

June 7, 2020

Read: **Matthew 4:18-22**

### **Follow Me**

During the month of June, we celebrate Father's Day. One of the best memories I have with my dad is when we went deep sea fishing with other church members in Maine. I was about twelve years old when we took this trip. We were on a big boat in the ocean (not a cruise ship). My dad showed me how to bait the hook; we used shrimp. I cast the line into the water and waited for a catch. I remember how excited I was when my dad helped me reel in that first fish. I caught three that day. This month's theme for kids is "Something Fishy". So, enjoy some Bible stories about fish and maybe go fishing this month.

Jesus found out that John was in prison for doing what was right, so he took a trip to Galilee. Jesus was walking by the sea. After all, you cannot find fish on land. Jesus found Peter and Andrew, who were brothers, catching fish. They were not out having fun on a big boat. They were catching fish because that was their job. Would any of you like to catch fish as a job every day? In verse 19 Jesus said, "...follow me and I will make you fishers of men." Wait, I thought they were fisherman catching fish; Jesus now wants them to fish for men.

Peter and Andrew dropped their nets; they left their jobs to follow Jesus. They would become Jesus's first disciples. He wanted to teach them how to teach others. Just a little way down the seashore he saw James and John, who were also fishermen, fixing their nets. They were with their dad. James and John left their dad and chose to follow Jesus. They were now going to learn to fish for people. In order to follow Jesus and the plan He has for your life you may have to leave your family, your friends, your job, and your church. It is worth it.

If you want to fish for people you have to go where people are. Your bait can be a common interest such as sports, video games, dancing, or other activities. Once you can talk with them about something they like, you reel them in and invite them to church. Share with them that God loves them so much He gave His Son Jesus to die for their sins. Throw the net on them and do not let them go (not a real net of course). Become a fisherman today!

Questions:

1. What job did Peter and Andrew do?
2. Which other brothers chose to follow Jesus?
3. What were James and John fixing?
4. What would be hard to leave behind to follow Jesus? It can be a person or thing.
5. Who is someone you know who could be a fish you catch and tell them about Jesus?