

A GREAT CATCH

Luke 4:42-5:11;

The morning after Jesus had healed all those people at Simon Peter's house, he got up very early, before it was even day. Jesus went to a desert place to be alone and pray.

Simon and those that were with him, followed Jesus. They said, "Everyone is looking for you."

The people wanted Jesus to stay with them, but he told them, "I must preach the kingdom of God to other cities also. For that is why I was sent."

As the people continued to press upon him to hear the word of God, he stood by the lake of Gennesaret. There were two ships standing by the lake, but the fishermen had left them, and were washing their nets.

Jesus got into the boat that belonged to Simon Peter, and asked him if he would push out a little way into the lake, away from the land. Then Jesus sat down in the boat and taught the people.

After Jesus finished speaking to the people, he turned to Simon and said, "Launch your boat out into the deep water, and let down your nets for a catch."

Simon answered the Lord, "Master, we have worked all night, and have caught nothing. But because you ask, I will let down the net."

So Simon and Andrew let the net down into the water and immediately it was filled with a great amount of fish, so many fish that the net began to break.

Simon and Andrew, made motions and called to their partners, James and John which were in the other boat, so that they would come and help them.

James and John quickly came and began to gather the fish into their boat also. There were so many fish that both of the boats began to sink with the weight of them.

When Simon Peter saw all this, he fell at down and Jesus' knees, saying, "Go away from me, for I am a sinful man, O Lord."

Peter was astonished, along with his partners, James and John, at the great draught of fish that were caught.

Jesus answered Peter, "Do not be afraid; for from now on, you will catch men."

When they got the ships to land, these men who had been fishing with Jesus, left everything, and followed him.

In doing the miracle of the great catch of fish, Jesus showed Peter, and his partners, that he has power over every creature in the sea. All the animals, insects, and creatures of the sea and sky, belong to Jesus and they do exactly as he bids them.

PRINCIPLE: Jesus owns every creature and they obey him.

LEARN: For every beast of the forest is mine, and the cattle upon a thousand hills.

I know all the fowls of the mountains: and the wild beasts of the field are mine.

Psalm 50:10,11