



## For Toddlers

**Summer Theme:** CPR – God cares, God protects, and God rescues.

**Early Childhood Essential:** I am a sinner who needs Jesus.

**Memory Verse:** “If anyone is thirsty, let him come to me and drink.” – John 7:37.

**Bible Story Focus:** Jesus Calls His First Disciples (**Matthew 4:18-22**)

### **Lesson Overview:**

In this lesson, children will hear of Jesus’s call to his first disciples to come follow him. Children will learn that the disciples dropped everything in their lives because they knew that only Jesus could quench their thirst and heal their hearts. Just like these disciples, our hearts too are thirsty for Jesus.

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## For Preschoolers

**Big Idea:** CPR – God cares, God protects, and God rescues.

**Early Childhood Essential:** I am a sinner who needs Jesus.

**Memory Verse:** “If anyone is thirsty, let him come to me and drink.” – John 7:37.

**Bible Story Focus:** Jesus helps the Fishermen – Luke 5:1-11

### **Lesson Overview:**

In this lesson, children will hear the story of Jesus helping tired and discouraged fishermen catch food for their families. These same men also became some of Jesus’s most loyal followers. Children will see that Jesus can reveal himself to us in many ways.

### **Pre-Video Discussion:**

Talk about a time that you went fishing. If you have never been, what do you think it would be like?

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### **I Wonder Questions (Post-Video):**

I wonder...

How did Jesus show the men that he is the Son of God?

\*He helped them catch fish after they had been trying for hours.

Why did Peter feel like he couldn't be next to Jesus anymore?

\*Because he was so sad about his sin.

Did Jesus forgive Peter? Does he forgive us?

\*Yes, Jesus died on the cross and forgives people that believe in him for their sin.

### **Early Childhood Family Activity Idea: Make a Jellyfish**

Grab a piece of paper and some crayons to decorate with. First take pink or purple- or whatever color you'd like your jellyfish to be! Trace your hand on the paper. The palm of your hand is the jellyfish and your fingers are the tentacles! Give your jellyfish a face and color it however you want. Maybe add some seaweed or coral.

Though we may not want to catch a jellyfish when we go fishing, we can use our jellyfish to remind us about how Jesus helped bring fish to the fishermen.

## **For Elementary**

### **Topic:**

Jesus Helps the Fishermen

### **Lesson Overview:**

In this lesson, children will hear the story of Jesus helping the fishermen. Peter and the others had been fishing all day when Jesus tells them to cast their net out once more, and they were amazed when their net became full. Through this story, we learn that we do not have to be afraid to approach Jesus, and that he calls his disciples to become fishers of men. Just like the disciples, Jesus calls us to share his message with others too.

### **Key Scripture:**

Luke 5:1-11

### **Elementary Essential:**

**God is sovereign:** He protects his people.

### **Memory Verse:**

"If anyone is thirsty, let him come to me and drink." – John 7:37.

### **Follow-Up Activity: Scavenger Hunt**

1. Write down a list of things for kids to find around the house or neighborhood, and come up with rules so they are respectful of other people's property. Suggested items: leaf, 2 rocks, 3 blades of grass, a feather, dandelion, band-aid
2. See who can be the first person to find all of the items and bring them home, or who can take photos of each item listed first!
3. After the items are found, talk about if it was easy/difficult to find the items. Talk about how fishing for men/people might take some time, but like Jesus was with the fishermen in today's story, he'll be with us as we spread his Word!

**Intro Video Link:** <https://vimeo.com/435770829>

**Bible Story Video Link:** [Faith Kids Videos: Jesus Calls the First Disciples](#)

**Post-Video Discussion Questions:** First, read Matthew 5:1-11

- **How did Jesus show the men that He is the Son of God?** (*He helped them catch fish after they had been trying for hours.*)
- **Why did Peter feel like he couldn't be next to Jesus anymore?** (*Because he felt so bad about his sin.*)
- **Did Jesus forgive Peter? Does He forgive us?** (*Yes, Jesus died on the cross to forgive those who follow him as Savior and King*)
- **What do you think Jesus means when he tells the men they will be fishers of men?** (*They will go out and help bring other people to Jesus*)

**Extended Study for 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders:**

Read the passage in Luke 5:1-11. Notice verse 8. Jesus had just revealed himself to these men by performing a miracle right in front of them. Surprisingly, Peter says "Depart from me, for I am a sinful man, O Lord." Jesus graciously declines his request, showing Peter His forgiveness and love.

Write about a time you felt your sin was so heavy you couldn't go to Jesus with it. Pray that God would strengthen you to not listen to those lies, but to lay your life down before Jesus, trusting in his death and resurrection for you.