

WEEK ONE – MARCH 2025 – TODDLERS

Bible Story: Catching Fish | Matthew 4:18; Luke 5:1-7 **Bottom Line:** Jesus can do anything **Memory Verse:** "And the power of the Lord was with Jesus." – Luke 5:17 **Basic Truth:** Jesus wants to be my friend forever

Series Overview: One common phrase we hear children repeat is, "Watch this!" They want us to watch their spins and cartwheels, their dance routines, and what their toys can do. It's fun to pretend to be amazed and say, "Wow," no matter what it is. This month, we are teaching our preschoolers to watch the One who can do anything. The One who has shown that the power of the Lord is with Him. Who is this One? Jesus, of course! Yes, this month is all about Jesus and how Jesus can do anything!

LARGE GROUP

Story Time

Gather children at the tables to tell the story. Some children (especially the younger ones) may wander. That's okay. They're still listening and learning!

What You Need: Preschool Bible

What You Say:

"Hello, friends! I'm so glad to see you today. Come join me on the floor. Today's true story from the Bible *(hold up the Bible)* begins with Jesus. Jesus was teaching by the water in front of a big crowd when more and more people came to hear Him. Jesus saw some fishermen named Peter and Andrew. They were on their boat, and Jesus asked to get in it.

"Jesus sat down and continued teaching the crowd from the boat. And when Jesus was done teaching, He looked at Peter and said: 'Let's go fishing!' Peter told Jesus that he and Andrew had been fishing all night long, but didn't catch anything. Jesus told Peter to let down his fishing net into the water. Then, Jesus did something only He has the power to do! First, there was a fish! And there was another fish, and another, and another! Then, there were TONS and TONS of fish! Wow! Jesus filled their net with fish because *[Bottom Line]* Jesus can do anything!"

SMALL GROUP

Craft Time

Gather small groups of children around you at a table for toddler craft time. Depending on the size of your group, you may lead the craft two or three times. Not every child may want to participate in craft time. That's okay. Feel free to send home the craft materials for them to complete with their mom or dad.

What You Need: "Full of Fish" and "Full of Fish Net" Activity Pages, cardstock, dot markers, glue sticks, scissors, baby wipes, and a permanent marker

What You Do:

- Encourage children to color the fish in the net on their paper with the dot marker.
- Help children rub glue on the back top of the cutout of the net, and glue it to the boat.
 - \circ Clean hands as needed.

What You Say:

"Look! There's a net full of fish! Press the marker down on each fish. (Pause.) Wow! Look at all the fish in the net! Jesus did something only He could do and filled Peter and Andrew's nets with fish! Let's rub some glue on the back of your net and glue it to the picture of Jesus in the boat with Peter and Andrew. (Pause.) Fantastic! When Peter and Andrew couldn't catch any fish, Jesus filled their net with fish! They were AMAZED because they didn't think they would catch any fish, but Jesus did what only He can do by filling their nets with fish because **[Bottom Line] Jesus can do anything!"**