

What do you think Jesus said to him? He told him not to be afraid, and that from then on he was to catch men. Why do you think that Jesus said that to Simon Peter? Because Simon Peter had to learn the lesson, at that time, that he was not to doubt Jesus' Word. If he was to preach about Jesus, and catch people so that they would believe in and follow Jesus, then he would need to learn this lesson.

Now, we also can learn a few lessons from this story. First, we can learn that *we should always believe Jesus*, because He knows better than we can know. Jesus is the Son of God, and therefore He knew that there were fish in the water at that particular place, although Simon Peter did not think so.

Second, even when we do not fully understand, or have some doubts about, what Jesus tells us to do, *we should obey*, as Simon Peter did. He did this out of love to Jesus; and Jesus then took away his doubts and strengthened his faith.

A third lesson is that, when we see that we have done wrong and have sinned against God, *we should confess our sin to Him*, as Simon Peter did. We should also apologise to anyone to whom we have done wrong. It may be that in our doing so, Jesus will make use of us in His work.

There is another lesson that we can learn. Simon Peter was a good fisherman; he had probably learned to fish as a small boy with his father. When he had finished fishing that night, it is likely that he thought that there were no fish to be caught at that time and place. But he

was wrong. There were fish. We know that from this story. But it was only when Jesus was with them that they caught the fish. Surely we can learn from this that, no matter how good at any work we may think we are, *we should ask Jesus' help with it*. Boys and girls, when you get up each morning you should remember to go on your knees and ask Jesus to be with you to help you that day, even with those things that you think you know best.

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