objections to baptism
 - Matthew 19:9, yet many objections to
 - One cause for divorce
 - Innocent may suffer too
- Human wisdom and reasoning exalts itself against the knowledge of God
 - 2 Corinthians 10:5

“NEVERTHELESS, AT YOUR WORD I WILL LET DOWN THE NET”

2. We must obey even though what God says goes against our experience or we have no experience in the matter

- What God instructs may very well contradict or be outside of what we have experienced and feel that we know better about
- Consider
 - Noah
 - Genesis 6:13-22; Hebrews 11:7
- 2 Thessalonians 3:6
 - Yet a Christian may be heard to say I've never seen it result in the restoration of a brother or sister
- Matthew 24:44; 1 Thessalonians 4:16-18
 - I have no experience in this matter; nevertheless, believe and make ready!

“NEVERTHELESS, AT YOUR WORD I WILL LET
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3. We must
obey even
though we have
trouble seeing
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accomplish any
good

- Consider
 - Moses
 - Exodus 3:10-11; 5:22-23
 - Naaman
 - 2 Kings 5:11-12

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3. We must
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- “I don’t think they are going to be receptive to the gospel” and so don’t teach
 - Romans 1:16
- Preaching and teaching the gospel, yet discouraged by no visible result
 - Isaiah 55:10-11; 1 Corinthians 3:6

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**3. We must
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- Parents teaching their children; doing any good?
 - Ephesians 6:4
- “I’ve returned good for evil, blessing for cursing with this person, and all I get is more disrespect or more shunning from him”
 - 1 Peter 3:9
- “I’ve tried to do the right thing toward my unbelieving husband, but I see no results”
 - 1 Peter 3:1-2

“NEVERTHELESS, AT YOUR WORD I WILL LET DOWN THE NET”

**4. We must
continue to
obey even
though we are
tired and weary**

- Do people of God get tired and weary from trials, sorrows, disappointments, just living in this world? Do Christians get tired and weary fighting the fight of faith?
 - Yes
- Elijah
 - 1 Kings 19
- Paul
 - 2 Corinthians 11:27
 - But pressed on
 - 2 Corinthians 4:17-18

“NEVERTHELESS, AT YOUR WORD I WILL LET
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4. We must
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- Let us remember these truths:
 - Matthew 6:34
 - Hebrews 10:23, 32, 37
 - Hebrews 12:1-2
 - Galatians 6:7-9

“NEVERTHELESS, AT YOUR WORD I WILL LET
DOWN THE NET”

5. We must
obey even
though it will
cost us
personally

- Following God has always come with a cost
 - Abraham
 - Genesis 12:1; Hebrews 11:8-10
 - Moses
 - Hebrews 11:24-27
- Obeying the gospel will cost you something – Luke 14:28-33

“NEVERTHELESS, AT YOUR WORD I WILL LET DOWN THE NET”

**5. We must
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- Obeying the gospel will cost you something
 - Deny yourself
 - Mark 8:34
 - 2 Corinthians 5:14-15
 - Very likely cost you:
 - Friendships – Matthew 5:10-11; 1 Peter 4:4
 - Family relationships – Matthew 10:34-37
 - Cost you time, energy, money, this world's goods
 - 2 Corinthians 9:6-7

“NEVERTHELESS, **AT YOUR WORD** I WILL LET
DOWN THE NET”

- The words “AT YOUR WORD” demonstrate:
 - 1) Simple trust in God and what God says
 - 2) Respect for His authority

“NEVERTHELESS, **AT YOUR WORD** I WILL LET
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- The words “AT YOUR WORD” demonstrate:
 - 1) Simple trust in God and what God says
 - Abraham demonstrated
 - Genesis 22:1-3; Hebrews 11:17
 - 1 Timothy 4:10

“NEVERTHELESS, **AT YOUR WORD** I WILL LET
DOWN THE NET”

- The words “AT YOUR WORD” demonstrate:
 - 2) Respect for His authority
 - We recognize that supreme, final authority rests within God and His word
 - 2 Timothy 3:16-17
 - All-sufficient
 - Creedbooks? Scholarship of men? Historical, uninspired writings?
 - *Not* “at thy word”

“NEVERTHELESS, **AT YOUR WORD** I WILL LET DOWN THE NET”

- The words “AT YOUR WORD” demonstrate:
 - 2) Respect for His authority
 - Matthew 7:21-23
 - *Not* “at thy word”
 - Colossians 3:17
 - In many places of worship, where is the “thus says the Lord”the “according to”the “it is written”the Scriptures?
- “AT YOUR WORD” is to govern the Christian in every aspect of our life – in thoughts, deeds, words, whether individually or collectively

“NEVERTHELESS, AT YOUR WORD I WILL LET DOWN THE NET. AND WHEN THEY HAD DONE THIS, THEY CAUGHT A GREAT NUMBER OF FISH, AND THEIR NET WAS BREAKING”

- God’s blessing comes to those who obey!
- To those who obey...
 - In spite of human wisdom and my reasoning to the contrary
 - In spite of my experience to the contrary
 - In spite of any shred of doubt as to what good will come
 - In spite of weariness and toil
 - In spite of personal cost
 - Who have...
 - Simple trust in God and what God says
 - Respect for His authority
- Obey Jesus AT HIS WORD!

“NEVERTHELESS, AT YOUR WORD I WILL LET
DOWN THE NET”