Sunday, October 8, 2017: Jesus is the Fisher of Men

Welcome: Spend some time checking in with the students.

Opening Prayer: "Our Father"/"Отче Наш"

Gospel: Luke 5:1-11 – Listen to Gospel in Church & hold small blue candles

Lesson: Jesus as the "Fisher of Men"

- Whom did Jesus first call to follow him? Fishermen, Peter, Andrew, James and John. What do fishermen do? They catch fish. After Jesus' miracle of the full net of fish, what does Jesus say to the men there? Jesus said that instead of catching fish the men will be catching people instead.
- "Catching people" means that the men that followed Jesus would then help others to follow Jesus as well. Just like those 4 men that Jesus first called we are called to help people follow Jesus too. What are some ways we can do that? Tell people about Jesus, tell people Jesus is God with the Father and Holy Spirit, encourage others to come to Church and read the Bible, invite your friends to church events like the Family Dance at the end of the month.

Craft: Fishermen Nets

- Materials: 4 tongue depressors, netting (from grocery bag), paper, white glue, markers, pencil crayons, Sharpie
- How To: Cut out four person outlines and decorate. Fold a piece of netting in half and tie together the loose side edge with yarn/thread. Put people cut-outs into netting. Sandwich the top and bottom of the net between four tongue depressors (two for the top, two for the bottom), as well as a loop of yarn at the top. Glue into place. Write "Follow me and I will make you fishers of men" on the front tongue depressors.



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- Whom did Jesus first call to follow Him?
- What does it mean to be "fishers of men"?
- Name 3 ways to help your family and friends to follow Jesus.

Praying Together:

Lord Jesus, thank you for trusting ordinary people like fishermen to spread your message. Help us to also be "fishers of people" today and bring our family and friends to You. Amen.



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Amen.



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Parents' Cheat Sheet - Car Qs Oct. 8/17, Jesus as the "Fisher of Men" (18th Sunday after Pentecost)

- 1. Whom did Jesus first call to follow Him?
 - 1. Fishermen: Simon (Peter), his brother Andrew, and James and John, the sons of Zebedee (Matthew 4:18-22; Mark 1:16-20; Luke 5:1-11)
 - 2. Another point we can make is that Jesus looked at regular people to spread His message to the world; He didn't go to the religious leaders of the day. Therefore, all of us are called to spread Jesus' message; it's not just up to the priests and religious to do that
- 2. What does it mean to be "fishers of men"?
 - 1. To be a "fisher of men" means to be an evangelist, someone who spreads the Word of God to those around him/her.
- 3. Name 3 ways to help your family and friends to follow Jesus.
 - 1. Some examples we discussed in class: Tell people about Jesus, tell people Jesus is God with the Father and Holy Spirit, encourage others to come to Church and read the Bible, invite your friends to church events like the Family Dance at the end of the month.
 - 2. In *The Orthodox Study Bible*, the commentator writes this note on Luke 5:6: "The Lord draws people to Himself by things that are familiar to them. As He drew the Magi with a star (Mt 2:2), as He would draw tax collectors by a tax collector (5:29), here He draws the fishermen with **fish** (see 1Co 9:19-23)" (p.1372). People respond to things that are familiar to them. If you get to know the people around you, you will better know how to present the Word of God to them so that they can more easily understand and want to learn more.