

## Matthew 4:18-22

### Jesus' Fishermen

*Immediately ...*

#### I. Fishermen

- A. Four Men for Jesus
- B. Called
- C. Compliant

#### II. Men-Fishers

- A. Jesus For Man
- B. In Training
- C. Sent

#### III. Faithful Followers

- A. Jesus' People
- B. Equipped
- C. Effective

*... they followed.*

Children, listen ...

1. Jesus calls four men to follow Him. What were the men doing?
2. What are the men's names?
3. How long do they think things over before they follow Jesus?
4. What does Jesus say He will make them into? What does that mean?
5. Jesus calls people to believe in Him and live for Him. Have you heard and obeyed the call to follow Jesus?

## The Gospel Net

Jesus calls four fishermen to be his disciples and promises to make them fishers of men. Using a twist on their occupation, the Lord explains that their new calling will involve drawing men into the Kingdom. Their task will be to cast the Gospel "net" into the sea of the world as a means of gathering in God's people. They are not to use a "hook, line and sinker" method – no shiny lures that spin the truth in order to dazzle some sucker to take the hook. This is the Gospel plain and true. It is a message of salvation for sinners, and it is to be cast as far and wide into the world as possible, indiscriminately like fishing with a dragnet. The apostle's commission and every disciple's calling involves soul fishing to some degree. It was not up to them and it is not up to us to try to determine who will and will not believe and receive the Gospel, that is God's work. Rather, our task, along with these two sets of brothers, is to be witnesses to the Gospel of Jesus Christ. We are not all called to leave our boats to become evangelists, but if we are followers of Christ, we are called to broadcast the Word of truth to a needy world. May God grant us the grace and boldness to be faithful fishers of men.