

# DEEPER/WIDER: GROUP STUDY

## PART 5: WHAT WILL YOU DO?

### MESSAGE RECAP

Before inviting Peter to follow him, Jesus asked Peter to “put out into deep water, and let down the nets for a catch.” After a night of fishing with no success and despite his reservations, Peter agreed: “But because you say so, I will let down the nets.”

At some point, every Jesus follower will face their own “because you say so” moment. Like Peter, we won’t know what hangs in the balance of our decision. But like Andy stated in his message, “It’s better to find out than miss out.”

### CONNECT

Invite one person in the group to answer this question. Others in the group will have an opportunity later in the discussion.

Since becoming a Christian, have you experienced a “because you say so” moment? Have you sensed God asking you to do something out of the ordinary or out of your comfort zone...and you said yes? What happened?

### LEARN

Before watching the video together, take a few moments to pray. Here’s a simple prayer you can use:

*Heavenly Father, help us to be people who leverage our resources and our lives to invest in your kingdom. Show us what next steps to take and give us the courage to take them. Amen.*

After praying, watch the video for Part 5.

### APPLY

After the video, discuss the following questions as a group:

1. What is one area of your life where trusting God feels easy and one area where it feels more challenging?
2. Read **Luke 5:1–11**.

*One day as Jesus was standing by the Lake of Gennesaret, 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.

When Simon Peter saw this, he fell at Jesus' knees and said, "Go away from me, Lord; I am a sinful man!" For he and all his companions were astonished at the catch of fish they had taken, 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." So they pulled their boats up on shore, left everything and followed him.

- Based on the text, what were the reasons Peter could have used to sidestep Jesus's request?
  - Peter's decision to trust Jesus didn't just affect him; it influenced his partners, James and John. How might your obedience impact those around you?
  - Jesus told Peter, "Don't be afraid." What role does fear play in keeping us from following Jesus into the unknown? Is there a fear that you regularly wrestle with that makes it difficult to trust God?
3. Have you ever taken a deeper step of faith in God as a result of a "because you say so" moment? If so, what happened? Did you regret it?
  4. Like Peter, we don't know what hangs in the balance of our decision to trust God. Have you ever missed an opportunity to find out what God might have done had you surrendered to his prompting? Is there a decision you wish you could go back and re-make based on what you know now? If so, what robbed you of that "because you say so" opportunity? Fear? Insecurity? Pride? Something else?
  5. Is anyone in the group currently wrestling with a "because you say so" moment?

## PRAY

We suggest ending your group with prayer. Here's a sample prayer you can use:

*Heavenly Father, help us to be quick to say yes to the "because you say so" moments in our lives. Lead us to be people who seek your kingdom over our own with all that we have. Amen.*