

Today's Message: "Church Hurts are Real"

On one occasion, while the crowd was pressing in on him to hear the word of God, he was standing by the lake of Genesareth, and he saw two boats by the lake, but the fishermen had gone out of them and were washing their nets. Getting into one of the boats, which was Simon's, he asked him to put out a little from the land. And he sat down and taught the people from the boat. (Luke 5:1- 3, ESV)

"Hostile to the church, friendly to Jesus Christ. They are opposed to anything that looks like an institution. They cannot stand the establishment and its entrenched privileges. And they reject the church—not without some justification—because they see it as hopelessly corrupted by such evils." - John Stott

⁴ And when he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, "Put out into the deep and let down your nets for a catch."⁵ And Simon answered, "Master, we toiled all night and took nothing! But at your word I will let down the nets."⁶ And when they had done this, they enclosed a large number of fish, and their nets were breaking. ⁷ They signaled to their partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both the boats, so that they began to sink. ⁸ But when Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, "Depart from me, for I am a sinful man, O Lord."⁹ For he and all who were with him were astonished at the catch of fish that they had taken, ¹⁰ and so also were James and John, sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon. And Jesus said to Simon, "Do not be afraid; from now on you will be catching men."¹¹ And when they had brought their boats to land, they left everything and followed him. (Luke 5:4-11, ESV)

"Umbrella Series: Week 3"

Pastor Scott Stevens

August 1 & 2, 2015

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1. If the church has hurt you, I am sorry.
2. The church needs you because there are people that don't believe in God out there but they believe in you.
3. You need the church, I need the church, we all need the church.

For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, "Abba! Father!"¹⁶ The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God,¹⁷ and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ... (Romans 8:15-17, ESV)

The church is not an orphanage it is a family.

- *Searching for Sunday: Loving, Leaving, and Finding the Church* - Rachel Held Evans
- *Unchristian: What a New Generation Really Thinks about Christianity...and Why It Matters* - Gabe Lyons & David Kinnaman
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Small Group or Personal Reflection Questions:

1. Have you ever been hurt by the church? Would you care to share? How have you dealt with it?
2. Do you have a friend or a loved one that has been hurt by the church? Have you tried to speak to them about it...how did that go?
3. When have you worn your "church jersey" publically? Have there been occasions that you have or have wanted to put another jersey over your "church jersey?"
4. Read Luke 15:1-7. Who was Jesus talking to? What was his main point? How does this parable apply to this weekend's sermon?
5. React to this statement: "The church is not an orphanage it is a family."

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