

March 22, 2020

Bible Story Focus: I can follow Jesus.

The Twelve • *The Gospels*

Memory Verse: “‘Come and follow me,’ Jesus said.” Matthew 4:19, NIV

Key Question: Who can you follow?

Bottom Line: I can follow Jesus.

Basic Truth: Jesus wants to be my friend forever.

(Lead children in singing “Follow On,” this month’s worship song.)

“That was awesome. We need someone to show us the way. We can follow on and follow Jesus every day! **[Bottom Line] I can follow Jesus!**”

Story: Communicating God’s Truth in Engaging Ways

Engage kids’ hearts through a dynamic and interactive Bible story and prayer experience.

What You Need: A Bible, a fishing net, a rock, and fake money from previous weeks

LEADER: “Friends, come sit here with me! Today I want to tell you all about 12 special friends! These friends followed Jesus and did what he did. Jesus had 12 good friends called the disciples. What were they called?”

CHILDREN: “The disciples.”

LEADER: “They were Peter, Andrew, James, John, the other James, Matthew, Phillip, Bartholomew, Thomas, Judas, Thaddeus, and Simon Peter. Let’s learn a bit more about them.

(Pull out the fishing net and set it in front of you on the floor.)

“Peter and Andrew were brothers. And so were James and John. And all four of these guys were fishermen!

(Lay half of the money on top of the net.)

“Matthew used to be a tax collector.

(Lay the remaining bills on top of the rest of the money.)

“And Judas was in charge of the group’s money.

(Lay the rock on top of the money.)

“There was Simon and the other James who was younger than James the fisherman.

“Do you want to know the most important thing these guys did? Can you guess? When Jesus said, ‘Follow me!’ they did it! They became the disciples, and Jesus was their leader. Everywhere Jesus went, the disciples went. Stand up, friends. Great, now follow me.

(Lead the children around the room and back to where you started.)

“The disciples followed Jesus and saw Him do so many amazing things! They saw Him make sick people better. They saw Him feed people who were hungry. They saw Jesus be kind and loving to everyone.

(Motion for children to sit back down as you do the same.)

“They watched Him. They followed Him. And when Jesus went away, the disciples did what Jesus did. And that’s what we can do, too. We can follow Jesus and do what He did! Tell me: **Who can you follow?**”

CHILDREN and LEADER: [Bottom Line] “I can follow Jesus.”

LEADER: “Yes, you can! Just like the disciples, **[Bottom Line] I can follow Jesus** and you can follow Jesus. Let’s pray.”

PRAYER

LEADER: “God, thank You for loving us. Help us to follow Jesus just like the disciples did. We want to love others and help when we can. Thanks for loving us. In Jesus’ name we pray, amen.”