

# The Disciples – preschool

## Matthew 4:12-23; 9:9-13

### January 22, 2023

#### Opening Activity

**ASK:** Have you ever gone fishing? What things do you need when you are fishing? (*talk about poles, nets, tackle boxes, bobbers, lures, etc.*) **SAY:** We're going to hear about some brothers who make their living by catching fish in a net, in today's Bible story.

**ASK:** What are some things people do with money? We're going to meet some people who worked with fish and with money in today's story.

#### Prayer:

Let's pray before our story. I'll say a line and then you say, "Jesus loves me!"

Dear God,  
I'm happy to be here today.  
Help me hear.  
Help me learn.  
Help me remember.  
Amen.

## EXPLORE

**SAY:** It's time to hear a story from God's Word, the Bible. Today's, we are going to hear about brothers who make their living going fishing. They fish and fish and fish until Jesus invites them to do something else. Let's hear what happens then.

- Video lesson – [Jesus Calls His Disciples](#)

**Ask:** What was Simon, Andrew, James, and John's job before they met Jesus? (*fishing*) What did Jesus ask the fishermen to do? (*follow him*) Would you follow Jesus? **Say:** Jesus wants everyone to follow him. Jesus wants everyone to hear how much he loves them. Like the disciples, I can follow Jesus. Jesus loves me! You can follow Jesus! Jesus loves you!

## "Jesus Loves Me" Puzzle Sticks

Kids make puzzles as they remember: "Jesus loves me!"

#### Supplies:

*Wooden craft sticks, eight per kid, Markers, Masking tape or Duct tape, Envelopes, Heart stickers (optional)*

#### Directions:

**Say:** In today's story, Jesus wanted the people to follow him because Jesus loved them. I bet all of you know the song "Jesus Loves Me." Let's sing it together! *Sing together*

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*before moving on to the art project.* Today, we're going to make something to remind us that Jesus loves us.

1. Give each kid 8 wooden craft sticks. Show kids how to lay their craft sticks side by side to create a small plaque. Use tape to secure the sticks.
  2. **Say:** Sometimes, we use the symbol of a heart to remind us of love. When we're talking about Jesus' love, we like to use a cross. We're going to make our own puzzle stick design using hearts and crosses.
  3. Invite kids to draw a design across the sticks that incorporates both hearts and crosses.
  4. When kids are pleased with their designs, help them to remove the duct tape from the back, mix up the sticks, and see if they can recreate the picture.
  5. Pass out envelopes. Ask kids to put their puzzle pieces inside to them together.
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### People Paper Chain - Craft

Supplies needed: construction paper, scissors, pencil, and colored pencils or crayons to color.

**SAY:** Today we learned that Jesus called different people to follow him. **ASK:** Do you think the people all looked the same? Who else can follow Jesus?

Say: Let's make a chain of people to follow Jesus!

#### Instructions:

- Go to [Wiki How](#) and follow the directions to make a chain of people.
- Have your child color the people differently to show that everyone is different and welcome in God's Kingdom.