

“Fishers of Men”

by
Tracy Wells

What In this dramatization of Jesus’s calling of the disciples, Jesus encounters Simon Peter and his brother Andrew in their fishing boat, struggling to bring in a decent catch. But as Jesus fills their nets with fish, he also fills their hearts with a new purpose...to be fishers of men.

Themes: Disciples, Simon Peter, Andrew, Calling, Fish

Who Peter
Andrew
Jesus

When Biblical times

Costumes and Props Both actors wear biblical attire.
Cut out of boat big enough that disciples can stand in or behind
Net
Fish- can also be cutouts from cardboard or foam board

Why Luke 5:1-11

How This skit can be performed for audiences of all ages to highlight a sermon or Sunday School message. Congregations or assembled kids can be encouraged to put themselves into the story by being the assembled crowd along the banks of the Lake of Gennesaret, eager to hear Jesus speak.

Time Approximately 4 minutes

Peter and Andrew are standing next to the boat, which is center stage. They are folding up a net.

Peter: *(annoyed)* Well, that was a waste of time.

Andrew: It was just a bad night.

Peter: A bad night? *(incredulously)* A bad couple of nights is more like it! We haven't caught anything in three days.

Andrew: Tides have been low. There's nothing we can do except wait it out.

Peter: *(scoffs)* Tell that to the tax collectors. Do you think they'll be fine waiting until the tides start running again?

Andrew: Good point.

Jesus enters, perhaps talking with assembled crowd.

Andrew: *(seeing Jesus, excitedly points)* Hey, there he is!

Peter: *(without looking up)* There *who* is?

Andrew: Jesus...that amazing man that's been teaching in town and here, along the lakeshore.

Peter: The prophet?

Andrew: He's not a prophet. He's... *(thinks, but is unable to verbalize)* well, I don't know what he is, but the way he talks about God...the things he can do... *(shakes his head)* If Jesus is a prophet, then he's unlike any that have ever walked this earth. *(looks around, then leans in)* Some people are even saying he's the Messiah.

Peter: The Messiah? Like in the prophecies?

Andrew: Yes! They say he can drive out evil spirits and heal the sick. *(realizing)* Say, didn't he heal your mother-in-law a few nights ago?

Peter: *(uncomfortable with this line of thinking)* I guess so. I don't know. Maybe. *(shakes his head)* All I know is, she's feeling a lot better now.

Andrew: I'm telling you...Jesus is the real thing.

Peter: Yeah, well, if he's the real thing *(holds up the net)* then can he do something about our catch? The tax collectors aren't going to pay themselves.

Jesus starts to cross to Simon Peter and Andrew.

Andrew: *(chuckles)* I don't think it works like that. *(sees Jesus approaching; excitedly)* Here he comes now!

Jesus: Blessings, good men.

Andrew: And to you as well. *(looks down, respectfully)*

Jesus: My name is Jesus.

Andrew: *(chuckles, nervously)* Trust me, we know who you are. *(holds out his hand)* I'm Andrew.

Jesus: *(takes Andrew's hand and pats it)* Hello, Andrew.

Andrew: And this guy— *(nudges or kicks Simon Peter)*

Peter: Ow! *(rubs his arm or leg)*

Andrew: *(continues)* —is my brother, Simon.

Peter: *(sheepishly, holds his hand up in a half-hearted wave)* Hello.

Jesus: Good to see you, Simon.

Andrew: What brings you down to Lake Gennesaret this morning, Jesus?

Jesus: I was hoping I could board your boat.

Peter: *(shocked)* Our boat? Why? We were just bringing her in for the day.

Andrew: Don't question him, Simon! Just make room! *(socks Simon on the arm)*

Peter: *(rubs his arm)* Ow! Fine! *(holds out his hand, indicating Jesus can board)* Permission to board.

Jesus: Thank you.

Jesus, Andrew and Simon Peter all board boat.

Peter: Alright. Now what?

Jesus: I want you to cast your nets.

Peter: Cast our nets? *(incredulously)*

Jesus: Yes.

Peter: But we were out all night in these waters and caught nothing!

Andrew: *(annoyed)* Simon!

Peter: *(sighs)* Alright, if you say so. *(opens up the net)* Come on, Andrew. Let's lower the nets.

Andrew and Peter ready the net(s) and lower them behind the boat, out of sight of the audience. Perhaps there is a splashing noise. **Andrew and Peter** look over the side of the boat.

Andrew: *(excitedly)* Wait! Do you feel that?

Peter: *(shocked)* But...that can't be!

Andrew: The fish...they're coming right to the net!

Peter: *(struggling with the net)* I don't think the net can hold much more!

Andrew: It's starting to tear!

Jesus: Then pull it in.

Andrew and Simon Peter struggle with the now full net. They get it into the boat. Perhaps **Andrew** holds up a fish.

Andrew: Do you see this, Simon Peter? He's done it! Jesus has performed a miracle! We've never caught so many fish!

Jesus stands. **Simon Peter** falls to his knees.

Peter: *(looking up at Jesus)* Go away from me, Lord, for I am a sinful man!

Jesus: *(puts his hand on Simon Peter's head or shoulder)* Do not be afraid; from now on you will be fishers of men.

Peter: Fishers of men?

Jesus: Yes...of all people.

Andrew: *(holds up net)* What do we do with these?

Jesus: You have no use for nets where we're going. *(steps out of the boat and holds out his hand to Peter)* Now, come with me. Let us begin our journey together.

Andrew drops the net. **Simon Peter** takes **Jesus's** hand and steps out of the boat, followed by **Andrew**. They follow **Jesus** offstage as lights fade to black.

End of scene.