

Glenview New Church Sunday Morning Program
Preschool Lessons, Phase 1 - Lesson 26
The Disciples Fishing (Luke 5:3-6)

Theme: The Lord Does a Miracle

I. Underlying Ideas for the Teacher

- A. Fish represent affections for natural things, especially for natural knowledge.
- B. A spiritual fisherman is one who lifts people up to higher interests; also, one who loves to see Divine and heavenly meaning in one's life (*AC* 3309).
- C. The men who were called to be the Lord's disciples represent several elements in the church and in Christian character (see *TCR* 768; *AE* 821).

II. Story Circle

A. Introduce the Story

- 1. There were some fishermen fishing all night long. They fished, but did not catch anything!
- 2. In those days they fished with *nets*, not with poles.
- 3. The Lord was teaching people along the side of the sea, and He saw the fishermen.
- 4. Listen to the story to see what happened next.

B. Tell/Read the Story

- 1. Luke 5:3-6

C. Ideas to Discuss

- 1. How long had the fishermen tried to catch some fish? (All night long)
- 2. Did they catch anything? (No)
- 3. Who was teaching by the sea? (The Lord)
- 4. What did He step into to teach the people? (The fishermen's boat)
- 5. After He taught the people, what did He tell the disciples to do? (Go out deeper and put their nets into the water to catch fish)
- 6. What side of the boat did He tell them to put their nets in? (The right side)
- 7. What did the disciples tell Him? (But we already fished all night and didn't catch anything)
- 8. But when they did what He said, what happened? (They caught so many fish that their nets were breaking!)

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D. Further Ideas

1. After this happened, the fishermen realized that Jesus was very powerful and could do miracles.
2. They were amazed, and wanted to be with this amazing man Jesus.
3. The Lord said to them, "From now on you will catch *people*" - that means they would help him teach people that the Lord was God.
4. They were the first of the Lord's disciples.

III. Enrichment Activities

A. Music

1. "12 Disciples" by Lori Odhner
2. "Cast Your Net on the Right Side" by Lori Odhner

B. Activities

1. Make a magnet fishing pole: Tie a string with a magnet to a stick. Make fishes out of colored paper and put a paper clip on them. Let the children take turns "fishing". (Remind them that this is a fun way to play a game, but the Lord's disciples used nets, not a pole.)

C. Project

1. Fish caught in a net
 - a. Give each child a piece of poster board with holes punched in, a piece of yarn, and a few fishes precut from construction paper.
 - b. Have each child "sew" their fishes onto their board.
 - c. Glue text slip on back: "The Lord said to Simon 'Launch out into the deep and let down your nets for a catch' . . . and when they had done this, they caught a great number of fish, and their net was breaking." (Luke 5:4,6)

IV. Teaching Aids

- A. Illustrations
- B. Fishing net
- C. Felt board

V. Further Reading for the Teacher