

# Matthew 4:18

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And Jesus, walking by the sea of Galilee, saw two brethren,  
Simon called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into  
the sea: for they were fishers.

## Analysis

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Jesus' call of fishermen beside the Sea of Galilee demonstrates God's sovereign election of ordinary people for extraordinary purposes. Simon and Andrew's occupation as fishermen becomes prophetic symbolism—they would become 'fishers of men,' gathering people into God's kingdom. The seaside setting also recalls Jesus' later parables about the kingdom being like a net gathering fish (Matthew 13:47-50).

## Historical Context

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The Sea of Galilee (also called Gennesaret or Tiberias) is actually a freshwater lake about 13 miles long and 8 miles wide. Fishing was a major industry, and fishermen formed a significant segment of Galilean economy. Simon (Peter) and Andrew were business partners with James and John (Luke 5:10).

## Related Passages

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**Romans 10:9** — Confession and belief for salvation

**John 3:16** — God's love and salvation

## Study Questions

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1. What does Jesus' calling of common fishermen teach about God's values versus worldly measures of qualification and status?
2. How does the metaphor of 'fishers of men' illustrate the nature and urgency of evangelistic ministry?

## Interlinear Text

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Περιπατῶν	δὲ	ὁ	Ἰησοῦς	παρὰ	τὴν	θάλασσαν·	τῆς
walking	And		Jesus	by		the sea	
G4043	G1161	G3588	G2424	G3844	G3588	G2281	G3588
Γαλιλαίας	εἶδεν	δύο	ἀδελφὸν	Σίμωνα	τὸν	λεγόμενον	
of Galilee	saw	two	brethren	Simon		called	
G1056	G1492	G1417	G80	G4613	G3588	G3004	
Πέτρον	καὶ	Ἀνδρέαν	τὸν	ἀδελφὸν	αὐτοῦ	βάλλοντας	
Peter	and	Andrew		brethren	his	casting	
G4074	G2532	G406	G3588	G80	G846	G906	
ἀμφίβληστρον	εἰς	τὴν	θάλασσαν·	ἦσαν	γὰρ	ἄλιεῖς	
a net	into		the sea	they were	for	fishers	
G293	G1519	G3588	G2281	G2258	G1063	G231	

## Additional Cross-References

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**Matthew 10:2** (References Peter): Now the names of the twelve apostles are these; The first, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother; James the son of Zebedee, and John his brother;

**Luke 6:14** (References Peter): Simon, (whom he also named Peter,) and Andrew his brother, James and John, Philip and Bartholomew,

**Matthew 16:18** (References Peter): And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.

**Matthew 15:29** (References Jesus): And Jesus departed from thence, and came nigh unto the sea of Galilee; and went up into a mountain, and sat down there.

**John 6:1** (References Jesus): After these things Jesus went over the sea of Galilee, which is the sea of Tiberias.

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