



3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Matthew 4: 12-23

When Jesus heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew into Galilee. And leaving Nazareth he went and lived in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, so that what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

"The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali,
the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles—
the people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light,
and for those dwelling in the region and shadow of death,
on them a light has dawned."

From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand."

While walking by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon (who is called Peter) and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen. And he said to them, "Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men." Immediately they left their nets and followed him. And going on from there he saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, in the boat with Zebedee their father, mending their nets, and he called them. Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

And he went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every affliction among the people.

Some things to think about...

- What do you think Jesus meant when he said: "Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men"?
- Jesus gave his disciples a special mission: to spread the Good News of God's love. Mini Vinnies have the same mission.
- Just like the disciples, you show leadership as Mini Vinnies and inspire others to do good work. What do you need to be a good leader? (Learn about the people behind the SVP [here](#))

Activities

- As a group, brainstorm ideas on "What makes a good leader"
- Plan a talk/make a poster about why people should get involved in the SVP. You could use the "[Plan a talk](#)" activity on the Mini Vinnies website.

Materials needed:

- Paper
- Pens/pencils

Teacher's Notes

People who follow a cause or a system of beliefs must have faith in the person taking them on the journey, just like the fishermen in this passage had faith in Jesus. By encouraging Simon and Peter to 'fish for people' instead of fish, Jesus was encouraging them to look beyond material possessions and see that God was calling them to follow him and spread the Good News.

Notes: