

JESUS FISHES FOR PEOPLE

Luke 5:1-11



Key Verse:

When they had brought their boats to shore, they left everything and followed him.

Luke 5:11

The Point:

The fishermen see and hear Jesus as Lord and follow him as disciples.

Making Connections:

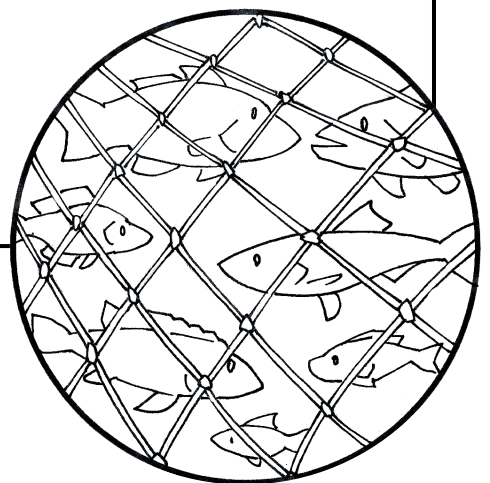
Revelation of the Son of Man

Bible Nuts & Bolts:

Education in the New Testament

Spiritual Practice:

Worship



BACKGROUND

Making Connections

In last week's lesson, Jesus began his ministry with a stop in his hometown of Nazareth. There, he taught in the synagogue and angered the Nazarenes by telling them they will not be favored. They drove him out of town. We learned that, from its beginning, Jesus' ministry challenged people and their understanding of the world, God, and community. Today we continue to follow Jesus in his early ministry, seeing how he called disciples to join him in his work.

Story Summary:

Jesus Fishes for People

Today's story opens with Jesus teaching to a very large crowd by the lake. As the crowd presses in, Jesus looks for a good place to speak from and spots fishing boats on the lake. He gets into one of the boats, and continues to teach from there. When he is done addressing the larger crowd, Jesus turns to Simon, the fisherman, and instructs him to drop his nets down into the water. Simon informs Jesus that they had already attempted fishing there and caught nothing. Nevertheless, he follows Jesus' directions. When the nets are dropped into the water, they immediately fill with fish. Simon then recognizes Jesus as Lord.

Jesus informs Simon, James, and John that it is time for them to put down their fishing nets. From now on, their job will be to catch people. They are to leave behind everything and follow Jesus. They embrace this new path for their lives, trusting in Jesus to be their guide.

The Point

The fishermen see and hear Jesus as Lord and follow him as disciples. Through the miracle of the great catch, the fishermen recognize Jesus as Lord and become his disciples. Jesus promises them that although they are leaving behind their fishing nets, they will now fish for people, sharing the good news. Jesus calls us to follow him as well, sharing God's love with others.

Bible Nuts & Bolts:

Education in the New Testament

Each part of Jesus' ministry challenged people's expectations of how God would work in the world. This included how he picked his followers. Religious education was of utmost importance in the time of the New Testament. Young Jewish boys were required to learn the Torah. At various levels, the best learners would continue on the path of scholar and teacher, while others would be released for trade work. Most rabbis picked their followers from the elite learners; Jesus did not. He picked fishermen who would have had only the basic education.

Spiritual Practice: Worship

In today's story, we see fishermen going about their ordinary day when they encounter Jesus. We know we can be too busy to recognize these encounters in our lives. A worship service is a time for us to practice this focus. Students will look for important symbols in the worship space, like a cross or Bible, and talk about how to use these cues to help refocus during worship.



Fishing for People

Jesus replied to Simon, "Don't be afraid! From now on you'll be fishing for people!" Luke 5:10b (NLT)

Each line of the puzzle has one word hidden in a list of random letters. The blank space is a missing letter that belongs to that word. Fill in the missing letter.



1.	W	O	C	B	M	A	A	F		A	I	D	X	Z	A	J	Y
2.	U	X	F	E	L	Z	S	S		O	R	E	Y	L	X	N	D
3.	X	P	S	Y	L	W	S	E		U	Y	N	P	H	B	N	I
4.	H	I	T	Z	I	P	G	O		O	A	T	M	P	T	T	N
5.	D	O	N	J	F	S	X	N		T	S	U	D	N	H	B	C
6.	H	K	D	F	I	S	H	E		M	E	N	O	J	Q	X	K
7.	T	C	X	K	P	E	O	P		E	S	V	L	E	Z	D	O
8.	C	Y	D	G	A	L	I	L		E	K	Q	Z	B	Y	L	E

shore	Galilee	nets	afraid
sea	boat	fishermen	people





Fishing for People

Jesus replied to Simon, "Don't be afraid! From now on you'll be fishing for people!" Luke 5:10b (NLT)

The puzzle is based on Luke 5:1-11 (NLT).

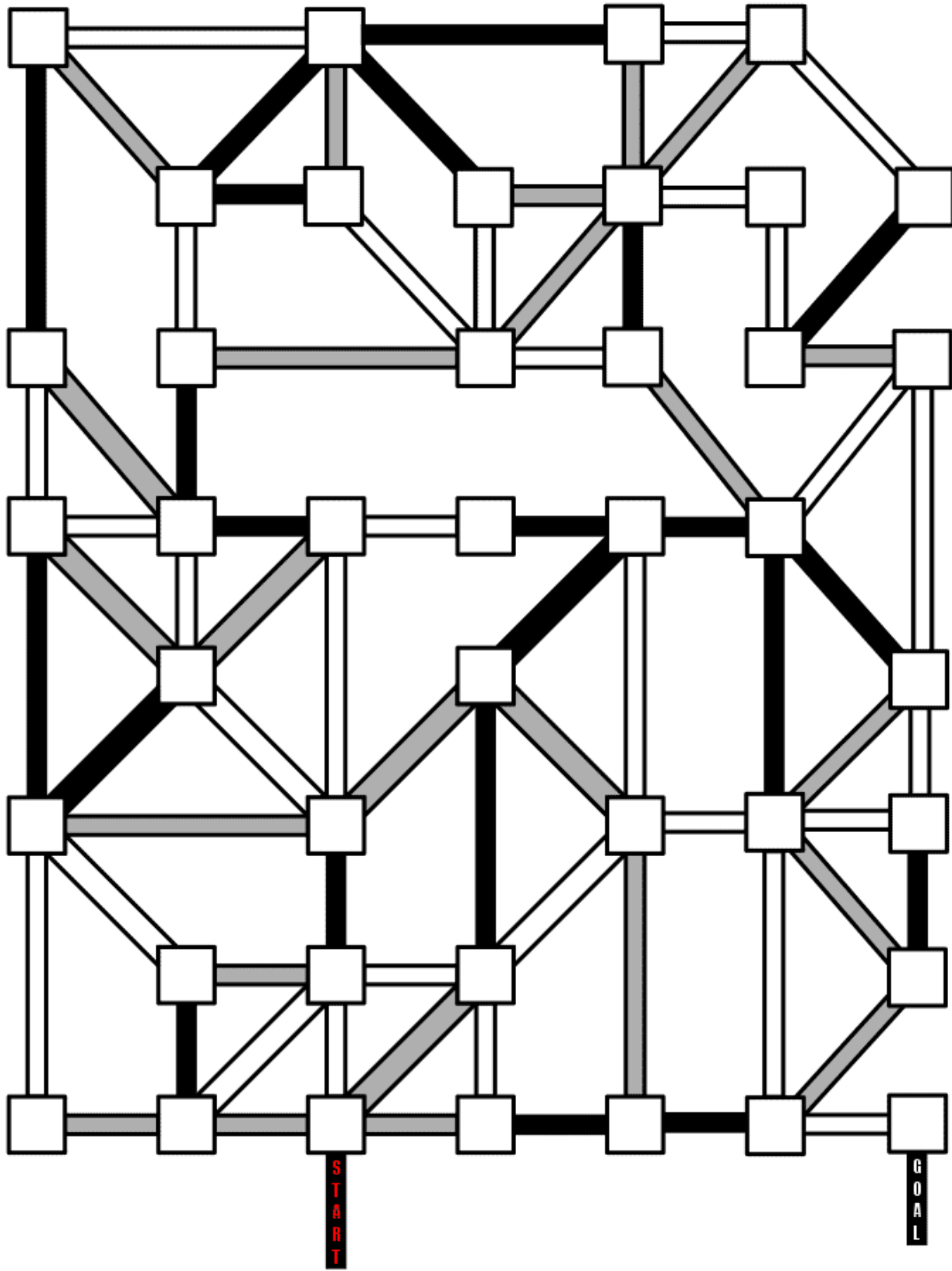


A Z Z L C R P E O P L E J K P
 I S N B E X G G A F R A I D D
 Z M J T N N N G A L I L E E E
 V B E X C C P D E S G P G N G
 D P S T N E M R W E W N E N L
 F T U C E X O E Y A I M I Q K
 T A S D T H D A W K R H B W G
 A M J Y S P W F N E C P L L G
 W L K T K W F I H A B D W N W
 I A X T G N S S E P A O I N P
 Z J S I X Y I R U E J H A A S
 H K S H G F P Z P O S S Y T C
 C H B R I E E G R I P V V Q S
 X K U V L N Q P F B V S G Y F
 Q E E N T A G J E L C R Q F P

Peter	people	deep	washing	nets
shore	preaching	fishing	boats	Jesus
sinking	afraid	Sea	Galilee	fishermen

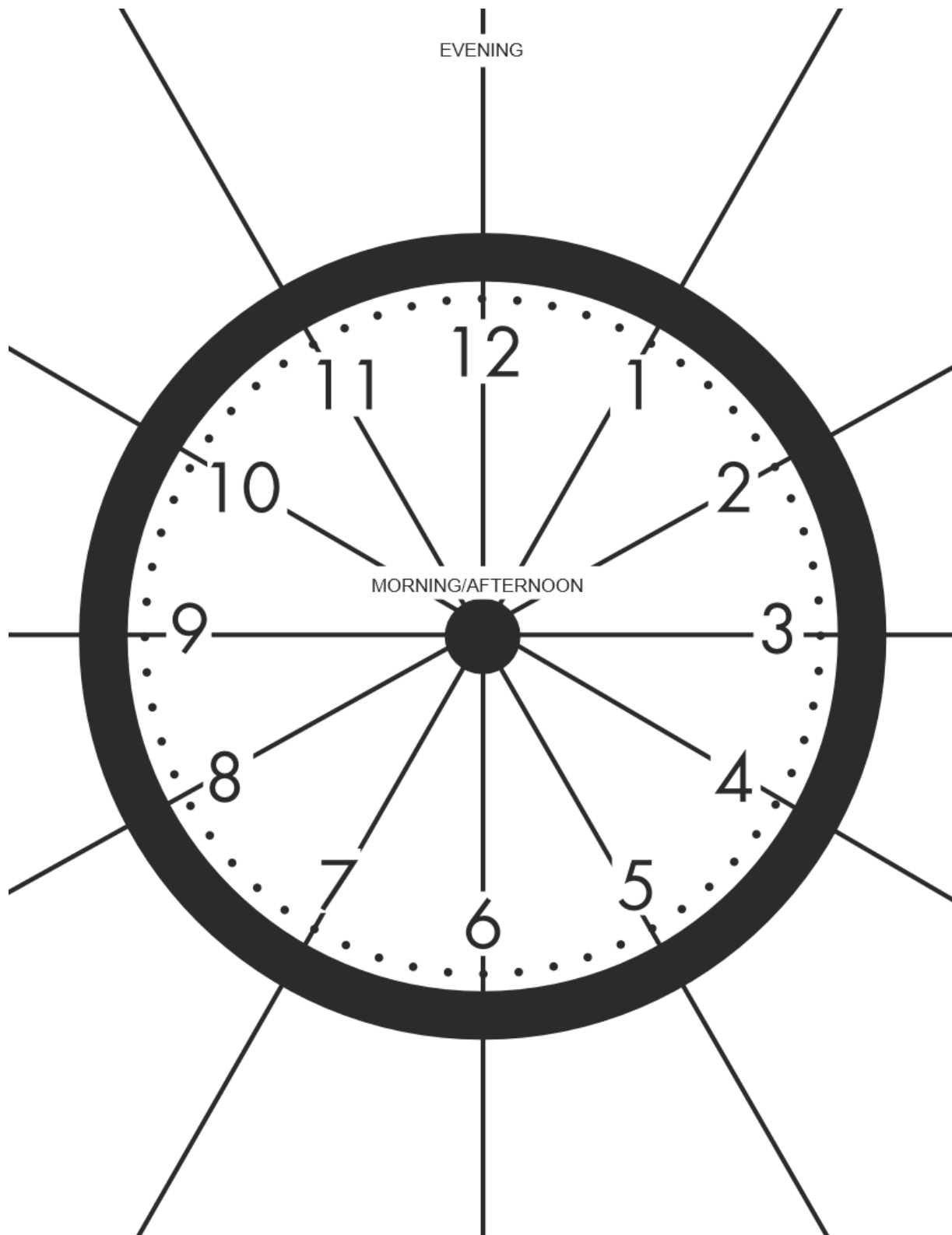


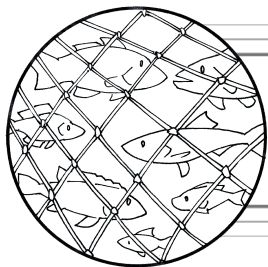
**Solve the maze moving from Black to Grey to
White paths, only in that order !**



JUST A ORDINARY DAY

Examine the hours of our days.





THE STORY @ HOME

**KIDS
3RD-6TH**

NL

Living the Word: Teaching Kids God's Story
Narrative Lectionary, Year 3 (2024-2025)

Lesson #3-20
Luke 5:1-11

LAST WEEK

Even though he is rejected in Nazareth, Jesus brings good news for those in need (Luke 4:14-30).

THIS WEEK

Jesus teaches a crowd from Simon's boat and then gives Simon and his partners a miraculous catch of fish. Jesus calls Simon, James, and John to follow him and catch people rather than fish (Luke 5:1-11).

THE POINT

The fishermen see and hear Jesus as Lord and follow him as disciples.

STORY SUMMARY

Jesus Fishes for People

Jesus is teaching a large crowd by the lake. As the crowd presses in, Jesus looks for a good place to speak from and spots fishing boats on the lake. He gets into one of the boats and continues to teach from there. When he is finished, Jesus turns to Simon and instructs him to drop his nets down into the water. Simon tells Jesus that they had already tried that and caught nothing. Nevertheless, he follows Jesus' directions. When the nets are dropped into the water, they immediately fill with fish. Simon then recognizes Jesus as Lord. Jesus tells Simon, James, and John to put down their fishing nets. Now, their job will be to catch people. They leave everything and follow Jesus.

NEXT WEEK

Some religious leaders challenge Jesus about following the rules on the Sabbath, a day of rest. Jesus reminds them that the Sabbath is a gift for us, not just a set of rules to follow (Luke 6:1-16).

BIBLE NUTS & BOLTS

Education in the New Testament

Religious education was of utmost importance in the time of the New Testament. Young Jewish boys were required to learn the Torah. At various levels, the best learners would continue on the path to become a student (disciple) of a rabbi, while most boys would be sent to work a trade. Most rabbis chose followers from the best learners; Jesus chose fishermen who would have had only a basic education.

PRACTICE WORSHIP

In today's story, we see fishermen going about their ordinary day when they encounter Jesus. We know we can be too busy to recognize these encounters in our lives. A worship service is a time for us to practice this focus. Next time you are in worship, look for important symbols in the worship space, like a cross or Bible. Talk with your family about them and work together to use these cues to help refocus you during worship.

Family Discussions

Use the questions below or other questions you think of to discuss today's Scripture reading (listed above) with your family.

- ✦ Where do you see the message that "It is GOOD" in this Scripture?
- ✦ What does this Scripture have to do with our lives today?
- ✦ What part of this Scripture is the most interesting to you? Why?

Family Devotions

As you hear and study these stories each week, consider what God has to say to you and your family. What is God's message to us? How should we respond?

Sunday—Read Luke 5:1-11

After teaching from their boats, Jesus helps fishermen with their daily catch and then calls them to follow as his disciples. Let your child be the leader in a round or two of Follow the Leader around your home.

Monday—Read Isaiah 6:1-8

Isaiah has a vision of God in the temple. He answers "Here am I, send me!" when God calls for a messenger. Each person should come up with a simple message about God, and whisper it to someone who will then announce it to the family.

Tuesday—Read Luke 5:12-16

Jesus heals a man with leprosy. When word of this gets out, many seek Jesus. Jesus retreats to deserted places for reflection. Create or spend time in a place in your home where people can go when they need to get away from the craziness of life.

Wednesday—Read Luke 5:17-26

Jesus heals a man who was paralyzed and whose friends lowered him down through the roof. The Pharisees challenge him, but Jesus speaks of healing and forgiveness. Take time together to thank God for all of the wonderful things God does.

Thursday—Read Philippians 2:1-11

We are called to follow Christ's example of humility; to offer our lives in service of others, and not to be focused on reward for ourselves. Have each family member secretly draw another's name and then do one thing for that person today.

Friday—Read Luke 5:27-32

Jesus calls Levi, a tax collector, to be a disciple. This bothers some, but Jesus reminds them that he came so that all people can know of God's love. As you eat a meal together, take special care to remind each other of Levi's banquet for Jesus.

Saturday—Read Luke 5:33-39

When asked about fasting, Jesus says that his followers should celebrate while he is with them. He also says that things will have to be done in new ways. Come up with one new way you will share God's love with the world, and pray for help in following through with this.