

SOAP – Let's Dive In!

THE BIG CATCH: Read Matthew 4:18-22

DEEP DIVE: (Read to the students these 3 points and discuss.)

Jesus Calls Everyone!

Simon Peter, Andrew, James and John were just regular people, yet Jesus chose them to be His disciples. He called them by name – and He knows your name too. No matter who we are, Jesus invites us to follow Him.

God's Love is Wide!

The ocean is full of all kinds of fish – big, small, colorful, and all different shapes. The world is full of all different kinds of people who are all unique in their own special say. God's love is wide enough to reach every person in the whole world.

We Can Be Fishers of People TOO!

Jesus calls us to share His love with others. Just like a fishermen bring in fish, we bring people to Jesus by showing love and kindness. We are to show His love to everyone no matter their color or size.

Observation Questions (A lot of these answers will vary)

- 1. Who do you think would make a good disciple? EVERYONE
- 2. Describe a disciple in your own words. Follower/Helper
- 3. Why does it make a difference that God knows you personally?
- 4. How would people know that you are a disciple? (Actions/words)
- 5. How do you think that the disciples made more disciples? (They encouraged all people to know the love of Christ by telling everyone what they knew about Jesus.)
- 6. Do you think it will be hard to tell others about Jesus. Why or why not?
- 7. What excuses do we make to not obey Jesus in this way?

- 8. Think of some things that can help you when and if a problem arises when you are telling someone about Jesus.
- 9. Who does God want you to show His love to today?

PRAYER:

Dear Jesus, thank you for calling us to follow you. Your love reaches everyone! Help us to share your love with others no matter what their color or status is. Amen

MAKING WAVES:

Snack: Goldfish

SPINNING FISH PRAYERS: (strip of paper per student)

Students will get a strip of paper in which they will need to make slits in the top and bottom. Fit the slits together to make a fish shape. Have kids hold the fish high in the air and let it go. As it gains momentum you should see it starts to spin! Pray for someone as it is heading to the ground.

Game #1: Catch & Release (bucket of fish, nets, and fly swatters)

One student stands by the bucket full of fish. They will try to throw/release the fish to another player who attempts to catch using only their net. The "catch" is that another student, with a fly swatter, will try to stop the student who is catching the fish in their net by hitting the fish with the fly swatter. Play is over when all the fish have been thrown. Game is over when all have had a turn throwing the fish. This game can be played with two teams playing against each other. The team that catches the most fish advances.

Game #2: "Follow Me" Hide & Seek (Jesus figurine)

Students will take turns hiding Jesus around the room.

Game #3: Disciple Challenge (Fish flashcards)

The objective of this game is to get all the letters in the word DISCIPLE first. Leader keeps track of letters for teams. Split the students into teams. Students will pick a card and complete the challenge. A student from team A will pick a card and must answer and/or do the challenge on the card to win a letter (ex. D). Teams take turns until all players have a chance to pick a card and do a challenge.