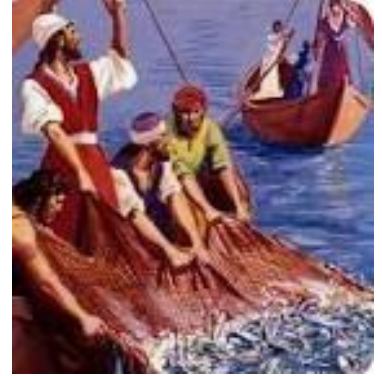


Are You Listening To Your Father?

We all know the story. Jesus was at the shore speaking to a large crowd when he saw Simon and Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, cleaning their nets after a fruitless all-nighter fishing. Jesus stepped into one of the boats and continued teaching to the crowd. When he was finished teaching, he asked Simon to put the boat out into the deep water and let down the nets. Frustrated from an entire night without a single catch, Simon spoke up and said, *"Master, we've worked hard all night and haven't caught anything. But because you say so, I will let down the nets."* Doing what Jesus asked them to do, they caught so many fish that the nets were at risk of breaking and the boats were close to sinking.

What Simon Peter did was a model of obedience to his Lord and Master. The result of that obedience was an overflowing abundance of fish. Perhaps we can learn a lesson from this story. If we listen to our Lord and Master and do what He says, He will bless us abundantly.



Today is Father's Day – a day set aside to honor fathers in our culture. Fathers give guidance to their children to help them to grow up. Hopefully, the children will listen and heed the advice of their dads. And, if you are a dad in the family, hopefully you will be obedient to the advice of your Heavenly Father. God speaks to us through His Word, recorded in the Bible. Just as we wish our children would follow our guidance – just because we said so – we should do the same. Heed God's Word and He will enrich your lives.

The Bible Says: *One day as Jesus was standing by the Lake of Gennesaret (Sea of Galilee,) the people were crowding around him and listening to the word of God. He saw at the water's edge two boats, left there by the fishermen, who were washing their nets. 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.*

When he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, "Put out into deep water, and let down the nets for a catch."

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."

When they had done so, they caught such a large number of fish that their nets began to break. 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. (Luke 5:1-7)

Prayer: Dear Lord. On this Father's Day, we honor our fathers. They provide wisdom to a growing family. Let us be obedient to our Heavenly Father, also, who blesses us abundantly. Amen.