



Jesus Calls Sinners

MAIN IDEAS

- **Jesus displays the greatness and worth of God.**
- **Jesus chooses sinners to be His friends.**
- **Jesus is all powerful.**
- **Jesus came to save helpless sinners.**

MEMORY VERSE

[Jesus said,] *“I have not come to call the righteous but sinners to repentance.”*
—Luke 5:32

SCRIPTURE

- 1) Luke 5:1-11, 32
- 2) John 15:14



LESSON SUMMARY

After Jesus' proclamation in the synagogue in the previous lesson, there was no doubt about what Jesus intended to do. He was intending to rescue helpless sinners from their sins. As seen in today's lesson from Luke 5:1-11, Jesus began His special mission by choosing for Himself a group of men to befriend and love. These men were not chosen because Jesus needed the help of their gifts and abilities in His ministry (Acts 17:25). None were of worldly importance. None were known for their great intelligence or eloquent speech. The 12 all had one common characteristic: they were all helpless sinners. They were not chosen as “helpers for Jesus,” but as receivers of the greatest news of all: Jesus would display the greatness and worth of God by calling and saving sinners. This is perhaps the hardest part of the gospel for the fallen heart to embrace—that we can do nothing to save ourselves or merit salvation, but must rely completely on Jesus to help us. But, it is also the most hopeful news a helpless heart can know and embrace.

PRAYER POINTS

As you review this lesson with your child, pray...



- *for hearts that realize your own helplessness, and rests in the power of God to work through you.*
- *that God would grant you eyes to see Him at work in your family's life.*
- *that God would grant humility to see that Jesus is your only hope.*
- *that your child will receive the gospel.*

AS YOU WALK BY THE WAY

Read and talk about Luke 5:32. Help your child find and point to the words “righteous” and “repentance.”

- Do you ever feel like you don't have any friends? Have you ever felt left out? Has anyone ever not wanted to play a game with you because you weren't good enough? Do you have to be good, strong, smart, or have a lot of friends *before* you can be a friend of Jesus? Who did Jesus choose to be His friends? [helpless sinners]
- Do you ever think that you do not need Jesus to save you from your sin? Do you think that you are a pretty good person? Though you do good things, do you understand that you are a sinner—that you cannot fix yourself, and you need Jesus' help? Do you ask for His help with your sinful heart? Are you glad to have Jesus save you from your sin?
- In this week's Bible story, how did Simon Peter show that he was a repentant sinner? What did he do to show that he knew he was a sinner? [He humbly admitted his sin.] What did he do to show that he was looking to Jesus to fix his sinful heart? How did he show that Jesus was more important to him than anything else?

ACTION STEP

Tell your parents why it is good news that Jesus came to call sinners to repentance. Pray that you would have a repentant heart.

