



UNIT 21 | SESSION 3

PETER WORSHIPED JESUS

LUKE 5

KEY PASSAGE:

Hebrews 11:6

BIG PICTURE QUESTION:

How can we be saved? We are only saved through faith in Jesus.

CHRIST CONNECTION:

Peter understood that he was a sinner and recognized that Jesus is God. He responded to Jesus' grace and kindness by following Him. When we understand that Jesus is God and that we are sinners, we can turn to Him for forgiveness and follow Him by faith.



PRIOR TO TEACHING THE SESSION



LEADER Bible Study

The Gospels record dozens of descriptions of the works that Jesus did. We learn about how He served, saved, and showed His power in miraculous ways for the sake of revealing His divine authority to His disciples and others.

Yet even with all the astounding works of Jesus that are described through Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John, the Gospels still don't contain the whole of all that Jesus did. In fact, John concludes his Gospel by declaring, "And there are also many other things that Jesus did, which, if every one of them were written down, I suppose not even the world itself could contain the books that would be written" (John 21:25).

However, in several moments throughout the Gospels, we find Jesus' works stacked on top of one another in such a way that we can see the magnitude of His miraculous works and powerful teachings. One of those chapters is Luke 5. In just 39 verses, we see how Jesus provided, healed, forgave, called, and taught. This account ought to stir our hearts toward a deeper love and worship of Jesus.

When reading a chapter like Luke 5, two types of questions may come to mind. First, when you think about Jesus, what do you believe about what He has done and how He

continues to work? Do you find yourself only convinced of what you have experienced Him doing in your own life? Do you limit yourself to believing only what you can imagine is possible? Or do you trust with confidence all that the Bible describes of Jesus' works?

Second, does reading about these works of Jesus cause your heart to swell with worship? Do you respond to reading these accounts or seeing Jesus' work with mild acknowledgment or with grand astonishment that leads your heart to love and worship Jesus more?

What is it that causes your heart to be drawn to God? What is it that causes you to worship? The discovery of the amazing works of Jesus ought to lead us to the answers for these questions. And if it does not, spend time praying and asking God to change your perspective, soften your heart, and draw you to Himself.

PEOPLE TO KNOW

Peter: personal name meaning "rock." Jesus called Simon, a fisherman, to be His disciple and gave him the name Peter.



WELCOME Kids

Greet each kid as he or she arrives. Use this time to collect the offering, fill out attendance sheets, build relationships, and help new kids connect to your group.

SAY “Are there any people you look up to and want to be like? Who? Why do you look up to them?”

1 ACTIVITY PAGE (5 minutes)

Invite kids to complete “Who Is Jesus?” on the activity page.

SAY “Not everyone believed that Jesus is God. Even when they saw the miracles He performed, some rejected Him. In today’s story, we will learn that Peter recognized who Jesus is.”

2 SESSION STARTER (10 minutes)

OPTION 1: RESPONSES TO GOD



Form kids into four groups and provide each group with a Bible. Assign one of the following Bible verses to each group: Genesis 3:10; Exodus 20:18-21; Isaiah 6:1-5; Jonah 1:14-16.

Direct each group to look up their Bible verse and determine what the people’s responses were when they were faced with God’s presence or power. Then invite each group to share what their Bible verse was about and the people’s responses to God.

SAY “In the Old Testament, the presence or power of God produced fear in people. This was a rightly oriented fear because when they recognized God’s holiness and complete authority, they were able to rightly see that they were not holy nor did they hold any authority. Fear of God can lead us to repent, like Isaiah, because we exalt God to His rightful place and understand that we are sinners who need forgiveness. In today’s story, Peter had a similar response to Isaiah when he recognized Jesus’ power and authority.”

OPTION 2: FILL YOUR NET

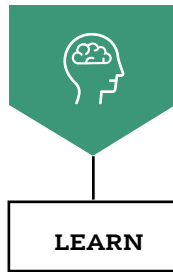
Form kids into two teams and provide each team with a stack of scrap paper. Lead kids to crumple the paper into balls and scatter them on the floor. Choose two kids from each team to hold large bedsheets. Explain that the paper balls represent “fish” and the sheets represent “nets.”

Lead each team to try and throw the fish into their team’s net but direct them to stay on their knees the entire time. Direct the kids throwing the paper to kneel 8–10 feet away from the “nets.” Direct the kids holding the nets to try and catch the fish for their team. Once all of the fish are in the nets, determine which team caught the most fish.

SAY “If you’ve ever been fishing, you know that it is not always easy to fill a net with fish. In today’s Bible story, some men had fished all night and caught nothing. Then they met Jesus and everything changed. Let’s learn how they responded to meeting Jesus as we read our Bible story.”

Transition from **WELCOME** to **LEARN**





THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

INTRODUCE the Bible Story

1 INTRODUCE THE SESSION (3 minutes)

Show the countdown video as you transition to introduce the Bible story. Set it to end as the session begins.

SAY “ Hello, everyone. My name is [your name], and I am so glad you are here! We are continuing to learn about the life of Jesus and how He preached the good news about the kingdom of God. Our Bible story today includes another amazing miracle performed by Jesus.

If you brought a Bible, can you take it out? [Distribute Bibles to kids who need one.] Our Bible story is found in the book of Luke. Luke is in the New Testament and is one of the four Gospels. The word gospel means ‘good news.’ In today’s Bible story, Peter experienced the good news of Jesus and worshiped Him. ”

2 BIG PICTURE QUESTION (1 minute)

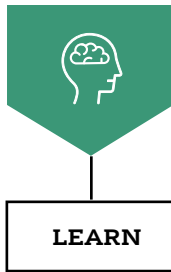
SAY “ Our big picture question is, **How can we be saved?** Let’s say the answer together: **We are only saved through faith in Jesus.** When we are saved, we have recognized that there is something we need to be saved from—our sin. We have trusted that only Jesus can save us from our sin.

In today’s Bible story, Peter understood that he was a sinner. But Jesus didn’t turn Peter away. Instead, Jesus invited Peter to follow Him. When we are saved through faith in Jesus, we are invited to follow Him as well. ”

3 REVIEW THE TIMELINE (1 minute)

Show the giant timeline. Point to individual Bible stories as you review.

SAY “ We have been learning that Jesus continued His mission to tell everyone about the kingdom of God. We learned a couple of weeks ago that Jesus was driven out of town after speaking the truth of who He is to the people of Nazareth. Last week, we saw people amazed at Jesus when He performed miracles. This week, we will learn that Jesus performed another miracle and that Peter responded in worship of Him. ”



THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

LEARN the Bible Story

1 TELL THE BIBLE STORY: VIDEO OR STORYTELLER (10 minutes)

Open your Bible to Luke 5. Use the Bible storytelling tips to help you tell the story, or show the Bible story video “Peter Worshiped Jesus.” Use the bold text to retell or review the story.

PETER WORSHIPED JESUS

“ One day, Jesus stood by a lake as He taught about God’s Word. Crowds of people gathered together, pressing in to hear what Jesus was saying. Jesus looked out and saw two boats at the edge of the lake. The fishermen were out of the boats, washing their nets.

Jesus got into one of the boats and asked a fisherman named Simon Peter to push the boat a little out from the land. Then Jesus sat down and taught the crowds from the boat.

When Jesus was finished speaking, He told Peter to move the boat to deeper water and let down his nets to catch fish.

Peter said, “Master, we’ve been fishing all night long and didn’t catch anything. But I will do what You said.”

So Peter and his partners—James and John—let down the nets. They caught so many fish that the nets began to tear. They called out to the fishermen in the other boat to come and help. Both boats were so full of fish that they began to sink. The fishermen were all amazed.

Peter fell at Jesus’ knees and said, “Go away from me, Lord! I am a sinful man!”

Jesus said, “Don’t be afraid. From now on, you will be catching people.” Then Peter, James, and John brought the boats to land, left everything, and followed Jesus.

Christ Connection: Peter understood that he was a sinner and recognized that Jesus is God. He responded to Jesus’ grace and kindness by following Him. When we understand that Jesus is God and that we are sinners, we can turn to Him for forgiveness and follow Him by faith. ”

STORYTELLING TIPS

Sculpt it: Provide each kid with a small piece of play dough. Invite kids to form a fish with their play dough while they listen to the story.

Act it out: Perform the movements and motions of the people in the story as you tell it, such as climbing into a boat, paddling a boat, letting down a net, and so on.



THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

2 REVIEW THE BIBLE STORY

SAY “ Imagine your job was a fisherman and you needed to catch fish to make a living. Now, imagine you had been fishing all night and had not caught a single fish. How would you feel? [Allow responses.] We’d probably feel discouraged, and maybe even a little worried about how we would provide for our families.

In the story, Jesus was offshore and was teaching the crowd God’s Word. Then Jesus told the fishermen to lower their nets. Do you think the fishermen—Peter, James, and John—were very hopeful they would catch fish? [Allow responses.] Peter recognized that Jesus was different, and he even called Him Master as he obeyed Jesus’ command. But perhaps, at that moment, he didn’t really understand who Jesus is.

What happened after the fishermen lowered their nets? [Allow responses.] Yes, their nets were so full of fish that the boats began to sink! And this miracle had a great impact on Peter. He saw the power and authority of Jesus. When Peter saw the greatness of Jesus, compared to who he was, he recognized himself as a sinner. And then Peter responded to Jesus in worship.

It’s not likely that we will find ourselves in the middle of a fishing miracle with Jesus, but Jesus is revealed to us through the pages of Scripture. Jesus is more than a good man or a great teacher. Jesus is the Son of God. Once we know the truth of who Jesus is, our response matters. Like Peter, we are sinners with no way to fix our sin problem. We need a Savior. Jesus invites us to follow Him and trust Him by faith so that we can be saved. ”

3 CHRIST CONNECTION

SAY “ Peter understood that he was a sinner and recognized that Jesus is God. He responded to Jesus’ grace and kindness by following Him. When we understand that Jesus is God and that we are sinners, we can turn to Him for forgiveness and follow Him by faith. ”

(Tip: Use Scripture and the Gospel Plan Poster to explain how to become a Christian. Make sure kids know when and where they can ask questions.)

4 QUESTIONS FROM KIDS (3 minutes)

Show the “Unit 21, Session 3” questions from kids video. Prompt kids to discuss:

1. What do we say to people who think they are a good person?
2. How do you show others that you are a follower of Jesus?

5 MISSIONS MOMENT (3 minutes)

SAY “ Julius Tennial is a missionary consultant. He wants everyone to know that all people can be involved in mission work. He wants the story of George Liele, and his own story to help others know that they can tell people about Jesus wherever they go. ”



THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

Play the missions video.

SAY “ George Liele encouraged many people to go and tell others about Jesus. Missionaries under the leadership of George Liele went to other places, such as Savannah, Georgia; Nova Scotia, Canada; and Sierra Leone in West Africa. George obeyed God’s command to tell other people about Jesus and led more people to tell others so that churches were started in America, Jamaica, and many other places around the world.”

Pray for all Christians to be faithful to tell the good news about Jesus. Pray for more churches to send missionaries all over the world.

6 KEY PASSAGE ACTIVITY (5 minutes)

Show the key passage poster. Lead kids in reading aloud Hebrews 11:6 together.

SAY “ Faith is essential to the Christian life. We demonstrate faith when we trust in Jesus for our salvation, and we continue to live by faith as we trust that God will help us live for Him. Without faith it is impossible to please God. ”

Form kids into small groups. Challenge each group to choose a style of music and make up a song using the key passage. Allow groups time to practice their song together. Then invite each group to share their song with the class.

Lead kids to sing “Without Faith (Hebrews 11:6).” You may also choose to sing a worship song of your choice.

7 PRAY (2 minutes)

Invite kids to pray before transitioning to Love.

SAY “ God, there is no one like You. You are perfectly holy and good. Thank You for sending Jesus into the world to rescue sinners. You are worthy of our worship. Amen. ”

Transition from **LEARN** to **LOVE**

