



# Jesus Calls His Disciples

Lesson Aim: To know what it means to follow Jesus.

## THE WORSHIP

Who God is: The King Who is With Us

## THE WORD

Bible Story: Luke 5:1-11

What He has done: Jesus called regular people to follow Him.

Key Verse: Luke 5:10b-11

## THE WAY

Christ Connection: Isaiah 41:9

## BIBLE MEMORY VERSE

"The Word became flesh and made His dwelling among us. We have seen His glory, the glory of the One and Only, Who came from the Father, full of grace and truth." John 1:14

Unit 1: The King Who is With Us			
	Bible Story	What He Has Done	Lesson Aim
1	Jesus and His Father's House, Luke 2:41-52	God came to earth and grew up as a boy of faith.	To inspire children to model Jesus' childhood.
2	Jesus Is Baptized, Mark 1:1-11	God told Jesus He loved Him and was pleased with Him.	To study the relationship between God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit.
3	Jesus Is Tempted, Matthew 4:1-11	Jesus resisted temptation and battled Satan using God's Word.	To see how scriptures help us in fighting temptation.
4	Jesus Calls His Disciples, Luke 5:1-11	Jesus called regular people to follow Him.	To know what it means to follow Jesus.
5	Jesus Clears the Temple, Mark 11:15-17	Jesus cleared the temple.	To know God's house is a house of prayer; special and holy to God.
6	Jesus Is Transfigured, Matthew 17:1-9	Jesus' appearance changed and He spoke to Moses and Elijah.	To know Jesus is both God and man.

## TEACHER'S ENCOURAGEMENT

This week, read 2 Peter 1:16-21. Please join us in praying, "Thank you for calling us to follow You. Show us how to train the children well in ways to follow You today. Amen."



**THE WORSHIP  
THE WORD &  
THE WAY**

Segment	Minutes	Activity	Supplies
THE WELCOME	Up to 15	Meet & Greet	None
		Game: Fishing Relay	Two small nets (can be squares of cloth), one fish per child (toy or paper), two buckets
THE WORSHIP	Up to 20	<b>Worship</b> Sheet music and recordings for Bible Memory Verse Songs available at ResourceWell.org	<b>Unit 1 Bible Memory Verse Song:</b> "The Word Became Flesh" <b>Other Bible Memory Verse Song Suggestions:</b> "Chosen People" "Do Justly" "Follow Me" "Think About These Things" <b>Additional Hymn Suggestion:</b> "Take My Life and Let It Be" <b>Additional Song Collection Suggestions:</b> Absolute All Time Favorites For Kids Cedarhurst Worship for Kids: Volume 2
		<b>Worship Scripture Reading:</b> Matthew 16:24	Bible
		<b>Offering</b>	Baskets
		<b>Worship Illustration</b>	Lesson 4 Kingdom Adventures script or storybook
THE WORD	Up to 10	Read the Word: Luke 5:1-11	Map—Israel and the Middle East, the Sea of Galilee, Bibles, Bible Story Scripture reference poster, highlighters
THE WAY	Up to 25	<b>Discuss the Word</b> <b>Christ Connection:</b> Isaiah 41:9	Bibles, Christ Connection Scripture reference poster, highlighters, Called to Be Disciples of Jesus sign up sheet, fish-shaped blank note paper, pencils, fish net or bag decorated to look like a fish net
		<b>Golden Bowl</b>	
		Final 5	<b>Final Five Minutes</b>
GOT TIME?	Up to 10	<b>Snack:</b> Fish Snacks	Fish-shaped crackers or candy
	Up to 10	<b>Game:</b> Follow The Leader	None
	Up to 10	<b>Craft:</b> Follow Jesus Certificates	Sturdy standard-size paper, markers, washable ink pad or paint
	Up to 10	<b>Discussion:</b> Following Jesus	None
	Up to 10	<b>Bible Memory Verse Activity:</b> The Wave	Unit 1 Bible Memory Verse poster or Bible
	Up to 5	<b>Bible Memory Verse Activity:</b> Find the Verse Race	Four Bibles, Unit 1 Bible Memory Verse poster, four pieces of different colored paper, marker
	Up to 5	<b>Bible Timeline Review</b>	Timeline

**RESOURCES:** Supplemental materials are available at ResourceWell.org.



Getting started

## THE WELCOME

To spark anticipation, encourage arriving children to meet and greet one another with today's question.

**Meet & Greet Question: What is the most amazing thing you've been invited to do?**

### **GAME: FISHING RELAY**

**Purpose:** Introduce the lesson theme by playing a fishing game.

**Supplies:** Two small nets (can be squares of cloth), one fish per child (toy or paper), two buckets

**Prepare:** Divide the fish into two equal piles. Place the fish piles at one end of the room. Place the buckets on the opposite end of the room.

**Who has been fishing?** (Children respond.) **Today, our Bible Story tells how Jesus called three fishermen to follow Him. In this fishing game, we are going to race to see which team can catch all their fish first.**

#### **Directions:**

1. Form two teams and have each team line up behind a pile of fish.
2. Give a net to the first person in line.
3. On your signal, the first player in each line places a fish in his/her net, runs to drop it in the team's bucket, and then runs back to their team.
4. The player hands the net to the next player and goes to the back of the line.
5. The next player repeats the process.
6. When all the fish are in the bucket, the team sits down.
7. The goal is to be the first team to get all their fish into the bucket.



Jesus as the King who is with us

## THE WORSHIP

**Teacher Tip:** To help children identify time set aside for worship, designate a special corner or area for singing, collecting offering, and watching the worship illustration. Play music as children move to the designated area.



Read Worship Scripture: Matthew 16:24.



Sing Unit 1 Bible Memory Verse Song, "The Word Became Flesh." You may also choose to sing songs that focus on following Christ.

**Today, we worship God for who He is and what He has done as the King who is with us. He speaks to us. He calls us. We know what Jesus is saying to us by reading the Bible, praying and talking with others who follow Him.**

**When we gather to worship Jesus, we are gathering to speak to Him together. This is part of the way we follow Him. Let's do that now through our praise songs, prayers and gifts of money. It's all our way of saying, "Jesus, we love You. We want to follow You!" Sing: "Follow Me" and "Take My Life and Let it Be."**



Perform Kingdom Adventures script or read storybook: Kings & Kingdoms Unit 1, Lesson 4.



The disciples followed Jesus

## THE WORD

**Teacher Tip:** As you move from worship to instruction, change rooms or locations within a room to help redirect the children's focus to the Bible story. During this transition time, have each child write his or her name on a card and place it in the Golden Bowl.

**Before we read God's Word, let's go over our Class Covenant. A covenant is an agreement. Just as God made a covenant with His people, I ask each of you to make this covenant promise with me today. Listen as I read our Class Covenant: "I will keep my eyes on my teacher, my mouth in control, my ears on God's Word; knowing God is my goal."**

**Last time, we learned Jesus was tempted in the desert. Who tempted Him? (Satan.) Jesus never did wrong, so how did He fight temptation? (With God's Word.) After Jesus left the desert, He went to the Sea of Galilee where He spoke to Simon Peter and other fishermen. If a map is available, have a child locate the Sea of Galilee.**



**Let's play Find It First! Bring out your Bible; keep it right in front of you.** Hand out spare Bibles. **Today's scripture verse is behind the curtain** (or secret door, secret window, etc.). Child reveals Bible Story Scripture reference: Luke 5:1-11. **Let's see who can Find It First. Ready? Set? Go!** Children race to find it first. The winner helps others find it. **Let's highlight our key verse: Luke 5:10b-11.**

**Before we read, let's stand and ask God to open our eyes, ears, hearts and minds to His Word today. Who'd like to pray that for us?** Child prays aloud. **Be seated.**

**Jesus called the fishermen to follow Him. Let's check out the whole story!** Read Luke 5:1-11.



You can follow Jesus

## THE WAY

Jesus said to Simon Peter, “From now on you will catch men.” What do you think Jesus meant when He said that to Simon Peter? (Just as a fisherman brings fish into his boat, Simon Peter would bring many people into God’s kingdom.)

What do you think are the most important things a fisherman owns? (Nets, fishing poles, fish, boat, etc.) Simon Peter and the fishermen wanted to follow Jesus so much they chose to leave everything and follow Him. Distribute one paper fish and pencil per child. On your paper fish, draw a picture or write the name of one thing you own that is important to you. Then, as you toss your fish into the net, imagine how hard it would be to give that up! Children write or draw and then toss their paper fish into a net or a bag decorated to look like a net.

Close your eyes and picture Jesus as if He was your age and living in your home. Imagine following Jesus through His day. What do you think Jesus would do? How would He spend His time? How would He treat others in your family? Would He be kind? Would He pray? (Children respond.)

Now picture Jesus as if He was your age at school or church. Imagine following Jesus as He spent the day with your teachers and friends. How do you think He would spend His time? Would He listen and work hard? How would He treat your teachers and friends? Would He be respectful? (Children respond.)



Connecting the Old Testament, the New Testament and Us

## CHRIST CONNECTION

Jesus calls His disciples to follow Him. Matthew reports that Simon Peter, James and John heard Jesus call to them and say, “Come, follow Me.” Today, how do we know Jesus is calling us to follow Him? (Children respond.) We don’t always hear Jesus calling with our ears, but we can hear Him calling with our hearts. When we read the Bible, pray, and worship God, we can know Jesus wants us to follow Him.



***FIND IT FIRST*** > Everyone, place your Bible closed on your lap. Choose a child to reveal the Christ Connection Scripture reference: Isaiah 41:9. Let’s see who can Find It First! Ready? Set? Go! Find it and highlight it. Read Isaiah 41:9.

Create a blank page with the title: CALLED TO BE DISCIPLES OF JESUS. Teacher may add names of the first disciples such as Simon Peter, James and John to the list. This is a sign up list for disciples of Jesus. The word, “disciple” means follower. If you believe Jesus has chosen you and called you to follow Him, sign your first name on the list of His disciples. As you circulate the sign up sheet, discuss the miracle catch of fish and the way the fishermen left everything to follow Jesus.

# THE WAY *continued...*



Revelation 5:8

## GOLDEN BOWL

**Teacher Tip:** Write the names of classmates, local church leaders, and children in other nations or others who need prayer on small pieces of paper. Place the papers in a golden bowl.

**Revelation 5:8 says our prayers are like sweet smelling incense in the golden bowls at God's throne. I'm going to lift each one of your names to God's throne as you pray for each person silently. Then we will pray the Lord's Prayer (Matthew 6:9-13) aloud together. Let's pray.**

**Lord God, we lift up to Your throne the name of each child here. We trust You to watch over us and our needs, the ones we say aloud and the ones hidden in our hearts. First, we lift up to You \_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_. Read names in Golden Bowl.**

**Now, we pray the prayer Your Son taught us: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Your name. Your kingdom come, Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one. For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.**



When only 5 minutes remain, begin this segment.

## FINAL FIVE MINUTES

**TREASURE TREAT:** Today, your Treasure Treat is a footprint reminder. Put it in a special place to remind you to make every step you take—everything you say and do—be a step in following Jesus.

**DAILY WAY CHALLENGE:** Did anyone bring in their completed Daily Way from last time? Praise or reward those who return a Daily Way. Distribute Lesson 4 Daily Way 5-day Bible study. **Complete this week's Daily Way at home and let God speak to you through His own words in the Bible. Join the Daily Way Challenge by returning your completed Daily Way.**

**Teacher Tip:** Collect Daily Ways in a basket or other container and periodically reward children as a group for completing the challenge.

**OFFERING OF ART:** Until it is time to be dismissed, make an Offering of Art. For your offering, draw a picture of Simon Peter leaving his boat and nets full of fish to follow Jesus. The Offering of Art can be finished at home or given as an offering for the teacher to display.

**PRAYER REQUESTS:** As children work on their Offering of Art, ask how you can pray for them this week. Write requests in a prayer notebook.

**BIBLE MEMORY VERSE SONG:** Play the Unit 1 Bible Memory Verse Song in the background as children wait to be dismissed.



If time remains, choose from the connected activities below.

## **GOT TIME?**

### **SNACK: FISH SNACKS**

**Purpose:** Connect personally with your students while enjoying a snack that helps children explore the idea of following a leader.

**Snack Suggestion:** Fish-shaped crackers or candy

**In today's story, the fishermen gave up their fish, nets and boats to follow Jesus. Jesus wants all His followers to put Him first, above everything else.**

**Directions:**

1. Serve the snack and drink.
2. Ask a child to pray and thank God for the snack.
3. Ask the Snack Discussion Question: **"What is the greatest thing you would be willing to give up to follow Jesus?"**

### **GAME: FOLLOW THE LEADER**

**Purpose:** This popular game is a picture of attentively following someone.

**Supplies:** None

**Directions:**

1. Assign one child the role of leader. The remaining children are followers.
2. The leader marches around the room as the followers imitate every move the leader makes.
3. Throughout the game, play or sing the Bible Memory Verse Song "The Word Became Flesh."
4. If there is time, give each child a turn to be the leader.

# GOT TIME? *continued...*

## **CRAFT: FOLLOW JESUS CERTIFICATES**

**Purpose:** For children to make certificates to show their commitment to following Jesus.

**Supplies:** Sturdy standard-size paper, markers, washable ink pad or paint

**Prepare:** Write the following words where the children can copy them: **I, child's name, will follow Jesus everyday.**

**Today, we discovered Jesus called Simon Peter, James and John to follow Him. They were regular people who sinned, but Jesus still wanted them to follow Him. Do we have to be perfect to follow Jesus? (No.) Who does Jesus want to follow Him? (Everyone.) Let's make certificates we can sign when we are ready to follow Jesus.**

### **Directions:**

1. On sturdy paper, write the words "**I, child's name will follow Jesus everyday.**"
2. Create two "footprints" on the certificate.
  - a. Ink the pinky side of the child's fist.
  - b. Press the inked portion of the child's fist onto the paper twice to create the "feet."
  - c. Ink the tip of the child's index finger.
  - d. Press the inked portion of the child's finger above the "foot" five times to create "toes." Re-ink finger and repeat over the other "foot."

**These two "footprints" represent your feet following Jesus. You may sign your certificate now, or take it home and sign it any time you are ready to start following Jesus.**

## **DISCUSSION: FOLLOWING JESUS**

**Purpose:** To discuss making difficult choices.

**Supplies:** None

**The fishermen had to leave everything behind to follow Jesus. As we follow Him, sometimes it is difficult to put Jesus first. Often, we must choose between doing what Jesus wants for us and doing what we want to do. Has there ever been a time when you had to make a difficult choice to do what was right as you followed Jesus?**

# GOT TIME? *continued...*



## BIBLE MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITIES

"The Word became flesh and made His dwelling among us. We have seen His glory, the glory of the One and Only, Who came from the Father, full of grace and truth." John 1:14

### **GAME: THE WAVE**

**Purpose:** Children memorize the Unit 1 Bible Memory Verse: John 1:14.

**Supplies:** Unit 1 Bible Memory Verse poster or Bible

**Let's read our Bible Memory Verse and talk about its meaning.** Children read John 1:14 using Bibles or a Bible Memory Verse Poster. **Another name for Jesus is "the Word."** "The Word became flesh" means Jesus who is God became human while He was still fully God. He "made His dwelling among us" means Jesus lived on earth with regular people like us. "We have seen His glory" means we have seen His greatness; greatness only God has. God is full of grace and truth. Now let's say our Bible Memory Verse in a wave!

#### **Directions:**

1. Assign one phrase from John 1:14 to each child or group.
2. As helper directs, each child/group quickly stands, says assigned phrase while raising both hands up to the sky, then down to thighs and sits down.
3. Repeat three times going faster each time.

### **GAME: FIND THE VERSE RACE**

**Purpose:** Use this game to introduce, discuss and memorize the Unit 1 Bible Memory Verse.

**Supplies:** Four Bibles, Unit 1 Bible Memory Verse poster, four pieces of different colored paper, marker

**Prepare:** Write **John 1:14** on each sheet of colored paper. Hide the sheets around the room. Place four Bibles in the center of the room.

#### **Directions:**

1. Divide the class into four teams and assign one of the paper colors to each team.
2. On your signal, the teams are to search the room to find the paper color assigned to their team.
3. As soon as a team finds its paper, that team must get a Bible from the center of the room, find the verse and read it aloud. The goal is to be the first team to read the verse aloud.
4. Hold up the Bible Memory Verse poster and have the class repeat the verse together with you.
5. Finish this activity by saying the verse together as a class.

**Who is "The Word"?** (Jesus.) **Why do you think Jesus is called "The Word"?** (Children respond.)  
**Jesus speaks God's words because He is God's Son. God the Father sent Jesus to help us know and be close to Him.**

# GOT TIME? *continued...*



## BIBLE TIMELINE REVIEW

Kings & Kingdoms Part One studies the life of Jesus (Circa 0-33 A.D.) beginning with the only story of His childhood and then focusing on His relationships, His ministry, His teachings, and the events surrounding His death, resurrection, and ascension. It concludes with a study of His kingdom parables. Review recent Bible stories to see the continuing story of who God is and what He has done.

**Jesus is Baptized (Circa 30 A.D.) Who baptized Jesus?** (His cousin, John the Baptist.) **What did God the Father say when Jesus came out of the water?** ("You are my Son, Whom I love; with You I am well pleased.") **What did the Holy Spirit do?** (He descended like a dove and rested on Jesus.)

**Jesus is Tempted (Circa 30 A.D.) List the three ways in which Satan tempted Jesus.** (To make bread from stones, to throw Himself off the temple, and to be given all the world's kingdoms.) **Each time, what did Jesus use to fight the temptation?** (God's Word.)

**Jesus Calls His Disciples (Circa 30 A.D.) Who are the fishermen mentioned in this story?** (Simon Peter, James and John.) **What did the fishermen do after they caught so many fish and pulled their boats to shore?** (They left everything and followed Jesus.)

How to create a Bible Timeline for the Life of Jesus:

1. Print each footprint on sturdy paper.
2. Choose a wall or other visible location to display the timeline.
3. Before each lesson, add the footprint for that lesson to the Bible Timeline using the list below.  
Children can follow in Jesus' footsteps as they review past lessons.
4. To review, ask the corresponding questions as you point to the associated footprint.

Life of Jesus: Jesus and His Father's House > Jesus Is Baptized > Jesus Is Tempted > Jesus Calls His Disciples > Jesus Clears the Temple > Jesus Is Transfigured > Jesus Teaches the Beatitudes > Jesus and Nicodemus > Jesus and the Woman at the Well > Jesus with Mary and Martha > Jesus and Zacchaeus > Jesus Is Anointed > The Triumphal Entry > Jesus Washes His Disciples' Feet > Jesus and the Last Supper > Jesus in the Garden > Jesus and the Cross > Jesus Is Risen > The Road to Emmaus > Jesus Talks with Peter > The Great Commission > The King Ascends

Kingdom Parables: The Lost Sheep > The Sower > The Vine and the Branches > The Workers in the Vineyard > The Great Banquet > The Rich Fool > The Talents > Lazarus and the Rich Man > The Lost Son > The Good Samaritan