

14. The Miraculous Catch of Fish

The Word of the Lord: The New Testament for Young Children

Notes for Parents & Teachers

14. The Miraculous Catch of Fish

- a) Start with telling children where the disciples are—the lake in Galilee where many boats were catching fish. Imagine Jesus teaching the people, and they are pushing each other in order to get closer to Him. He is right by the water's edge, and there was no room. So He got into Peter's boat and taught the people from there. A very nice picture.
- b) Next, the Lord helped Peter and the others to catch fish, for that was their job. He told them where to throw their nets, and although they had caught nothing all night, the nets were now so full of fish that they started to break. Even when another boat came to help, there were so many fish that the boats were too full.
- c) Peter felt afraid because he felt he wasn't good enough to be with the Lord, who did such a great miracle. But notice that the Lord said He would make the disciples fishers of men. That meant that they would “catch them,” as it were, into the Christian Church.
- d) It is wonderful that the disciples just left everything behind and followed the Lord. They didn't fish again for a long time.



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The Lord Helps His Disciples Catch Many Fish

It happened that as people were squeezing close to Jesus to hear the Word of God, He stood by the lake. And He saw two boats standing nearby the lake, but the fishermen had left them and were washing their nets. And Jesus went into one of the boats, which was Simon's, and He asked Simon to push out a little from the land.

Then Jesus sat down and taught the people from the boat. Now when He had finished speaking, He said to Simon, "Take us out into the deep water and let down your nets for a catch." And Simon said to Him, "Teacher, we have worked all night and have taken no fish. But at Your word, I will let down the net again." And when the fishermen had done this, they trapped so many fish that the net broke.

Then they waved to their partners who were in the other boat, that they should come and help them. And they came and they filled the boats with fish so that the boats began to sink.

When Simon Peter saw this, he fell down at Jesus' knees saying, "Leave me, for I am a very bad man, O Lord!"

And Jesus said to Simon, "Do not be afraid. From now on, you shall catch people."

And when they had brought their boat to land, the fishermen left everything and followed Jesus.

Luke 5

