

Date May 9, 2021
Scripture/Bible Story/Theme Matthew 4, 9, Mark 1, 2, 3, Luke 5, 6 Children's Illustrated Bible – p. 210-211 ***** Note this is the third week of the same passage so it probably won't take as long to read or discuss. Jesus Calls His Disciples and You!
Workshop Name Wanted Posters
Opening Prayer Dear Lord, Guide me all the days of my life as your disciple. Learning about your disciples gives me strength to follow you as they so long ago. 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 – The supply bag will include a half sheet of poster board for the poster. The supply bag will also include some items to decorate the poster. The little baggies will have feathers, jewels, pipe cleaners and stickers. At home you need scissors, glue, tape and marking pens.
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, visible on the right in the picture below. 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." 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 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

Help Wanted Posters – I included in the lesson plan some pictures of five years ago when we last did this activity.

Brainstorm Together:

If we were to write out a job description for a disciple, a person who will “fish” for people, what kind of person do you think Jesus is looking for today? What are the skills you think that person needs, the equipment, the education, and what being a fisher of people would require. Make a list of those attributes Jesus would be looking for in a disciple.

Make a WANTED POSTER. The top of the poster will say **"WANTED: Disciples who"**. Write a list of the characteristics and requirements. Include the words **"Do you fit the description?"**

You might consider the following discussion about how Jesus would “catch” someone to be a disciple.

If we're to be the fishermen and women, you would have to figure out:

Who, What, Where, When, How?

Who are the fish? (friends, family who don't know Jesus)

What is the first thing a fisherman must do to fish? (Select a good spot)

Where is a good spot to fish for people?

Where can you find people who need Jesus? (Anywhere) Playgrounds, schools, stores, homes etc. Any place where people are can become a good fishing spot.

After the fisherman selects a spot, what does he have to have? (Fishing equipment. Boats, nets, bait etc.)

When you find people who need Jesus, what equipment do you need to be able to share with them? (The Word of God, a knowledge about Jesus and spiritual things and prayer. That is why we read our Bibles and study our lessons. We need to store away truths and know what we believe before we can share it with others.)

Fishing for people without prayer is like fishing for fish without a net or pole. You're not going to catch a thing. You're wasting your time.

To continue on with the Wanted Poster:

They can complete decorating the poster with any of the supplies in the supply bag.

Reflection/Evaluation - Ask them to pray first silently and ask God to help them think of someone they could share Jesus with. Could be someone at home, school, sports, child or adult.



