

Student Make Up Work

February 23 - Lesson "Disciples, Parables, and Miracles! Oh My!"

Parents this make-up work should be done together with you and your student. There will be questions to discuss verbally and question to answer in written format. Please sign the bottom of the sheet and return to the sermon note drop off box.

Jesus & His Team - Matthew 4: 18 - 22 (Read)

Jesus is starting his ministry.

1. Why can't he just go it alone?

2. What is the benefit of a team?

Jesus did not choose royalty or politicians. He chose fishermen. Laborers. Ordinary People.

Those you least expect (tax collector)

- **Peter:** He was a fisherman from Capernaum (John says Bethsaida). He's also often called Simon, Simon Peter, or Cephas. (Cephas comes from the Aramaic for "rock," and Peter comes from the Greek equivalent for the same.)
- **Andrew:** He was Peter's brother and fishing partner; John's gospel says that Andrew was first a disciple of John the Baptist.
- **James:** He was son of Zebedee and a fisherman from Capernaum. He's called "James the Great" in later tradition.
- **John:** He was James's brother and partner in the family fishing business. And maybe because they're so brazen, in Mark, Jesus gives the two brothers the name *Boanerges*, which is a Greek form of the Aramaic "sons of thunder" (Mark 10:35–45).
- **Philip:** He was from Bethsaida, another town on the coast of the Sea of Galilee.
- **Bartholomew:** This member of the Twelve doesn't get a lot of press. There simply aren't any stories about him apart from the list of the Twelve. Since the ninth century CE, some people have wondered if he's the Nathanael mentioned in John 1:45–51 and 21:2. Why? Because Nathanael is a normal first name and Bartholomew was more likely a surname (the Greek is based on the Aramaic *Bar-Talmai*, which means "son of Talmai").
- **Matthew:** He's called a toll collector in Matthew's gospel. This reference solves the problem in Mark that the toll collector Levi is called (Mark 2:13–17), but never listed among the Twelve (Mark 3:13–19).
- **Thomas:** Thomas, or "twin" in Aramaic, is called "doubting Thomas" because he doubted Jesus's resurrection until he could touch Jesus's wounds himself (John 20:24–29). He's also called Didymus Thomas (which is like saying "twin" twice in both Greek and Aramaic).
- **James:** This man, who was the son of Alphaeus, was called in later tradition "James the Less" — not to be confused with James the Great or James brother of Jesus (James was obviously a popular name at the time!).
- **Simon:** He was called "the Cananean" (which means "zealous" or "jealous" in Aramaic) in Matthew and Mark and "the Zealot" (the Greek equivalent of the same) in Luke.
- **Thaddeus:** There's a bit of controversy when it comes to this 11th disciple. In Mark and Matthew, he's called Thaddeus. Luke, on the other hand, calls this man Jude, son of James.
- **Judas Iscariot:** He's the one who betrayed Jesus to the authorities (so he's always put last on lists of the Twelve!).

What does that tell us about God?

- God speaks to everyone and everyone is equal in the eyes of God.
- Everyone is called to be a minister of God's love
- God continually calls us to stop what we are doing and create a new life following God

What is a Disciple Activity

Help Wanted: Follower of Jesus

Create a Job Description for what you think a disciple of Christ should be like

- What characteristics should a follower have?
- What experience or training?
- What are they expected to do?

Questions to Discuss with Parents

- * How do you measure up to this description?
- * What are the things we need to do in our life to better follow Christ?
- * What should we do if we fall short?

Jesus and Parables

We have stories that illustrate lessons. Like the story of the 3 bears or the boy who cried wolf.

1. What is your favorite Disney Film and what lesson does it tell?

In the Bible - Jesus told a lot of stories in his teaching. They were called Parables.

Parables were stories that illustrates a lesson or principle

- Some were on forgiveness (Parable of the Prodigal Son)
- Some were on Eternal life (Parable of Laborers in the Vineyard, wise & foolish builders, sheep & goats)
- Some were about discipleship (Parables of the Seeds, Light of the World, mustard seeds)

Describe these words in your own words:

Grace _____

Forgiveness _____

Eternal Life _____

Discipleship _____

2. List 3 ways you can express ONE of these words to your friends, your neighbors, and strangers.

3. Name three parables in the Bible (*Look in the Gospels and there are titles in bold*)

4. Take one of those parables and rewrite the lesson in current day terms and conditions (*If you were Jesus and wanted to teach this lesson today - how would you teach it*)

Jesus Miracles

There are different types of miracles

- Healing (Peter's mother -in-law, paralyzed man, deaf man, Bartimaeus, ten lepers)
- Control of Nature (Calming the Storm, feeding the 5000, walking on water, huge catch of fish, turning water into wine)
- Raising from the Dead (Jairus' daughter, widow at Nain's son, Lazarus)

Miracles impress us but seldom is the focus of the story. It tells more about what is going on around Jesus and who Jesus is and what his life and ministry are about.

- Jesus is no ordinary man
- Those that follow are not called because of miracles
- Sign of pointing to something even greater

Pick one of your favorite miracles of Jesus.

1. What is your favorite miracle?

2. What is happening in this miracle (who is the audience and what is the situation)?

3. What is Jesus' response to the situation in front of him?

4. How do people react to his miracle?

5. What does he say about who Jesus is and what Jesus is here for?

Many times after Jesus performed a miracle he commanded people not to tell anyone.

6. Why do you think that is?

If Jesus was here with us in our society...

7. What miracle would you like him to perform?

8. What miracle do you think he would actually perform?

Close in Prayer with one another.

Parent Signature: _____