



Religious Education

Lesson 1 - 26/2/21

Jesus Chooses The First Disciples

*Hear how Jesus chose some of the
first disciples. Reflect on how we
choose our friends.*



Introductory Activity

Following Jesus

Introductory Activity

Have two large cut-outs of children [a boy and a girl] with the words, "My friend" on them. Invite children to give their own reasons why someone might be chosen to be a friend, e.g. 'He makes me laugh'. Teacher could write them up.

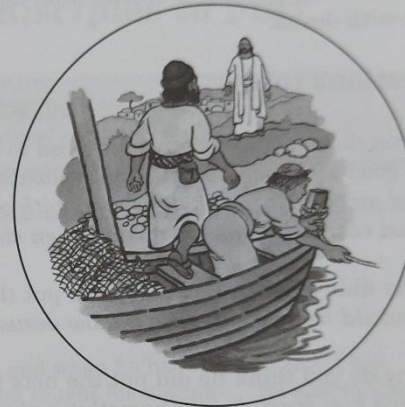
Link Sentence

Now let us find out how Jesus chose his friends.

Look at the picture on page 19 in Big Book: Following Jesus
Questions on picture in Big Book

Jesus said, "Peter, put your net down into the water and see what you will catch."

Then Jesus said, "You will not be catching fish, you will bring people to me".



- Who can you see in the picture?
- What is happening?
- Why do you think they are now catching lots of fish?
- What do you think Jesus meant when he told Peter he will be bringing people to him?



Read The Story

Text to read to children:

Jesus had a lot of work to do. He wanted all the people in the world to know about God. So he needed some helpers.

Simon Peter and Andrew were fishermen. One day, when they were busy mending their fishing nets, a large crowd arrived. "What's going on?" Simon Peter shouted. "It's Jesus, everybody is talking about him", said Andrew.

Just then Jesus arrived and got into Simon Peter's boat and asked them to pull away from the shore. Jesus spoke to the crowd from the boat. Then he said to Simon Peter and Andrew. "Take your boat further out to sea and put out your fishing nets". Simon said, "Master, we have worked hard all night and caught nothing, but if you say so, we will do it".

They could not believe it! The fish came rushing into their nets. They caught so many that they had to call James and John to come and help them in their boat.

They were all amazed at what had happened. They believed Jesus was someone very special. Then Jesus told them that he wanted them to stay with him, not to catch fish, but to bring people to him. So they left their fishing boats behind and went with Jesus.



Discuss The Story

Questions to ask:

- What do you think you would need to be a fisherman? What would you have to be good at? *[Be strong; staying awake at night, patience, able to handle boat • and mend nets, ability to get on with others, experience, work as part of a team, trust each other, not be afraid when storms came....]*
- Why didn't Simon Peter want to put the nets in the water again? *[Tired, thought it would be no good, didn't know Jesus...]*
- Why do you think he did put the nets in the water again after all? *[Something made him trust Jesus. Something about Jesus, but also something from within himself.]*
- How do you think Peter, James and John felt when they decided to leave their fishing boats behind and follow Jesus? *[Excited, frightened, what would people think? Would they have enough money to buy food?]*



Activities

Activities

1. a) Draw a picture of your friend. Write his or her name by the picture.
b) Choose one or two of the sentences (on the board) to show why you chose that person to be your friend and copy them by the picture. You might want to write another sentence of your own.
(Teacher will need to display sentences where children can see them and provide a prompt for the less able e.g. ... is my friend because ...)
2. **Work Book** page 20 'Jesus & the Fishermen'.



Activities (continued)

4. FOLLOWING JESUS

Jesus and the Fishermen

1. Describe what happened when Jesus told the fishermen to go back to sea.

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WORDS TO HELP

rushing
slowly
frightened
astonished
excited
surprised



2. How do you think the fishermen were feeling at the end of the day? Why?

I think

.....

because

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