

Lesson 2: Discipleship

Today's Bible Story

One day, while Jesus was standing by Lake Gennesaret, a large crowd gathered along the shore. They were so eager to hear the word of God that they started pressing in around Jesus.

Two boats were nearby, but the fishermen had stepped out of them in order to wash their nets. So Jesus climbed into one of the boats, and asked the owner (who was named Simon) to row him a short distance from the land. Simon agreed, and Jesus continued teaching the crowd while sitting in the boat. When he had finished speaking, Jesus said to Simon, "Throw your net into the deep water to catch some fish."

But Simon was tired and did not think that would help. "Master, we worked all night and caught nothing!" he said. "Nevertheless, if you say so, I'll let down the nets." Realizing that Jesus wanted him to try again, Simon did just that.

Within minutes, he and the others on board caught so many fish that their nets started to break! Amazed, they signaled to their partners in the other boats to come and help them. When the other fishermen came, they filled their boats so full that they began to sink! Seeing this, Simon Peter fell down before Jesus and said, "Leave me, for I'm a sinful man, O Lord."

Everyone was shocked at the number of fish that had been caught. Even Simon's partners, James and John (the sons of Zebedee), could not believe it. Clearly, Jesus had power from above.

Looking at Simon Peter, Jesus said, "Don't be afraid. From now on, you'll be catching people." And sure enough, after they had brought their boats ashore, the fishermen left everything and followed Jesus.



From Luke 5:1-11

Bible Rhyme

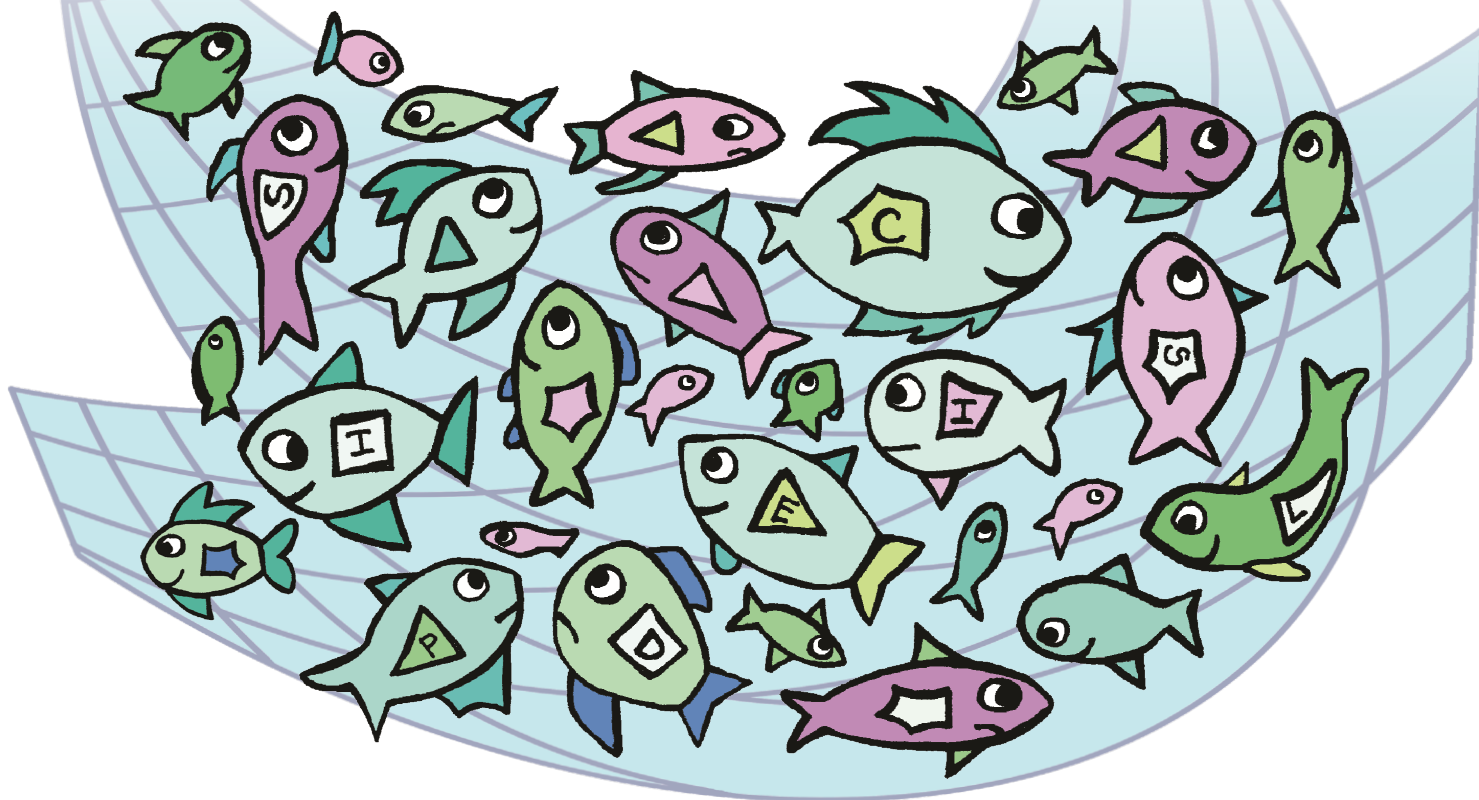
Beside a lake, outside a town,
a group of people gathered 'round.
In hopes of hearing Jesus teach,
they crowded close to hear him preach.

Then Jesus saw a boat was near,
and climbing in, he taught from there!
But after, when the crowds had gone
he spoke to Peter, James and John.

"Throw all your nets into the sea.
The fish will fill them easily."
When all the fish had been pulled in,
they left their boats, and followed him!

For each sentence below, circle the correct fish to indicate if the statement is True or False.
To check your answers, re-read Luke 5:1-11.

- TRUE** Nobody paid much attention to Jesus, because they weren't interested in him. **FALSE**
- TRUE** After Jesus filled their nets full of fish, Simon said to Jesus, "Don't leave me!" **FALSE**
- TRUE** The fishermen were tired from having fished all night; they caught nothing. **FALSE**
- TRUE** The lake by which Jesus was teaching was called Gennesaret. **FALSE**
- TRUE** Jesus told the fishermen to put their nets out one more time. **FALSE**
- TRUE** The fishermen left everything behind and followed Jesus. **FALSE**
- TRUE** Jesus met three fishermen: Simon, James, and Paul. **FALSE**



Circle the lettered fish that are caught in the net above. Unscramble the final word and complete the following sentence, by putting a letter inside each of the fish below:

The fishermen became Jesus' first

