



LIFEgroups

Open

Go around and let everyone answer...

How many times have you gone fishing? What is the biggest fish you ever caught? How big was the one that got away?

Digging In

Read: Luke 5:1-11 "One day as Jesus was preaching on the shore of the Sea of Galilee, great crowds pressed in on him to listen to the word of God. He noticed two empty boats at the water's edge, for the fishermen had left them and were washing their nets..."

Jesus has borrowed Peter's boat so he can use it a platform from which to teach the people. What does he say to Peter when he finishes teaching?

What sort of attitude do you think Peter had when he replied to Jesus' request? Why do you think he agreed to do it?

Peter had already loaned Jesus his boat. What blessings came from Peter's willingness to go a step further in doing what Jesus wanted? (and not just a boat load of fish!)

What do you think Peter and his partners saw in Jesus that led them to make such a life-changing decision?

Why would Jesus call these men away from everything they knew and owned?

Closing Out

On an index card, write the names of three people you want to accept Jesus' call this year.

Write how often you will pray for them and for your interaction with them.

Write some ideas about how you might reach out to them.

*Note to Leader: Give participants about 3 minutes. Encourage them to share what they wrote, but assure them it is fine to keep their list private. Then lead the group in prayer, asking God to give each member a heart for people who do not know Jesus and opportunities to encounter those people.

Leader

The Main Idea

Today's meeting focuses on acceptance of different people.

Preparation

*Note to leader: have index cards or other paper and pens ready to give to each group member.

Prayer

Allow group members to share how God is currently at work in their lives and special concerns. Include a prayer for these needs as well as a prayer for people who do not know Jesus.