

## BIBLE WORDS

“Come and follow me,  
Jesus said.”

**MATTHEW 4:19, NIRV**

The Twelve

## THE GOSPELS

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## BOTTOM LINE

**YOU CAN FOLLOW JESUS.**

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## BASIC TRUTH

**JESUS WANTS TO BE MY  
FRIEND FOREVER.**

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## STORY TIME

*Gather children on a rug or in a specific area of the classroom to tell the story. Some kids (especially the younger ones) may wander. That's okay. They're still listening and learning!*

**WHAT YOU NEED:** Preschool Bible

**LEADER:** “Hello, friends! I’m so glad to see you! Today we are going to act out our Bible story.”

“In our Bible story, we learned about Jesus’ friends the disciples. Peter and Andrew were brothers. (*Stand two children up.*) And so were James and John. (*Stand two more children up.*) And all four of these guys were fishermen! Can you cast out your fishing rod like this? (*Demonstrate.*) Great! Stay right there.”

“Then there was Matthew (*stand one child up next to the four*) who used to be a tax collector. And Judas (*stand one more child up next to the five*) was in charge of the group’s money. Then there was Simon (*stand one child up next to the six*) and the younger James (*stand one child up next to the seven*). That leaves Phillip (*stand one child up next to the eight*), Bartholomew (*stand one child up next to the nine*), Thomas (*stand one child up next to the ten*), and Thaddeus (*stand one child up next to the eleven*).

“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 Jesus. They followed Him. And when Jesus went away, the disciples did what Jesus had done. And that’s what we can do, too. We can follow Jesus and do what He did! **You can follow Jesus.**”

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## CRAFT TIME

*Gather small groups of children around you at a table for toddler craft time. Depending on the size of your group, you may lead the craft two or three times. Not every child may want to participate in craft time. That's okay. Feel free to send home the craft materials for them to complete with their mom or dad.*

**WHAT YOU NEED:** “Frame” Activity Page, dot markers, wet wipes

### WHAT YOU DO:

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** Retell the story. Encourage children to decorate their picture frame with the dot markers.

### WHAT YOU SAY:

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** “Today we learned about Jesus (*point to Jesus on the frame*) and His 12 special friends. They were called the disciples.

“Let’s decorate your frame with the dot markers. (*Pause.*) Great job!

“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. 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! What can you do? **You can follow Jesus.**”