

FEBRUARY 2013

WDOZONE

FISHING TOURS UNLIMITED

TARAKIHI

Meet Torrance, a girl who is 9, and her brother Cooper, aged 7.

They love their Uncle Maui, who takes them on fishing tours. Each month this year we will go with them to find out about different fish in New Zealand and how to catch them. Uncle Maui also tells them Bible stories about Peter, a fisherman who became a friend of Jesus. Torrance and Cooper enjoy these stories too.

Uncle Maui took Torrance and Cooper to the Marlborough Sounds. They stayed in a bach and went out in a boat, with fishing rods. Uncle Maui made sure they were wearing life jackets. They were very excited when they caught some Tarakihi. They barbequed them for tea. It was a great day. Before they went to sleep, Uncle Maui told them this story.

A HUGE CATCH

"Help! Help! Come quickly!" Peter called to the others. They were so many fish in his net that he couldn't haul them in by himself. He desperately needed his brother Andrew and their fishing partners James and John to help.

The night before they had caught nothing even though they fished all night. They were cleaning their nets on the shore in the morning when a man called Jesus said to Peter: "Can I please borrow your boat?"

A big crowd had gathered to hear Jesus. They were all shoving to get near. Jesus sat in Peter's boat away from the shore. All the people sat quietly on the hills beside the lake. Jesus was a wonderful teacher and everyone was amazed.

When he finished, Jesus said to Peter: "Row out to deep water and let down your net for a catch."

Peter was proud of his fishing skills. He knew that Jesus was a great teacher, but he didn't think Jesus would know much about fishing.

"It's the wrong time and last night we caught nothing," Peter said. "I don't think there's a hope now."

But he rowed out, threw the net into the sea and started to pull it in. Suddenly he realised he had a huge catch. All four fishermen struggled to get all the fish into their two boats, which nearly sank.

Peter knelt at Jesus' feet. He felt dreadful.

"I'm a sinful man, not good enough for you. Please go away," he said.

"Don't be afraid," Jesus said. "Come with me and learn to bring in people, not just fish."

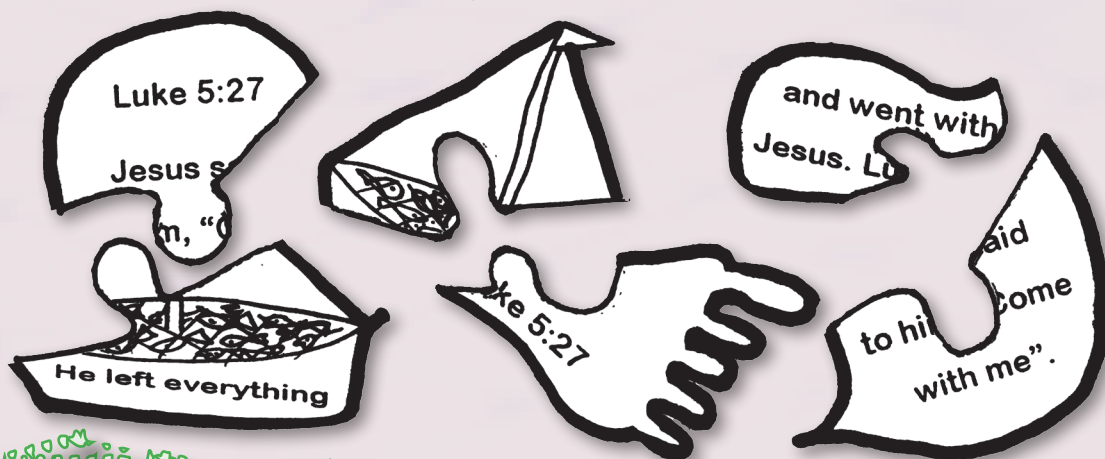
So all four fishermen, Peter, Andrew, James and John left their fishing boats and nets and went with Jesus.

Read the story yourself from the Bible in Luke 5: 1 – 11 and Mark 1: 14 – 20.

Compiled by Ron Fountain

A VERSE TO LEARN

These six jigsaw pieces join together to make three pictures, a speech bubble, a boat and a foot. Can you read the verse?



Look up the verse in a Contemporary English Bible (CEV) to check. Write it and learn it by heart.



A FISHING GAME

You will need paper, scissors, coloured felts, wire paper clips, a magnet, a stick, a piece of string and a big carton.

Draw lots of fantastic fish and cut them out. Put a wire paper clip on each of their mouths. Put them in the carton. Tie the magnet to one end of the string and the stick to the other end to make a fishing rod. Without looking, try to catch as many fish as you can. You could have a competition with your friends.

FISHING FOR FACTS

Next month Uncle Maui will take Torrance and Cooper whitebaiting. Use the internet or encyclopaedias to find out all you can about whitebait. Try to discover the answers to these questions:

-  What are the scientific name and the Maori name for the main kind of whitebait fish?
-  Where and when can you catch the most whitebait?

Get an exercise book or open a file on your computer to record your findings on each month's "Fishing for Facts".

A WORD SEARCH

The words are from the Bible story and memory verse. Can you find them?

afraid, amazed, Andrew, boat, catch, everything, fishing, fisherman, follow, huge, James, Jesus, John, lake, left, net, Peter, proud, sinful, strong.

A	H	E	F	B	Z	L	Y	M	U	R	L	M	P	X
M	W	V	I	H	R	D	S	Y	J	A	B	S	S	N
X	S	E	M	A	J	H	W	I	K	C	W	J	T	N
F	V	R	B	O	A	T	U	E	N	T	S	O	R	R
E	Z	Y	R	A	Z	N	D	G	Q	F	E	H	O	E
L	L	T	A	H	M	L	R	F	E	P	U	N	N	T
I	W	H	T	S	G	N	I	H	S	I	F	L	G	E
N	E	I	D	Y	U	S	D	W	Y	G	Q	I	T	P
H	V	N	L	I	H	S	E	R	D	W	H	P	X	M
L	B	G	S	E	A	R	E	U	E	O	B	H	H	P
E	P	U	R	Z	D	R	O	J	Z	K	O	X	C	U
Q	I	M	M	N	R	R	F	N	A	K	G	A	J	Q
R	A	C	A	G	P	S	I	A	M	N	T	F	E	L
N	D	G	F	O	L	L	O	W	A	C	R	A	H	C
P	G	W	P	O	C	L	W	W	H	X	W	C	J	G

A PRAYER

Jesus still calls us to follow him. Here's a prayer you can pray.
 "Lord Jesus, thank you that you want me to follow you. Please help me this year to find out how. Amen."