



WEEK 14 DAY 1 Jesus Called Disciples

REVIEW: Jesus obeyed all aspects of God's plan. Jesus obeyed God by being baptized. Then Jesus obeyed the Holy Spirit and prayed in the wilderness for 40 days without food. Jesus was tempted and never sinned. When people who had been following John showed confusion about others following Jesus, John the Baptist told people to follow Jesus. This week, we will see that Jesus called disciples to follow Him. And that's exactly what the disciples did!

Step 1: Watch

<https://www.crosssound.org/family-videos>

Step 2: Discuss Story

- When Jesus began his ministry, what did he tell people to do? How did people respond?
- Which disciples did he call first? And what did he call them to do?
- What were James and John doing when Jesus called them?
- What was Matthew doing when Jesus called him?
- How many disciples did he choose in all? Can you name them all?

Step 3: Worship

Listen and sing along to "Jesus Messiah" at <https://www.crosssound.org/family-videos>

Step 4: Pray

Ask for everyone to share a prayer request and something they want to thank the Lord for, and then take turns praying out loud.

Bonus Family Activity: Watch the "Questions from Kids" video, where Pastor Brian from The Gospel Project answers the question "How do we know if we're going to like God's plan?"

<https://www.crosssound.org/family-videos>





WEEK 14 DAY 2 Jesus Called Disciples

Step 1: Read [Matthew 4:18-22](#), [Mark 1:16-20](#) and [Luke 5:1-22](#)

Step 2: Discuss Story

- Luke 5 tells us more about Jesus' first encounter with Peter and Andrew. What did he use their boat for?
- What happened right after Jesus finished teaching?
- After a long night of no fish, and then nets overflowing when Jesus told him to lower them, how did Peter respond?
- What did they leave when they followed him?
- What kinds of things might you have to leave behind to follow Jesus? Discuss the costs and rewards of following Jesus.

Step 3: Review

Memory Verse: John 3:30 "He must increase, but I must decrease."

Big Picture Question: Why did Jesus become human? To obey His Father's plan and rescue sinners.

Step 4: Worship

Listen and sing along to "Follow Jesus". <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xhflveQ6M50>

Step 5: Pray

Ask for everyone to share a prayer request and something they want to thank the Lord for, and then take turns praying out loud. Pray about how you can decrease, so that God can increase.

Curriculum Notes

You know what I find so amazing about this story? The men Jesus called left basically everything they had to follow and obey Jesus. The fishermen walked away from their boats, and the tax collector left his tax booth. When Jesus called, they answered. They were far from perfect, but they obeyed right away. They seemed to know that what they were giving up was nothing compared to what they would gain by following Jesus.





WEEK 14 DAY 3 Jesus Called Disciples

Step 1: Read [Matthew 9:9-13](#), [Mark 2:13-17](#) and [Luke 5:27-32](#)

Step 2: Discuss Story

- Where was Matthew/Levi when Jesus called him?
- How did people feel about tax collectors at this time?
- Where did Jesus go with him?
- How did the Pharisees and scribes feel about this?
- How did Jesus respond?

Step 3: Review

Memory Verse: John 3:30 "He must increase, but I must decrease."

Big Picture Question: Why did Jesus become human? To obey His Father's plan and rescue sinners.

Step 4: Worship – listen and sing along to Casting Crowns "Jesus Friend of Sinners".

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rJXlugwiN7Q>

Step 5: Pray

Ask for everyone to share a prayer request and something they want to thank the Lord for, and then take turns praying out loud.

Curriculum Notes

And again, the men Jesus called were not people without sin. Many of the people who followed Jesus sinned in ways that were very obvious. That's one of the big reasons the religious leaders hated Jesus. They thought that the Messiah would only spend time with and love people who were good (or at least looked and acted like they were good).





WEEK 12 DAY 4 Jesus Called Disciples

Step 1: Read [Mark 3:13-19](#) and [Luke 6:12-16](#)

Step 2: Discuss Story

- Where was Jesus when he called the twelve disciples?
- According to Luke, what was he doing right before?
- What special name did he give them? What does the word apostle mean? (messenger, one who is sent out)
- According to Mark 3:14-15 – for what purpose did he call them?
- Do you follow Jesus? Why or why not?

Step 3: Review

Memory Verse: John 3:30 "He must increase, but I must decrease."

Big Picture Question: Why did Jesus become human? To obey His Father's plan and rescue sinners.

Step 4: Worship

Listen and sing along to Chris Tomlins' "I Will Follow" <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1ohvhmGSfxI>

Step 5: Pray

Ask for everyone to share a prayer request and something they want to thank the Lord for, and then take turns praying out loud and thanking God that we get to be his followers.

Curriculum Notes

In those days, only the best students approached teachers and asked to follow them. The students watched their teachers very carefully. They tried to be just like the teachers. Teachers didn't allow just anyone to follow them; you had to be a very hard worker, and the teacher had to think you were pretty special too. Jesus chose His followers from a group of people no one probably ever thought was smart enough to be students. Jesus' followers were called disciples. Jesus chose some fishermen: Peter, Andrew, James, and John. Then He chose a tax collector named Matthew. The other men Jesus chose were Philip, Bartholomew, Thomas, James, Simon, Thaddaeus and Judas. Yes, two of Jesus' twelve disciples were named James! Jesus' disciples would learn from Jesus so that they could tell others the good news about why Jesus came: to save people from their sins.





WEEK 12 DAY 5 Jesus Called Disciples

Step 1: Read [Matthew 10:1-15](#)

Step 2: Discuss Story

- What did Jesus give his disciples authority over?
- Where did Jesus send them to go? (to the lost sheep of the house of Israel)
- What were they to proclaim and do?
- What could they receive for doing these things? (yes, nothing...the gospel is free!)

Step 3: Review

Memory Verse: John 3:30 "He must increase, but I must decrease."

Big Picture Question: Why did Jesus become human? To obey His Father's plan and rescue sinners.

Step 4: Worship – listen and sing along to Hillsong's "Heaven and Earth" and think about the Kingdom they were announcing! <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sWB6wadcLHQ>

Step 5: Pray

Ask for everyone to share a prayer request and something they want to thank the Lord for, and then take turns praying out loud and thanking God that the Kingdom of God has come.

Optional Family Activity

Print out whatever attached activity sheets might be relevant for your child. Work on them today, over the weekend, or have them available as an activity during worship on Sunday.



Match the Fish

INSTRUCTIONS: Draw lines connecting the matching fish.



Preschool Activity Pages

Unit 20 • Session 4 Jesus Called Disciples

BIBLE STORY SUMMARY:

- Jesus chose disciples to follow Him.
- Jesus chose fishermen named Peter, Andrew, James, and John.
- Jesus chose a tax collector named Matthew.
- Jesus chose 12 men in all who left everything and followed Him.

KEY PASSAGE: John 3:30

BIG PICTURE QUESTION:

- Why did Jesus become human?
Jesus became human to rescue sinners.

FAMILY DISCUSSION STARTERS:

- In Bible times, disciples chose their teacher. Why is it special that Jesus chose His own disciples?
- What did Jesus say to the religious leaders who thought Jesus should not be friends with certain people?
- Who needs to hear about Jesus?

FAMILY ACTIVITY:

- Play a family game of “Duck, Duck, Goose” except say, “I choose, I choose, you!” Talk about how Jesus chose disciples to follow Him.
- If possible, go fishing with another family. Talk about what Jesus meant about fishing for people.



DOWNLOAD the
LIFEWAY KIDS APP



A Change of Pace

INSTRUCTIONS: Circle the seven differences between the two versions of the Bible story art.



Younger Kids Activity Pages

Unit 20 • Session 4 Jesus Called Disciples

BIBLE STORY SUMMARY:

- Jesus called disciples to follow Him.
- Jesus told Peter and Andrew that He would teach them to fish for people.
- James and John left their father to follow Jesus.
- Jesus called a tax collector named Matthew to follow Him.

KEY PASSAGE: John 3:30

BIG PICTURE QUESTION:

- Why did Jesus become human?
Jesus became human to obey His Father's plan and rescue sinners.

FAMILY DISCUSSION STARTERS:

- Why do you think Jesus' disciples left everything to follow Jesus?
- What might we need to leave behind to follow Jesus?
- What do we gain when we follow Jesus?

FAMILY ACTIVITY:

- Take your family fishing. Discuss the need to use special tools, like fishing poles and nets, to catch fish. Discuss what special tools a Christian might use to help people follow Jesus.



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Unit 20, Session 4

Jesus Called Disciples

Matthew 4; 9; Mark 1–3;
Luke 5–6

Story Point: Jesus called disciples to follow Him.

Jesus' ministry had begun. He traveled around, preaching about God and telling people to turn away from their sins. Large crowds followed Jesus around and listened to Him teach. One day, Jesus was walking along the sea. He saw two brothers: Simon Peter and Andrew. Jesus called out to them, "Follow Me, and I will teach you to fish for people!" Right away, Peter and Andrew dropped their nets and followed Jesus. Later, He saw two more brothers. Their names were James and John. Jesus called out to them, and right away they got up, left their father and the boat, and followed Jesus.

Jesus went on and saw a man named Matthew. Jesus called out to him, "Follow Me!" So Matthew got up, left everything behind, and followed Jesus.

Matthew had a big feast for Jesus at his house. Many tax collectors and sinners came

to eat with Jesus and His disciples. The religious leaders complained to the disciples, "Why does your Teacher eat and drink with tax collectors and sinners?" Jesus heard the religious leaders and said, "I did not come to invite good people; I came to invite sinners to turn back to God."

Later, Jesus gathered His followers together and chose twelve of them to be His apostles. These are the men Jesus chose: Simon Peter, Andrew, James, John, Philip, Bartholomew, Matthew, Thomas, James, Thaddaeus, Simon, and Judas Iscariot.

Christ Connection: Jesus came to earth to show what God is like and to save people from their sins. This is great news! Jesus told His disciples to tell others about Him, and we are Jesus' disciples when we trust in Him. Everyone in the world needs to hear the good news about Jesus.



EXPERIENCE the Story

The Bible tells us what is true about God and about ourselves. All of the stories in the Bible fit together to tell us the big story of how God rescues sinners through His Son, Jesus.

- Find and circle each name in the word search: Andrew, Peter, Philip, Thomas, Matthew, Judas, James, Thaddaeus, Simon, Bartholomew, John, James

(Note: The name *James* appears twice.)

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

- What does this story teach us about God?

- Why did Jesus choose disciples?

CHRIST CONNECTION

Jesus came to earth to show what God is like and to save people from their sins. This is great news! Jesus told His disciples to tell others about Him, and we are Jesus' disciples when we trust in Him. Everyone in the world needs to hear the good news about Jesus.



APPLY the Story

- Why do you think Jesus picked fishermen and tax collectors to be His disciples instead of kings or religious leaders?
- What does it mean to follow Jesus?
- What do you think might keep someone from following Jesus?

CHRIST CONNECTION

Jesus came to earth to show what God is like and to save people from their sins. This is great news! Jesus told His disciples to tell others about Him, and we are Jesus' disciples when we trust in Him. Everyone in the world needs to hear the good news about Jesus.



APPLY the Story

- Find John 3:30 in your Bible and write the words below.

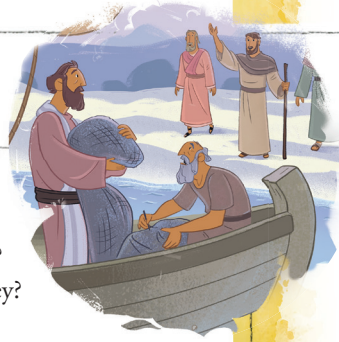
- Write a prayer to God, praising God for coming to earth to be with us. Thank God for not leaving us dead in our sin but for rescuing us and calling us to join His work in sharing the gospel with the whole world.

READ THE WORD

Read one of the following passages each day this week:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1 Corinthians 1:26-31 | <input type="checkbox"/> Matthew 5:14-16 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Matthew 16:24 | <input type="checkbox"/> Luke 14:27 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1 Corinthians 1:18 | <input type="checkbox"/> John 8:31-32 |

Journal Page



- What does this story teach me about God or the gospel?
- What does this story teach me about myself?
- Are there any commands in this story to obey? How are they for God's glory and my good?
- Are there any promises in this story to remember? How do they help me trust and love God?
- How does this story help me to live on mission better?

FAMILY DISCUSSION STARTERS

- Do you follow Jesus? Why or why not?
- How can God use our weakness for His glory?
- What kinds of things might you have to leave behind to follow Jesus? Discuss the costs and rewards of following Jesus.

Jesus Called Disciples

Matthew 4; 9; Mark 1-3; Luke 5-6

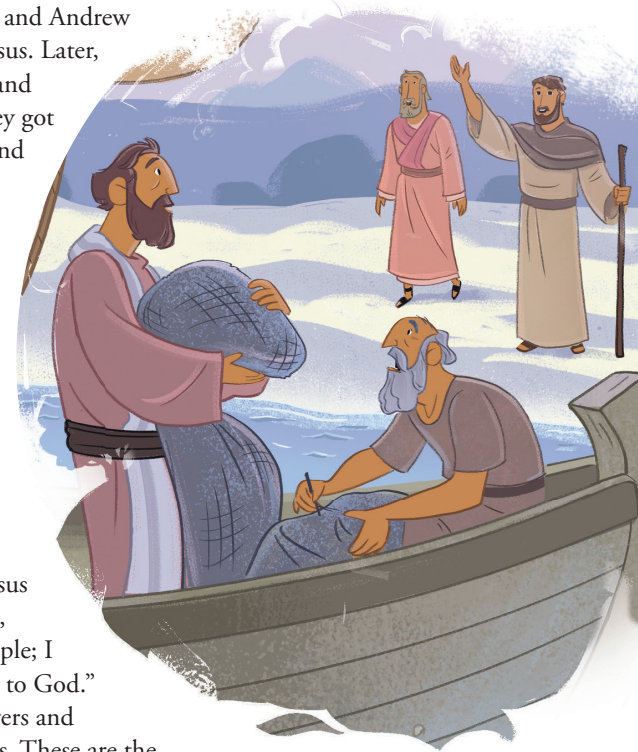
STORY POINT: JESUS CALLED DISCIPLES TO FOLLOW HIM.

Jesus traveled around, preaching about God and telling people to turn away from their sins. Large crowds followed Jesus around and listened to Him teach. One day, Jesus was walking along the Sea of Galilee. He saw two brothers: Simon (who was called Peter) and Andrew. Jesus called out, "Follow Me, and I will teach you to fish for people!" Peter and Andrew dropped their nets and followed Jesus. Later, He saw two more brothers, James and John. Jesus called out to them. They got up, left their father and the boat, and followed Jesus.

Jesus went on and saw a man named Matthew. Jesus called out to him, "Follow Me!" So Matthew got up, left everything behind, and followed Jesus. Matthew had a big feast for Jesus at his house. Many tax collectors and sinners came to eat with Jesus and His disciples. The religious leaders complained to the disciples, "Why does your Teacher eat and drink with tax collectors and sinners?" Jesus heard the religious leaders and said, "I did not come to invite good people; I came to invite sinners to turn back to God."

Later, Jesus gathered His followers and chose 12 of them to be His apostles. These are the men Jesus chose: Simon (Peter), Andrew, James and John, Philip and Bartholomew, Matthew and Thomas, James the son of Alphaeus, Thaddaeus, Simon the Zealot, and Judas Iscariot.

Christ Connection: Jesus came to earth to show what God is like and to save people from their sins. This is great news! Jesus told His disciples to tell others about Him, and we are Jesus' disciples when we trust in Him. Everyone in the world needs to hear the good news about Jesus.



FOLD

The Twelve

Find and circle each disciple's name in the word search.
(Note: The name *James* appears twice.)



ANDREW



PETER



PHILIP



THOMAS



MATTHEW



JUDAS

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



JAMES



THADDAEUS



SIMON



BARTHOLOMEW



JOHN



JAMES

Connection Point

Decode the messages. (Hint: 1 = A, 2 = B, 3 = C, ...)

Jesus told His disciples to $\overline{20-5-12-12}$ $\overline{15-20-8-5-18-19}$ $\overline{1-2-15-21-20}$ $\overline{8-9-13}$.

We are Jesus' disciples when we $\overline{20-18-21-19-20}$ $\overline{9-14}$ $\overline{8-9-13}$.

Everyone in the world needs to hear $\overline{20-8-5}$ $\overline{7-15-15-4}$ $\overline{14-5-23-19}$ $\overline{1-2-15-21-20}$ $\overline{10-5-19-21-19}$.