

TITLE AND NUMBER: 66. A day like any other



REFERENCE AND KEY VERSE(S): Luke 5:1-11

[Jesus] saw at the water's edge two boats, left there by the fishermen, who were washing their nets. He got into one of the boats, the one belonging to Simon, and asked him to put out a little from the shore. Then he sat down and taught the people from the boat. When he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, 'Put out into deep water, and let down the nets for a catch.' Simon answered, 'Master, we've worked hard all night and haven't caught anything. But because you say so, I will let down the nets.' When they had done so, they caught such a large number of fish that their nets began to break. So they signalled to their partners in the other boat to come and help them, and they came and filled both boats so full that they began to sink. (v2-7)

Then Jesus said to Simon, 'Don't be afraid; from now on you will fish for people.' So they pulled their boats up on shore, left everything and followed him. (v10b-11)

What does this Bible passage tell us?

Have you ever noticed how sometimes it is the small things in life which make a difference? Meeting a particular person, hearing something which stops you in your tracks, having something unexpected happen? A day can seem just like any other day, and then something or someone comes into it and things change.

That's what happened to Simon and his fellow fishermen on that day by the lake. A fruitless night fishing...now washing the nets. And then Jesus asks Simon for a small favour. Nothing spectacular. Simon agrees.

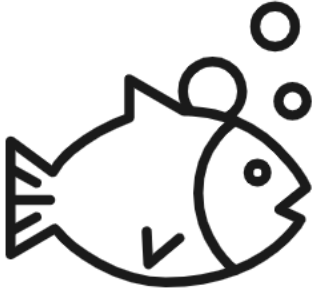
Jesus tells him to do something else - which seemed to them to be a daft idea in the circumstances. But again, Simon does it. Then, wow! Two boats full of fish, and sinking under the weight. Simon and his friends are stopped in their tracks. This person is special, and Simon is scared. But Jesus tells him not to be afraid, and that now Simon is to catch people rather than fish. Straightaway, Simon and his friends follow Jesus. An ordinary day has become special and life-changing, because Jesus has come into it.

Simon and his friends were ordinary people, like most of us. But Simon was open to do what Jesus said. And look how his life changed!

Reflections:

- Can you remember a time when something that seemed small actually changed the course of your life? What happened?
- How do you feel knowing that Jesus chooses ordinary people to work with Him?
- Why do you think Simon and his friends left everything and followed Jesus?
- What do you think Jesus wants us to do with our fear? Remember that He tells us not to be afraid.

Write or draw something you read in this Bible Study that stood out to you.



Do you have any questions about this week's Bible Study?



How does this week's message apply to your life?



What can we learn about God from this week's passage?



What would you like to ask God this week?



Has God responded to your prayers this week in the way you had hoped for? It's okay to talk to God about this.

