

The Twelve

Jesus' Disciples Lesson 4

Lesson Objectives

- The children will tell the story of Jesus choosing the twelve apostles.
- The children will describe why it was special for the apostles to be chosen by Jesus.
- The children will say why they want to be chosen by God.

Lesson Text:

Mark 3:13-19

Scripture Memory Verse

For he chose us in him before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in his sight.

Ephesians 1:4

Lesson Plan

Greeting and Registration

Preclass Activity: Alphabet Apostles

Welcome and Singing

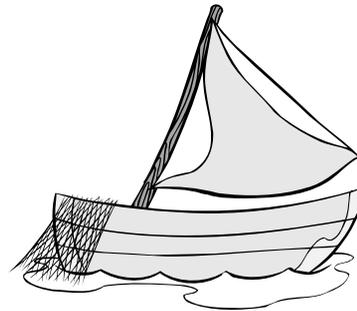
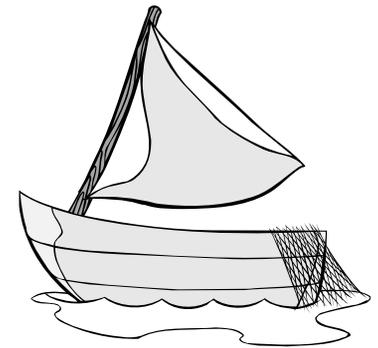
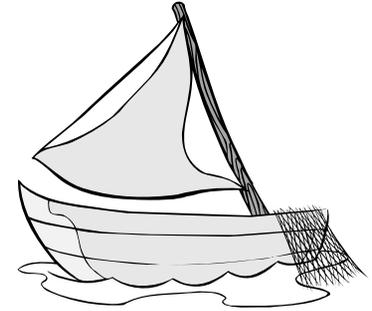
Centers:

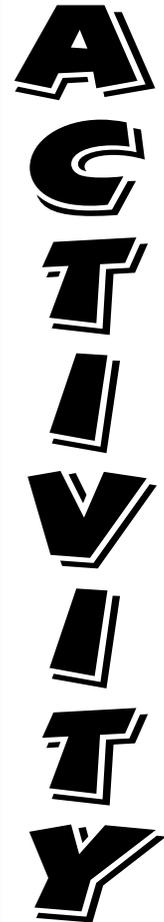
Bible Story: Jesus Chose Them

Craft: Chosen by God

Scripture Memory: Say It Again

NOTE: Allow time for a snack.





The Twelve

Alphabet Apostles

The children will preview today's Bible Story as they alphabetize the names of the apostles.

Materials

For each child:

- pencil

Reproducible Pages:

- Page A, 1 copy for each child

Preparation

Complete the activity on your copy of Reproducible Page A before class.

Instructions

1. Greet the children as they arrive. Explain that in today's lesson, they will learn about the twelve apostles Jesus chose. Tell them that this Preclass will introduce them to the names of the apostles.
2. Distribute the copies of Reproducible Page A and the pencils to the children. Tell them that there are two parts to this activity. The first part at the top of the page is to copy the name of each apostle in the space provided. The second part is to put the names in alphabetical order.

3. Encourage the children to work together and help each other. Tell them to write their names on their papers and to check their answers with you when they are finished.
4. Circulate among the children to offer help. Say the names of the twelve apostles to the children and have them join you.
5. Children who finish early and have correctly completed the activity, may help you check the answers of children who finish later.

Teacher Tips

- Young first graders may have difficulty with the second part of this activity. Encourage the second graders to help their first grade friends—not do it for them.

Alphabet Apostles

Name Jeremy

Part 1	Part 2
Copy the name of each apostle in the space provided next to it:	Put the names of the 12 apostles in alphabetical order.
1. Peter <u>Peter</u>	1. <u>Andrew</u>
2. James Z. <u>James Z.</u>	2. <u>Bartholomew</u>
3. John <u>John</u>	3. <u>James A.</u>
4. Andrew <u>Andrew</u>	4. <u>James Z.</u>
5. Philip <u>Philip</u>	5. <u>John</u>
6. Bartholomew <u>Bartholomew</u>	6. <u>Judas</u>
7. Matthew <u>Matthew</u>	7. <u>Matthew</u>
8. Thomas <u>Thomas</u>	8. <u>Peter</u>
9. James A. <u>James A.</u>	9. <u>Philip</u>
10. Thaddaeus <u>Thaddaeus</u>	10. <u>Simon</u>
11. Simon <u>Simon</u>	11. <u>Thaddaeus</u>
12. Judas <u>Judas</u>	12. <u>Thomas</u>

B The Twelve

S

Jesus Chose Them

The children will learn through story and song how Jesus chose the twelve apostles.

I

Materials

For the teacher:

- large writing surface
- 12 index cards, 4" x 6"
- black marker

Reproducible Pages:

- Page B, 1 copy for each child

B

Preparation

1. Write the names of the apostles in a list on the large writing surface: Peter, James Z., John, Andrew, Philip, Bartholomew, Matthew, Thomas, James, A., Thaddaeus, Simon, Judas.
2. Neatly print each of the apostles' names on an index card.
3. Practice presenting the Bible Story and singing the song.

O

Introducing the Bible Story

Open your Bible to Mark 3:13-19. Tell the children that today's Bible Story comes from the New Testament book of Mark, in chapter 3. Tell the children that you want to ask them some questions before you get started in the Bible Story.

- *How would you feel if you were chosen to give a speech in front of your class?*
- *How would you feel if you were chosen to be the team captain for your school's soccer team? (Replace soccer with a different sport, if necessary.)*
- *How would you feel if you were chosen as Student of the Year in your school?*
- *How would you feel if the President of the United States (or your country's leader) chose you to come for a visit to the nation's capitol?*
- *How would you feel if God chose you to be his friend and helper?*

L

R

E

Y



Explain to the children that God has chosen each of them to be his friend and helper. He sent Jesus to tell us that God has chosen us to be his friend and his helper. Now, we must choose to accept it.

Let's pretend that you fill out a ticket to win a prize. Your ticket was chosen and your name is called as the winner. What would happen if you did not come and claim the prize? (You would never get it.) That is the way it is with God. He has chosen us to be his special friends and helpers, but we must choose to do it!

Presenting the Bible Story

Tell the children, *Jesus went up on a mountain and chose the men he wanted, and they came to him. He chose twelve men and called them to be with him. They were a special group that would be sent out by Jesus. They were called apostles. They would be with Jesus and would follow him wherever he went. Jesus sent them out to teach people about God and help people. He even gave the apostles power to help people who were sick or suffering. The apostles made the right choice to follow and learn from Jesus, God's Son.*

God also chooses people today to follow him. He loves each of you in a special way and has chosen you to learn about Jesus. Why is it special for us to be chosen by Jesus? It is special for us to be chosen by Jesus because we get to learn from Jesus like the apostles, and we get to teach others to obey the Bible and to love others like Jesus loved us.

The twelve men Jesus chose were: Simon (whom he called Peter), James, John, Andrew, Philip, Bartholomew, Matthew, Thomas, James son of Alphaeus, Thaddaeus, Simon the Zealot, and Judas who would later betray Jesus. Today, you are going to learn a song to help you remember the apostles who were chosen by Jesus.

Distribute the copies of Reproducible Page B to the children. Direct them to look at the large writing surface. Say the names of each of the apostles together with the children. Do this several times. Then, read the words of the song with the children together. Finally, sing the song "Jesus Chose Them" to the tune of "Jesus Loves Me" and have the children repeat each line after you until they can sing it with you.

The Twelve

Share and Tell

Distribute the index cards that you prepared so that each child has at least one. Have each child take a turn and say, *Jesus chose (apostle's name on the card) to teach others about God and Jesus chose me to teach (fill in the name of a person they want to share with.)* For example: *Jesus chose Matthew to teach others about God and Jesus chose me to teach my friend Jannette about God.* Close with a prayer for the children to choose to love and obey God.

Teacher Tips

- Be sure to give the children an opportunity to say the names of the apostles before singing the song.

Jesus Chose Them

Jesus chose them one by one,
Peter, Andrew, James, and John,
Next came Philip, Thomas too,
Matthew and Bartholomew.

Yes, Jesus chose them,
Yes, Jesus chose them,
Yes, Jesus chose them,
He chose them one by one.

James the son of Alphaeus,
Simon, also Thaddaeus,
The twelfth apostle Judas made -
Jesus was by him betrayed.

Yes, Jesus chose them,
Yes, Jesus chose them,
Yes, Jesus chose them,
He chose them one by one.

C



R



A



F



T



The Twelve

Chosen by God

The children will make a craft to help them feel special to be chosen by Jesus.

Materials

For each child:

- blue, green and brown crayons
- 2 strips of construction paper, 1" x 2"
- invisible tape or glue stick

For the teacher:

- scissors
- utility knife (optional)

Reproducible Pages:

- Page C, 1 copy for each child

Preparation

1. For each child, cut out the name strips and the globes from the copies of Reproducible Page C.
2. On each globe, cut two slits with a utility knife (if available) on the solid lines for the name strips to pass through. Be very careful when cutting.
3. Prepare the strips of construction paper for the children.
4. Make a sample craft to show the children.

Instructions

1. Ask the children to remember a time when they felt special to be chosen. (Take several responses. Answers may include: to be a leader; for a sports team; to sing at school.) *In our Bible Story this week, we learn that Jesus chose twelve special men called "apostles" to follow him so that they could be with him and he could teach them about God. Do you think they felt special when Jesus chose them? Why? Jesus chose these men so that he could teach them how to teach others about God. We are going to make a craft that shows the names of some of the special people that Jesus chose out of the world to be with him.*
2. Show the children your sample craft. Read each of the apostles' names as you slide the name strip through the globe, and have the children repeat each name after you.

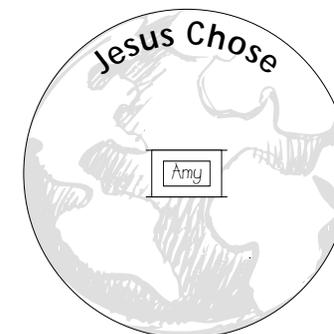
3. Distribute the globes and name strips you prepared and crayons to the children.
4. Show the children the special space on their name strips to write their own names. Tell them to write their names in these spaces, as shown in Figure A.
5. Help the children weave their name strips through the slits, starting from the back side, as shown in Figure B.
6. Have the children turn their globes over, face down. Distribute the construction paper strips and tape. Have the children tape the strips over the ends of their name strips so that they do not slip out, as shown in Figure C.
7. Have the children turn their globes back over and color them, using blue for the water and green or brown to color the land.

Conclusion

Have the children sit in a circle and read the apostles' names together as they pull their name strips through their globes. Tell them that Jesus chose the twelve to be with him and to teach them about God. The Bible says that we can be chosen by God today too. Close with a prayer for the children to feel special because God has chosen to love them so much.

Teacher Tips

- Bring in a real globe or geographic world map to guide the children as they color.



The Twelve

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Peter
James Z.
John
Andrew
Philip
Bartholomew

Amy

Matthew
Thomas
James A.
Thaddaeus
Simon
Judas

Figure A

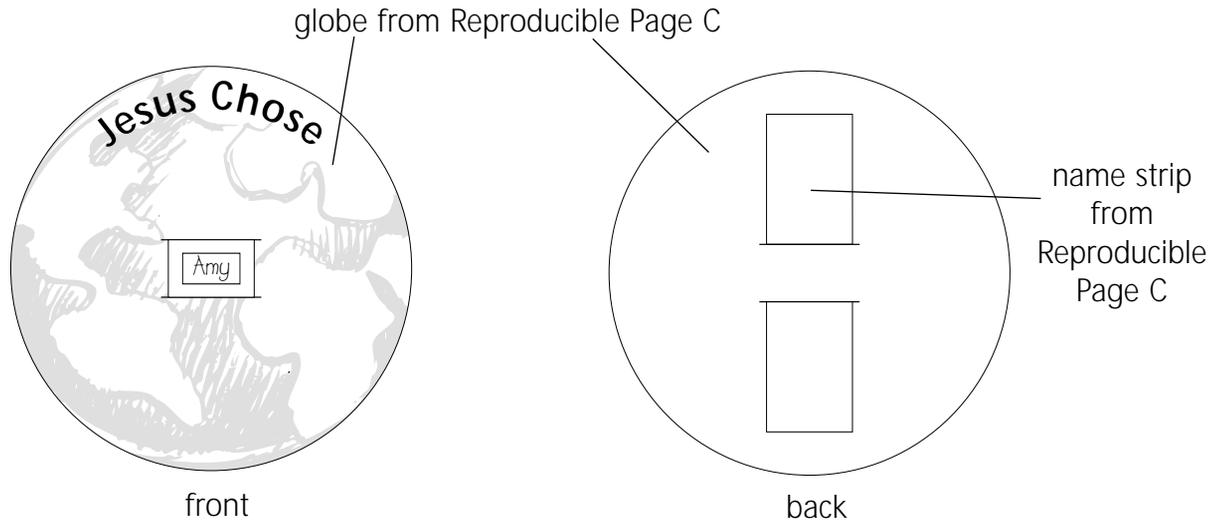


Figure B

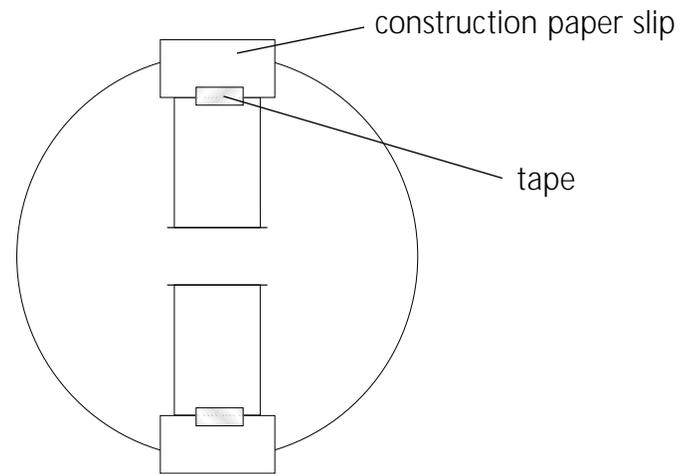


Figure C



SCRIPTURE MEMORY

The Twelve

Say It Again

The children will learn this week's Scripture Memory Verse through a fun, echo activity.

Scripture Memory Verse

For he chose us in him before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in his sight.

Ephesians 1:4

Materials

No additional materials needed.

Preparation

Practice leading this activity with enthusiasm and excitement.

Instructions

1. *In our Bible Story this week, we learn that Jesus chose twelve men to be with him and to teach them about God. Today, we can follow Jesus and teach people just as they did. The Bible tells us that God has chosen us to do that!*
2. Show the children the Scripture Memory Verse on the back of this Lesson Card. Read it to them three times as they follow along silently. Then, ask them to say it together with you three more times.
3. Sit the children in a circle. Say a phrase from the memory verse to the child on your right, and that child will say it to the child on his right until each child in the circle has said it. Do the same with all the phrases. Here are the phrases for the first round:
 - For he chose us in him
 - before the creation of the world,
 - to be holy and blameless
 - in his sight.
 - Ephesians 1:4

4. After you have said these phrases, start a new series beginning with the child on your left. This time, say the first two phrases together. Then, say the next two phrases together. End by saying the reference. Here are the phrases for the second round:
 - For he chose us in him before the creation of the world,
 - to be holy and blameless in his sight.
 - Ephesians 1:4
5. For the final round, say the entire verse (not the reference) to the child on your right, and let the children say the verse to the person next to them until everyone has had a chance. Encourage the children to help each other. Ask the children to say the reference all together at the end of that round.
6. Ask the children if anyone would like to say the verse alone. Ask the volunteers to stand up and say the verse to the group.

Conclusion

God thought about each one of you before he created the world! He wants you to have a special or "holy" relationship with him. God wants this friendship to be perfect or "blameless." How does it make you feel to know that God chose you to have a special, even perfect, friendship with him? Close with a prayer thanking God for choosing us.

Teacher Tips

- Vary the children's echoed repetition by having them speak in different tones of voice. (low pitch, high pitch, etc.) Emphasize the echo effect by starting with your voice deep and loud and having the children's voices respond in quieter voices that dissipate into a whisper.



The Twelve

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For he chose us in him
before the creation of the world
to be holy and blameless
in his sight.

Ephesians 1:4



Lesson Objectives

- The children will tell the story of Jesus choosing the twelve apostles.
- The children will describe why it is special for the apostles to be chosen by Jesus.
- The children will say why they want to be chosen by God.

Lesson Text

Mark 3:13-19

Scripture Memory Verse

For he chose us in him before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in his sight.

Ephesians 1:4

Lesson Plan

Greeting and Registration

Preclass Activity: Terrific Twelve

Welcome and Singing

Centers:

Life Application: The Apple of God's Eye

Game: Apostle Hunt

Bible Skills: Join the Fleet

NOTE: Allow time for a snack.



pre class

ACTIVITY

Terrific Twelve

The children will review the names of the twelve apostles through this fun activity.

Materials

For each child:

- markers or crayons
- pencil

For the teacher:

- large writing surface

Reproducible Pages:

- Page D, 1 copy per child

Preparation

1. Write the names of the apostles in a numbered list on the large writing surface where all the children can see: (1) Peter, (2) James Z., (3) John, (4) Andrew, (5) Philip, (6) Bartholomew, (7) Matthew, (8) Thomas, (9) James A., (10) Thaddaeus, (11) Simon, (12) Judas

2. Complete the activity on your copy of Reproducible Page D to show the children.

Instructions

1. Greet the children as they arrive. Tell them that they are going to review the names of the apostles from this week's Bible Story through a word activity.
2. Direct them to the list of names on the large writing surface. Remind them that this is the list of the names of the twelve men that Jesus called to be with him. Distribute the copies of Reproducible Page D and the pencils. Tell the children to find the names of the twelve apostles hidden among all the other names and circle them.
3. When the children have found all twelve names, have them trace over the letters and color in the circles with different colors.
4. Tell the children to use the list on the large writing surface to complete the list at the bottom of the page. Tell the children to write the names of apostles in the same order that they appear on your list.
5. Circulate among the children to offer help and talk about why it was special to be chosen by Jesus to be an apostle. Encourage the children who did not hear the Bible Story to work with those who did.

Teacher Tips

- Make sure to print neatly and clearly for the children, especially the young readers.

The Apple of God's Eye

The children will say why they want to be chosen by God.

Materials

For the teacher:

- scissors
- invisible tape
- poster board
- red or green crayon
- markers

Reproducible Pages:

- Page E, 1 copy for the teacher

NOTE: Reproduce Page E on red, yellow or green paper, if available.

Preparation

1. Draw a picture of a tree on the poster board.
2. Color the apples from your copy of Reproducible Page E (if red, yellow or green paper is not available), then cut them out.
3. Tape each apple onto the tree using a small piece of invisible tape.
4. Practice leading this activity with enthusiasm and expression.

Reviewing the Bible Story

In our Bible Story this week we learned that Jesus chose twelve of his followers to be apostles which means "sent out." Because they made the right choice to follow Jesus, they were able to be with Jesus while he was here on earth. They got to teach many people about Jesus, and God even gave them the power to heal people and to drive out demons. Our memory verse in Ephesians 1:4 says, "For he chose us in him before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in his sight." God is also choosing each of you to follow Jesus and learn how to be holy like Jesus. Being holy and blameless means doing what is right for God. It is a very special thing that God, who is so powerful and amazing, wants to choose you to follow him.

The Twelve

Jesus' Disciples Lesson 4

Life Application

Show the children the apple tree on the poster board. *We are going to play a game in which you can choose an apple off our tree. Written on each apple is one reason why we should want to be chosen by Jesus. When you pick the apple, hand it to me and say "I want to be chosen by Jesus because" and we will say the reason together.*

Choose a child to go first. Have the child pick an apple off the tree and hand it to you. Remind him to say: "I want to be chosen by Jesus because_____." Help the child read the words on the apple he has picked. Have that child choose the next child to pick an apple. Continue in this way until each of the children has had a chance to pick an apple.

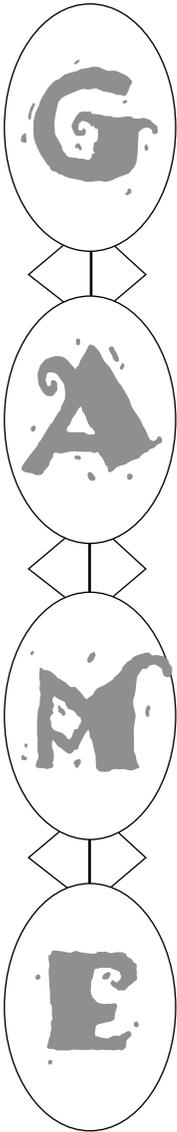
Conclusion

Jesus chose the apostles to follow him and he also chooses us to follow him today. Of all the reasons that you heard today, what is the most special reason to you to be chosen by Jesus? Give each child a chance to answer. (Do not force a child to answer.) Close with a prayer thanking God for choosing to love each one of the children.

Teacher Tips

- You may want to use a blindfold for the children to go and pick their apple to make it more fun.
- If you have more children than apples, make two copies of Reproducible Page E and hang two sets of apples on the tree; or else, have two children come up together.





Apostle Hunt

The children will play a game to search for a chosen apostle.

Materials

For the teacher:

- large writing surface
- 12 index cards, 4" x 6"
- watch with a second hand, or a timer

Preparation

1. On the large writing surface, write the following statements in neat print:
To spend time with Jesus
To learn from Jesus
To talk to Jesus
To walk with Jesus
To heal and help people
2. Neatly print each of the apostles' names on an index card. See the back of this Lesson Card.
3. Practice leading this activity at home.

Instructions

1. *In our Bible Story this week, we learned that Jesus chose twelve men to be his apostles. That means that he wanted these special men to be with him so that he could teach them about God and help them to teach others. We also learned that the Bible says that each of you is special to God—and that God chose us even before he made the world! It was very special to be an apostle in Jesus day, and it is still very special to be chosen by Jesus today.*
2. Seat the children in a circle. Explain that today's game will be a chance for the children to go on a hunt to find one of the apostles and tell why it was so special to be an apostle of Jesus.

3. Review the names of the apostles by holding up the index cards and saying them all together. Go through the names twice.
4. Choose one child to come up and pick one of the apostle cards. Explain that you will hide the apostle card while he leaves the room or shuts his eyes. Instruct the rest of the class to sit quietly so that the location of the card will not be given away.
5. Hide the apostle card, leaving a small portion exposed.
6. Tell the child he has one minute to find the card. To help the children find the cards, the rest of the class should guide them by saying "warm" to indicate when they are getting closer to the apostle card, or "cold" when they are getting farther away from the card. If the child is unable to find it within one minute, guide him to the card. Once the children have each found an apostle card, they can choose one of the five statements on the large writing surface to tell the class why it was special to be an apostle. Have the children in the circle ask: "Why was it special to be an apostle?" Then have the child state his answer. Be prepared to help the children read the words.
7. Repeat the game until all children have had a chance to search for an apostle.

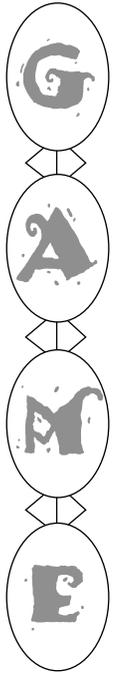
Conclusion

Remind the children to think of reasons why they want to be chosen by Jesus. Close with a prayer thanking God for fun ways to learn about him.

Teacher Tips

- If the facility you meet in does not have adequate hiding places, bring paper cups. Turn the cups upside down, distribute throughout the room, and use them as hiding places.





Peter

James Z.

John

Andrew

Philip

Bartholomew

Matthew

Thaddaeus

James A.

Simon

Judas

Thomas





Join the Fleet

The children will review all the books of the New Testament by participating in this activity.

Materials

For the teacher:

- complete Jesus' Fishing Fleet

Reproducible Pages:

- Page F, 1 copy for each child

Preparation

1. Display the complete Jesus' Fishing Fleet in a place that can easily be viewed by all the children.
2. Practice leading this activity at home.

A Second Look at the New Testament

1. As the children arrive, seat them in a semi-circle in full view of the display of Jesus' Fishing Fleet. Direct their attention to the display board, and tell them that today we will be joining Jesus' New Testament Fishing Fleet on its journey home, and will have fun with an activity to help us review what we've learned over the past three lessons. Say, or sing, the books of the New Testament together.

The Twelve

Jesus' Disciples Lesson 4

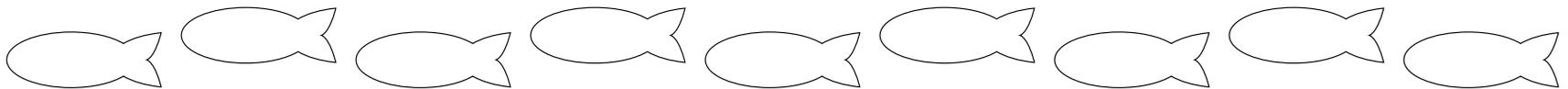
2. Remove all the boats from the display board and distribute them among the children.
3. Tell the children to listen as you read the books in order. The children will place their boats on the display board as you call them out.
4. Read the books slowly so that the children have time to find the correct boat. Continue until all the boats are in order on the display board.
5. Remove all the boats and repeat the activity, this time having a child read the list of New Testament books slowly.
6. Ask for volunteers to try and place all the books in order from memory.

Conclusion

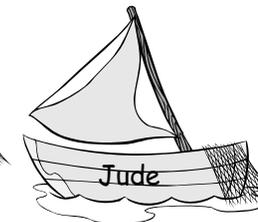
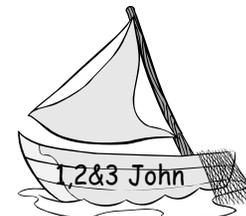
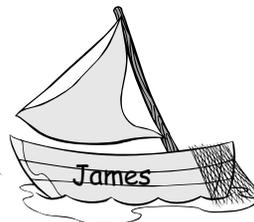
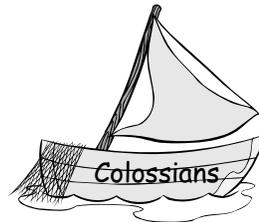
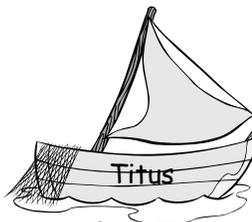
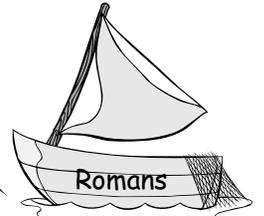
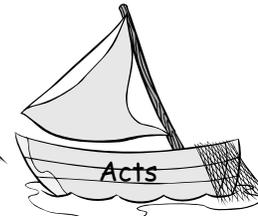
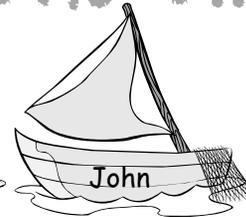
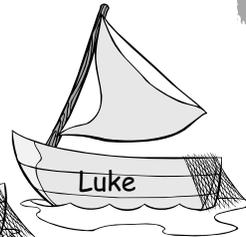
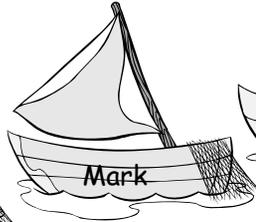
Encourage the children for their work. Tell them how happy it makes God to know that they are learning the Bible. Distribute the copies of Reproducible Page F and shake each child's hand, as in a ceremony, to praise them for their accomplishment. Close in a prayer thanking God for giving us the Bible so that we can be close to God and help others.

Teacher Tips

- When reading the books, remember to combine multiple titles, such as: 1&2 Timothy, etc.



The Twelve



ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ

Alphabet Apostles

Name _____

Part 1

Copy the name of each apostle in the space provided next to it:

1. Peter _____
2. James Z. _____
3. John _____
4. Andrew _____
5. Philip _____
6. Bartholomew _____
7. Matthew _____
8. Thomas _____
9. James A. _____
10. Thaddaeus _____
11. Simon _____
12. Judas _____

Part 2

Put the names of the 12 apostles in alphabetical order.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____
9. _____
10. _____
11. _____
12. _____

ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ

R
E
P
R
O
D
U
C
I
B
L
E

PAGE
A



Jesus Chose Them

Jesus chose them one by one,
Peter, Andrew, James, and John,
Next came Philip, Thomas too,
Matthew and Bartholomew.

Yes, Jesus chose them,
Yes, Jesus chose them,
Yes, Jesus chose them,
He chose them one by one.

James the son of Alphaeus,
Simon, also Thaddaeus,
The twelfth apostle Judas made-
Jesus was by him betrayed.

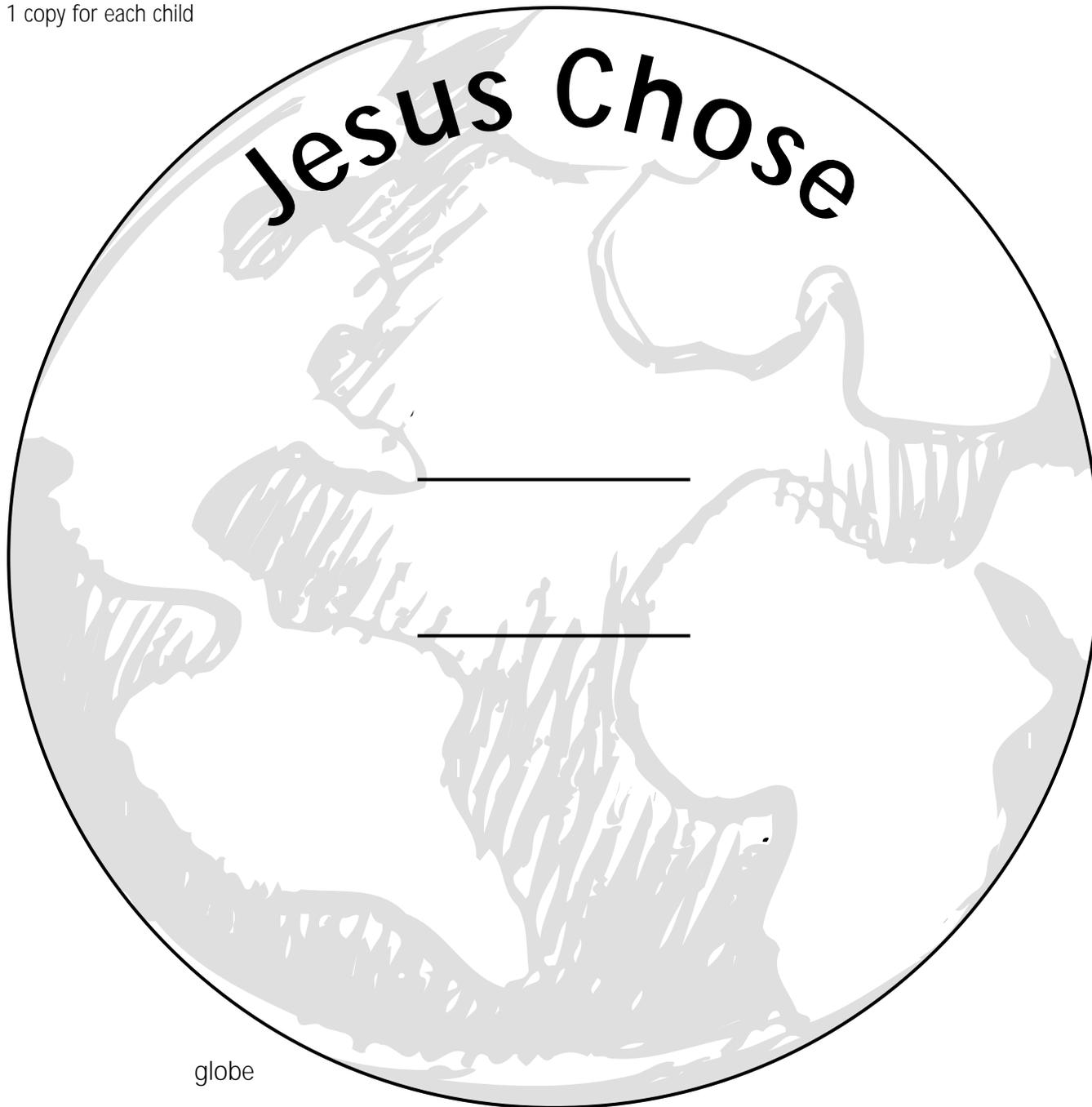
Yes, Jesus chose them,
Yes, Jesus chose them,
Yes, Jesus chose them,
He chose them one by one.



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Core/Craft
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Jesus' Disciples
Lesson 4



globe

Peter
James Z.
John
Andrew
Philip
Bartholomew



Matthew
Thomas
James A.
Thaddaeus
Simon
Judas

name strip



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Supplement/Preclass

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Abraham Thomas
 Thaddaeus Isaac Noah Peter
 Philip Bartholomew John Jacob
 Cain Abel James A. Judas
 Adam Esau Simon Andrew
 Moses Genesis
 James Z. Matthew Adam

Write the names of the apostles in order in the spaces below.
The first one has been done for you.

1. Peter
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____
9. _____
10. _____
11. _____
12. _____

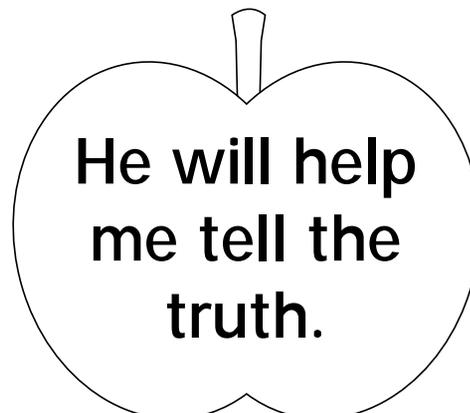
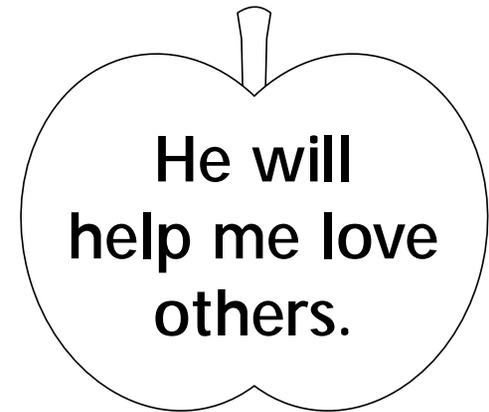
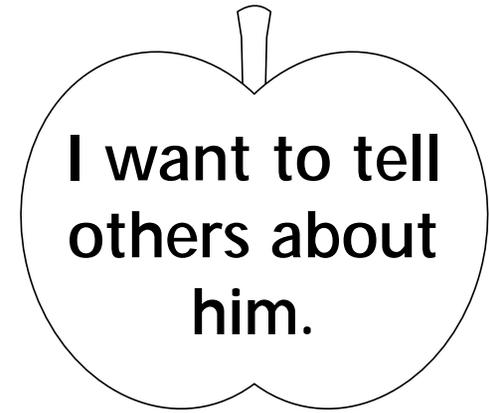


Supplement/Life Application

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CONGRATULATIONS!

This is to recognize that

has successfully learned
all the books of the
New Testament!!

*“If you love me, you will
obey what I command.”*

John 14:15

