



The Catch of Fish

Jesus had many friends who were fishermen – Simon, Andrew, James and John. He did wonderful things for them.



One day He was standing on the shore and watching them clean their nets. After a while, Jesus got into one of the boats that belonged to Simon and asked him to push it a little off the shore. He sat down in the boat and began teaching the crowd that had gathered.

Having finished teaching, Jesus told Simon, and his fishing partners, to take the boat further in deep waters and let down their nets for a catch. Simon wasn't sure, for he and his partners had worked hard all night and caught nothing. But he agreed to let down the nets as his Master wished.



Painting: *The Miraculous Draught of Fishes* by Peter Paul Rubens 1610.

Quote: *"It was a miraculous catch, a sign of the power of Jesus' word: when we put ourselves generously at His service, He does great things in us. He acts so with each one of us: He asks us to receive Him in the boat of our life, to go out with Him, to sail through a new sea, which reveals itself full of surprises."*: Pope Francis.

Know Now: Sea of Galilee is variously called Lake of Gennesaret, Lake Tiberias and Lake Kinneret.

To everybody's surprise, the nets were soon filled with such a large number of fish that they were about to break. Simon and his partners hurried to call for another boat. Both the boats were laden with so much fish that they could barely keep them afloat.



Seeing such a huge catch, Simon fell on his knees before Jesus and said, "Go away from me, Lord. I am a sinful man!" His partners were amazed too at how Jesus had worked the wonder for them. They watched as Jesus lifted Simon and said, "Don't be afraid, from now you will be catching men." Yes, the same Simon later came to be known as Peter.

When he finished speaking, he said to Simon, "Push the boat out further to the deep water, and you and your partners let down your nets for a catch."

Luke 5: 4-7



Loving God, just as Jesus enabled Simon Peter to be a fisher of men, guide and help us to spread Your message of love. In Jesus' name we ask. Amen.

Have you seen fishermen go to sea? Wake up early morning one day and ask your dad to take you to a place where fishermen come back with their catch. When you watch it, remember this lesson.





Count the fish in each shoal, and draw the fishing line to catch maximum fish. Take the fishing line to the shoal you think is the best.

