

## Sunday School at Home - 11th October 2020

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**Watch and sing along to the song:** [I Will Make You Fishers of Men](#)

**Here's a short video you can watch with your child about the calling of Peter:**  
[God's Story: Peter Fishes for Men](#)

**Verse discovery:** "Come, follow me," Jesus said, "and I will send you out to fish for people." (Matthew 4:19)

**Lesson focus:** How many of you have ever gone fishing? What did you use as bait? Did you catch any fish? Fishing can be fun, can't it? It can also be kind of disgusting. You have to pull the worm apart and squish it onto the hook. Then if you catch a fish, you have to cut it open and take the guts out. Our story today is about some men who were fishermen. They didn't just fish for fun. Fishing was their job. They fished just about every day and they were probably pretty good at it. They used a net and would scoop up lots of fish all at one time.

This one night, though, they weren't having much luck. All night long they sailed their boats from one side of the lake to the other trying to catch some fish. They threw their nets in the water and pulled them back out many times, but there just didn't seem to be any fish. As they were cleaning their nets the next morning Jesus came up to Simon Peter, who was one of the fishermen and told him to take his boat back out into the lake and throw out his net again.

Simon Peter and his friends were very tired and hungry but they did what Jesus said and went back out into the lake again and threw out their nets just where Jesus told them to throw it. And when they pulled up their nets this time, they were so heavy with fish the nets started to rip. Simon Peter called to his friends in the other boat to come and help him. Soon they caught so many fish that their boats were beginning to sink. The fishermen were amazed. How did Jesus know where the fish were? They had looked all night long and couldn't find them. They thought that there had to be something very special about this man Jesus.

Then Jesus did something else really amazing. He told the fishermen that if they followed him, he would make them fishers of men. This sounded really exciting to the fishermen. They knew how to catch fish, but men? The fishermen left their boats and everything they had and followed Jesus. They became Jesus' disciples and learned from Jesus how to become "fishers of men". When we follow Jesus we also learn how to be "fishers of men".

What does it mean to be a "fisher of men?" Instead of catching fish we catch men. We tell people about Jesus so that they too want to follow him too. What do you need to catch fish? (Let your child respond.) You need a net or a fishing pole. If you use a fishing pole, you have to have bait. What kind of bait can you use to catch fish? Worms, lures, bugs, caterpillars, etc. But what kind of bait do you use to catch men? God's words.

Fishing can be fun, but it can be a little messy and smelly. But when we catch men for Jesus we don't have to clean them; Jesus takes care of that part.

## Additional activities

**1. Fishers of Men Boat:** You will need: Paper or notecards, scissors, string or pipe cleaners, markers or decorating materials, hole punch or tape. Instructions: Cut the paper plate in half. Decorate the half-plate to look like a boat, adding color, stickers, or writing. Place a "sail" on top of the boat with a pipe cleaner and paper, if desired. Add a verse on the boat. Cut fish shapes out of paper. Write the names of friends who need prayer or attention. Punch holes in the fish as well as the boat. String the fish onto the boat so that they dangle and can be "reeled" up and down.



**2. A Net Full of Fish:** You will need: A paper plate, some blue glitter paint, construction paper, plastic wrap, and a permanent marker. First, paint the paper plate with the glitter paint (or color it with a blue marker). While the paint dries, cut out little fish from different colored construction paper (fold the paper together so you can cut several fish at once). Then, put the fish on the plate, cover it with plastic wrap, and draw lines for the net on the plastic wrap with the permanent marker.



**3. Printables:** [Click here for more fishers of men activities.](#)

**Thank you and we hope you have a great week!**