



Cuyahoga
Valley Church
CVCONLINE.ORG

SERMON STUDY GUIDE

Week of 1.4.26
Luke 5:1-11 // Joe Valenti

Please take the opportunity to revisit the CVC Equip
Portrait of a Healthy LifeGroup on a regular basis

CONNECT (10 MIN)

- 1 What is one way that you saw the Lord's faithfulness to you and/or to your family in the Christmas season this year?

EXPLORE (30 MIN)

Create Context (5 min):

HERE is the Sermon Recap video playlist on Vimeo!

Study & Discussion (25 min)

Read Luke 5:1-11.

- 1 On Sunday, Pastor Joe stated that there are three ways we can get unstuck:
 1. We get unstuck when we obey Jesus willingly even when we don't have clarity. (vv. 1-7)
 2. We get unstuck when seeing Jesus clearly helps us see ourselves honestly. (vv. 8-9)
 3. We get unstuck when Jesus invites us to live life purposefully. (vv. 10-11)
 - Which one of these (obeying Jesus willingly even when we don't have clarity, seeing Jesus clearly and ourselves honestly, or living life purposely) seems the most challenging to you right now, and why?
 - In which one of these areas do you see the most growth in your life right now, and why?
 - In this season, where is Jesus asking you to obey Him, even if you don't have the clarity about the future that you'd like to have?
 - In this season, where do you think Jesus is asking you to live purposefully on mission for His Kingdom? How can you take a best next step in this direction?



- ② On Sunday, Joe shared a story about helping a man in his neighborhood get unstuck from his own snowy driveway. At first, the man was pressing on the gas, trying to get his car out - but this was only making the problem worse. It was only after he put the car in neutral that Joe was able to pull him out from the snow and ice - from the ruts where the man was spinning his wheels. Sometimes, we can be like this in our lives, too - we can, as Joe put it, keep pressing the gas—trying harder, managing the outcome, or proving ourselves— instead of honestly kneeling before Jesus and trusting His strength.
- As Joe asked in the sermon on Sunday, where in your life are you still pressing the gas—trying harder, managing the outcome, or proving yourself— instead of honestly kneeling before Jesus and trusting His strength?
 - What do you think it looks like for you to trust in the strength of Christ right now in a new way or in an increased capacity?
- ③ On Sunday, Joe also asked the question, if Jesus already knows your weakness and still moves toward you, what purpose for your life have you been avoiding or do you need to pray about to gain clarity?
- How would you answer this question today?
- ④ What is one thing that stood out to you in the sermon from this Sunday that you can share with a friend or family member? Who will you share with, and why?

PRAY AND APPLY

1. Pray that the Holy Spirit would gently expose where people are stuck—not to shame them, but to help them see the truth with clarity and hope.
2. Pray that those weighed down by shame would experience the safety of Jesus' presence rather than the fear of His rejection. Specifically pray for people who believe their sin, failure, or weakness disqualifies them from closeness with God.
3. Pray that people would gain a clearer vision of who Jesus truly is—His holiness, power, and grace—and that this revelation would lead to honest self-awareness rather than self-hatred.
4. Pray for courage for people to stop pressing the gas spiritually—to stop trying harder, hiding better, or managing appearances—and instead kneel in honesty before Jesus.
5. Pray that the message would not stop at relief from shame, but would awaken people to Jesus' gracious invitation into a transformed and purposeful life.



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WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Week of 1.4.26

Please take a moment to share
these announcements with your group.

COMMUNITY LIFE

Group Connect - January 4 & 11

Members of the Community Life Team, LifeGroup and Workshop Leaders will be in the foyer after each service to help you learn more about how you can get plugged into a group that will help you grow spiritually and build meaningful community with others. Don't miss this opportunity to connect, grow, and take your next step in building relationships within our church.

Women's Breakfast - February 7

We are excited to invite you to our next Women's Breakfast at the Cuyahoga Valley Church - Broadview Heights Campus on Saturday, February 7 from 9-11:00 am. Join us for food fellowship, and teaching from former CVC Ministry Director Lauren Meyer. We would love for you to bring along your friends, family, and neighbors to join us for this uplifting morning. Please register [HERE](#) and let us know if you can join us. The cost is \$5 per person.

INVITE

Child Dedications - February 1

Child Dedication is a time where parents declare their commitment to raise their children in the ways of the Lord. It's a beautiful moment for families to publicly affirm their dedication, and for the church to pledge its support in this important journey of faith and upbringing. Together, let's embrace this sacred calling. Next opportunity: Sunday, February 1 at all services. [Apply here!](#)