

2

Bible Learning 10–15 minutes

Objective: That your students will learn how Jesus called four fishermen to follow Him.

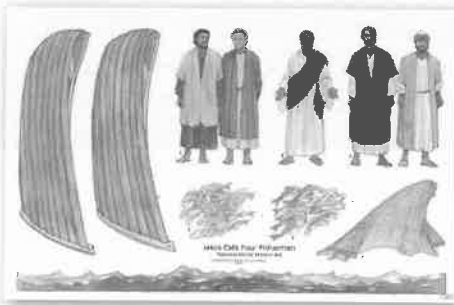
Before class, punch out the Bible figures from Teaching Aid 12. Attach self-adhesive hook dots, found in your Teaching Aids packet, to the back of the figures. Have your Bible open to Luke 5 as you tell the story.

BIBLE STORY

(Place water, Figure 1, at the bottom left of the board. At the right end of Figure 1, place a boat, Figure 2.

Put Peter and Andrew, Figure 3, as if standing in the boat.)

This is Peter and Andrew, fishermen in Bible times. They caught fish by throwing a large net into the water, then pulling up the net with fish trapped in the net.



"Jesus Calls Four Fishermen"
Teaching Aid 12

Peter and Andrew had just been fishing, but they didn't catch anything. They were on the shore cleaning and repairing their nets for the next day of fishing. While they were working, Jesus was nearby teaching a crowd of people. (Place Jesus, Figure 4, at the right of Peter's boat.) More people gathered around Jesus to hear Him teach. Soon there were so many people. Jesus asked Peter to take Him out a few feet from the shore in his boat so the people could hear Him better. (Place Jesus into Peter's boat, Figure 2.)

Jesus continued teaching the people from the boat. When He finished, Jesus told the crowd to go on their way. But Peter and Andrew stayed. Jesus said, "Peter, row out to the deep water and throw out your net to catch some fish."

Peter said, "We put our net out all last night but didn't catch anything. We're tired! (Pause.) But I will put out the net because You say so."

Peter and Andrew threw out the net. (Place net, Figure 5, over boat at one end.) **When they pulled it up, they were amazed to see so many fish in the net!** (Add fish, Figures 6 and 7, at each side of the net.)

The net was so full Peter and Andrew could not pull it into their boat. They had to call for help from their fishing friends, James and John.

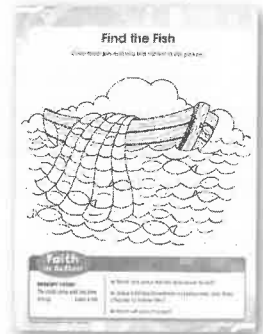
(Add second boat, Figure 8. Put James and John, Figure 9, in the boat.) **Together the four fishermen pulled at the heavy net until they pulled it up out of the water. There were so many fish that they filled both boats.** (Put one group of fish in each boat; remove net.) **The fishermen were surprised and delighted at how many fish they caught.**

Jesus said, "Follow Me and learn to fish for people." This was Jesus' way of saying He wanted the four men to become His disciples. Jesus wanted them to go wherever He went and learn from Him. He wanted them to follow Him so they would become more like Him. Then they could help other people know about God.

(Move the boats, fish, net, and characters to the right of the board.) **The four fishermen rowed their boats to the shore.** (Move Jesus and the fishermen out of the boats onto the shore.) **The four fishermen left the boats, nets, and fish to follow Jesus.**

BIBLE STORY REVIEW

- What did the fishermen do when Jesus told them to follow Him? (They left everything to follow Jesus.)
- What did Jesus mean by "Follow Me"? (Become His disciples, follow where He goes and learn from Him, become more like Jesus.)



Storytime, Lesson 8,
page 4

Pass out *Storytime* for Lesson 8. Have children complete the activity on page 4.

3 Bible Application 10 minutes

Objective: That your students will learn that they can follow Jesus.

MEMORY VERSE

Help students find the verse on page 4 of *Storytime*. Read it together with your students: **"The child grew and became strong" (Luke 2:40).**

We can follow Jesus and do what He wants us to do as we grow bigger, just like Jesus did. Listen for the Bible memory verse as we say our rhyme together.

A little each day

(Use thumb and first finger to show "little.")

The child Jesus grew,

(Hand on floor, then raise above head.)

And He became strong.

(Show muscles.)

So I'll do that too!

(Point to self.)

Jesus said, "Follow Me." This is what the four fishermen did. Today, we can follow Jesus by living the way He wants us to live.

Collect the *Storytime* papers and then put them away until the end of class.

HANDCRAFT

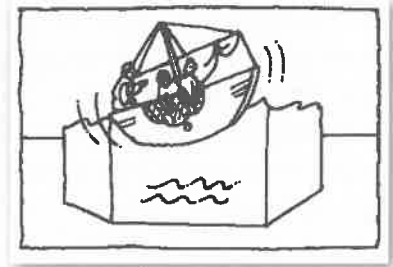
Remove Lesson 8 from each student's Make-It/Take-It. Let the children color the boat and water.

Help each child punch out the boat and the water base. Show how to position the boat on top of the water, matching the two Xs. Insert a paper fastener through both of the Xs on each child's project.

Optional: glue blue yarn or crumpled blue tissue paper to the waves.

The children will need to fold the water back on the broken lines so that the projects can stand up.

Then they can "rock" the boat back and forth on the waves. Children may use their projects to retell the Bible story. You may lead them with these questions.



Make-It/Take-It, Lesson 8

- **Why did Jesus get into Peter and Andrew's boat to teach?** (So the people could hear Jesus teach.)
- **What did Jesus help the fishermen find?** (Fish.)
- **Then what did Jesus want the fishermen to do?** (He wanted them to follow Him and teach other people about God.)
- **What did the four fishermen do?** (They left their fishing nets, boats, and fish to follow Jesus.)
- **How do you think we can follow Jesus?** (Let the children think and talk. They might suggest obeying, learning from the Bible, praying, telling others about Him, and so on.)

Jesus says, "Follow Me." You can follow Jesus.



4 Life Response 10 minutes

Objective: That your students will act out and plan ways they can follow Jesus.

Read aloud to your students "Follow-the-Leader" on pages 2 and 3 of *Storytime* for Lesson 8. Depending on your class, your students may want to read with you. They can read the words represented by the art spots on the rebus, or you may choose a first grader to read the story.

PRESENT-DAY STORY

At church during Sunday school, the children played follow-the-leader. One Sunday, Kira was the leader. Kira led the class to the story circle.

Another Sunday, Pastor Walker came to class. The teacher, Mrs. Williams, said, "Will you be our leader today?"

Pastor Walker said yes. He opened his Bible and sat down. The children sat down. They opened their Bibles. Pastor Walker prayed. The children prayed.

Mrs. Williams said, "You followed Pastor Walker. You learned from the Bible and you prayed. Jesus wants you to follow Him. He wants you to come to church. He wants you to read the Bible and pray and learn to obey Him. You follow Jesus by obeying Him."

Jesus is the best leader of all!

CLOSING ACTIVITIES

- In both of our stories today, we learned about the best leader of all. Who is He? (Jesus.)
- What does it mean to follow Jesus? (To obey Him; to do what He wants us to do.)

As we listen to Bible stories about Jesus and read the Bible, we can learn what He wants us to do. We will look at what the Bible says about

how we can follow Jesus.

In advance, print on slips of paper some Bible verses that tell things Jesus wants us to do. Put the folded slips in a basket and let each student pick one. Together the class can act out ways to do what each verse says.

The following verses from Exodus 20:8, 12; Matthew 22:37, 39; Matthew 28:19-20; and Luke 19:8 are reworded so that they are easier to understand.

Rest and worship God on His special day.

Treat your mother and father kindly.

Love God more than anyone else.

Love your neighbor as much as you love yourself.

Go into the world and teach others about Jesus.

Give to the poor.

These are some of the things we can do to follow Jesus. Let's think of other ways you can follow Jesus this week. Allow children to think about some things they can do. Challenge them in their thinking. You may begin the discussion with an example of what you will do.

Pray with your class. **Dear God, help us this week to follow Jesus, the best leader of all. Thank You for giving us the Bible that tells us how we can follow Jesus. Help us to follow Him. We love You. In Jesus' name. Amen.**

Let the children follow a leader to the storage area to gather their Make-It/Take-It projects and their *Storytime* papers for Lesson 8.

Say a personal goodbye to each student. **Have a happy day following Jesus. Remember that you can do what Jesus wants you to do at home today and all week long.**



Storytime, Lesson 8, pages 2-3



Storytime, Lesson 8, page 1

Storytime

Lesson 8

Jesus Calls Four Fishermen

Bible story based on Luke 5:1-11



1. Jesus wanted to teach people about God. He got into Peter's boat and asked him to row out a little way. Then everyone could see Jesus.



2. Later Jesus said to Peter, "Row out to deeper water. Let down your net." Peter didn't think he would catch any fish, but he obeyed Jesus.



3. Peter and his brother, Andrew, caught so many fish that they needed help. James and John helped them bring the fish into the boat.



4. Jesus told the fishermen, "Follow Me, and find people instead of fish." So Peter, Andrew, James, and John left everything to do what Jesus said.

Follow-the-Leader



church



Kira



Pastor Walker



Mrs. Williams






Bible





prayed



Jesus

At  during Sunday school the children played follow-the-leader. One Sunday  was the leader.  led the class to the story circle.

Another Sunday  came to class. The teacher, , said, "Will you be our leader today?"



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sat down. The children sat down.

They opened their  s.



The children



said, "You followed



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."



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Talk About It

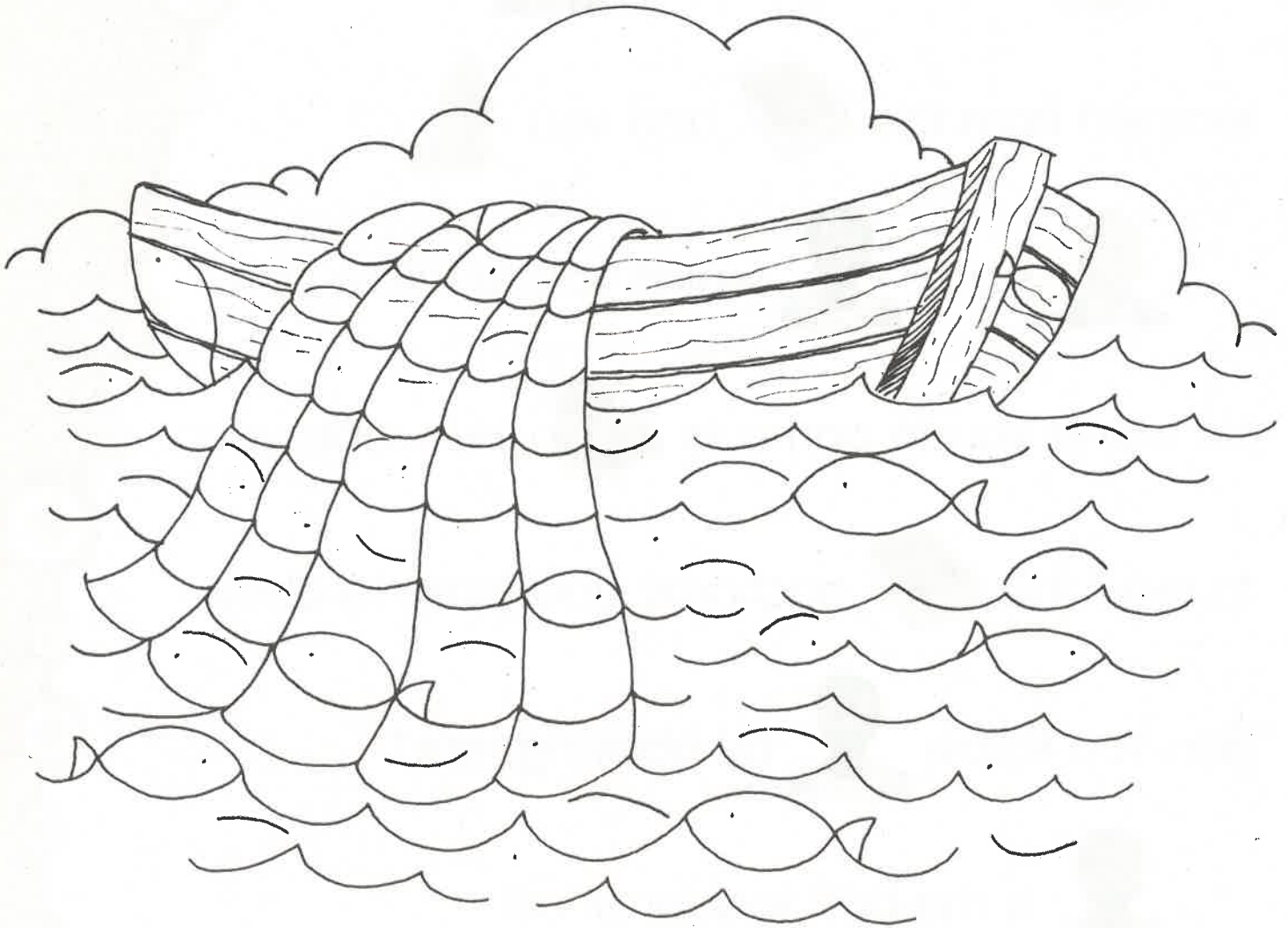
Bible Truth:

Jesus says, "Follow Me."

- The children in Mrs. Williams' Sunday school class love to play the game follow-the-leader. In the story, who did they play follow the leader with? How did they learn to follow Jesus? Just like the children in the story, you can follow Jesus, too. Let's think of two ways you can follow Jesus, the best leader of all, this week. Then plan to do it.

Find the Fish

Color each fish that you find hidden in this picture.



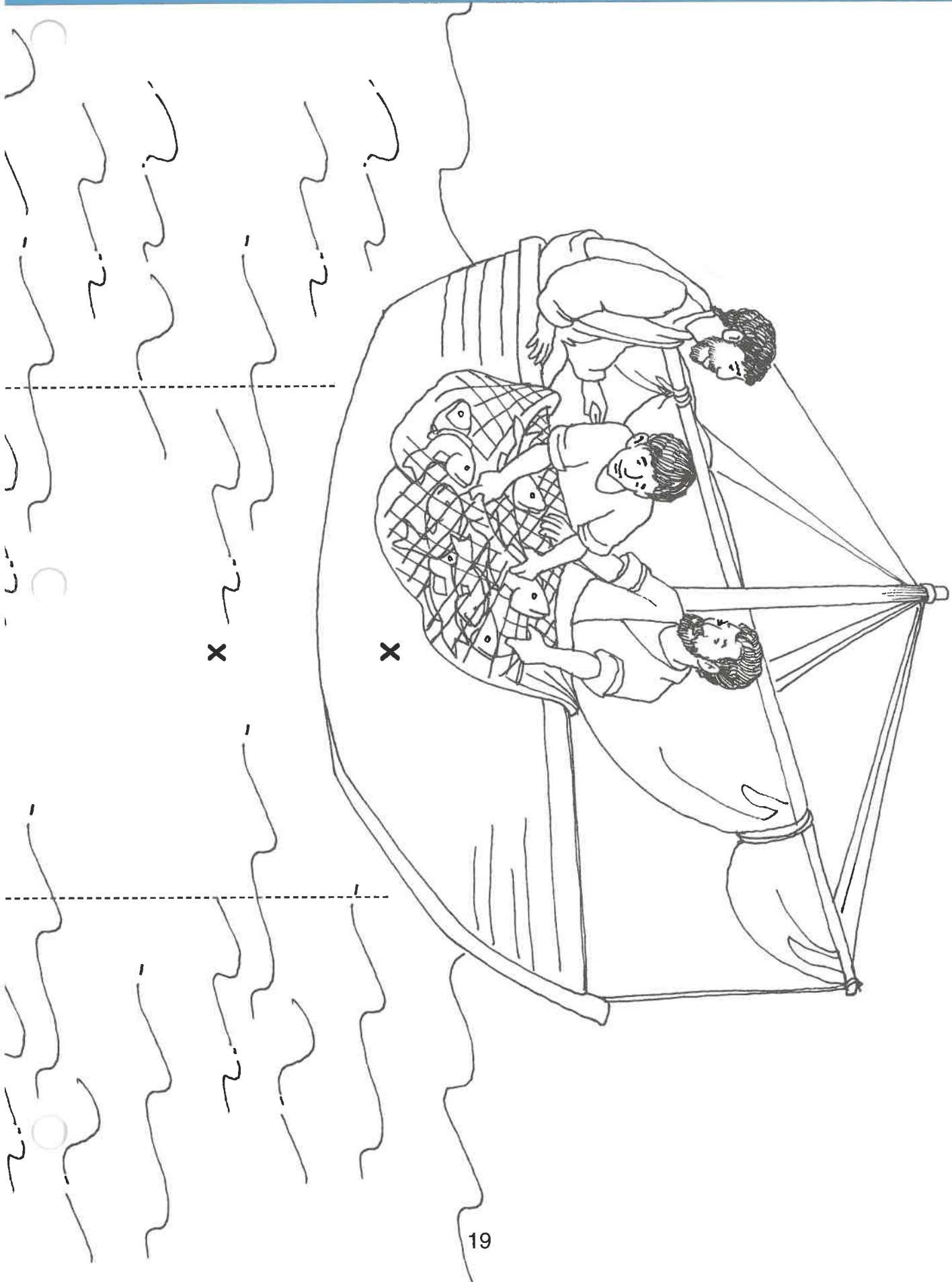
Faith in Action

MEMORY VERSE:

The child grew and
became strong.

Luke 2:40

- What did Jesus tell the fishermen to do?
- Jesus told the fishermen to follow Him. Did they choose to follow Him?
- Will you choose to follow Jesus?





FOR PARENTS

Today your child learned how Jesus called four fishermen to become His disciples (Luke 5:1-11). The class heard that obeying Jesus is an important part of growing up.

Your child will enjoy playing with this boat. You might also suggest that your child use a toy boat or two to act out the story in the bathtub or sink. Review the Bible verse once more: "The child grew and became strong" (Luke 2:40). As you review it, be sure your child understands that baby Jesus became an adult man. The remaining lessons this quarter will teach ways that we can be like Jesus.