



SUNGAI WAY-SUBANG METHODIST CHURCH
SERMON, 28 MAY 2023

FISHING

for People

LUKE 5:1-11

KOH EARN SOO



A fisherman is silhouetted on a small boat in the middle of a body of water at sunset. The sky is a mix of deep blue and golden orange, with a large, translucent fishing net floating in the air above the boat. The water reflects the warm light of the setting sun.

Fishing for people

with the help of the Holy Spirit

Historical context

Traditionally, the Jews
celebrate three
“solemn feasts” :

1. Passover (barley)

2. The Feast of Weeks - Pentecost (wheat)

3. The Feast of Tabernacles (olive & grape)

Harvest events



Acts 1

4 On one occasion, while He was eating with them, He gave them this command: “Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait **for the gift My Father promised, which you have heard Me speak about.**

5 For John baptized with water, but in a few days **you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.”**

Acts 1:8

“But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you ; and you will be My witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”



God Sends the Holy Spirit - YouTube

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OMQKy1Mx4gM>

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God Sends the Holy Spirit

Saddleback Kids
639K subscribers

5.9K

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Pentecost and onwards

There was the outpouring of the Holy Spirit.

Disciples were able to speak and share in other tongues.

Peter was able to preach the Gospel in power and the hearts of the people were cut.

Many responded to the Gospel.

Pentecost and onwards

The church began and grew at a rapid rate.

Healing and miracles took place.

All the believers were of one heart and mind.

The small group of disciples turned the world upside down (downside up).

The disciples preached the Gospel with great courage.

The call to preach the Gospel or more precisely the call to be fisher of men began much earlier.

Luke 5¹ One day as Jesus was standing by the Lake of Gennesaret, the people were crowding around Him and listening to the word of God.

² He saw at the water's edge two boats, left there by the fishermen, who were washing their nets.

³ He got into one of the boats, the one belonging to Simon, and asked him to put out a little from shore. Then He sat down and taught the people from the boat.

4 When He had finished speaking, He said to Simon, **“Put out into deep water, and let down the nets for a catch.”**

5 Simon answered, **“Master, we’ve worked hard all night and haven’t caught anything. But because You say so, I will let down the nets.”**

6 When they had done so, **they caught such a large number of fish that their nets began to break.**

7 So they signaled their partners in the other boat to come and help them, and they came and **filled both boats so full** that they began to sink.

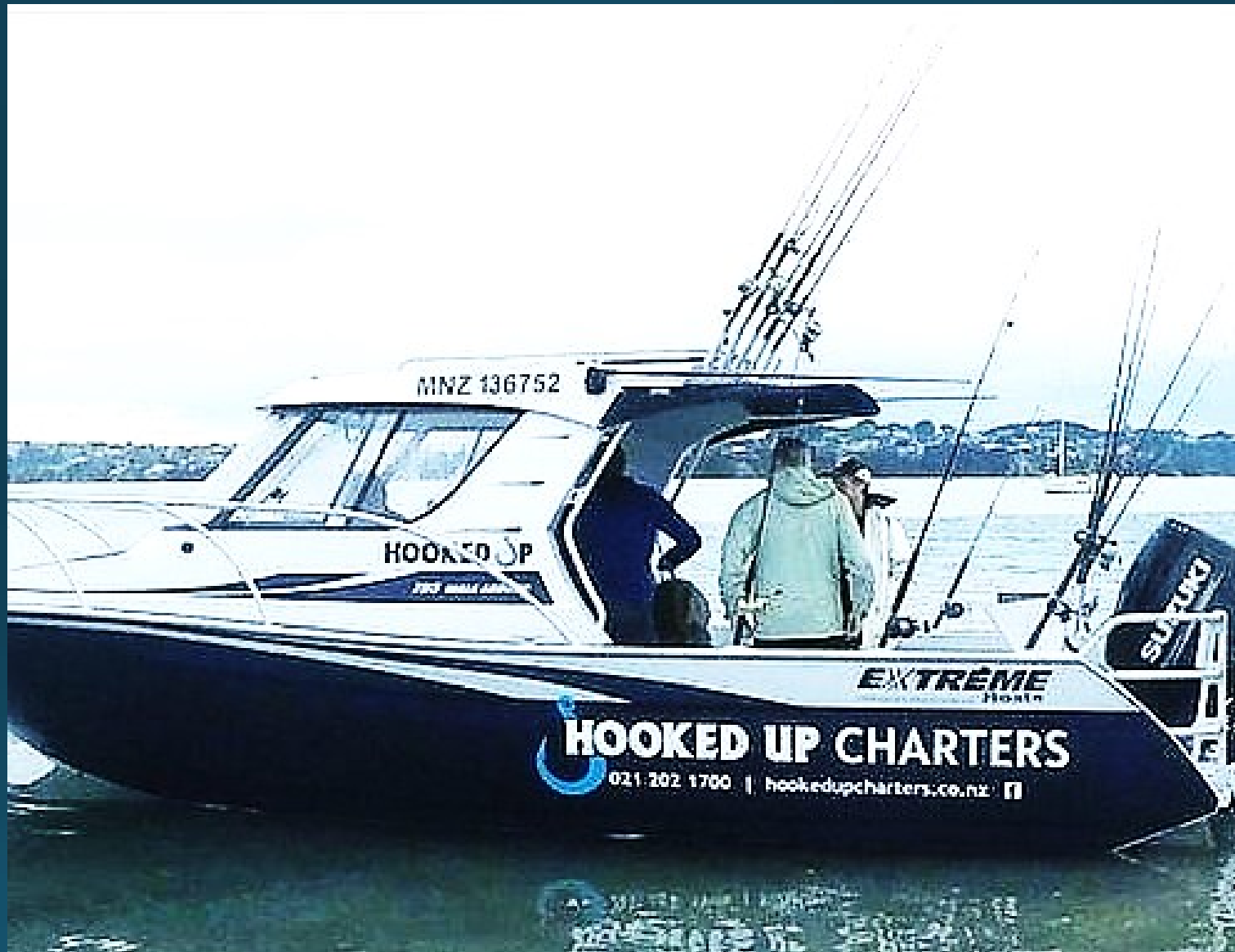
8 When Simon Peter saw this, he fell at Jesus' knees and said, "Go away from me, Lord; I am a sinful man!"

9 For he and all his companions were astonished at the catch of fish they had taken,

10 and so were James and John, the sons of Zebedee, Simon's partners.

Then Jesus said to Simon, "Don't be afraid; from now on you will fish for people."

11 So they pulled their boats up on shore, left everything and followed Him.



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And I can understand the frustration in not getting through to people that we are sharing Christ with.

#1 We need the Holy Spirit.

The same Holy Spirit that came on the Day of Pentecost is still here. He can still do the same thing – empowered us to be witnesses.

#2 I should also personally reach out to those that God brings along my way.

#3 For a start there should be a willingness to share/sow.

God will open the doors when we are willing.

He will give us the opportunities.

And He will give us the right words.

We probably be sowing more than reaping but it is ok and it is necessary.

Grab drivers

Banker

Friend's father

Wedding dinner

**As we faithfully share and sow,
the Lord knows what to do it**

DG member's father



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Wesley wrote 12 rules for his “helpers” (lay preachers).

All of them are important, but number 11 has always been my favourite,

“You have nothing to do but to save souls. Therefore spend and be spent in this work. And go always, not only to those that want you, but to those that want you most.”

John Wesley's vision calls us to ensure that we lead people to put their full faith and trust in Jesus and become an "altogether Christian."

We have far too many "almost Christians." We don't need anymore. It's part of the reason we're in the mess we're in. We must spend and be spent in this work in the coming years.



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Ephesians 6

19 Pray also for me, that whenever I speak, words may be given me so that I will fearlessly make known the mystery of the gospel,

20 for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it fearlessly, as I should.



**COME,
HOLY
SPIRIT...**