Our Theme For the Year: Let Thy Will Be Done in 2021 (Nevertheless!) Luke 5:1-7

- In Luke's account, Jesus is standing on the shore of Lake Gennesaret (the Sea of Galilee), with a crowd anxious to hear His message
- As He taught, the crowd began to grow. The people began to crowd Him on the shore, and He sensed that he needed a better position from which to continue His message
- He saw two boats on the shore that were empty at the time; their owners (one of whose name was Simon Peter), had begun to wash and scrub their nets having used them all night long fishing, with no results
- Jesus gets into Peter's boat and asked him if he could position the boat in the water close to the shore, for His teaching purposes. Simon Peter did, and Jesus sat down and taught from the boat

- So, Jesus' initial request to Peter was not unreasonable (to teach from his boat), didn't cost Peter much, and may have been a "feather in his cap," of notoriety
- When Jesus had finished teaching, however, He asked Peter to cast his net out again, this time into the deeper water for a successful catch
- Notice: Peter had shared, with Jesus, his resources; and now Jesus was going to share, with Peter, His resources!

You Can't Outgive God!

- "Give and it shall be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will it be poured into your lap. For with what measure you use, it will be measured to you." Luke 6:38
- "For every animal of the forest is mine, and the cattle on a thousand hills." Psalms 50:10

But Now Here Is The Rub!

Peter was a professional fisherman, and it seemed to him that Jesus lacked Peter's "fishing experience." "Jesus you don't understand!" "Master, we've been out here all night!"

"The best time to catch fish is at night!"

"We have worked hard!" "I make my living this way!"

"In my professional experience, there are no fish around here, not even a minnow!"

"Master we are tired, frustrated, irritated"

"There is no use in trying anymore."
"We're outta here, we are going home!"

But Peter Overruled His Own Will By Putting Jesus First!

"Master we have toiled all night and caught nothing; <u>NEVERTHELESS</u> at Your word I will let down the net." Luke 5:5 KJV

That one word changed EVERYTHING!

"But because you say so, I will let down the nets." NIV

"But if you say so, I'll let the nets down again." NLT

"But I will do this as You say and let down the nets" NASB

"But on the ground of Your word, I will lower the nets [again]." AMP

Also, Jesus Shows Us That the Teacher Must Exemplify the Same Principle In His Life

During Jesus' Agony in the Garden of Gethsemane, Listen to His Prayer:

"Father, if thou be willing, remove this cup from me, <u>NEVERTHELESS</u> not my will, but thine be done." Luke 22:42

- God was <u>able</u>, <u>but He was not willing</u> to remove Jesus' suffering, Romans 5:6-8
- Our <u>sin sickness</u> was at stake in Jesus' life
- Consider, that Jesus was punished for our sins Isaiah 53:4-6, "Surely He hath borne our griefs...."
- Jesus was <u>able</u>, <u>but not willing</u> to remove His own suffering. Jesus was God, Hebrews 5:8,9

Biblical Examples of Invoking "Nevertheless" for God's Will

- When Noah warned his generation and no one listened, but his family. NEVERTHELESS, he stood fast
- When Joseph was betrayed and sold by his own family members, NEVERTHELESS he remained faithful; Genesis 39:2, after he was sold to the Egyptians, "The Lord was with Joseph so that he prospered..."
- When it cost Daniel everything, NEVERTHLESS Daniel didn't bow down
- When the three Hebrew boys had to stand alone, Nevertheless, they chose God

Biblical Examples of Invoking "Nevertheless" for God's Will

- When it goes against common sense-NEVERTHELESS David went against Goliath
- When he didn't even know where to move his family to live-NEVERTHELESS Abraham moved by faith; Hebrews 11:8

How Do We Apply the Principle of "Nevertheless?"

- "Well, my marriage hasn't worked out like I planned; I'm frustrated, irritated, I think about giving up-NEVERTHELESS, I will trust Him with my future."
- "Well, I've been hurt beyond repair and everybody knows my pain, it's no secret-NEVERTHELESS, I will trust God to heal my broken heart."
- "Well, my health is not improving like I've prayed-Nevertheless, I will serve Him with the time and strength that I have left. I am going down with Jesus!" 2 Corinthians 5:1

How Do We Apply the Principle of "Nevertheless?"

- "Well, my life has not turned out like I had hoped(a spouse, children, what others have at my age by now). NEVERTHELESS, my future is secure and prepared by Jesus."
- "Well, I'm in the midst of a crisis, I've lost close relatives due to COVID 19; I've gone to the graveyard too often; and I'm heartbroken. NEVERTHELESS, I know that everything I'm experiencing passes through my Father's hands first. God is faithful." 1 Corinthians 10:13-14

How Do We Apply the Principle of "Nevertheless?"

- "Well I know my situation better than anyone. Y'all don't know them like I know them; but <u>NEVERTHELESS</u>, because God's will says to try a more Jesus-like approach, I will.
- "Well, my child has caused me more problems than I expected. They listen to everybody but me, and there is nobody to raise them but me. The other parent left us! Nevertheless, I will continue to plead to the Lord about my child, and try to raise them, not as I will, but as God wills."

Finally, What Happened Next to Peter Was Tied To His Change in Attitude

When Peter changed his attitude and obeyed Jesus, humbling himself, his blessings changed, 1 Peter 5:6

"When they had done so (followed Jesus and let the nets down again), 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 5:6

(Jobs, Parenting, Marriages, Money Management)

Let God's Will Be Done With His Plan Of Salvation for Your Life

Hear the Gospel Acts 15:7

Believe the Gospel Acts 15:7

Repent of Sins Acts 17:30

Confess Christ Acts 8:37

Be Baptized Acts 8:38