

Follow Me Parable - Kolkata

Background

Peter and his friends were fishers. They were used to wild boat rides. They always fished at night, so the fish didn't see the net and swim around it. Their two boats worked together to lower and raise the nets. Jesus meets the fishers in the open and sends them out fishing during the day. They weren't expecting to catch anything so they only took one boat. What a surprise they got! Jesus invites them to leave their boats behind and follow him. They don't know where Jesus is going yet but following Jesus will become the ride of their lives. Jesus invites us to make our lives into an adventure with him. Sometimes this journey is a joy ride and sometimes it's a bit of a wild ride. I wonder where you will go in your ride with Jesus?

To make the story you will need:

- 1 green cloth
- 1 blue cloth
- 1 small piece of netting or sheer fabric
- 2 large shells (boats)
- Some wooden peg people
- Some fish (wood joiner biscuits work well)

Introduction

This is the Sea of Galilee.

So many important things happened beside the sea that we need a small piece of it to help us tell the stories.

The sea is a wonderful and strange place. Riding a boat on the sea can be risky. When the wind blows the water becomes rough and wild, and when the wind is calm the water is peaceful and still.

Story Script

There was once someone who came to the Sea of Galilee. He said such amazing things and did such wonderful things that the people followed him. One day, as Jesus was walking along the beach, people gathered around to listen.

The fishers were busy washing their nets, so Jesus climbed into one of their boats resting on the shore. It was Peter's boat. Jesus asked Peter to push the boat out a little, and Jesus sat on the boat to teach.

When Jesus had finished speaking, he said, "Push out into the deep water. Let down your nets for some fish."

Peter replied, "Teacher, my brother Andrew and I have worked all night long and caught nothing. But because you say so, I will let down the net again."

When they let down the net, they caught so many fish, the net started to break.

They waved to James and John to bring the other boat.

Soon both boats were so full of fish they began sinking.

The fishers were amazed at all the fish.

"Come, follow me", said Jesus, "and I will show you a new way to fish. Instead of fish, you will be gathering people"

Once the boats were back on the beach, they left everything and followed Jesus.

Wondering Questions

I wonder which part of this story you liked best?

I wonder which part is the most important?

I wonder which part makes you uncomfortable?

I wonder which part is about you?

OR

I wonder what it was like to fish all night and catch nothing?

I wonder what Peter thought while he let down his net again?

I wonder how they felt when they caught so many fish, so easily?

I wonder why they left everything to follow Jesus?

I wonder where they are going now?

I wonder where you will follow Jesus?