While the crowd was pressing in on Jesus and listening to the word of God, he was standing by the Lake of Gennesaret.
He saw two boats there alongside the lake; the fishermen had disembarked and were washing their nets.
Getting into one of the boats, the one belonging to Simon, he asked him to put out a short distance from the shore.
Then he sat down and taught the crowds from the boat.
After he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, "Put out into deep water and lower your nets for a catch."
Simon said in reply, "Master, we have worked hard all night and have caught nothing, but at your command I will lower the nets."
When they had done this, they caught a great number of fish and their nets were tearing.
They signaled to their partners in the other boat to come to help them.
They came and filled both boats so that the boats were in danger of sinking.
When Simon Peter saw this, he fell at the knees of Jesus and said, "Depart from me, Lord, for I am a sinful man."
For astonishment at the catch of fish they had made seized him and all those with him, and likewise James and John, the sons of Zebedee, who were partners of Simon.
Jesus said to Simon, "Do not be afraid; from now on you will be catching men."
When they brought their boats to the shore, they left everything and followed him.
Our Scripture Reflection

The Master/slave relationship is very foreign to us today but in ages past it was one of total domination of the Master over his property, the slave. The slave was owned and controlled by the Master mind, heart, soul, and body. When the Master spoke, the slave jumped into action. Please note: When Jesus gives the command to change the direction of the fishermen’s casting, Simon initially and politely objects, but then he gives in. And the results are incredible...an abundant haul of fish! Simon would learn that using the title, “Master” entailed much more than simply calling Jesus a name. It meant surrendering his heart, soul, mind, body and spirit to Him, and in all things. That’s the essence of being a true Christian.

Food for your Journey

The real difficulty of Christianity is two-fold. It demands an act of surrender to Christ, an acceptance of him as the final authority; and it demands a moral standard of the highest level. The disciples were well aware that Jesus had claimed to be the very life and mind of God come down to earth; their difficulty was to accept that as true, with all its implications. To this day, many a man refuses Christ, not because he puzzles intellect, but because he challenges his life. —William Barclay, The Gospel of John: Volume 1, The Daily Study Bible Series (Westminster John Knox Press, 1975), 227.

A Prayer from the Heart

Dear Jesus, I love You and I recommit my mind and heart to You throughout this day. Use my words, all my efforts and energy to do Your good work. In so doing, may I give You glory. Amen