

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?



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

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.



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



JAMES



THADDAEUS



SIMON



BARTHOLOMEW



JOHN



JAMES

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

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 $\overline{20-8-5}$ $\overline{7-15-15-4}$ $\overline{14-5-23-19}$ $\overline{1-2-15-21-20}$ $\overline{10-5-19-21-19}$.