

# THE CALLING OF THE FIRST DISCIPLES

SCRIPTURE REFERENCE: LUKE 5:1-11



## The STORY

Read about the calling of the first disciples in Luke 5:1-11.

**Please note:** The discussion questions in the following sections are written to serve as a guide in teaching our youngest children. Three to six year olds are not going to be able to answer these questions like their older brothers and sisters. Please refer to the God's Story Preschool Curriculum Outline for additional ideas.

After reading the story, use the following questions to involve the children in a discussion.

- What happened in the story? (The fishermen were out all night trying to catch fish but caught nothing. Jesus tells Simon Peter to cast the nets again and this time they catch a huge number of fish.)
- What did Jesus do before asking the men to recast their nets? (He taught them from inside the boat.)
- How did the miraculous catch of fish and Jesus' teaching make Simon Peter feel? (He realized that he was a sinful man.)

## CRAFT QUESTIONS

**Coloring sheets have been provided that exemplify today's lesson: a net full of fish being hauled into the boat. Engage the children by asking:**

- What was so amazing about catching so many fish? (The disciples had already worked all night long and had not caught a single fish.)
- Why did Jesus have the disciples catch all these fish? (He used this miracle to illustrate His awesome power and control of all things. By this he taught them He was not just a good teacher, He was God.)
- What lessons are there in this story for us? (Jesus is more than a wise teacher. Jesus is all-powerful and able to supply all of our needs.)

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### SNACK QUESTIONS

**While the children are eating the snack, engage the children by asking:**

- Why would these men leave everything to follow Jesus? (They did not do this on their own strength. God gave them the grace to leave and placed a call upon their lives that they could not ignore.)
- Does God call people to follow Him and be His disciples today? (Yes, every person who becomes a Christian has been changed by the power of God and called to follow Him as a disciple of the Lord. All Christians are Jesus' disciples or followers. That is what the name Christian means.)
- Jesus taught the crowd gathered on the shore from the boat. How does God teach us today? (God teaches us today through His Word – the Bible.)

### WHERE IS the Gospel?

*Please use the following comments connecting today's lesson to the Gospel to help inform your understanding and serve you by aiding your preparation for class. Remember, we want to do more than present disconnected Bible stories and lessons to our young children. We want them to understand how each story in the Bible plays a part in God's greater plan of redemption.*

The Bible says that Jesus came to seek and save the lost, see Luke 19:10. In this story we see the calling of the first disciples. They were to be more than Jesus' companions; they were to join Him in the mission to "catch men." This catching of men would only be possible through the grace of God available through the cross and the resurrection.

### SWORD BIBLE MEMORY

**BE A DOER OF THE WORD**

*Take time during the class to review the SWORD Bible Memory verses with the class. Provide the opportunity for each child to recite the verses to an adult worker.*

