



## MONTHLY BIBLE STORY

Catching Fish

**MATTHEW 4:18; LUKE 5:1-7**

### BIBLE WORDS

"And the power of the Lord was with Jesus."

**LUKE 5:17, NIV**

### BOTTOM LINE

Jesus can do anything.

### BASIC TRUTH

Jesus wants to be my friend forever.

## STORY TIME

Gather children on a rug or in a specific area of the classroom to tell the story. Some children (especially the younger ones) may wander. That's okay. They're still listening and learning!

**WHAT YOU NEED:** Preschool Bible, and "Story Pictures" Activity Pages copied on cardstock

**LEADER:** "Hello, friends! I'm so glad to see you today. Come join me on the floor. Today's true story from the Bible (*hold up the Bible*) begins with Jesus. (*Hold up the picture of Jesus.*) Jesus was teaching by the water in front of a big crowd (*hold up the picture of Jesus teaching a crowd*) when more (*hold up the picture of more people*) and more people (*hold up the picture of even more people*) came to hear Him.

"Jesus saw some fishermen named Peter and Andrew on their boat, and Jesus asked to get in. (*Hold up the picture of Peter, Andrew, and Jesus in the boat.*) Jesus continued teaching the crowd from the boat, and when Jesus was done teaching, He looked at Peter and said: 'Let's go fishing!' Peter told Jesus that he and Andrew had been fishing all night long but didn't catch anything. (*Hold up the picture of Peter and Andrew in their boat with empty net.*) Jesus told Peter to throw his fishing net out into the water, and Jesus did something only He has the power to do. (*Hold up the picture of Peter, Andrew, and Jesus in the boat with net with a few fish.*) First there was a fish! And then there was another fish, and another, and another! Then, there were TONS and TONS of fish! (*Hold up the picture of Peter, Andrew, and Jesus in the boat with net FULL of fish.*) Wow! Jesus filled their net with so many fish that their net began to break! That's a lot of fish! **Jesus can do anything!"**



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**CRAFT TIME**

*Gather small groups of children around you at a table for toddler craft time. Depending on the size of your group, you may lead the craft two or three times. Not every child may want to participate in craft time. That’s okay. Feel free to send home the craft materials for them to complete with their mom or dad.*

**WHAT YOU NEED:** “Handprint Fish” Activity Page, light blue cardstock, washable ink pads, baby wipes, and a permanent marker

**WHAT YOU DO:**

**BEFORE THE ACTIVITY:** Copy “Handprint Fish” on light blue cardstock, one per child. Write each child’s name on their paper.

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** Help children cover their entire hand with ink and press in the center of their paper, positioning over the eyes and fins. Clean hands as needed.

**WHAT YOU SAY:**

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** “In our story, we learned that Jesus can do anything—like fill net with tons, and tons of fish! Let’s make a fish print with your hand! I’ll help you cover your whole hand with ink, then press it down on your paper. *(Help children press their hand on the ink pad, then on their paper.)* Great job! *(Clean hands.)* Look at the cute little handprint fish you made! Jesus filled Peter and Andrew’s net with fish because **Jesus can do anything!**”