

Southern Adventist University
Knowledge Exchange

The Main Thing Devotional

Chaplain's Office

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You're a Catch

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So when they had brought their boats to land, they forsook all and followed Him. - Luke 5:11

The thing you desire to catch can often be used by God to catch you. On January 1, 2008, Keith Severin and his 7-year-old son, Adrien, agreed that every day, they would spend at least 15 minutes seeking to “catch” treasure. By year's end, they had collected over \$1,000 worth of treasure through their 15-minute walks. Although little Adrien looked forward to cashing in on the treasure, he said it was much more fun spending time with his dad. Could it be, like Adrien, the real treasure is not what we catch but what catches us?

In Luke 5, Simon is seeking to catch fish on Lake Gennesaret. He has toiled all night, yet his nets came up empty every time. During those dark and lonely hours, Simon would have felt abandoned in the place that usually provided so much abundance. But early the following day, Simon's disappointment would turn into devotion when Jesus asks, “let down his nets for a catch”. Acting on the invitation given by Jesus, Simon caught what he was looking for – fish, and lots of them!

At face value, you would be forgiven to think the miraculous catch was the end of the miracle, however, the miracle out at sea continues to flow on land. One of the most unexpected parts of Simon's calling is how quickly he left all he had to follow Jesus. Simon desired to catch fish and within 24 hours, Jesus had caught him. What a powerful thought, we are the catch that Jesus desires above all else!

“Christ's power had drawn the fish into Simon's net, but these honest-hearted men were themselves completely caught in the net that Christ has prepared for them.” - E.G. White^[1]

Reflection

Just as Simon was caught in the net of Christ's, Christ seeks to also catch you with His forgiveness and grace. How does it make you feel that God seeks to catch you radically more than Simon wanted to catch fish that fateful night? Like Simon, what do you need to forsake to follow Jesus? How does the fact the you are God's catch effect the way think about your identity and purpose on campus?

RESOURCES

- Follow **@ministryandmissions** on Instagram for updates on events and programs as well as encouraging messages and [check out our website](#) for many new resources.
- If you may be feeling anxious or have recently experienced loss or grief call 423.236.2782 to talk to a counselor on campus! (This is a free service for Southern students.)
- **Talk** with Chaplain [Anna Bennett](#) or [Joseph Khabbaz](#) if you need someone to pray with or have a desire to grow spiritually.
- Join us for [online Vespers tonight Friday 7:30](#).