

Man of Influence
Following the Master, Leaving a Legacy
Team: Recruiting for Fit

Luke 5:1-11

What character qualities do you believe are important in a leader and why? Would you agree to achieve your best you would do well to partner with high caliber people of impeccable integrity?

The story told in Luke 5:1-11 provides some great insight into the kind of men Jesus was looking for to be a part of His team. Perhaps more importantly as the story unfolds it shows why Peter, James and John (these men were fishermen) left everything to follow Jesus! And sometime shortly afterward, nine more men do the same!

Jesus was looking for men who are teachable and are willing to submit to His leadership as Peter did when Jesus asked him to go back out on the lake and drop his nets. Peter was an experienced fisherman, Jesus was not, but Peter humbled himself and did exactly what Jesus asked of him. The results were undeniable: such a large catch of fish that their boat was barely able to handle the load. Jesus earned their respect and they trusted him as a result. Think about it ...it's hard to trust someone you don't respect. How about you ...are you teachable, are you respectable? Can people trust you even when your "back is against the wall?"

Although Jesus was looking for men who were willing to humble themselves so as to serve a greater cause, He ended up with men who were as normal as the next guy. They were impulsive, temperamental, easily offended and had all the prejudices of their environment, but they were in a word ...teachable! They represented an average cross section of the lot of society in their day, yet Jesus saw in these men the potential of leadership for the kingdom. Perhaps what is most significant about them was their sincere yearning for God and the realities of His life ...they were looking for someone to lead them in the way of salvation.

Most men struggle to trust Christ. And it starts with the intellectual hurdle that He is in fact God! Then we have to get over the ego hurdle that we need His forgiveness by grace and can't earn it by effort like everything else in life. Then we have to get over the pragmatic hurdle of taking care of ourselves. After all, we're educated, experienced and have a track record that supports the concept that we know best how to run our lives? Really? Q: In reality what is it that we actually control in this life?

Yep, it takes a man who recognizes that Christ is the supreme authority and that the Master has all the power to accomplish what He purposes to do in and through our lives. It is faith that acknowledges that Jesus has the means to accomplish His purposes for you! So what do you think? Is Jesus worth your respect and devotion? Are you willing to be a part of His team ...or are you satisfied with life as is? What does it take to stimulate your dedication and what does it take to keep going?

An Integrity Hockey Game Plan: from Chapter 5 of Jim Cote's book Man of Influence ~ 1.26.2020