

Sermon Notes

I. Introduction

- **Passages:** Acts 21:15-19 and Luke 5:1-11
- **Key Theme:** Trusting and obeying God, even when His plans seem challenging or unclear.

II. Key Themes and Discussions

A. Paul's Determination to Return to Jerusalem (Acts 21)

- **Facing Imprisonment:** Paul knew that returning to Jerusalem meant suffering, but he trusted in God's plan for his life (Acts 21:13-14).
- **Commitment to God's Will:** Like Jesus before him, Paul accepted that following God's will often involves personal sacrifice.
- **Application for Believers:** We are called to trust God's plans, even when they involve hardship, knowing that His purpose is greater.

B. Peter's Obedience and Faith (Luke 5)

- **Fishing All Night:** Despite their efforts, Peter and the disciples caught nothing after a full night of fishing.
- **Jesus' Command:** Jesus instructs Peter to cast the nets again into deeper waters, even though Peter was tired and it seemed unreasonable (Luke 5:5).
- **The Miraculous Catch:** Peter obeys, resulting in an overwhelming catch of fish, symbolizing the blessings that come with obedience (Luke 5:6-7).
- **Peter's Humility:** After witnessing the miracle, Peter falls at Jesus' feet, recognizing his own unworthiness (Luke 5:8).

C. Lessons on Faith and Obedience

- **Trust God's Plan:** Even when we are tired, discouraged, or feel like we have nothing left to give, God calls us to trust His guidance.
- **Stepping Into Deeper Waters:** Sometimes, God asks us to go beyond our comfort zones, trusting that He knows what lies ahead.
- **God's Timing and Provision:** Just as Jesus provided the miraculous catch at the right moment, He will provide for us when we follow His lead.

III. Conclusion

- **Reflection:** Like Paul and Peter, we are called to trust and obey God, stepping out in faith even when His plans are not clear to us.
- **Encouragement:** Pastor Wes encourages believers to get "back into the boat" of their calling, trusting that God will guide them through every challenge and into greater blessings.

Scriptural References

- Acts 21:15-19
- Luke 5:1-11
- Philippians 4:13
- Proverbs 3:5-6