

Lesson 7: Follow Me (Mark 1-3)

Jan. 8, 21

Verse: "Always be glad because of the Lord! I will say it again: Be glad. Always be gentle with others." (Philippians 4: 4-5a)

Prayer: Dear God,

Thank You for sending Jesus to embody Your love, mercy, justice, and compassion on this earth. Open my heart to respond to Jesus' call when He calls me in my life and in my community. Amen.

Song: The Joy of Praising God/Kids Dance

Story Summary:

- Jesus passed by the Sea of Galilee and called Simon, Andrew, James, and John to follow Him.
- They left their boats and families and followed Him.
- Jesus also called Levi, a tax collector, to follow Him.
- He ate dinner at Levi's house and was criticized by the religious leaders for eating with sinners and tax collectors.
- Later, Jesus chose 12 apostles to be with Him and to spread the good news.
- What does it mean to "follow" Jesus?
- Imagine Jesus calling you today to follow Him. How does it feel? How might you respond? What do you have to give up to follow Jesus?

God's Story:

I wonder why people wanted to follow Jesus.

(picture story p. 117 top) I wonder what it was like to sit at the table with Jesus.

My Story:

I wonder who Jesus would eat with in our community.

Book: Strictly No Elephants by Lisa Mantchev (YouTube)

Bless: Dear Jesus,

Thank You for calling us to walk with You. Guide our feet so that we walk in Your way of peace. Amen.