



VA 20A The Disciples Follow Jesus

Luke 5:1–11, Matthew 4:18–22

Jesus' disciples came from many places, and they had different jobs before they met Him. Some of the disciples had been fishermen. Simon, whom Jesus later called *Peter*, was a fisherman. Andrew, Peter's brother, had also been a fisherman before he became a disciple of Jesus.

One day, Peter met Jesus by the Sea of Galilee. Jesus had been preaching to a large crowd of people. When the people started pushing their way toward Jesus, He got into Peter's boat. When Jesus finished speaking, He told Peter to sail out to deep water, let down the nets, and get ready to catch fish.

Peter told Jesus, "We have fished all night and haven't caught anything, but since You say so, I'll put the net into the water again."

When Peter let the net down, a wonderful thing happened. The net was so full of fish that it began to break. Peter called out to his partners, James and John, who were in another boat. They came and helped. There were so many fish that both boats were

filled and almost ready to sink! Not only was Peter amazed, but all who were with him were amazed as well.

Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid. From now on, you will catch people." Peter, Andrew, James, and John must have wondered what Jesus meant by catching people as they made their way to shore, but they left their boats and nets to follow Jesus.

Jesus taught His disciples many things about the kingdom of God. Now they understood! Catching people was all about leading people to know Jesus as their Savior.