

Peter's Catch of Fish and Jesus' Call of the Apostles

Luke 5:1-11, 6:12-16; Matthew 4: 18-22, 10: 1-10; Mark 3: 13-14

What does this man do?

What might make a pastor feel like he isn't able to do his job?

Prayer

Dear Jesus in Heaven, thank you for calling people to serve You by teaching us Your Word. We know that You have given each of us a calling for our lives, to serve You. Help us to spread Your Word so that many will become believers in You and be saved. When we fail to serve You, send others to us to call us to repent and to bring us Your Word and forgiveness which You won for us by Your redeeming death on the cross. In Your saving name we pray, Amen.



Peter's Catch of Fish and Jesus' Call of the Apostles

Now so it was, as the multitude pressed about Him to hear the word of God, that He stood by the Lake of Gennesaret, and saw two boats standing by the lake; but the fishermen had gone from them and were washing their nets.

Then He got into one of the boats, which was Simon's, and asked him to put out a little from the land. And He sat down and taught the multitudes from the boat.

Now when He had stopped speaking, He said to Simon, "Launch out into the deep and let down your nets for a catch."

But Simon answered and said to Him, "Master, we have toiled all night and

caught nothing; nevertheless at Your word I will let down the net." And when they had done this, they caught a great number of fish and their net was breaking.

So Simon and Andrew his brother signaled to their partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both the boats, so that they began to sink.

When Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, "Depart from me, for I am a sinful man, O Lord!" For he and all who were with him were astonished at the catch of fish which they had taken; and so also were James and John, the sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon.



And Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid. Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men."

So when they had brought their boats to land, they forsook all, including their boats, their nets, and their father, and followed Him.

Now it came to pass in those days that He went out to a mountain to pray, and continued all night in prayer to God. And when it was day, He called His disciples to Him, those whom He Himself wanted; and from them He chose twelve whom He also named apostles. He appointed them that they might be with Him and that He might send them out to preach.

Now the names of the twelve apostles are these: Simon, whom He also named Peter, and Andrew his brother;



James the son of Zebedee, and John his brother; Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas and Matthew the tax collector; James the son of Alphaeus; Thaddeus; Simon called the Zealot; and Judas Iscariot, who also betrayed Him.

Recalling Details

1. Where did this story take place?
2. Why did Jesus have to get into Simon's boat and preach from the lake?
3. What did Jesus tell Simon to do?
4. Why did Simon find this request unusual?
5. What were the results of their attempt?
6. What was Simon Peter's reaction when he saw this?
7. What did Jesus tell them after the miracle? What did this mean?
8. What did the men do in response to what Jesus said?
9. List the twelve apostles.

Outer Aim - Jesus called some fishermen to preach the Gospel.

Discussion

1. Imagine yourself as one of the fishermen. You had just witnessed this amazing miracle of Jesus, and now He tells you that you will be “fishers of men” if you follow Him. How would what you had just seen help strengthen your faith and help you believe that you would truly be able to do what He just asked you to do?
2. The Lord has chosen pastors and teachers to be special “fishers of men”. Explain how pastors and teachers are important to the work of the Lord.
3. How can all Christians, no matter what their calling, be comforted by this story?

Passages - Explain how each of these passages fits the story.

Matthew 6:33 - But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.

**Matthew 16:24-25 - Then Jesus said to His disciples,
“If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself,
and take up his cross, and follow Me.
For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life
for My sake will find it.”**

**Philippians 1:6 - Being confident of this very thing,
that He who has begun a good work in you
will complete it until the day of Jesus Christ.**

**Ephesians 4:8, 11-12 - Therefore He says: “When He ascended on high,
He led captivity captive, and gave gifts to men.”
...And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets,
some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers,
for the equipping of the saints for the work of the ministry,
for the edifying of the body of Christ.**

Inner Aim - Jesus gives those He calls the power to preach the Gospel.

Hymn

Look at hymn 16.

Explain how this hymn expresses the Inner Aim of this lesson.

Prayer

Use the main ideas of both the Outer and Inner Aims, write a short prayer that fits our story today.