



Sermon Notes: “Putting It All Together”

Matthew 13:47-52

8.23.26

Every Kind Caught or Kept:

- The net catches every kind of fish, by design.
- The Bigger net:
 1. You can't aim it.
 2. You can't work it alone.
 3. It's bigger than what they were used to.

Understanding v50:

- **"The Fiery Furnace"**: The furnace isn't where faithfulness gets tested anymore. It's where unbelief ends up.
- **"Weeping"**: The weeping is the sound of somebody realizing what they have actually lost.
- **"Gnashing of Teeth"**: The gnashing is hostility and a refusal to believe their eternal sentence is fair and just.

Do you Get it?:

- Putting it together isn't “solving” Jesus, it's being saved by Jesus.
- Jesus gives you real assurance, because it is built on what he has done, not your performance.

So What?

When you've put it together, you don't just admire Jesus, you say yes to Him.

When you've put it together, you don't sit on it, you open the storeroom.

For Study, Reflection, Discussion During the Week:

Life Group ICEBREAKER: The sermon opened with learning to fish — the knot wasn't fishing, the cast wasn't fishing. It all had to come together before you could actually go. Think about something in your own life — a skill, a relationship, your faith — where the pieces only started making sense when you finally put them all together. What changed when they did?

REVIEW: Review the sermon notes from Sunday. Was there a particular point that stuck with you? What was it and why did it resonate with you?

READ: Matthew 13:47-48 | 1 John 5:13

- Darin said the dragnet catches every kind — you can't aim it, you can't work it alone, and it's bigger than what the disciples already owned. The net doesn't screen anyone on the way in. Is there something in your life you've quietly filed under "never going to happen" — someone you've been using a cast net on when Jesus is calling for the dragnet? What would it look like to stop pre-screening and start throwing?
 - Being caught is not the same as being kept. Darin said a fisherman doesn't sort by how well the fish swam — he sorts by what it is. And what makes a fish kept was never its performance. The honest question Jesus is building to across seven parables is: have you ever actually said yes to Jesus — not to church, not to being a decent person, not to your family's faith — to Him? How would you answer that right now, and how settled does your answer feel?
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READ: Matthew 13:51-52 | 2 Timothy 2:2

- The sermon said putting it together isn't "solving" Jesus — it's being saved by Jesus. When it finally came together for the boy learning to fish, he didn't have an answer; he had a morning with his dad. Looking back over this seven-week series, what has actually changed in the way you see the Kingdom? Has it stayed in your head, or has something landed differently — in your posture, your prayer, the way you're holding your life?
 - Jesus commissioned the disciples as storeroom owners — old and new, hidden since creation and now revealed, brought out and handed to others. 2 Timothy 2:2 describes four generations of handoff in one sentence. You have a storeroom: years of Scripture, scars, answered prayers, hard seasons you came through. A storeroom nobody opens is just a closet. What is one thing in your storeroom right now that someone in your life needs — and what's been keeping you from opening the door?
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DEPLOY:

1. **Say Yes — or Say It Out Loud.** *The sermon gave two invitations: if you've never said yes to Jesus, stop waiting. If you have but never made it public, talk to someone this week — baptism, a conversation, a step. Don't let the knowing stay silent. Being in the net and being kept are two different things. Take the step that closes the gap.*
 2. **Open the Storeroom This Week.** *The sermon named specific ways to open the storeroom: sign up for Church at the Lake, say yes to a Life Group, show up for youth, have that couple over for dinner, pull someone alongside you and tie their knot. Pick one — one specific, this-week action — and tell your group what it is. Somebody taught you to fish. Go tie somebody's knot.*
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Don't Forget:

- Consider signing up to help at Church at the Lake on September 6th. There is a sign-up sheet on the Welcome Desk, or you can sign-up on our Church Website under Events.
 - Back to School Prayer Walk is TODAY Sunday August 23rd at 3:30pm. Go to Joseph, Enterprise or Wallowa School to pray for this upcoming year!
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Prayer:

Father, we've spent seven weeks with these parables, and You've been handing us pieces — the soil, the weeds, the seed, the yeast, the treasure, and now the net and the storeroom. Thank You that putting it together was never about solving You — it was about being caught by You, saved by You, and sent by You. For anyone in this room still in the net but not yet in Christ — let tonight be the night the door opens. For those who have received You but have been sitting on it — shake loose the closet door. Give us courage to open the storeroom. Remind us that the most valuable thing in it isn't ours to keep — it's ours to hand out. Send us home with one name, one step, one knot to tie. Somebody taught us to fish. Make us faithful to do the same.

In Jesus' name, Amen.