



Sunday 25th July
Let's Go Fishing!

Bible Story -

Matthew 4:18-22

18 As Jesus was walking beside the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon called Peter and his brother Andrew. They were casting a net into the lake, for they were fishermen. **19** "Come, follow me," Jesus said, "and I will send you out to fish for people."

20 At once they left their nets and followed him.

21 Going on from there, he saw two other brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John. They were in a boat with their father Zebedee, preparing their nets. Jesus called them, **22** and immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

Video Clip -

 [56 Jesus Chooses His Disciples](#)

Chat -

The first disciples Jesus called were fishermen he saw on the shores of the Sea of Galilee. This lake was where Jesus found Peter, Andrew, James, and John at work. Fishing was a hard job - fishermen worked all night so they could sell their catch in the morning. To drop their nets and follow Jesus was a major move! Not all of the twelve disciples were fishermen, but they all chose to give up things in response to Jesus' call, and to join Jesus' team.

Conversation starters -

(pick the ones you like, and see where the conversation goes)

- Is there anything that shines or stands out to you from the Bible story?
- Do you have any questions from the Bible passage?
- What do you think Jesus meant by catching people, not fish?
- Think about people you know who are followers of Jesus - what special things do they do as a response to Jesus' love?
- Jesus calls us to follow Him and be on His team, too. How can we do this in our everyday lives?
- I wonder if the fishermen missed fishing while they were following Jesus...?
- How might Jesus be encouraging you to follow Him this week? What could you do to encourage or love other people this week?

Pray -

Dear Jesus, thank you so much for loving us! Thank you for asking us to be on your team, please help us to follow you, and share your love with other people. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Activity Ideas -

(choose one that you would like to do)

Boat Building -

Build a boat in your lounge room! Use rugs, chairs, couch cushions, whatever you can find! Get something you can use as a fishing rod (think chop sticks, a stick from outside...) and pretend to fish! Share stories of times you've been fishing, share stories of what fishing for men might look like, share stories of what following Jesus looks like in real life!

Playdough -

Make a batch of playdough together!

Playdough recipe - grab a bowl and add 2 cups plain flour, 2 tablespoons vegetable oil (baby oil and coconut oil work too), 1/2 cup salt, 2 tablespoons cream of tartar, and then add 1 to 1.5 cups boiling water, some food colouring of your choice, and a few

drops glycerine (optional). Mix, mix and mix, let the dough cool down a bit, and if it's too sticky, add a bit more flour.

Build a playdough boat, and create some little playdough fish. Can you make some fishing nets to catch the fish? Share stories of times you've been fishing, share stories of what fishing for men might look like, share stories of what following Jesus looks like in real life!

Water play -

Fill up the bath! You could add a small bit of blue food colouring to make it like a lake. Set the scene by adding in some toys - think plastic fish, a sieve or colander as a net, a food container as a boat.. get creative! Hop in, and share about the Bible story! Share stories of times you've been fishing, share stories of what fishing for men might look like, share stories of what following Jesus looks like in real life!

Lego/Blocks -

Create your very own story scene of Jesus calling the first disciples, using lego, blocks or duplo! Read the story and/or watch the video clip, and try to add in as many details as you can. While you're playing, share stories of times you've been fishing, share stories of what fishing for men might look like, share stories of what following Jesus looks like in real life!