



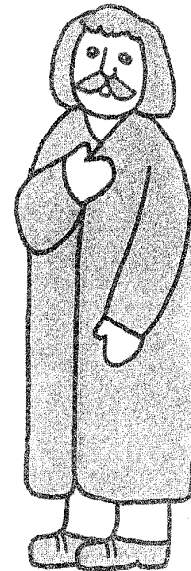
THE PLENTIFUL CATCH OF FISH

(Luke 5: 1-11)

One day Jesus is near the Lake of Gennesaret. Many people come there to listen to Him speak. Two fishing boats are on the shore. The fishermen are mending their nets. Jesus goes into Simon's boat and asks him to take it a little way out from the shore. Jesus speaks to the people from the boat and tells them what to do to please God. After this, He asks the fishermen to go further out to sea and cast their nets. Simon, whom we also know as Peter, says to Jesus: "Master, we have been out all night and have not caught anything. But because you have said so, we will cast our nets again." As soon as the nets are in the sea, they are overflowing with fish. The fishermen call their friends to help and fill all their boats so full they nearly sink! The fishermen are astounded. Simon kneels before Jesus. Jesus says to Simon: "Fear not, follow me and help me." They go back to the shore and Simon, Peter, Andrew, James and John leave their homes and follow Jesus.

The children learn that obedience brings a reward.

- ▶ The entire story can be re-played on a flannel board.
- VII. 5 ▶ Each child can make and color a fish and put it into a net. Working together they can fill the net with fish and all the children can put a picture of a boat in the background.
- ▶ The children can actively play out the scene on the boat practicing the skill of fishing. Or the children can act out a before-and-after scene speaking a verse or singing a song such as: Little fish, little fish, swim in the net, little fish, little fish, we'll catch you yet. The nets are still empty, the nets are still empty, we have no fish, yet our table is set. After singing the first verse, Jesus tells them what to do and they do exactly what they are told. They then pull in lots of fish and sing the second verse. Little fish, little fish, swim in the net, little fish, little fish, we'll catch you yet. The nets are so heavy, the nets are so heavy, we love you dear Master, you bet!





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