

HOME STUDY LEAFLET.

LESSON 2.

OCTOBER 14th, 1894.

4th QUARTER.

The Draught of Fishes. Luke 5: 1-11.

GOLDEN TEXT: "Come ye after me, and I will make you to become fishers of men." Mark 1: 17.

COMMIT TO MEMORY verses 4-6. CHILDREN'S HYMNAL 5, III, 112, 115.

PROVE THAT—We are all sinners in God's sight. Rom. 3: 10.

SHORTER CATECHISM—Quest. 97. What is required to the worthy receiving of the Lord's supper?

DAILY PORTIONS.

(The Selections of the International Bible Reading Association.)

MONDAY.	TUESDAY.	WEDNESDAY.	THURSDAY.	FRIDAY.	SATURDAY.	SABBATH.
Luke 5: 1-11	Matt. 4: 18-26	John 21: 1-11	Acts 2: 41-47	Matt. 9: 9-13	Luke 9: 23-27	Matt. 19: 16-22

To the Teacher—Do not credit any Scholar with having prepared the lesson who does not at least try to answer the questions. Take the leaflet home and assign a value to each answer, announcing the result on the following Sabbath. Take, or send, the Leaflet to absent scholars.

Always bring your Bible and Shorter Catechism to the Sabbath School.

HELPS IN STUDYING.

INTRODUCTORY.—Rejected by the people of Nazareth, Jesus took up his abode in Capernaum which henceforth became "his own city," his usual place of abode. From this as a centre he went throughout the surrounding district preaching in the synagogues. Crowds gathered to hear him, for they saw his wonderful works, experienced the healing that he bestowed, and many, doubtless, delighted in the gracious words that he spake. Matt. 4: 18-22 and Mark 1: 16-20 and other accounts of the calling of the disciples at this time.

LESSON PLAN. I. The Sermon, vs. 1-3. II. The Miracle, vs. 4-7. III. The Pro-
mise, vs. 8-11.

I. THE SERMON. 1. The word of God—Jesus preached from the Bible, and explained its true meaning. His teaching was evidently a message from God. Gennesaret—called also the sea of Galilee, and of Tiberias. The plain of Gennesaret lay on the west side of the lake, between Capernaum and Magdala. The lake was 13 miles long by five or six wide at its broadest part. In the time of Jesus its shores were highly cultivated, and it was surrounded with towns and the summer mansions of the rich. Its waters teemed with fish. 2. Ships—R. V. "boats," open fishing vessels, drawn up on the beach. Washing their nets—cleaning them from weeds &c. making ready for their next night's work. 3. Simon's—He was already a disciple (John 1: 40-42), and perhaps that is the reason why his boat was chosen. The people sat on the sloping banks of the lake and all could see and

hear the speaker. A common fishing boat makes a grand pulpit when the word of God is preached, by One anointed by the Holy Spirit, to a crowd of eager listeners. Our daily life becomes holy when we use all we have for Christ's service.

II. THE MIRACLE. 4. Launch out—Peter, as captain or owner, is addressed. Let down—This was a command that would test Peter's faith. It was not the time of day for successful fishing. We may not always see the reason for God's commands, but we may be sure that he knows best and will reward obedience. See a similar incident after the resurrection (John 21: 1-9). 5. Master—not "Rabbi," but a general title of respect. Lit. "superintendent," or "overseer." At thy word—Peter had seen the miracle at Cana and others, and while he might not have expected anything of that kind, he had learned

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ed to trust the wisdom of Jesus, and cheerfully obeyed. 6. A great multitude of fishes—The miracle consisted either in knowing that the shoal was there, or in bringing it to that place. The sea of Galilee has always been famed for the number and variety of its fishes. There are more than fifty kinds. This was an acted parable (Matt. 13: 47), and prophecy of the success of the apostles on the day of pentecost. Their nets were breaking (R. V.)—with the weight of fish. 7. They beckoned—Some think that they were so astonished and awed that they did not like to shout. Peter's words would give this impression. Their partners—James and John, who had hired men with them (Mark 1: 20). Began to sink—they could just float and no more.

III. THE PROMISE. 8. Simon Peter—His full name is given for the first time. This is an instance of his deep and strong religious feeling. Jesus was evidently in the boat all the time. Depart from me—Peter was not afraid of Jesus. He felt himself unworthy to be in the presence of one so glorious and holy, yet he would have been very sorry if Jesus had gone away. It is with such as Peter that God loves to dwell (Isa. 57: 15; 66: 1, 2; Ps. 34: 18; 138: 6). Other instances in which the same awe and reverence were felt, Ex. 20: 19; Judges 13: 22; 2 Sam. 6: 9; 1 Kings 17: 18; Job 42: 5, 6; Isa. 6: 5; Dan. 8: 17; 10: 17. When God is giving us more blessings than we can carry we are apt to hug them close and pray for more, but if we felt

like Peter we would say "Enough, Lord, and more than I deserve. Make me more grateful for all that I have received," Ps. 116: 12; 103: 2. A sinful man—Not worse than others, but he did not compare himself with his fellow men but with the holiness of Christ, compare 1 Tim. 1: 15. 9. He was astonished—Lit. "astonishment encompassed him," seized hold of him completely. 10. Thou shalt catch—R. V. marg. "take alive." Compare the parable in Matt. 13: 47-50. Satan, too, captures men alive (2 Tim. 2: 26). But the gospel fisherman does it to save life. From these words of Christ, and the parable referred to, came the early Christian symbol of a fish. It was all the more readily adopted because the letters of the word in Greek (I-ch-th-u-s) are the first letters of the sentence. "J-esus Ch-rist the S-on (u) of G-od (th), the S-aviour." The promise was first fulfilled to Peter on the day of pentecost when 3,000 were captured at one cast of his net. II. They left all and followed him—Henceforth they were in preparation for the higher occupation of fishing for men. Andrew is not mentioned by Luke, but we know from the story in Matthew and Mark that he was one of the group. Read Luke 18: 28-30 and Ph. 3: 7, 8: When it seemed to them that all their hopes were buried in the grave of Jesus they returned to their old occupation (John 21: 1-3), but He appeared and recalled them to his service (John 21: 15-17). We too must follow Jesus imitating his example and loving him with all our hearts.

To the Scholar.—Study the lesson carefully, turning up the marginal reference and reading the "Daily Portions." Then close your Bible and try to answer in writing the questions following without accepting aid from any quarter after you have begun to write. Then bring this leaflet to Sabbath School with you on the day of its date. If you cannot come, fill out the blank and send the leaflet (with the answers written out) to your teacher by some friend, or by mail, and you will receive credit for the work done as if you had been present. If your excuse is satisfactory, you will not lose in record of attendance.

- 1.—Where was Jesus at this time, and from what sort of a pulpit did he preach? (4)
- 2.—What did he tell Simon to do, and why did he hesitate to obey? (4)
- 3.—What was the reward of obedience? (4)
- 4.—How did this affect Simon, and what did he do and say? (5)
- 5.—How did Jesus encourage him? (4)
- 6.—Who were with Simon and what did they do when they came ashore? (4)

Name _____

Dear Teacher,—Please excuse my absence from Sabbath School to-day, I cannot come because I have read the "Daily Portions" and answered the questions as well as I could. I have committed to memory verses in addition to the Golden Text, and Questions in the Catechism and have recited them to I was at church I send with this my Weekly Offering of cents.