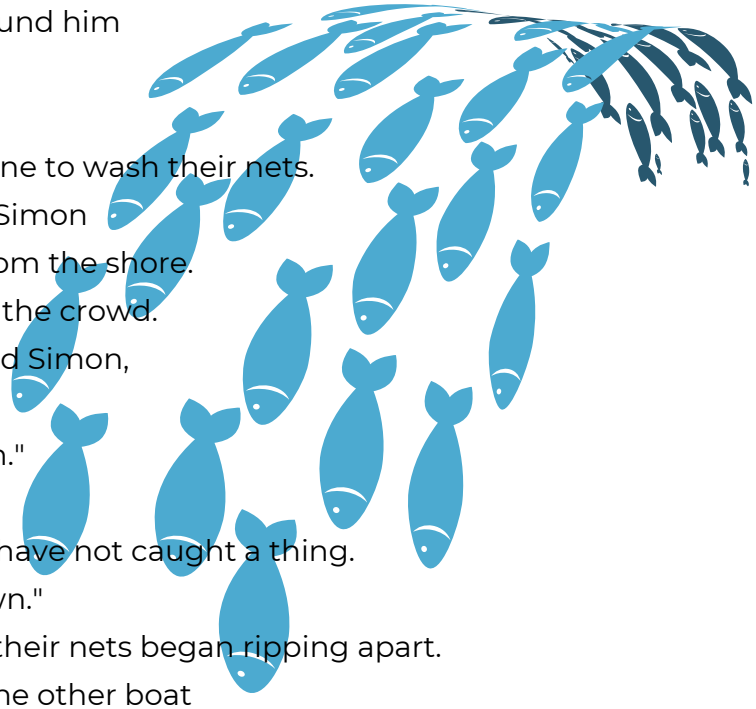
Year C - 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Luke 5:1-11

They left everything and followed Jesus.



Jesus was standing on the shore of Lake Gennesaret,
teaching the people as they crowded around him
to hear God's message.
Near the shore he saw two boats
left there by some fishermen who had gone to wash their nets.
Jesus got into the boat that belonged to Simon
and asked him to row it out a little way from the shore.
Then Jesus sat down in the boat to teach the crowd.
When Jesus had finished speaking, he told Simon,
"Row the boat out into the deep water
and let your nets down to catch some fish."
"Master," Simon answered,
"we have worked hard all night long and have not caught a thing.
But if you tell me to, I will let the nets down."
They did it and caught so many fish that their nets began ripping apart.
Then they signalled for their partners in the other boat
to come and help them.
The men came,
and together they filled the two boats so full
that they both began to sink.
When Simon Peter saw this happen,
he kneeled down in front of Jesus and said,
"Lord, don't come near me!
I am a sinner."
Peter and everyone with him
were completely surprised at all the fish they had caught.
His partners James and John, the sons of Zebedee, were surprised too.
Jesus told Simon, "Don't be afraid!
From now on you will bring in people instead of fish."
The men pulled their boats up on the shore.
Then they left everything and went with Jesus.

Year C - 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Luke 5:1-11

Will you follow me?

Introduction

- Today's gospel is the story of the calling of the disciples. The people who would become His closest friends and take his message of love across the world.
- He chose each of them and invited them into a relationship that would change their lives and change the world.

Message

- Jesus is inviting us into that relationship today, He wants to be our very closest friend.
- To follow Jesus, the disciples had to leave things behind. Leave their homes and families so they could travel around Israel with Jesus.
- We don't need to leave our homes and families to follow Jesus today, but there are some things we do need to leave behind so we can draw closer to God. Leave behind, selfishness, jealousy and unkindness.
- *Share a personal story from your life of an example of things you had to leave behind to follow Jesus, but what you have gained as a result of following Jesus.*
- What are the things that you might need to leave behind so you can follow Jesus?

Discussion

- Concepts of jealousy or selfishness may seem abstract to children, so try to discuss practicals with them, that's why it's helpful to share your own personal story.
- Share some examples with the children to help them think of ideas from their own life. E.g. Excluding people from games, speaking disrespectfully to others, spending too much time on video games/ipads ...

