

The First Disciples

1 One day as Jesus was preaching on the shore of the Sea of Galilee,[a] great crowds pressed in on him to listen to the word of God. **2** He noticed two empty boats at the water's edge, for the fishermen had left them and were washing their nets. **3** Stepping into one of the boats, Jesus asked Simon,[b] its owner, to push it out into the water. So he sat in the boat and taught the crowds from there.

4 When he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, "Now go out where it is deeper, and let down your nets to catch some fish."

5 "Master," Simon replied, "we worked hard all last night and didn't catch a thing. But if you say so, I'll let the nets down again."

6 And this time their nets were so full of fish they began to tear!

7 A shout for help brought their partners in the other boat, and soon both boats were filled with fish and on the verge of sinking.

8 When Simon Peter realized what had happened, he fell to his knees before Jesus and said, "Oh, Lord, please leave me—I'm such a sinful man." **9** For he was awestruck by the number of fish they had caught, as were the others with him. **10** His partners, James and John, the sons of Zebedee, were also amazed.

Jesus replied to Simon, "Don't be afraid! From now on you'll be fishing for people!" **11** And as soon as they landed, they left everything and followed Jesus.

Jesus Calls Levi (Matthew)

27 Later, as Jesus left the town, he saw a tax collector named Levi sitting at his tax collector's booth. "Follow me and be my disciple," Jesus said to him. **28** So Levi got up, left everything, and followed him.

29 Later, Levi held a banquet in his home with Jesus as the guest of honor. Many of Levi's fellow tax collectors and other guests also ate with them. **30** But the Pharisees and their teachers of religious law complained bitterly to Jesus' disciples, "Why do you eat and drink with such scum?[a]"

31 Jesus answered them, "Healthy people don't need a doctor—sick people do. **32** I have come to call not those who think they are righteous, but those who know they are sinners and need to repent."

Question

1. What did Simon Peter DO and SAY to Jesus after seeing the number of fish they caught in verse 8?

What do you think Simon Peter realized about himself?

2. Who did Jesus come to call according to verse 32?
3. Are we all sinners? Why or why not.
4. What does it mean to repent of your sins? Explain
5. Is repenting enough? What else much you do?