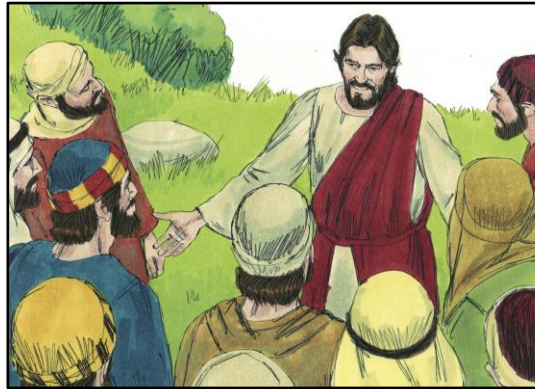


Watch this video:  
<https://youtu.be/KUAe7pGAR-M>  
By Gospel Project

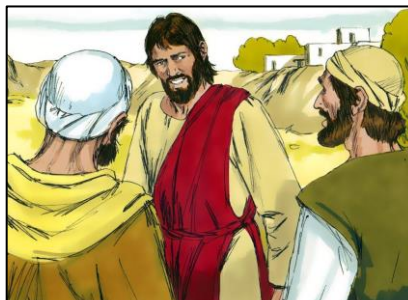


Great for Older Kids:  
<https://youtu.be/tlH-r8ysc7Q>  
Jesus Calls the Tax Collector

### **JESUS CHOOSES THE 12 APOSTLES (MT 4:18-22; 9:9-12; 10:1-4; Mark 1-3; Luke 5-6; JN 1:35-51)**

Have you ever played the game “follow the leader”? One person is the leader and everyone else follows. Whatever the leader does, every follower does exactly the same. The followers want to be like the leader. In the New Testament times a follower was called a “disciple.”

The Bible says that Jesus began His ministry (his work.) He traveled around, preaching about God and telling people to turn away from their sins. Many people wanted to be Jesus’ disciples.



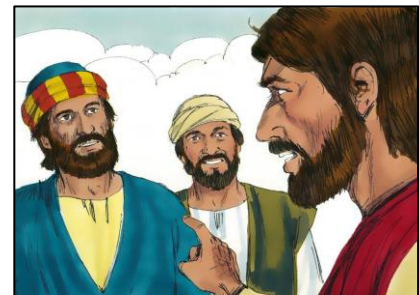
One day when Jesus was walking by the Sea of Galilee he saw 2 brothers, Andrew and Simon Peter. They were casting nets to catch fish. Jesus called out to them and said, “Follow me. I will make you fishers of men.”

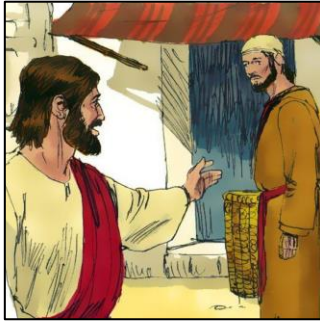
What do you think Jesus meant by fishers of men?

Fishermen usually cast out nets and bring fish in. Fishers of men go fishing for people. They teach people and then bring them to God. Peter and Andrew wanted to become fishers of people. They left their fishing immediately and followed Jesus.

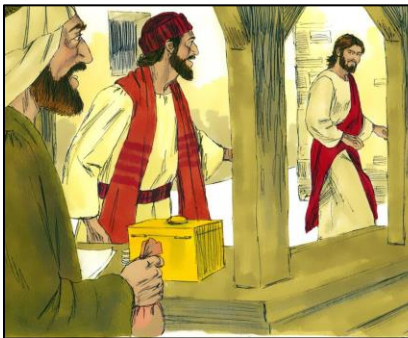


Later, He saw two more brothers – James and John. They were mending their nets. Jesus called them, and right away they left their father and their boat, and followed Jesus.





Jesus also found a man named Philip. Philip found his friend Nathanael and said, "We've found the Messiah! He is Jesus from Nazareth!" Nathanael (also called Bartholomew) started following Jesus too.

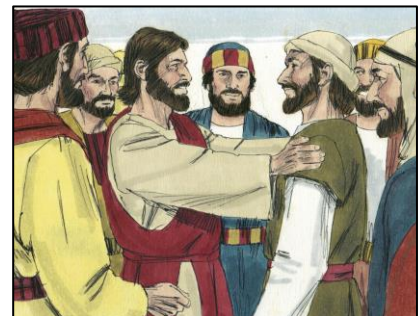


Jesus went on and saw a man named Matthew (who was also called Levi.) Matthew was sitting at the tax table. He was a tax collector. Many people didn't like tax collectors because tax collectors were unfair. Jesus called out to him, "Follow Me!" So, Matthew got up, left everything and followed Jesus.

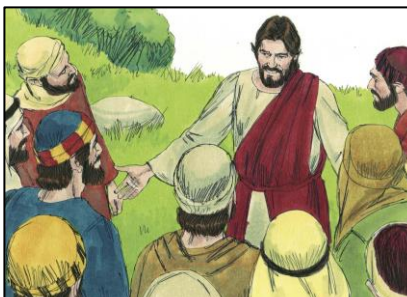
Matthew had a big party for Jesus at his house. Many tax collectors and other people came to meet Jesus.

When the Jewish leaders heard about this, they asked the disciples, "Why does your Teacher eat with people who do bad things?" Jesus explained that, "Sick people are the ones who need a doctor. I came to help all those who are sick with sin."

Soon James (called "James the Less" because he was younger than the other James) and Thomas followed Jesus. Then another Simon, Thaddeus and Judas Iscariot.



Now Jesus had many disciples.



One night, Jesus prayed to God all night long. The next day He chose 12 men to be His "12 Apostles." These are the men Jesus chose: Peter, Andrew, James, John, Philip, Thomas, Matthew, Bartholomew, James the Less, Simon the Zealot, and Judas Iscariot. These 12 Apostles spent most of their time with Jesus. They told others about Him.

I want to be a disciple and follow Jesus!  
I want to help others know Jesus too!

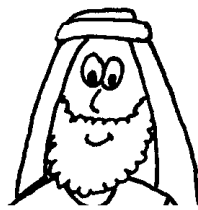


### JESUS CHOSE HIS 12 APOSTLES

Color their pictures.



Peter



James



John



Judas



Andrew



Philip



Bartholomew



Matthew



Thomas



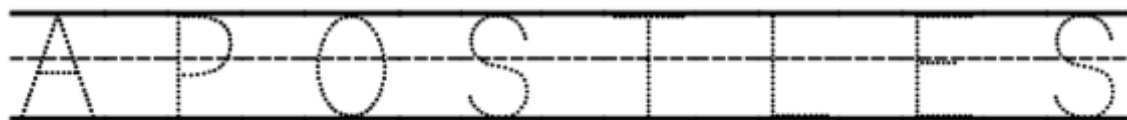
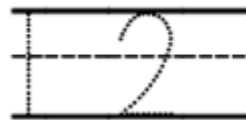
James



Thaddaeus



Simon



In the puzzle, circle the names of the 12 disciples.  
You will find them across, down and diagonally.

Simon Peter  
Simon  
Andrew

James  
Philip  
Bartholomew

Thomas  
Matthew  
Thaddaeus

Judas  
James  
John



S I M O N P E T E R T  
A I T J O H N H J M A  
J A M E S I J O A A N  
B D S O T L M M M T D  
C E A M N I S A E T R  
J U D A S P H S S H E  
B A R T H O L O M E W  
T H A D D A E U S W J

