

FISHERS OF MEN

Based on Luke 5:1-11
by Helen Kitchell Evans



CAST OF CHARACTERS

Simon
Pete

Jacob
Narrator

Narrator: As Jesus was walking by the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and Andrew casting a net into the sea. These men made their living by fishing. A little farther down along the lake Jesus saw James and John, the sons of Zebedee. These brothers were mending their nets.

As usual there were people following Jesus. Among those that day were two children named Pete and Jacob. As the scene opens, these friends are talking.

Pete: Why do crowds follow Jesus everywhere he goes?

Jacob: I suppose because they are curious, like us, to see Jesus.

Pete: Look over there right now. Jesus is getting into Simon's boat. Listen, what's he saying?
(Pause.)

Jacob: He told Simon to move the boat out a little farther from shore.

Pete: I wonder what for.



- Jacob: Look! He's standing up in the boat. Jesus is going to speak to the crowd from the boat.
- Narrator: The people sat quietly and listened to Jesus. When he had finished, he told Simon to move his boat out farther into the sea and then let down his nets.
- Simon: *(Coming onstage.)* Master, we have fished all night and have caught nothing. What's the use? *(Pause)* Oh, well, what do we have to lose? *(Turns and goes offstage.)*
- Narrator: The net filled with so many fish that it broke under the load. *(Simon comes onstage and calls.)*
- Simon: James, John, come help us load all this fish. We're going to sink under the heavy load. *(Stays onstage.)*
- Narrator: James and John helped Simon and Andrew, then Simon fell on his knees at the feet of Jesus.
- Simon: *(Falling on his knees and looking up.)* Leave me, Jesus, I am a sinful man. You were the one who placed all those fish in the sea, then guided us to them.
- Narrator: Then Jesus reached out his hand and said. "Fear not, you shall catch men instead of fish. You will help me tell the story of my Father in Heaven." *(Simon slowly rises, then turns and walks as though following Jesus across stage and off.)*
- Jacob: Isn't that something? Those men just left their nets and followed Jesus.
- Pete: I wonder how they will make a living?
- Jacob: If Jesus could place all those fish in the sea in one spot for them to catch, He will provide for them.
- Pete: I guess you are right. We must have faith in what Jesus says. Not only us, but all the people who will live on this earth.
- Jacob: Do you think Jesus will live forever on this earth?
- Pete: Who knows? We may see many things happen in our lifetime. We'd better go back home.
- Jacob: You're right. Let's go. *(They leave.)*

(This playlet could have scenes showing all four of the fishermen in pantomime, but the theme may be successfully developed without using any of the characters spoken of by the narrator, except Simon. All that is happening is seen through the conversation of the two young boys, Pete and Jacob.)