



# Jesus Calls His Disciples

Lesson Aim: To know Jesus calls each of us to follow Him.

## 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.

## THE WAY

**Whisper Verse:** "Come, follow Me."

## BIBLE MEMORY VERSE

"Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right." Ephesians 6:1

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 want to be in God's house.
2	Jesus is Baptized, Mark 1:1-11	God told Jesus He loved Him and was pleased with Him.	To see God the Father loves Jesus and God loves each of us.
3	Jesus is Tempted, Matthew 4:1-11	Jesus resisted temptation and answered Satan with scripture.	To show God is pleased when we do what is right.
4	Jesus Calls His Disciples, Luke 5:1-11	Jesus called regular people to follow Him.	To know Jesus calls each of us to follow Him.
5	Jesus Clears the Temple, Mark 11:15-17	Jesus cleared the temple.	To know God's house is holy.
6	Jesus is Transfigured, Matthew 17:1-8	Jesus face shone like the sun and God said to listen to Him.	To know God wants us to listen to Him.

## 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."



Segment	Minutes	Activity	Supplies
THE WELCOME	Up to 15	Treasure Chest	Treasure chest, stamp or sticker of a fish
		Whisper Verse	Sign language for "Come, follow Me."
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> "Children, Obey Your Parents" <b>Other Bible Memory Verse Song Suggestions:</b> "Blessed Are Those" "Give Thanks to the Lord" "I Can Do Everything" "It's Praise Time!" "Let Everything That Has Breath" "Sing Praises" <b>Additional Hymn Suggestions:</b> "I Love You, Lord" "Jesus Loves Me" <b>Additional Song Collection Suggestions:</b> Cedarhurst Toddler Bible Songs The Ultimate Bible Song Collection for Kids Vol. 1
		Offering	Baskets
		Worship Illustration	<i>The Adventures of Delbert and Lello</i> puppet script or storybook: Kings & Kingdoms Unit 1, Lesson 4
THE WORD	Up to 10	Watch the Word: Luke 5:1-11	Teacher's Bible with bookmark at Luke 5:11 Visual: Fishing net
THE WAY	Up to 25	Craft: Follow Me Cards	Standard-size sturdy white paper, washable ink pad, paint or marker (for fingerprinting), markers or crayons
		Game: Follow the Leader	None
		Game: Let's Go Fishing	Two small nets (can be 1 foot squares of cloth), toy or paper fish, bucket
		Snack: Plenty of Fish	Fish-shaped crackers or candy
		Circle of Prayer	None
	Final 5	Final Five	Ponder, Pray & Play: Unit 1, Lesson 4 Color This Story: "Jesus Calling His Disciples"
GOT TIME?	Up to 10	Say & Do: Luke 5:1-11	None
	Up to 10	Game: Jump to Obey	None
	Up to 10	Game: Mother, May I?	None
	Up to 10	Story Time	Any story about following Jesus

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



Come, follow Me

## THE WELCOME

Welcome each child as they arrive. **Hello \_\_\_\_\_. I'm glad you are here! Come open the Treasure Chest to find today's treasure.** Child unlocks the Treasure Chest to receive a stamp or sticker of a fish. **One day, some men were fishing in the sea. Jesus told them to follow Him. Let this stamp (or sticker) remind you to follow Jesus, just like the fishermen did! Today's Whisper Verse is "Come, follow Me."** Teach the Whisper Verse in spoken language and in sign language below. **We call it the Whisper Verse so you can whisper it to others.\***

### **SIGN LANGUAGE: "Come follow Me."**

(For visual demonstrations, see [www.signingsavvy.com](http://www.signingsavvy.com).)

**Each time we say today's Whisper Verse, let's say it with three hand motions:**

- |                 |  |
|-----------------|--|
| <b>"Come"</b>   | Point both index fingers out and move hands toward self.   |
| <b>"follow"</b> | Make two fists with both thumbs sticking up. The fists move away from the body with the right hand behind the left hand as if the right is "following" the left. |
| <b>"Me."</b>    | Point to self.   |

Allow children to enjoy free play until everyone has arrived. **Let's sing the "Clean Up Song" as we put toys away before Praise Time.** Praise any child who helps. Allow several minutes for clean up.

**"Clean Up Song": Clean up! Clean up! Everybody, everywhere!  
Clean up! Clean up! Everybody do your share!**

Gather and seat children in Praise Time area.

**\*Today's Whisper Verse:** "Come, follow Me." Matthew 4:19. The Whisper Verse is a tool to help the children learn a major point in the lesson. It is coupled with sign language or hand motions as a memory aid. The verse is not necessarily chosen from today's Bible story.



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 "It's Praise Time!" as children move to that designated area.



**It's Praise Time—our time to sing praise to the King who is with us.** Sing: "Sing Praises." **Jesus came to earth to be with us. He wants us to be with Him and to follow Him. Singing praises, giving our money offering, and praying to Jesus are some ways we can follow Him! Let's start by giving our offering now.** Play: "Give Thanks to the Lord" as background music while collecting the offering.

**Jesus called His disciples when He said today's Whisper Verse to them. Who can say it with me?** Review Whisper Verse together: "Come, follow Me." Include sign language.



**Let's find out if our friends Delbert and Lello know about following Jesus.** Perform *The Adventures of Delbert and Lello* puppet script or read storybook: Kings & Kingdoms Unit 1, Lesson 4.



**Simon Peter left his boat, his nets and all the fish behind when he decided to follow Jesus. Simon Peter did not turn back to go get all the things he left behind. Jesus wants each of us to follow Him just as Simon Peter did. All who follow Jesus belong to Him. We want to follow Jesus because He loves us so much.** Sing: "Jesus Loves Me."

**One way we can follow Him is to obey His Word, the Bible. Each time you obey your parents, as the Bible says, you are following Jesus. Follow me as we march and sing our Bible Memory Verse Song.** Sing: "Children, Obey Your Parents."



Jesus calls His disciples

## THE WORD

Before we begin our Bible Time, let's say our Classroom Promise with the motions.

With my eyes on my teacher;	Point to eyes.
My mouth quiet as can be,	Place index finger over mouth as quiet sign.
I will listen to hear,	Cup hand around ear.
How God loves you and me.	Hug self, point to others and then self.

Last time, we learned how Satan tempted Jesus to do wrong, but Jesus always did what was right. Today, we will hear how Jesus called His disciples to follow Him. Handle Bible as a special treasure, leaving it open to Luke 5:11.

### WATCH THE WORD: LUKE 5:1-11

Read the points below or retell the passage in your own words using the points below as a general guide. To illustrate the story, hold a fishing net to remind the children of Simon Peter's net in the story. Other visual options include craft sample, Color This Story, or any related picture.

- Jesus sent some men to fish after they'd caught none all day.
- Because Jesus said so, Simon Peter did obey.
- At once, fish filled their nets until they began to break.
- Friends helped Simon Peter and both boats began to sink.
  
- Jesus told Simon Peter, "Do not be afraid.
- I'll make you fishers of men. Come, follow Me today."
- They brought their boats and nets and fish to shore.
- They left all their things to follow Jesus forevermore!



**What did Simon Peter and his friends do when Jesus told them to follow Him?** (They followed Him.) **Let's find our answer in the Bible.** Read Luke 5:11 from the teacher's Bible.

**What does Jesus tell us to do?** ("Come, follow Me.") **Our Whisper Verse tells us the answer. Let's say it together: "Come, follow Me."** Include sign language or hand motions.



We can follow Jesus

## THE WAY

**Teacher Tip:** Craft and games can be presented at the same time in different areas or one at a time depending on class size and teaching style.

### **CRAFT: FOLLOW ME CARDS**

**Purpose:** For children to create a card to help them commit and remember to follow Jesus.

**Supplies:** Standard-size sturdy white paper, washable ink pad, paint or marker (for fingerprinting), markers or crayons

**Prepare:** Fold the paper in half to make a card. On the cover, print **“Come, follow Me.” Matthew 4:19** and the outline of a cross.

#### **Directions:**

1. Color the cross.
2. Tell the children, **“If you want to follow Jesus, open the card.”**
3. Create a “footprint” in the card.
  - Ink the pinky side of the child’s fist.
  - Press the inked portion of the child’s fist onto the paper to create the “foot.”
  - Ink the tip of the child’s index finger.
  - Help child use the inked fingertip to create five fingerprint “toes” above the “foot” on the paper.
4. Children may color the card, if there is time.

#### **Craft Discussion:**

- **Who remembers the Whisper Verse?** (“Come, follow Me.”) **Let’s say it together with the hand motions.**
- **What was Simon Peter’s job?** (He was a fisherman.) **Simon Peter and his friends were regular people just like you and me.**
- **What did Jesus want Simon Peter and his friends to do after they caught the fish?** (Follow Him.)
- **What does Jesus want us to do?** (Follow Him.) **We can all follow Jesus. The footprint in the card you just made is like your footprint following Jesus!**

# THE WAY *continued...*

## **GAME: FOLLOW THE LEADER**

**Purpose:** This game will help children connect with the idea of following Jesus.

**Supplies:** None

**Jesus says, "Come, follow Me." Jesus is our leader. He wants us to listen to Him and obey Him. Can you follow the leader? Show me how well you can follow the leader while we play this game.**

### **Directions:**

1. Have the children stand in a line behind you.
2. Walk around the room, making different motions as you move. The children are to follow you and imitate your motions. Suggested motions: Clap your hands, stomp your feet, skip, wave your arms, etc.
3. Allow children to take turns being the leader.

## **GAME: LET'S GO FISHING**

**Purpose:** For children to understand how Jesus used a miracle to help the fishermen follow Him.

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

**Simon Peter and his friends, James and John, had been fishing all night. Did they catch any fish? (No.) What happened when Jesus told them to go fishing again? (They caught lots of fish.) Let's go fishing, too! See how many fish you can catch!**

### **Directions:**

1. Divide children into two teams. Line them up at one end of the play area.
2. Place the buckets on the other side of the room.
3. Give each child a fish.
4. Give nets to the first child on each team. When you say, "Go fish," have them place their fish in the net and carry it to the bucket.
5. The children race back to give the next person in line the net.
6. The team who gets all its fish in their bucket first, wins.

**Jesus did an amazing miracle. He made it so Simon Peter and his friends could catch many fish. What did Jesus tell the fishermen to do after they caught the fish? (Follow Him.)**

# THE WAY *continued...*

## **SNACK: PLENTY OF FISH**

**Purpose:** Children will enjoy a snack while they discuss following Jesus.

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

### **Directions:**

1. Serve snack and drink.
2. **Let's sing the "Blessing Song."** Sing to the tune of "Frere Jacques" or other familiar tune.  
**God our Father, God our Father. Once again, once again.**  
**Thank You for our blessings. Thank You for our blessings. Amen. Amen.**
3. Lead discussion below while children enjoy their snack.
  - **Who remembers our Whisper Verse?** Choose a child to demonstrate motions to Whisper Verse: "Come, follow Me."
  - **Simon Peter and his friends, James and John, had been fishing all night. Did they catch any fish?** (No.)
  - **What did Jesus tell them to do?** (Go fishing again.)
  - **What happened when they went fishing again?** (They caught a lot of fish.)
  - **The fishermen saw Jesus could do amazing things. They wanted to follow Him. Jesus wants you to follow Him, too. You can follow Jesus by listening to Him and obeying.**



## **CIRCLE OF PRAYER**

God made you and He cares for you. He loves to hear you pray with private words or words you say out loud. Let's fold our hands and close our eyes. As I lift up your name to God in heaven, I will lay my hand on your shoulder. Let's pray together.

Dear God, thank You for making us and loving us. We lift up to You a special prayer for \_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_ (say each name). We pray for our families and friends. Thank You for teaching us how to love one another. Amen.



When only 5 minutes remain, begin this segment.

## **FINAL FIVE MINUTES**

**COMPLETED CRAFT:** Take home your Follow Me Card. Tell someone how Jesus said, "Come, follow Me."

**PONDER, PRAY & PLAY:** Distribute Ponder, Pray & Play cards, if available. **Show this card to your family. Talk about how Jesus wants us to follow Him.**

**COLOR THIS STORY:** "Jesus Calling His Disciples." Discuss Bible Story and play Unit 1 Bible Memory Verse Song "Children, Obey Your Parents" as children color.





If time remains, choose from the connected activities below.

## **GOT TIME?**

### **SAY & DO: LUKE 5:1-11**

**Purpose:** This pantomime version of the Bible Story helps children remember the story details.

**Supplies:** None

**Directions:** With each phrase, the teacher says the phrase and acts it out with hand motions; then repeats the same phrase and motions with the children.

- **Jesus sent some men to fish after they'd caught none all day.** (Show empty hands.)
- **Because Jesus said so, Simon Peter did obey.** (Salute to signal "Yes, sir!")
- **At once fished filled their nets until they began to break.** (Pretend to hold net filled with fish.)
- **Friends helped Simon Peter and both boats began to sink.** (Bend knees as if sinking.)
  
- **Jesus told Simon Peter, "Do not be afraid."** (Point finger as if teaching.)
- **I'll make you fishers of men. Come, follow Me today.** (Whisper Verse motions.)
- **They brought their boats and nets and fish to shore.** (Pretend to carry heavy net.)
- **They left all their things to follow Jesus forevermore!** (Walk in place.)



## **BIBLE MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITIES**

"Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right." Ephesians 6:1

### **GAME: JUMP TO OBEY**

**Purpose:** To help children memorize and review the Unit 1 Bible Memory Verse.

**Supplies:** None

**Jesus obeyed His parents. He wants us to obey our parents and caregivers, too. That reminds me of our Bible Memory Verse. Let's learn it together.**

**Directions:**

1. Children stand in a line, shoulder-to-shoulder.
2. Teacher says the Bible Memory Verse, pausing after each word for children to repeat.
3. Each time they say a word, they jump forward one time.
4. Repeat until the Bible Memory Verse is completed. If you run out of space, turn around and jump back the other way.

# GOT TIME? *continued...*

## **GAME: MOTHER, MAY I?**

**Purpose:** Children practice obeying their parents as instructed in the Unit 1 Bible Memory Verse.

**Supplies:** None

Jesus wants us to obey our parents. Let's play a game where we can practice obeying! In this game, you must remember to ask: "Mother, (or Father) may I?" or you cannot follow the instructions. Listen carefully because sometimes you will hear: "No, you may not." Then you must not move.

### **Directions:**

1. Children line up ten feet from the teacher who acts as "Mother" or "Father."
2. Mother or Father gives a simple instruction to a specific child. For example: "Michael, take one big step forward." (Instruction examples: Jump up and down, laugh out loud, flap your arms, run in place, sit on the floor, spin in a circle, etc.)
3. Child must first ask: "Mother (or Father), may I?" If Mother or Father says, "Yes, you may," the child follows the instruction. If Mother or Father says, "No, you may not," the child remains still.
4. Be sure each child has a turn following instructions.



## **STORY TIME**

Gather the children and read a favorite story. This can be a Bible Story, a chapter from *The Adventures of Delbert & Lello*, or a story about following Jesus.

### **PONDER, PRAY & PLAY**

#### Unit 1, Lesson 4: Jesus Calls His Disciples

**PONDER!** Read Luke 5:1-11 with your family. Simon Peter and his friends, James and John, had fished all night, but they did not catch any fish. Jesus told them to go fishing again and they caught lots of fish. Jesus said, "Come, follow Me." We can follow Jesus, just like Simon Peter, James, and John did.

**PRAY!** Pray this prayer each day this week: "Lord, thank You for calling us to follow You. Help us to listen to You and obey You every day. Amen."

**PLAY!** Teach your family to play "Follow the Leader." Ask your family to walk behind you and do what you do. Take turns being the leader. Remember Jesus said, "Come, follow Me." He is our leader and He wants us to follow Him everyday.

#### **Unit 1 Bible Memory Verse: Ephesians 6:1**

"Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right."