



ST NINIAN'S UNITING CHURCH

FEBRUARY 9th 2025

'JESUS IS CALLING' BASED ON LUKE 5:1-11

Today's story is about going fishing. Last year when I went on holidays, we stayed with our family in the coastal town called Foster. We had a lovely time. Our youngest child brought his boat with him so he could take his children out fishing and put some crab pots in the water. They had a lovely time, but for me the thing is while I enjoy the peace and quiet fishing needs for the fish not to be scared, I don't like to actually catch a fish. Mainly because I don't like to put a worm on the hook, and I don't like to harm the fish when it bites on the worm on the hook. Some people like the experience of fishing whether they catch anything or not. But that's not for me.

On our holiday Hayden and his children would get up early to go fishing and I noticed that it wouldn't be too long before the children got a bit bored with it and would go off and do something else. Hayden, on the other hand, stayed there for ages and came back empty handed and the crab pots were also empty. No fish, no crabs!

This story reminds of the time when some fishermen also went out in a boat to fish and caught nothing – that is until Jesus came along.

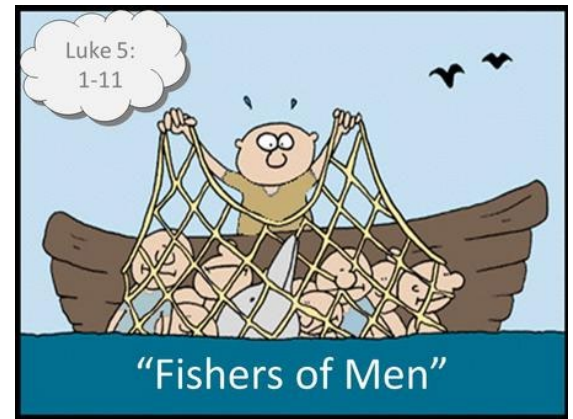
One day Jesus was standing by the sea of Galilee. A large crowd of people started to gather around him. He saw some fishermen nearby who were cleaning and mending their nets, so he climbed into one of their boats. He asked one of the men whose name was Peter, to put the boat out a little way from the shore. Jesus took a seat in the boat and began to teach the people.

When he had finished teaching, Jesus said to Peter, "Put the boat further out into the deep water and let your nets down to catch some fish." Peter said, "We've been fishing all night and haven't caught a thing, but if you say so, we will let down the nets one more time." An amazing thing happened! When they pulled the nets up, there were so many fish the nets began to break. As they pulled the fish into the boat, the boat began to sink, the number of fish they caught were so heavy. When Peter and his friends saw this, they were surprised and joyful even if they were a little frightened.

Jesus said to them, "Don't be afraid; from now on, you will fish for people."

The bible tells us that they pulled their boat up out of the water and started to follow Jesus. From that day on, Peter and his friends fished for people, and many got to know how much Jesus loved them and brought them into the Kingdom of God.

Jesus wants this for everyone – including you. What would make Jesus happy and joyful would be if you also fished for people. If we will be faithful in telling people about Jesus and his love, we can bring in the catch!



PRAYER:

Dear Jesus, help us to be good fishers for people – faithful to go, patiently waiting, and trusting you to bring in the catch.

Amen





Fishing for People

Jesus replied to Simon, "Don't be afraid! From now on you'll be fishing for people!" Luke 5:10b (NLT)

Each line of the puzzle has one word hidden in a list of random letters. The blank space is a missing letter that belongs to that word. Fill in the missing letter.



1.	W	O	C	B	M	A	A	F		A	I	D	X	Z	A	J	Y
2.	U	X	F	E	L	Z	S	S		O	R	E	Y	L	X	N	D
3.	X	P	S	Y	L	W	S	E		U	Y	N	P	H	B	N	I
4.	H	I	T	Z	I	P	G	O		O	A	T	M	P	T	T	N
5.	D	O	N	J	F	S	X	N		T	S	U	D	N	H	B	C
6.	H	K	D	F	I	S	H	E		M	E	N	O	J	Q	X	K
7.	T	C	X	K	P	E	O	P		E	S	V	L	E	Z	D	O
8.	C	Y	D	G	A	L	I	L		E	K	Q	Z	B	Y	L	E

shore
sea

Galilee
boat

nets
fishermen

afraid
people

Fishing for People

Jesus replied to Simon, "Don't be afraid! From now on you'll be fishing for people!" Luke 5:10b (NLT)

Choose the word that best matches the definition.



- ___ 1. The Son of God
A. Jesus B. boat C. net D. fish
- ___ 2. The land along the edge of an ocean, sea, lake, or river
A. sea B. fish C. Jesus D. shore
- ___ 3. An openwork fabric of cords used to catch fish
A. net B. shore C. Jesus D. boat
- ___ 4. A small vehicle for traveling on water
A. sink B. Jesus C. follow D. boat
- ___ 5. An animal which lives in water and is covered with scales
A. fish B. sea C. sink D. boat
- ___ 6. A large area of salty water, smaller than an ocean
A. net B. Jesus C. sea D. shore
- ___ 7. To go down below the surface of the water
A. follow B. sink C. Jesus D. sea
- ___ 8. To get behind someone and go where they go
A. boat B. net C. follow D. fish

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HT-fry-aRos>

