

Session Two

My New Relationship with Jesus

Essential Question: What does it mean to follow Jesus?

Scripture: Mark 1:16-20

Materials or technology that may be helpful: The Sea of Galilee Map for kids and fishing techniques during the time of Jesus. Go to Google Images, and search for these two items.

1. Jesus was walking along the Sea of Galilee. Show them The Sea of Galilee Map. As Jesus began each day, He was ready and wanted to talk about ways to love God.
2. Two brothers, Simon and Andrew, were fishing. Throwing a net was the correct way to fish in that day. Today we mostly use a fishing pole. Show them images about fishing during this time period.
3. Jesus had a conversation with the brothers which lead Jesus to tell them more about His mission from God to save the world.
4. Jesus gave them an invitation, "Follow Me."

What things or people do you follow? Rules, sidewalks, parents, teachers....

Why is it important to follow? Rules - they often protect us. Sidewalks - they keep us out of the road. Parents and Teachers - they help us to learn and to give us instructions about things we need to know.

When Jesus told Simon and Andrew to "follow Me," that meant they had a new and different relationship with Jesus.

You began a new relationship with Jesus a few days or maybe a few weeks ago. Your relationship with Jesus changed when you asked Him to forgive you and you placed your trust in Him so He would become your **Savior**. He saved you from being separated from God.

Jesus called you to follow Him in a new and different relationship with Him. In your previous relationship, you heard stories about Jesus, which helped you know more about Him. However, the day you asked Him to forgive your sins and you told Him you believed that He died on the cross and He was raised three days later, this changed your relationship with Him.

It is like knowing a kid's name in your class, but you only know him/her by that name. It is not until you spend time with this classmate that you really begin a friendship.

When you prayed and asked Jesus to save you, your relationship went from **knowing about Jesus to a deeper friendship with Him**. He has changed His relationship with you too. He now sees you as a **follower of God**. When we follow Jesus, our life

changes. Over the next few sessions, we will examine what you need to know as you grow in your new friendship with Jesus.

5. ...“And I will make you fishers of men.”

For Simon and Andrew, part of following Jesus was to tell others about Jesus. When fishermen throw out a fishing line to catch a fish, this gives a way for the fish to come to them. Jesus wants us to go fishing, which means to tell our friends about Jesus. Since our relationship has changed with Jesus, we need to tell our friends who do not know Jesus about Him. You have some friends who are just like you; they may have gone to church and Bible study and know about Jesus, but Jesus wants all our friends to be following Him too. You may have some friends who need you to tell them about your new friendship with Jesus.

Remember, since you have this **new relationship** with Jesus, you have a different relationship with others. Jesus asks His friends to show love to others (1 John 3:18). We should both talk about our love for Jesus **and** show love to others because Jesus has shown His love for us.

The first ingredient of Faith Development is to **understand** Jesus loves us and that changes our relationship with Him. Our new relationship with Jesus calls us to follow Him and share about our new relationship to our friends who do not have a relationship with Jesus.

We are in a new relationship with Jesus!

Prayer: Lord, thank You for loving us. Help me to love You more by my actions toward You and others.