



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?

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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:

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| ☐ 1 Corinthians 1:26-31 | ☐ Matthew 5:14-16 |
| ☐ Matthew 16:24 | ☐ Luke 14:27 |
| ☐ 1 Corinthians 1:18 | ☐ John 8:31-32 |