

Jesus' First Disciples Leader's Guide

See Bible study at the bottom of the page.

1. What is a disciple? (A disciple is a student and a follower, someone who wants to model his/her life after a teacher. Disciples want to think, speak, and act like their teachers.)
2. How did Jesus choose his first 12 disciples? (He spent all night praying before he chose them.)
3. Why were Peter, Andrew, James, and John all discouraged? (They spent all night fishing and caught nothing. That meant they couldn't feed their families.)
4. Jesus was teaching a crowd and was being pushed into the water. How did he decide to solve this problem? (He asked Peter if he could use his boat. He sat in Peter's boat and taught the crowd.)
5. What did Jesus say to Peter when he was done teaching? How did Peter respond? (Jesus said to Peter, "Let's go back fishing." Peter said that they'd worked hard all night and caught nothing. However, he respected Jesus, and decided to give it a try.)
6. How much fish did they catch? (It was the catch of a lifetime! The nets were breaking. They filled 2 boats with fish, and both boats were sinking!)
7. What new calling did Jesus give to Peter? (He said that from now on, Peter would fish for people.)
8. What happened to the 4 fishermen after they saw the miraculous catch of fish? (They pulled the boats up on shore, left everything, and followed Jesus! They were all in! They left their jobs, families, everything!)
9. What was Levi's job? How did the Jews feel about tax collectors? (Levi was a tax collector. The Jewish people hated tax collectors.)
10. Why were tax collectors unpopular? (They worked for the Romans, enemies of the Jews. Also, they were often dishonest, overcharging people and putting the extra money into their own pockets.)
11. Does Jesus only call good people? How should this encourage us? (NO! He chose Levi, who was a "bad" person. No matter how bad we are, Jesus still wants us!)
12. What invitation did Jesus give to Levi? (He said, "Follow me!")
13. How did Levi respond to the invitation? (He said YES! He left his tax booth and followed Jesus right away!)
14. What can we learn from these 2 stories? (The only way to follow Jesus is 100%! Jesus changes people's lives. He gives them new purpose. You may have to leave something behind, but you will gain so much more.)

Calling the Disciples

Luke 5:1-11

Who is Jesus?

- Preacher of word of God v.1
- Interesting speaker- not boring! Attracted crowds v.1
- Flexible. Problem – solver. Found new method when old wasn't working. Crushed by crowd. Moves into boat. v. 2-3
- Teacher v.3
- Cares about all parts of our lives including finances. Cares that the fishermen had caught nothing v.4-5
- Tells Peter he WILL CATCH FISH. Knows future. v.4
- Master v.5
- Wants to be involved in our professional lives
- Knows more than the “professionals”
- Abundant provider. Miracle worker! OVER THE TOP GENEROUS! v. 6
- Gives professionals catch of a lifetime
- Holy
- Gives comfort and assurance (“Don’t be afraid.”) v.10
- Gives men a life mission, destiny. Uses sinful people. v.10
- Worthy of being first in our lives- ahead of jobs, family, friends v.11

Who is Man?

- Listeners. Learners.
- Pressing in on Jesus to hear word. Interested in God’s message v.1
- Generous. Agrees to help Jesus. Allows Jesus to use his boat. v.3
- Without Jesus, our lives come up empty – no fish v.5
- Hard workers. Fished all night. v. 5
- Probably discouraged. Worked and earned no income.

- Decides to obey Jesus. “If you say so” v. 5
- Falls to knees before Jesus. Aware of being sinful. v. 8
- Afraid in presence of God v. 8
- Awestruck, amazed by Jesus’ generosity, provision v. 9-10
- Receives a life calling v.10
- Responds to Jesus’ call with passion v.11
- Leave old lives
- Fishing for people- evangelists v.10

So What?

- We need to be flexible. Am I willing to change the way I do things if they’re not working?
- God will be generous and provide abundantly for me. Do I believe this?
- I need to invite Jesus into my life work. Do I ask what his call is for my life?
- Have I left everything to follow Jesus?
- Jesus needs to be FIRST in my life, ahead of school, job, family, friends.
- I need to fish for people.