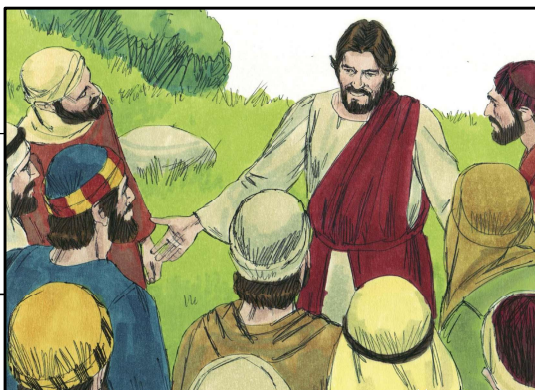


Lifeway Project video:
<https://youtu.be/KUAe7pGAR-M>
by ICAKids

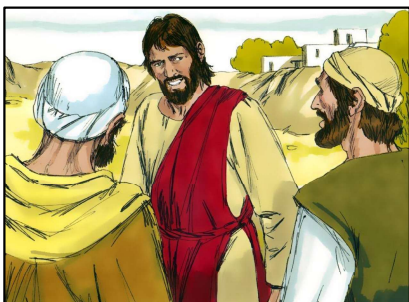


Great for Older
Kids:
<https://youtu.be/tlH-r8ysc7Q>
Jesus Calls the Tax
Collector by Bible

Lesson 7: JESUS CHOOSES THE 12 APOSTLES

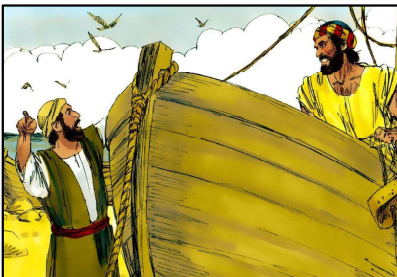
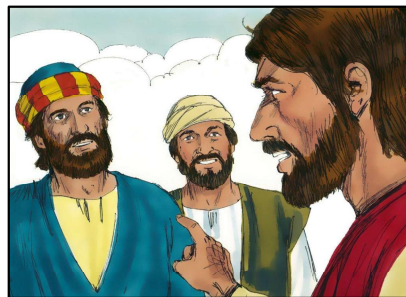
(Matt. 4:18-22; 9:9-12; 10:1-4; Mark 1-3; Luke 5-6; John 1:35-51)

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 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.

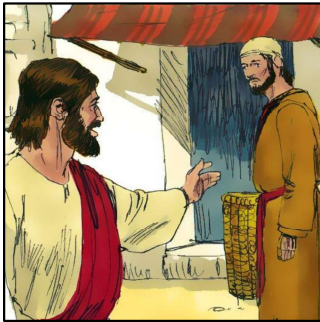
One day when Jesus was walking by the Sea of Galilee he saw 2 brothers, Andrew and Simon Peter. They were casting nets to catch fish. Jesus called out to them and said, “Follow me. I will make you fishers of men.”



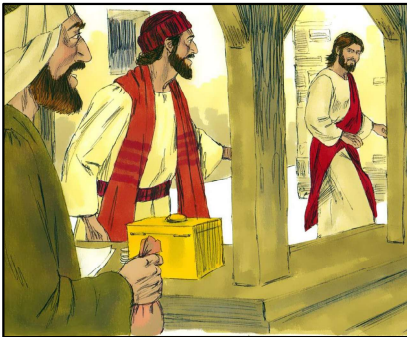
What do you think Jesus meant by fishers of men?

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

Later, Jesus saw more brothers – James and John. They were mending their nets. Jesus called them. 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.

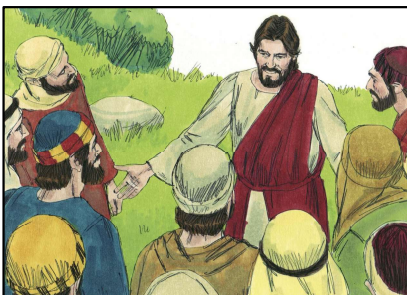
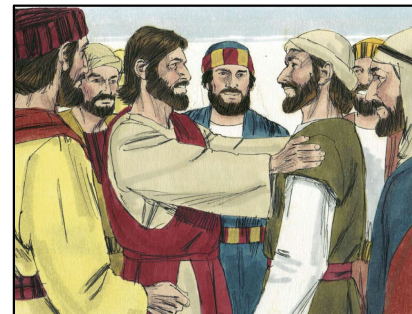


Jesus went on and saw a man named Matthew (who was also called Levi.) Matthew was sitting at the tax table. He was a tax collector. Many people didn’t like tax collectors because tax collectors were unfair. Jesus called out to him, “Follow Me!” So, Matthew got up, left everything and followed Jesus.

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, “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.



Jesus had many disciples or followers. But he wanted to choose special helpers. So, one night he prayed all night long. The next day, he named the “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 traveled with Jesus and were very close friends. I want to help others know Jesus too!

PRIMARY GRADES ACTIVITY

COLOR THE PICTURES OF JESUS' 12 APOSTLES



Peter



James



John



Judas



Andrew



Philip



Bartholomew



Matthew



Thomas



James



Thaddaeus



Simon

12

APOSTLES

UPPER GRADES ACTIVITY

In the puzzle, circle the names of the 12 Apostles.
They may go across, down or diagonally.

SIMON PETER	JAMES	THOMAS	JUDAS
SIMON	PHILIP	MATTHEW	JAMES
BARTHOLOMEW	THADDAEUS	ANDREW	JOHN

