

KIDTOWN GUIDE

1st-5th Grades

DATE: 4/26/20

SCRIPTURE: Matthew 4 + 9
(Mark 1-3; Luke 5-6)

LESSON: Jesus Called Disciples



INTRO

Parents say to your kid(s) - Can you remember what we learned about last week? (Give them a second to think) That's right! We learned about Jesus' temptation. It's so important that Jesus was tempted like us, but never sinned. That means He can relate to our temptation, and He can be our perfect sacrifice who paid for our sins. Today we're going to learn about Jesus calling His first followers, called disciples.

Follow the Leader - Kids love to learn in concrete ways. This activity is a simple object lesson to help your kids interact with the Bible story they're about to learn. Have everyone stand in a line with one person leading the line around the room. Each leader has to pick a silly motion or dance move and everyone following must mimic their motions.



LESSON - JESUS CALLED DISCIPLES

Watch the Gospel Project Bible video: [Jesus Called Disciples](#)

Let's dive right into ... **Story Point #1:** (Kids repeat!)

Jesus wants people to become His disciples. (Kids repeat!)

Before anyone ever used the word "Christian", followers of Jesus were called His disciples. A disciple is someone who follows. Someone who wants to walk so close and so near to their teacher that they learn how to live just like Him. Being one of Jesus' disciples has always included three things. Repeat these after me:

- 1.) **Be with Jesus.** Disciples of Jesus love to spend time with Him. They want to talk to Him, learn from Him and just enjoy Him.
- 2.) **Become like Jesus.** Disciples of Jesus become like Him as they spend time with Him. They grow to care about what He cares about, and be the kind of person He is.
- 3.) **Do what Jesus did.** Disciples of Jesus want to learn how to live like Jesus. They pray and spend time with God like Jesus did. They love other people like Jesus did. They serve like Jesus did.

Story Point #2: (Kids repeat!)

Jesus calls His disciples to drop everything and follow Him. (Kids repeat!)

Imagine you are holding all your stuffed animals and toys. Then someone tells you to give your Mom a huge hug. That'd be hard right? It'd be impossible! To hug your mom, you'd have to drop your toys. You can't hold onto both.

That's kind of what it's like when Jesus calls us to be His disciples. Just like in this story, we have to let go of anything else being most important in our life. That's the only way we can hold onto Him with everything.

Story Point #3: (Kids repeat!)

Jesus only lets sinners become His disciples. (Kids repeat!)

The Pharisees did not like the people Jesus wanted to be His followers. But Jesus told them that only sick people need a doctor. Jesus wants all kinds of people to be



CONTINUED

His disciples: young, old, rich, poor, men, women, black, white and anyone else! There is only one thing Jesus says people must be first before they can be His disciple. Just. One. THING! And it's totally surprising. Jesus says we have to admit we're sinners who need Him to be our doctor. And that leads us to our ...

Christ Connection! (Kids repeat!)

Jesus is the perfect disciple. (kids repeat)

None of us can be perfect disciples, but Jesus is the perfect disciple, He never sinned, He always walked with God. He was exactly like God. He only did what God does and said everything God told Him to say. And because Jesus was a perfect disciple, He can die in our place. He can invite sinners like us to be His disciples. He can forgive us for all of our sins.



RESPONSE

Sing: Lord I need You - ([Lyric Video](#))
He Must Increase ([Lyric Video](#))

Bible Verse:

Check out the weekly [Bible Verse Video](#)! Read and memorize the Bible Verse together. "He must increase, I must decrease." -John 3:30.

Say: *Jesus is the most important of all. Everyone in the world needs to hear about Jesus. That's why we say "He must increase, I must decrease!" God made us to show how great God is, not how great we are!*

Pray: Dear God, thank You that Jesus was a perfect disciple. We can't be perfect disciples, but we know that you only want imperfect sinners like us to be Your followers. Help us want to be with You, become like You and do the things You do. Amen.

Discuss:

- What stood out to you from this story? *Let kids answer. Non-spiritual answers are okay--we want them to interact with Scripture, not just regurgitate facts.*
- What kinds of jobs did Jesus' followers have? *Fishermen, tax collectors*
- How many followers did Jesus choose to be His disciples? *12*
- What are the three big parts of being Jesus' disciple?
 - 1.) *Be with Jesus.*
 - 2.) *Become like Jesus.*
 - 3.) *Do what Jesus did.*
- Does anyone have any questions? Was anything about this lesson confusing?
 - *Allow time for questions and if you don't know the answers, that's okay. Affirm their question and let them know that you don't know but will try to find out.*
 - *If you have any questions you are really stumped on, feel free to email us hdisbrow@midtowncolumbia.com*



BONUS ACTIVITIES

Coloring Sheet - Print out this [coloring sheet](#) of Jesus calling His disciples.

Parent Share - What rhythms do you have in your life to help you be with Jesus, become like Jesus and do what Jesus did?

Hat Toss - Grab a chair and a baseball cap (or any type of hat). Turn the chair over so that the legs are in the air. Assign point values to each of the legs. Then take turns tossing the hat onto the chair legs. See who can rack up the most points after ten turns.