

Come Follow Me (Matt 3:13-17; Luke 5:1-11)

1. How did John the Baptist know that Jesus was the Son of God?

2. What does Simon Peter do that identifies him as a follower of Jesus Christ?

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Teacher Notes

Video Abstract (Author: Max7.org): From the day that he was baptized by John, Jesus the Son of God begins his role. We see him call disciples, preach and teach. Many were interested in what Jesus had to say. What will you discover about Jesus from what he says? Will you follow him?

For the teacher's preparation, these are the two passages for study:

Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptized by him. But John tried to stop him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and yet you come to me?"

Jesus answered him, "Allow it for now, because this is the way for us to fulfill all righteousness." Then John allowed him to be baptized.

When Jesus was baptized, he went up immediately from the water. The heavens suddenly opened for him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming down on him. And a voice from heaven said, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well-pleased." (Matt 3:13-17, CSB)

As the crowd was pressing in on Jesus to hear God's word, he was standing by Lake Gennesaret. He saw two boats at the edge of the lake; the fishermen had left them and were washing their nets. He got into one of the boats, which belonged to Simon, and asked him to put out a little from the land. Then he sat down and was teaching the crowds from the boat.

When he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, "Put out into deep water and let down your nets for a catch."

"Master," Simon replied, "we've worked hard all night long and caught nothing. But if you say so, I'll let down the nets."

When they did this, they caught a great number of fish, and their nets began to tear. So they signaled to their partners in the other boat to come and help them; they came and filled both boats so full that they began to sink.

When Simon Peter saw this, he fell at Jesus's knees and said, "Go away from me, because I'm a sinful man, Lord!" For he and all those with him were amazed at the catch of fish they had taken, and so were James and John, Zebedee's sons, who were Simon's partners.

"Don't be afraid," Jesus told Simon. "From now on you will be catching people." Then they brought the boats to land, left everything, and followed him. (Luke 5:1-11, CSB)

Show the video.

1. How did John the Baptist know that Jesus was the Son of God?

Dramatically read Matthew 3:13-17 to help the student hear / see the answer. Help the student learn how to observe / listen for details.

John the Baptist saw the Holy Spirit come upon Jesus and heard God say, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well-pleased."

2. does Simon Peter do that identifies him as a follower of Jesus Christ?

For the teacher's preparation: this video animates two separate periscopes. This background may help make the connection between the two events.

The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him and said, "Look, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world! This is the one I told you about: 'After me comes a man who ranks ahead of me, because he existed before me.' I didn't know him, but I came baptizing with water so that he might be revealed to Israel." And John testified, "I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and he rested on him. I didn't know him, but he who sent me to baptize with water told me, 'The one you see the Spirit descending and resting on—he is the one who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.' I have seen and testified that this is the Son of God."

The next day, John was standing with two of his disciples. When he saw Jesus passing by, he said, "Look, the Lamb of God!"

The two disciples heard him say this and followed Jesus. When Jesus turned and noticed them following him, he asked them, "What are you looking for?"

They said to him, "Rabbi" (which means "Teacher"), "where are you staying?"

"Come and you'll see," he replied. So they went and saw where he was staying, and they stayed with him that day. It was about four in the afternoon.

Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, was one of the two who heard John and followed him. He first found his own brother Simon and told him, "We have found the Messiah" (which is translated "the Christ"), and he brought Simon to Jesus.

When Jesus saw him, he said, "You are Simon, son of John. You will be called Cephas" (which is translated "Peter"). (John 1:29-42)

Dramatically read Luke 5:1-11. Inform the student that, because of John the Baptist, Simon Peter knew that Jesus was the Son of God

Help the student see Simon's interaction with Jesus:

- a) Believe that Jesus is the Son of God.
- b) Listen to Jesus.
- c) Obey Jesus.