



UNIT 7, SESSION 3

FISHERS OF MEN

MATTHEW 4

KEY POINT

Jesus knows best!

BIG PICTURE QUESTION

Who knows best? Jesus knows best!

MEMORY VERSE

If you love me, you will keep my commandments. John 14:15



LEADER BIBLE STUDY

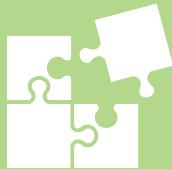
Jesus chose twelve disciples, ordinary men with ordinary jobs, and invited them to share His extraordinary message with the world. Peter and Andrew were simple fishermen, working hard through the night and coming up empty. They were tired. They were discouraged. But when Jesus told them to try again, Peter chose to trust Him.

In this week's lesson, Peter and Andrew chose to follow Jesus. As leaders, we get to model that same trust in Jesus for the children we serve. We often find ourselves in the same place as Peter and Andrew: weary, unsure, or feeling like we've tried over and over. Yet Jesus still invites us to trust Him. Preschoolers learn this best not from explanations, but from watching our calm trust, our obedience, and our joy in following Jesus.

Every moment we spend with the children we serve, and their families, is a chance to show them that following Jesus is worth it, even when we don't fully understand what He's doing. As you teach preschoolers, remember: Jesus didn't choose perfect people; He chose *willing* people.

Peter trusted Jesus with tired hands and discouraged feelings, and Jesus used him in amazing ways. He will use us too!

WELCOME & OPENING



Connect with children as service starts.

WELCOME

Play music through the undercabinet radio (flash drive), or connect your phone to Bluetooth through the radio and play Christian preschool/Bible songs as you greet children coming into the classroom. Help them transition in and feel welcome as they play games and interact with others.

MEMORY VERSE SONG

Gather children and sing the song below to the tune of “London Bridge is Falling Down”:

If you love me you will keep
my commandments,
my commandments.
If you love me you will keep
my commandments.
John 14:15

THE LORD'S PRAYER/TEN COMMANDMENTS

Toddlers & Twos: Use the provided poster to review the Lord's Prayer with the children in your class.

Threes & Fours: Using the provided poster, review the Ten Commandments with the children in your class. Read through each one, then have children repeat after you as you say them together.

ACTIVITY



Play a game connected to the Bible lesson.

ACTIVITY: FISHING GAMES

Spread the provided fishing games throughout your room. Encourage children to pick a game to play. Help set up the game and assist children in playing it, if needed.



BIBLE TIME



Review the Bible lesson with your class.

BABIES & TWOS BIBLE LESSON

Peter and Andrew were brothers and fishermen. They used big nets and a wooden boat to catch fish. After a long night of fishing, they didn't catch anything.

Jesus was teaching nearby. More people kept coming to hear Jesus teach. When Jesus finished teaching, He went to Andrew and Peter and asked them to go fishing again.

Peter had tried and tried to catch fish. He didn't think he should keep trying, but he listened to Jesus. This time, they caught so many fish, it filled their boat!

THREES & FOURS BIBLE LESSON

Peter and Andrew were brothers and fishermen. After a long night of fishing, they caught nothing. Peter and Andrew were busy sorting their nets when they heard Jesus teaching people nearby. More and more people came to listen to Jesus. Jesus asked Peter if he would take Him out in his boat, so that He could speak to all the people.

When Jesus finished teaching the people, He asked Peter to go fishing. Peter didn't think this made any sense. He had fished all night and caught nothing, but because Jesus asked him, he did it. Jesus told Peter to throw the net over the other side of the boat. He caught so many fish, He had to call his friends to come and help!

When they arrived back on land, Jesus invited the fishermen to leave their boats and follow Him. Jesus told them it was time to fish for people and share God's love with them. Straight away, the fishermen left everything behind to follow Jesus.

KEY POINT: Jesus knows best!

SNACK & CLOSING



Continue to engage children near the end of the morning.

SNACK & DISCUSSION

Have everyone wash their hands, then serve a snack. Ask the following questions and retell parts of the lesson as needed.

1. What was your favorite part of today's Bible lesson?
2. What did you learn about God in today's Bible lesson?
3. What were the names of the fishermen Jesus invited to follow Him?
4. Who knows best? Jesus knows best!

CLOSING ACTIVITIES

Sing the clean up song. Have children help put toys on tables.

Gather them on the rug in a circle and have one volunteer read today's Bible lesson from the children's Bible. Have a regular Bible ready as well.

Sing the "B.I.B.L.E." and "Everything in the Bible is Absolutely True" songs. Remind children that the Bible is God's Word and the most important book in the whole world!

The other volunteer should stand at the door and help with pick up, matching stickers, gathering children's things, etc.

BEFORE YOU GO...

Second service leaders, please clean up by doing the following:

1. Spray down toys with disinfectant.
2. Spot sweep if needed.
3. Return toys to closet, close door.
4. Throw away any trash left on counters and in room.
5. Return binders to the cabinet.

THANK YOU FOR SERVING WITH US!