

Focus: Trusting and Obeying Jesus

Bible Story: The Miraculous Catch of Fish (Luke 5:1-11)

Memory Verse (optional): Trust in the Lord with all your heart; do not depend on your own understanding. (Proverbs 3:5 NLT)

Watch Together

Watch the story of "The Miraculous Catch of Fish" from Episode 1, *Long Journey* (starts at approximately 16:22) or, if you prefer, watch all of Episode 1 again.

Read Together

Read Luke 5:1-11 in the Bible.

Explore Together

Read the paragraph below to your family and then discuss the questions that follow. (Possible answers are in italics.)

Do you know anyone who likes to fish? There are two types of fisherman – those who fish for fun as a hobby, and those who do it for a living. Those who fish for their living are usually very good at it. Simon Peter (we probably know him better just by his second name, Peter) was this kind of fisherman; if anyone knew when the time wasn't right to catch fish, it would have been him. When Peter told Jesus that it wasn't the right time for catching fish, he knew for sure – all of his experience told him so. Yet, he chose not to rely on what he thought he knew, but to obey Jesus instead. So, he did as Jesus said and threw the nets out one more time – the result was a miracle.

- In the Bible story, look closely at the fishermen. Are they dressed in fancy clothes? Do they look rich? No, in fact, they look quite common. The first Friends of Jesus were just average men, chosen by Jesus. (This is a good opportunity to talk with your children that we can't make ourselves good enough to be Friends of Jesus; it's only by his grace.)
- What happened after Jesus told them to go out deeper and throw out the nets again? *They caught so many fish that their nets began to tear!*
- What did Jesus say they would now fish for? *Jesus told them they would be fishing for people.*
- What did Simon Peter and the others do as soon as they came on shore? *They left everything and followed Jesus.*
- In the adventure story, what was Samuel inspired to do after hearing Macky tell him the story of the Miraculous Catch of Fish? He and Macky set out that night to rescue the girls from the harbor jail before the girls were to be sent off as slaves. (See about 19:00 and following.)





Share Together

Remember, there are many possible answers to these questions. The purpose of the questions is to get your family talking, sharing, and applying the truths learned from the Bible story to their own lives.

- What do you think Peter was thinking when his nets were so full that they began to tear? (See verses 8-9.)
- Peter had no idea what was going to happen when he cast out the nets again. But he trusted Jesus and obeyed him. What is God calling you to trust and obey him about today?
- What do you think Jesus meant when he said they were going to "fish for people"? (See verse 10.)
- How can you "fish for people" in your own life?
- What do you think God wants you to learn from this story?

Pray Together

Here are some things to consider praying about as you close your time today:

- Ask God to make you and your family "fishers for people" and to teach you more about what that means.
- Thank God that we can trust him and that obedience to him is always a good thing—even when we don't understand.

Extra, Extra! (Optional)

Your children may enjoy page 3 or 4 of the children's printables section. Page 3 is intended for younger children. Page 4 is for older children. (Note: Your children will need a Bible to do page 4. Answers appear upside-down at the bottom of the page.)

Additionally, your kids may enjoy trying one of the interactive quizzes about Episode 1, Long Journey:

- Macky's Quiz 1 is on the DVD (Main Menu, Extras).
- Diana's Quiz is online at www.friendsandheroes.tv/episode1quiz.html.