



## **Family Sunday School Lesson 3 - What is our Call?**

### **Introduction:**

Over the last two weeks we learned that we are prepared for our calling at our baptism and that we have support from a community of fellow believers. But what is it we are called to do?

### **Start the Fun!**

#### **Actor's Studio**

Jesus called his disciples and us to be "fishers of people." Read this short skit with two characters: the disciple Peter and a penguin expert.

### **FISHERS OF MEN**

#### *ITEMS NEEDED:*

A toy penguin (or a picture of a penguin or anything you can pretend is a penguin)

#### *CHARACTERS:*

Kelli - A penguin expert  
Peter - An apostle

Kelli enters, carrying the penguin. Peter enters from the other side of the stage.

KELLI: This is a penguin.

PETER: And I am Peter.

KELLI: Penguins eat fish.

PETER: I eat fish too.

KELLI: Penguins are excellent fishermen.

PETER: I am a fisher of men.

KELLI: Penguins can swim up to 35 miles an hour!

PETER: I can walk about three miles in an hour, unless it's uphill.

KELLI: Penguins dive deep under the water to catch their fish.

PETER: I walked on water once, but only because I was looking at Jesus.

KELLI: When a penguin catches fish, he eats it.

PETER: I... don't eat the people I catch. That would be gross.

KELLI: The penguin uses its beak to do the catching.

PETER: And I use love.

KELLI: I'm sorry, did you say love?

PETER: Absolutely. Nothing catches people faster than the love of Jesus.

KELLI: Jesus? Who's Jesus?

PETER: Oh, he's God's Son.

KELLI: Really?

PETER: He was one of my best friends. In fact, he's the guy who made me a fisher of people.

KELLI: Why did he do that?

PETER: So that other people would know that Jesus loves them and promises eternal life with him.

KELLI: Jesus' love, forever and ever? I want that!

PETER: See? Told you it works.

KELLI: What works?

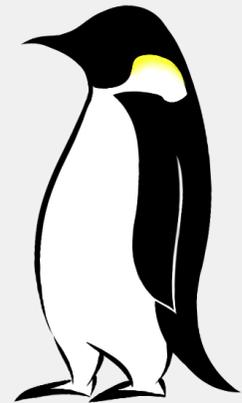
PETER: The love of Jesus. Catches people every time.

KELLI: Ha, well you caught me.

PETER: I'm so glad I did. Come on, I'll tell you more about Jesus.

KELLI: Can I bring the penguin?

PETER: That would be lovely!



## **Read together**

### **Mark 1:14-20 Jesus Announces the Good News**

14 After John was put in prison, Jesus went into Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God. 15 "The time has come," he said. "The kingdom of God has come near. Repent and believe the good news!"

Jesus Calls His First Disciples

16 As Jesus walked beside the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the lake, for they were fishermen. 17 "Come, follow me," Jesus said, "and I will send you out to fish for people." 18 At once they left their nets and followed him.

19 When he had gone a little farther, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John in a boat, preparing their nets. 20 Without delay he called them, and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men and followed him.

## **Discuss**

*Ask:* Jesus told his disciples to be “fishers of people” because they were already fishermen and would understand his meaning. What tools do people need to catch fish?

*Discussion points:* People can use a fishing pole with fishing line, a hook and a reel. They can also use nets. Either way, they need bait to attract the fish.

*Ask:* If you want to “catch” people for Jesus, meaning tell them about him, what would you use for bait, to catch their attention?

*Discussion points:* Jesus tells us to use love. When people see how you love others, by treating them with kindness and generosity, by forgiving people when they hurt your feelings, by speaking well of everyone, they will be curious about you. When they ask why you are so nice you will be able to tell them how God’s love is shining through you and that God loves them, too.

*Related verse:* John 13:35 says: 35 By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.”

## **Pray**

Ask God to help you love others the way Jesus loves us, to show people through your words and actions how much Jesus loves them.

## **Participate**

### **Fishing Expedition**

Follow the motions and sing along with “Fishers of Men.” (*Preschool age fun!*)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UKYespl69ZA>

**Fishers of People Snack:** Dip a pretzel rod in frosting (or peanut butter) and use it to pick up goldfish crackers to eat. What other foods do you have on hand to make a “fishing” snack?

### **Fishers of People Craft**

Decorate a fish with fingerprint scales to remind yourself that Jesus wants you to use kindness to fish for people.

### Materials:

- Drawing of a fish (you can draw one yourself or print one out here: <https://meaningfulmama.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/10/fish-outline-for-fingerprint-scales-craft.pdf>)
- Watercolor paints and cup of water OR water-based stamp pad(s)
- colored pencils or markers

### Directions:

Option 1: Use watercolors like a stamp pad by adding a little water.

Option 2: Use water-based stamp pads (they might show a bit more detail of the fingerprint.) Use watercolors or markers or colored pencils to color the fins.

Be sure to wipe off fingers before switching colors to prevent color mixing. Write the verse, "Come, follow me," Jesus said, "and I will send you out to fish for people." Mark 1: 17 above the fish.



## **Wrap Up**

God loves you. If you are loving, you will be following Jesus' command to be "fishers of people" and you will also have a happy life full of friends.

## **Take a Moment to Breathe**

### **Fish Breath**

Find a comfortable seated position. Lay one hand in your lap, palm up. With your other hand, trace the shape of a fish in your palm. As you trace the first half of the fish, breath in, as you trace the second half of the fish, breath out. Take each inhale and exhale as slowly as possible, stretching out the length of your breath as much as possible. Repeat 3 or 4 times and then switch hands and repeat on the other side.

