Ephesians 2:8-9 (NIV)

For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith — and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God — not by works, so that no one can boast.

Hebrews 11:6 (NIV)

And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him.

Hebrews 11:1-3 (NIV)

Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see. This is what the ancients were commended for. By faith we understand that the universe was formed at God's command, so that what is seen was not made out of what was visible.

Learning the Lesson of Faith

I. The Circumstances of Faith

"the fishermen, who were washing their nets."

II. The Instruction of Faith

"Put out into deep water, and let down the nets for a catch."

III. The Act of Faith

"Master, we've worked hard all night and haven't caught anything. But because you say so, I will let down the nets."

IV. The Reward of Faith

"They caught such a large number of fish that their nets began to break."

V. The Lesson of Faith

"Don't be afraid; from now on you will catch men."