The Beginning of the Galilean Ministry
(Middle and Upper Elementary)

January 24, 2021 – Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Overview

In this week’s Gospel passage, Jesus begins His Galilean ministry by calling the first Apostles. These men leave their old lives behind and immediately follow Christ. In this lesson, students will compare two images of sacred art and reflect on Jesus’ call to the first Apostles.

Directions

A. Have your students read the Gospel passage, or read it aloud to your students, and then answer the focus questions.

B. Review and discuss the answers when they have completed the focus questions.

C. In groups, have your students reflect on the paintings using the discussion questions from Fishers of Men.

D. Call on groups to share their insights into the paintings and the Gospel story.

Answer Key

Focus Questions

1. Galilee. He proclaimed the Gospel of God: “This is the time of fulfillment. The kingdom of God is at hand. Repent and believe in the gospel.”

2. Simon (Peter) and his brother Andrew. They were fishermen. Jesus said He would make them “fishers of men.”

3. James and John. They were also fishermen.

4. They all immediately left what they were doing and followed Him.

Fishers of Men

1. Accept reasoned answers.

2. Jesus is inviting Simon (Peter) and Andrew to come follow Him. Simon and Andrew are fishing and contemplating Jesus’ invitation.
3. Accept reasoned answers.
4. Jesus is extending an invitation to follow Him.
5. Simon (Peter) and his brother Andrew.
6. Accept reasoned answers.
7. Priests and bishops – the successors to the Apostles.
8. Ordinary people, sinners in need of salvation.
9. Accept reasoned answers about why the rainbow is in the sky. Perhaps it is meant to call to mind the story of the Great Flood and Noah’s ark, which saved the human race from being destroyed by the Flood (and the wickedness of sin). In much the same way, the Church is a life raft offering salvation to sinners.
10. Accept reasoned answers.

**Reflection Question:**
Accept reasoned answers.