

Disciples Follow Jesus

Mark 1:14-20

Bible Point: Follow Jesus

In this bible passage we learn how Jesus asked Simon, Andrew, James, and John to be his disciples. What is a disciple? A disciple is someone who follows.

Jesus was ready to tell everyone the good news about God's love, and he told some friends to follow him and help him spread the good news. Jesus didn't just want only the disciples to follow him, he wanted everyone to follow him.



Think of four things that you would bring with you if you needed to leave your home. Maybe you would choose?... food, clothes, your pet, pictures, or a phone? It would be really hard to leave some things behind. Thankfully, we don't have to make those choices right now, but in today's Bible story there are some people who left everything behind to follow Jesus.

Right after Jesus was baptized he began his ministry, and he chose some men to come with him as he traveled and preached. There were 12 of them, and we know those men as the 12 disciples or the 12 apostles.

The first two men Jesus called were actually brothers, Simon and Andrew. Simon and Andrew were fishermen, so they spent their days out on the Sea of Galilee together casting nets and catching fish. Fishing was very important. It provided them with food to eat and it provided them with money. So for Simon and Andrew fishing was everything they needed to survive. Jesus saw them casting their nets



and called out to them, *"Come, follow me, and I will send you out to fish for people."* (Mark 1:17) And they did. They left their nets, their fish, their home, their friends, their money. Simon and Andrew dropped everything to follow Jesus.

Just a little while later Jesus saw another group of fishermen out in a boat. There were brothers named James and John fishing with their father. Jesus called out to the brothers, and immediately they left and followed Jesus.

I can't imagine what it must have felt like for them to stop fishing and follow Jesus. We are blessed that we don't have to drop everything in order to follow Jesus. We still have homes, toys, money, and refrigerators filled with food. Instead of dropping everything, God asks us to drop somethings. Can you think of anything God might want us to get rid of? This week try to do one special thing for God. Maybe you could learn a bible verse instead of watching TV, or maybe be a helper to your parents or

sibling. It might not seem like it's big or important, but to Jesus it means everything that you are following him.

Prayer:

Dear God,

Thank you for sending us Jesus. Help me to follow him each day.

In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

Following Footsteps Craft:



Supplies: construction paper, pencils, markers, scissors, tape

Instructions: Using a piece of construction paper and a pencil, stand on the paper and trace the shape of both of your feet. After cutting out the shape of your feet, write on them something you can do to follow Jesus. Some ideas are: love God, love yourself and others, take time to pray, read the bible, attend church, trust in God, be thankful for all things. Hang up your footprints so that you can remember how to follow Jesus and that he wants us to follow him.