

Jesus Calls His Helpers

Do you like to be a helper? Do you ever help Mommy set the table? Maybe you help Daddy carry out the trash. It's good to be a helper. We all need someone to help us from time to time. JESUS even needed helpers. When He started to preach and teach the people about God, He had lots of work to do. He needed others to help Him.

One day as Jesus was walking by the sea, He saw two fishermen. These men weren't just fishing to have fun. It was their job. They threw big nets out into the water and pulled in lots of fish. Then they sold the fish to other people and used the money to buy the things they needed. (Show the pictures of the net full of fish. Then explain to the children how they used the nets. Take big net and throw it over the children as if catching them.)

Jesus watched as these men tossed a net into the sea. He knew all about them, because Jesus knows everything. He knew their names were Peter and Andrew, and they were brothers. He also knew they would be good helpers. Jesus called out to Peter and Andrew, "Follow me, and

I will make you fishers of men.” Jesus didn’t mean that they would take their fishing nets and throw it over men to catch them! He meant they would teach people and tell them how to go to Heaven.

Right away Peter and Andrew left their nets, walked away from the sea, and followed Jesus.

They were ready to go anywhere He wanted them to go.

As Jesus walked on, He saw some men in a boat by the water. These men were James and John along with their father and their servants. They were busy mending their fishing nets. Often when the fishermen pulled in a net of fish, the nets would tear and leave holes. So everyday when the fishermen finished fishing they had to sew up the holes in the nets so the fish couldn’t get out.

Jesus called out to James and John, “Follow me.” They got right out of the boat, left their father with the servants, and followed Jesus.

They were ready to do whatever He wanted them to do. They knew Jesus’ work was much more important than their fishing.

Now Jesus had four helpers- Peter, Andrew, James, and John. These helpers were called disciples. Can you say that work with me—
disciples.

Later Jesus called right more men to come and help Him, so that made TWELVE disciples. There names were Peter, Andrew, James, John, Philip, Bartholomew, Thomas, Matthew, another James, Thaddaeus, Simon and Judas Iscariot. Each of these men left his home and his job and followed Jesus.

They went about with Him helping as He taught the people. The disciples were willing to do anything Jesus wanted them to do. They were good helpers.

Can you be a helper, too? Yes. You can help Mommy and Daddy at home, you can help your friends, and you can help me, too. Can you be a disciple? Yes, you can. You can tell others about Jesus and bring them to Sunday School so they can learn how to go to Heaven, too.

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DRIVING CARD

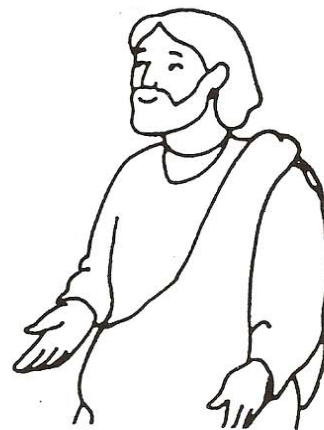
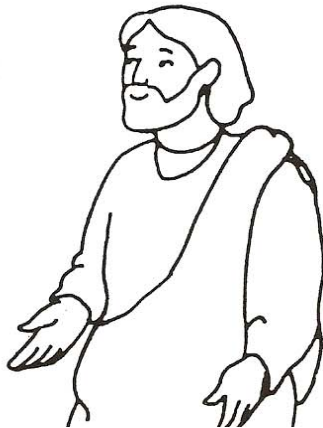
1. In our story today, Jesus was walking by the sea shore and he saw two men. What were these men doing? THROWING THEIR NETS OUT TO CATCH FISH
2. What were the names of these two men? PETER AND ANDREW
3. Were these two men family? YES THEY WERE BROTHERS
4. When Jesus saw the two men, what did He say to them? "FOLLOW ME, AND I WILL MAKE YOU FISHERS OF MEN
5. Did this mean that they would throw their nets over people and catch them? NO
6. What did Jesus mean? HE MEANT THAT THEY WOULD TEACH PEOPLE AND TELL THEM HOW TO GO TO HEAVEN
7. Did Peter and Andrew follow Jesus? YES, THEY LEFT THEIR NETS, WALKED AWAY FROM THE SEA, AND FOLLOWED JESUS
8. As Jesus walked on, He saw some men in a boat, what were they doing? MENDING THEIR FISHING NETS
9. What were the names of these two men? JAMES AND JOHN
10. What did Jesus say to James and John? "FOLLOW ME"
11. Did James and John follow Jesus? YES, THEY GOT RIGHT OUT OF THE BOAT, LEFT THEIR FATHER WITH THE SERVANTS, AND FOLLOWED JESUS
12. Now Jesus had four helpers. What were their names? PETER, ANDREW, JAMES AND JOHN
13. Jesus had a name for his helpers. What was that name? DISCIPLES
14. After Jesus picked these four helpers, he asked more men to follow Him. How many disciples did Jesus have altogether? TWELVE
15. Do you remember the names of the 12 disciples? PETER, ANDREW, JAMES, JOHN, PHILIP, BARTHOLOMEW, THOMAS, MATTHEW, ANOTHER JAMES, THADDAEUS, SIMON AND JUDAS ISCARIOT
16. Can you be a disciple? YES, YOU CAN. YOU CAN TELL OTHER ABOUT JESUS AND BRING THEM TO SUNDAY SCHOOL SO THEY CAN LEARN HOW TO GO TO HEAVEN, TOO.

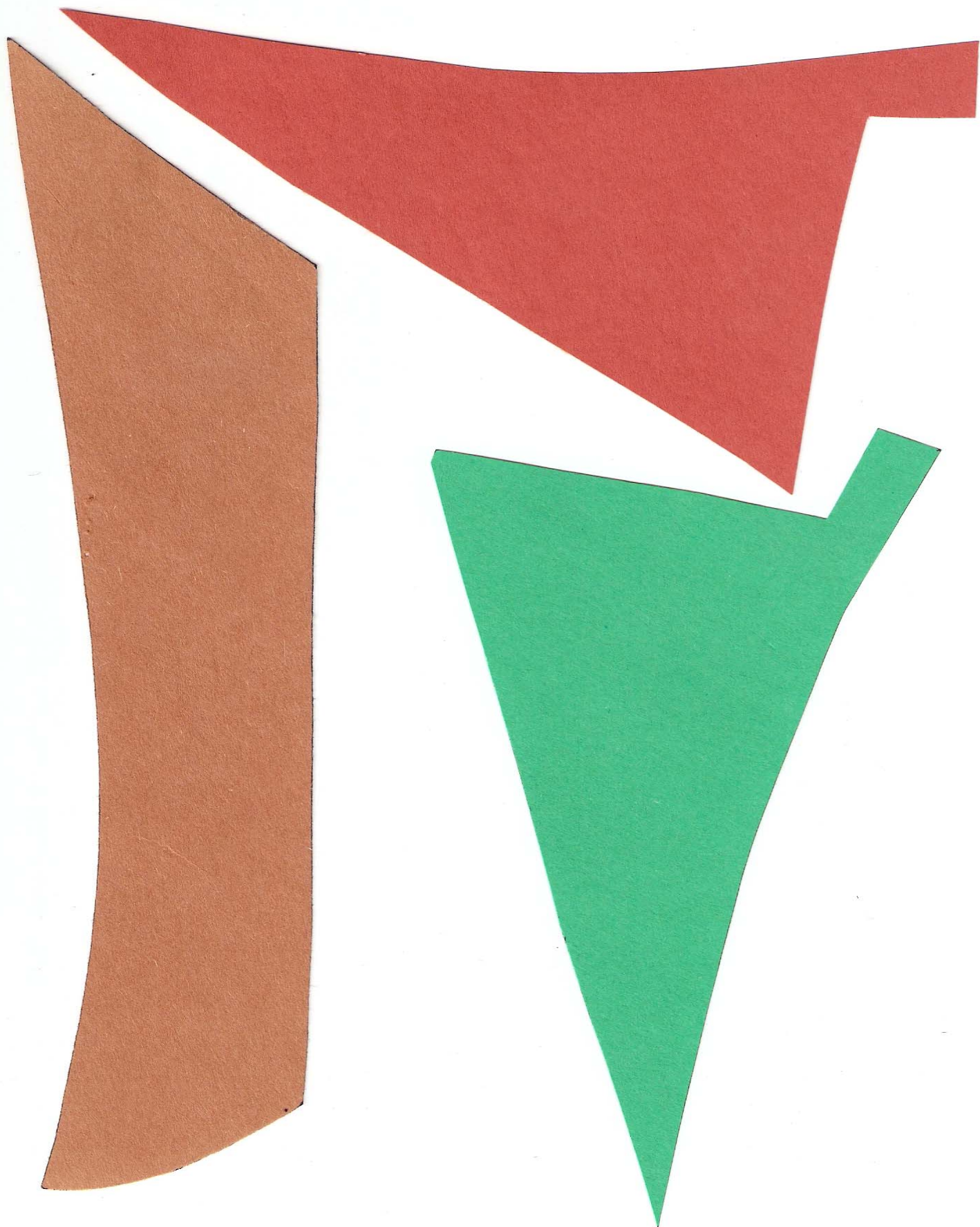
MEMORY VERSE

**I will sing unto the Lord
as long as I live...
Psalm 104:33**

Parents:

Keep this driving card and memory verse in your car. Time spent waiting at stop lights or waiting for older children to finish sports activities, etc. is an excellent time to review your child's lesson with him/her. It is also an excellent way to instill God's word into their lives.





Jesus asked some men to help Him with his work.



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Some of Jesus' special friends were fishermen.



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Cut 2 pieces of netting approx 4" wide and 6-8" long
 Lay one on top of the other
 Run a seam across the bottom and down both sides. This will make a little bag

Cut out 3 little men (per child)– using fun foam
 Place the men inside the bag

Take a tongue depressor and run glue along it.
 Place the bottom of the bag on top on the glue and place a second tongue depressor on top of the bag. Use two clothes pins to hold the tongue depressors together until dry

Take a third tongue depressor and run glue along it.
 Place the top of the bag on top on the glue. Place the two ends of the string on top of the bag. Place the last tongue depressor on top of the string.
 Use two more clothes pins to hold the tongue depressors together until dry

Write: "Follow Me, and I will make you (on the top stick)
 Write: fishers of men". Matthew 4:19 on the bottom stick

Take an ocean tape and play ocean music during story time

Take a big fishing net to throw over the children and play

Take fish crackers to eat

Make little net bags with fish crackers in them as a take home snack.

Place the crackers in a ziplock bag

Place netting around it and tie with string

Attach a fish shaped tag and write the memory verse on tag