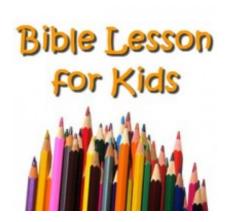
# **Lesson: The Rewards of Obedience**

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Sometimes obedience can be a difficult choice. This lesson helps children understand that they can trust the Lord no matter what He asks for them to do. It draws this lesson from the section in Luke 5 where Jesus calls his first disciples. This was first written for children's church, but it could be modified for a kids Sunday School lesson about obeying God.

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Bible Story: Jesus' Calls the First Disciples

Scripture: Luke 5:1-11

**Target Age Group:** Age 7 – 12 (U.S. 1st – 6th Grade)

Time: 30 Minutes

Learning Context: Children's Church

Printer Friendly Bible Lesson: PRINT this lesson plan

**You Can Help**: Please leave your feedback and suggestions for this lesson plan. Others will benefit from your ideas. Click here to respond

### Learning Objectives: After this lesson...

- Children will recall the key people and events in this passage by retelling the story.
- Children demonstrate an understanding of Jesus' power and how they need to respond to Him.

#### Materials Needed:

- Bible: Luke 5:1-11. Prior to the class outline the important points to ensure specific explanations of them.
- Visual Aids: Pictures of Jesus in boat with crowds on shore; picture of Simon (Peter) pulling out full nets of fish. Try searching those phrases on Google Images.
- A mouse trap that's been prepared beforehand to lock open and a dollar bill.

## Teaching Plan "Rewards of Obedience"

Establish the lesson by briefly describing the key people in passage by showing pictures of Jesus speaking to the crowds from the boat and Peter pulling full nets of fish from the water.

**Active Listening**: Prior to reading the story, divide the children into two groups and ask one half to listen for the way that Jesus showed His power. Ask the other half of the children to identify the responses of Peter to Jesus in the different incidents.

Read (and Recap) Luke 5:1-11. Read the passage using different voice inflections for Jesus and Peter. Reinforce the lesson by asking questions. What was the reason Jesus decided to get into a boat? He wanted to be able to talk easier to the large crowd. Whose boat did Jesus use? He took Peter's. What did Jesus ask Peter to do? He asked him to get into the boat with Him and then to put his nets into the water. How did Peter respond to Jesus' request? He put the nets into the water even though he believed it was a waste of time and effort. Say to the children, "If we're honest, it's hard to do what the Lord wants us to do sometimes, isn't it?"

Review: When you're finished reading the story, use the pictures to review the important people and events of his

passage. Ask the children to give a response to their listening assignment. How did Jesus show His power? How did Peter respond to Jesus' requests? Emphasize the rewards that Peter received by obeying Jesus.

Present the mouse trap and ask for a volunteer willing to trust the fact that you would never ask them to do anything that would bring them harm. Show the way a mouse trap works by setting it and putting a pencil inside of it to set it off. Put the dollar where the cheese is placed and reset the trap, locking it, without the children seeing it. Handle the trap carefully to help the child believe that it is set and could snap like it did with the pencil.

Say to your volunteer, "I want you to trust me that you can remove this dollar from the trap without feeling any pain." If the child seems hesitant, continue to encourage them that you'd never ask them to do anything that would hurt them. Once the child safely removes the dollar, use the illustration to help the children understand they can always trust to Lord.

#### **Lesson Evaluation**

- Ask a volunteer to retell the story. Remember to prompt him/her by asking, "What happened next?"
- Ask for two volunteers to explain how Jesus showed His power and how Peter responded to Jesus' requests.

Give a list of possible requests from the Lord and ask several children to respond with whether it would be easy or hard to obey. (Expect different responses.)

- 1. Share your favorite toy with your best friend.
- 2. Say something nice to someone who has been mean to you.
- 3. Invite someone to your party who didn't invite you to theirs.
- 4. Make a card for your sister or brother saying what you like about them.
- 5. Share a piece of candy someone gave you with someone else.
- 6. Give a bigger piece of dessert to your brother or sister.

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