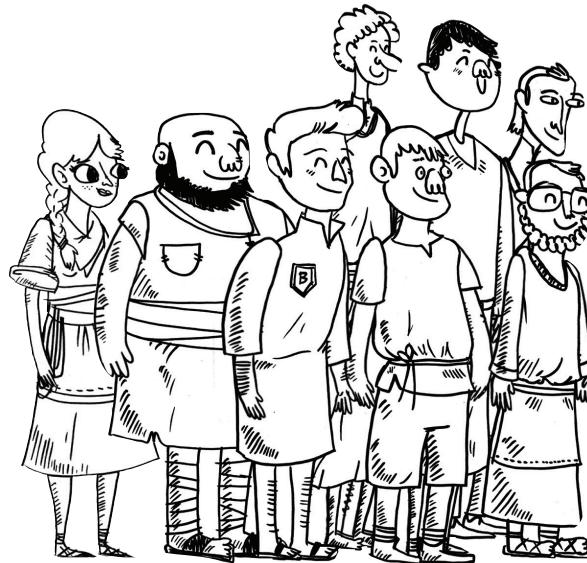


Calling Disciples

Matthew 4:12-23, 9:9-13, 10:1-4;
Luke 5:1-11, 8:1-3



Jesus had just begun his ministry, but already, huge crowds of people gathered to hear him wherever he went. Jesus came upon some fishermen and called them to be his first disciples. The fishermen dropped their nets and followed him. Over and over, Jesus called ordinary people to follow him. Giving up their lives and their jobs, they became disciples who chose to follow Jesus.

Take a Look

Here are some of the people and things in today's story. What can your child tell you about them?



Simon (called Peter) and Andrew were brothers and fishermen. They followed Jesus when he promised to show them how to fish for people.



James and John were sons of Zebedee and also fishermen. They, too, dropped their nets to follow Jesus.



Matthew was an outcast because he was a tax collector for Rome who could make extra money by taking too much in taxes. He left his old life to follow Jesus.

About the Video

When Jesus came out of the wilderness, he wanted to gather disciples to help him in his ministry. He picked men and women from various walks of life and asked them to leave behind their jobs, families, and security to follow him. Some did, and some didn't.

- Who do you think gave up the most to follow Jesus? Why?
- What would you have said if Jesus had asked you to leave your family and follow him?
- How can you follow Jesus today?

Try This!

Play a game of "Follow the Leader"—disciple style. Choose a leader, then leave everything behind and see how far you can get from your house before you need to go home! Don't forget to take turns being the leader!

Prayer

Dear Jesus, help us to know when you are calling us to follow you. We want to be your disciples and fish for people, too! Amen!