

Date – April 25, 2021
Scripture/Bible Story/Theme Matthew 4, 9, Mark 1, 2, 3, Luke 5, 6 Children's Illustrated Bible – p. 210-211 Jesus Calls His Disciples and You!
Workshop Name Disciple Trading Cards and Games
Opening Prayer Dear Lord, Learning about Jesus and his call to his disciples reminds us that we too are called to be disciples of Jesus. Amen
Objectives <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Locate the story in the New Testament. 2. Retell the story in their own words. 3. Know what a "disciple" is and ways Jesus calls us. 4. Feel called to follow Jesus. 5. Consider what in your life or attitude you need to put aside in order to follow. 6. Understand that Kids' Kingdom is training camp for disciples.
Supplies – You will find in your supply bag the copied pages of the disciples. You will need scissors at home to cut the cards apart. Then perhaps you will need a rubber band, an envelope or a baggie to keep the cards. Below you will find a smaller copy of the cards that can be used by an adult during one of the games described below. For some reason the Judas card is different, but he is still included. Also included is an index card for them to make a disciple card for themselves. See directions in the activity below.



Andrew



James-John



Judas-crying



Jude-Thaddeus



Little James



Mary-perfume



Matthew



Nathanael-Bartholomew



Peter



Philip



Simon the Zealot



Thomas

Activity

Important Notes –

About the Story's Setting

The Sea of Galilee, also known as Kinneret, Lake of Gennesaret, or Lake Tiberias, is the largest freshwater lake in Israel. About 30 fishing towns surrounded the Sea of Galilee during Jesus' time, the largest town being Capernaum. It is a fresh water lake and it is from this "sea" that Israel's homes have water. The Sea of Galilee is the location of the beginning of Jesus' public ministry.

Important for the children to realize is that the word "disciple" means "follower" or "learner."

When we read this we are going to back track just a little to read p. 208 which gives background information on daily life in Jesus' time. Next week we will read p. 209 so that we have covered both pages.

The Disciples

Jesus' calling of his first disciples is one of the most remembered stories of the Bible. The event is recorded in all four gospels, although it is described slightly differently in each of them. The first four disciples called were two pairs of brothers — Simon Peter & Andrew and James & John, the sons of Zebedee. (Luke does not mention Andrew in his version.) It is interesting that Jesus called brothers and indicates that there's something powerful about families following Christ together. Who are these brothers? While they may have been simple fishermen, this is not to say they weren't community leaders or unskilled in the Torah. Indeed, Peter's brother Andrew, whom Luke doesn't immediately mention in the story, was a disciple of John the Baptist. Andrew seems to have met Jesus before Peter did. When John the Baptist points out Jesus, saying "Behold the Lamb" Andrew begins to follow Jesus. One of the first people Andrew was called to bring to Christ was his brother Peter. Then Andrew was required to take a back seat and allow his older brother to be the lead disciple. James, son of Zebedee, was the older brother to John. James had a fishing partnership with Peter and Andrew. He and his brother were bold and energetic.

John was the younger brother to James. Like Andrew, he had heard John the Baptist say, "Behold the Lamb," and became willing to be a disciple. One thing we can conclude from these backgrounds is that the first disciples were likely "seekers." They had taken the time to go hear John the Baptist. They were receptive though not yet believers.

Edited from Workshop Rotation

Game One: "Concentration" —the disciple matching game.

Split into teams of two players each who are sitting across the table from each other. Combine two decks and deal all 24 cards out face down in six rows of four cards each. Taking turns, play a simple old-fashioned game of "concentration." Turn over two cards, and collect them if they match. If they don't, turn them face down again and your turn is over.

Play Game One a second time, but **THIS TIME** —whenever a card is matched, the student must read it aloud to the rest of their group. Tell them to **"listen closely because in the next game they are going to have to remember something about that disciple to win the card!"** Read the cards to your students if they can't read.

Game Two: Which Disciple Am I?

First Round: Who Am I?

Have the students put away their cards, and use your own "teacher's deck" for this game. The teacher's deck could simply be the printed sheet above. Tell them that you will be placing 3 cards face-up on the table, with the information on each card **HIDDEN** by a sheet of paper you will slide the cards under so that they can only see the picture and name of the disciple.

Instructions: Pick 3 cards from the deck, and only **READ ALOUD** the description from 1 of them. Then place all 3 cards face up on the table so that only the name and picture of the disciple is showing. Give the students 30 seconds to decide which disciple matches the

description you read, and when you say, "CHOOSE" each student immediately points to the card they think matches the description you read aloud. Award the winning card to the individual who pointed at it and return the other two cards to your own deck. If both individuals point at the same card, award them each a point.

Play until all 12 cards have been used.

Game Three: How Fast Can You Find the Disciple?

Instructions: The teacher reads the following quotes which contain clues from the card in their hand. The first team to say which card is in the teacher's hand gets to keep the card. Let them look at their deck of cards, but don't give them much time.

1. This disciple was a close friend of Jesus and brought people to see him. (Philip)

Point: Disciples bring their friends to learn from Jesus.

2. This disciple collected taxes for the Romans which made him feel like an outcast. (Matthew)

Point: You may feel like an unpopular weirdo, but you could be Jesus' best friend!

3. This disciple did something really bad, but you can bet Jesus forgave him. (Judas)

No matter what you've done or will do, you can be a disciple of Jesus.

4. This disciple listened to his teacher who told him to go follow Jesus. (Andrew)

Point: It is important to listen to disciples like a parent or teacher.

5. This disciple had to change his thinking about what was right and wrong. (Simon)

Point: Jesus' ways will challenge your thinking. Are you ready?

Draw your own disciple card on the index card.

What would your Disciple Card say about you? Draw a picture of yourself and write about a skill or talent you have, and how you could use it to lead others to Jesus?

Reflection/Evaluation – Why is it important for you to know what your disciple card would say? What would be your strongest points?

Lord's Prayer

