Matters of the Heart

Orthodox reflections on faith and life

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Fishers of Men

Upon obeying the Lord Jesus and recasting his net into the deep, Peter witnessed a great miracle unfolding before his very eyes. Countless fish surrounded the men, with nets breaking and boats sinking, and all Peter could say was *"Depart from me, for I am a sinful man, O Lord!"* For at that very moment, in the presence of His Holy Lord, Peter's sinfulness and feebleness became all the more prominent.

But the Master does not depart, for it is precisely in the weakness of man that the Saviour wishes to manifest Himself. For the Lord did not elect the twelve on account of their outstanding credentials and unrivalled righteousness, rather the Lord chose simple men who by the standard of the day were less than ordinary. These modest fishermen heeded their Teacher's call and forsook all to follow Him. From henceforth they became fishers of men and were entrusted with building the heavenly kingdom. Such is the reward for those who respond to Christ's call with boldness.

"Do not be afraid. From now on you will catch men."

Luke 5:10

See Also:
Luke 5:8

Lord, I beseech You, take hold of my inadequacies and put an end to my fears so that I may follow You wholeheartedly.