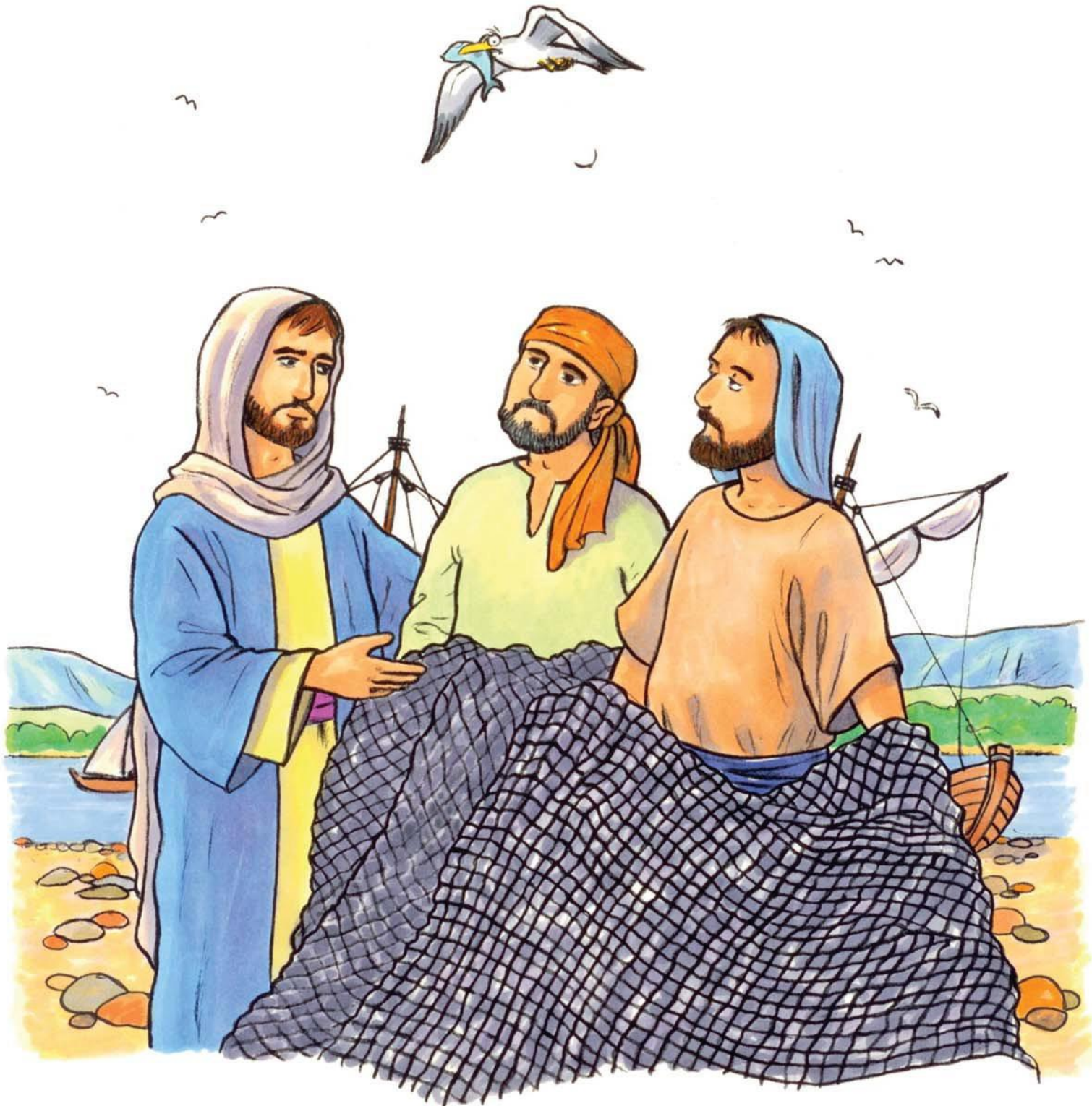


JESUS GATHERS HIS DISCIPLES

Matthew 3:13-17



Contents

Message	When Jesus calls us, we should respond immediately.
Learning Objectives	The children will learn: <ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Jesus called the disciples and they immediately followed Him.■ What a disciple is and what it means to follow Jesus.■ Jesus calls us today to follow Him.
Bible Text	Matthew 4:18–25

Jesus Gathers His Disciples



Jesus walked along the Sea of Galilee and saw two brothers, Simon (called Peter) and Andrew, putting a net into the water. They were fishermen. Jesus said to them, "Follow Me. I will make you fishers of men." Peter and Andrew dropped their nets and followed Him.

Jesus then saw two more brothers, James and John, the sons of Zebedee, in a boat with their father mending nets. Jesus also told them to follow Him. They left their father and the boat and followed Jesus.

Jesus travelled to all the synagogues in Galilee teaching and preaching the gospel. He also healed many people from sickness and disease. As the message of Jesus' teaching and healing spread throughout the region, more and more people came to Him to be healed and He gained many followers from all over the regions surrounding Galilee.

Jesus Gathers His Disciples

Suggestions for the Teacher

Lead-In

Show the picture to the children. Discuss with them what they see. Ask what she/he may feel....
Let some of the children play the story of the fishermen in a role-play. Instruct them before.
Provide disguise / fancy dress, a net, some fish....

Lesson Instructions

Begin telling the story...

Discuss with the children...

- What does a fisherman do? (He catches fish, sells them to earn wages to feed his family.)
- What are Peter and Andrew doing, when Jesus meets them?
(They are in the middle of their work.)
- What do they do, when Jesus calls them to follow him?
(They immediately stop what they are doing and follow him.)
- What does Jesus mean by saying: "I will make you fishers of men"?
(They should bring the people just to follow Him.)

Have the children repeat...

- Jesus called the disciples and they immediately followed Him.
- Jesus calls us today to follow Him.

Real-Life Application (explain the following)

- Jesus called his disciples (followers).
- He also calls us today. We decide whether we respond to His call.
- How do we hear this? (Through a feeling in our heart, a conversation with a minister, a family member, who is prompted by the Holy Spirit.)
- Jesus calls us when we feel we should go to Sunday school, pray, offer or serve him.
- As a result, we experience His help and blessing.

<p style="text-align: center;">Repeat the Message When Jesus calls us, we should respond immediately.</p>
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