

# Time with the Disciples

Jesus' Mission  
Lesson 1

## Lesson Objectives

- The children will describe ways that Jesus spent time with the disciples.
- The children will state that Jesus loves to spend time with each of them.
- The children will plan to have a special Quiet Time with Jesus.

## Lesson Text

John 1:35-42

## Scripture Memory Verse

Hear my prayer, O God; listen to the words of my mouth.

*Psalm 54:2*

## Lesson Plan

Greeting and Registration

Preclass Activity: Time with Jesus

Welcome and Singing

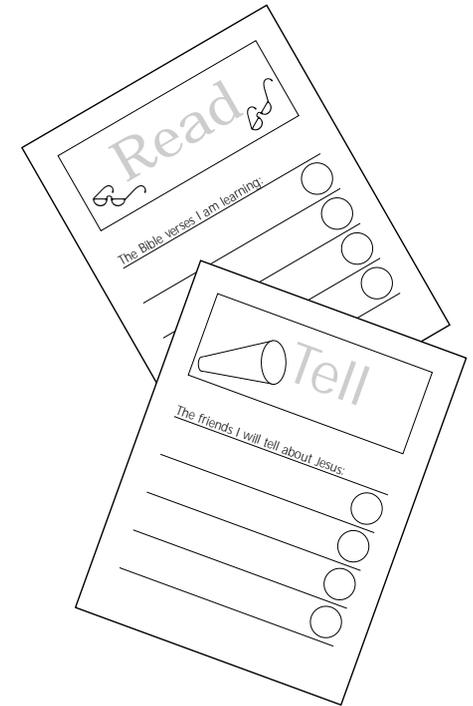
Centers:

Bible Story: A Very Special Day

Craft: A Very Special Book

Scripture Memory: A Very Special Prayer

NOTE: Allow time for a snack.



# Time with the Disciples

## Time with Jesus

The children will think of different ways to spend time with Jesus.

### Materials

*For each child:*

- crayons
- invisible tape

*For the teacher:*

- scissors

*Reproducible Pages:*

- Page A, 1 copy for each child

### Preparation

1. Cut out the cube forms from the copies of Reproducible Page A for the children.
2. Prepare a sample cube to show the children.

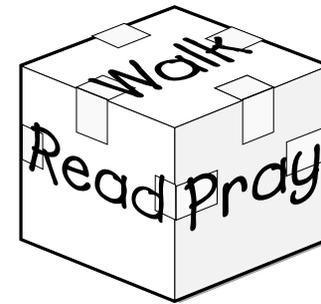
### Instructions

1. Greet the children as they arrive. Explain that this week's lesson is about spending time with Jesus. They will learn how the disciples spent time with Jesus and how they can spend time with him, too.
2. Show the children your sample cube. Read the words on each side and explain that these are all different things we can do to spend time with Jesus. Encourage the children to think about each of these ideas as they complete their cubes.
3. Distribute the cube forms you prepared and the crayons to the children. Tell the children to color in the cubes and decorate them with the crayons. Make sure they write their names on their cubes.
4. After they have finished coloring, help them fold along the dashed lines and tape the sides together, as shown.

5. For children who finish early, they can make an extra cube for children who arrive late.
6. If time permits, have the children pick partners and create their own games using the cubes.
7. Encourage the children to use their cubes at home with their families to think of ways that they can spend time with Jesus as a family.

### Teacher Tips

- Be prepared to share different ways that you spend time with Jesus as you circulate among the children.



**B****S****I****T****B****O****L****R****E****Y**

# Time with the Disciples

Jesus' Mission  
Lesson 1

## A Very Special Day

The children will tell how the disciples spent a day with Jesus.

### Materials

For the teacher:

- 1 completed block from Preclass

### Preparation

Practice presenting this Bible Story with enthusiasm.

### Introducing the Bible Story

Open your Bible to John 1:35-42. *This week's Bible Story comes from the New Testament book of John, chapter 1, verses 35-42. You have been learning about how Jesus called his disciples to follow him. Do you remember the names of the disciples that Jesus called? (The names are on back of this Lesson Card.) You are going to learn about many different things that Jesus did with his disciples to teach them and to prepare them to teach others. In today's lesson, you are going to think about the different ways that the disciples spent time with Jesus.*

### Presenting the Bible Story

Ask the children the following questions:

- *What would you do if you were playing outside and a famous movie star or athlete [fill in with the name of a famous personality that the children know well] walked down your street?*
- *Would you follow him? Would you go get your friends? Who would you call?*
- *Would you ask him where he was staying? Would you want to spend the day with him?*
- *Can you think of one special friend that you would want to tell?*

*Did you know that this is what happened to the disciples? One day, some men saw Jesus walking by. They were so excited that they started following him! They asked him where he was staying and they got to spend the whole day with him! One of the men who followed Jesus was Andrew. Right away Andrew found his brother Simon and told him that they had found a very special man—the promised Son of God! Simon came with his brother to meet Jesus and he followed Jesus too.*

*They stayed with Jesus for the whole day. What do you think they did together? (Take responses.) Let's imagine how they spent their day. Take out the Time with Jesus cube from the Preclass Center.*

### Spending Time with Jesus

Walk

Turn to the "Walk" side. *I imagine that Jesus and the disciples walked and talked together. Maybe the disciples asked Jesus questions about God and about heaven. What would you ask Jesus?*

Tell

Turn to the "Tell" side. *I imagine that when Jesus talked, the disciples thought of people that they wanted to tell—just like Andrew told his brother Simon! Can you think of people you want to tell about Jesus?*

Sing

Turn to the "Sing" side. *I imagine that the disciples asked Jesus if he had a favorite song. Maybe they sang some songs together. What is your favorite song to sing about God?*

Read

Turn to the "Read" side. *I imagine that Jesus stopped and took some time to read the Scriptures—that is what they called the Bible in Jesus' day. I think the disciples were so excited to read the Bible with Jesus! Who do you like to read the Bible with?*

Pray

Turn to the "Pray" side. *I imagine that at the end of the day, Jesus and the disciples prayed together. I think that when they heard Jesus pray to God they were amazed that Jesus talked to God*

*just like he was his father! Who do you like to pray with? What are some other things that they could have done together? (Answers might include: eat; help someone; go fishing; walk on the beach.)*



# Time with the Disciples

## Share and Tell

*Jesus loved to spend time with the disciples. That is why he called them to follow him. He just loved to spend time with them. Who do you love to spend time with? (Take responses.) Jesus loved to spend time with the disciples because he loved them! Don't you love to spend time with the people you love? your best friends? your family? your grandparents? Did you know that Jesus loves you just as much as he loved the disciples? Did you know that if Jesus were here today he would love to spend time with you? It's true. Is there anyone you want to tell about Jesus? Close with a prayer for the children to know how much Jesus loves them.*

## Teacher Tips

- Do not underestimate the power of this lesson. Think how each of these points relate to your life. Pray that the children will leave amazed that you have been with Jesus!
- You may need to remind the children there were two Simons, (Simon Peter and Simon the Zealot), just as there can be two people with the same first name in a group today.

**PETER**

**PHILIP**

**JAMES A.**

**JAMES Z.**

**BARTHOLOMEW**

**THADDAEUS**

**JOHN**

**MATTHEW**

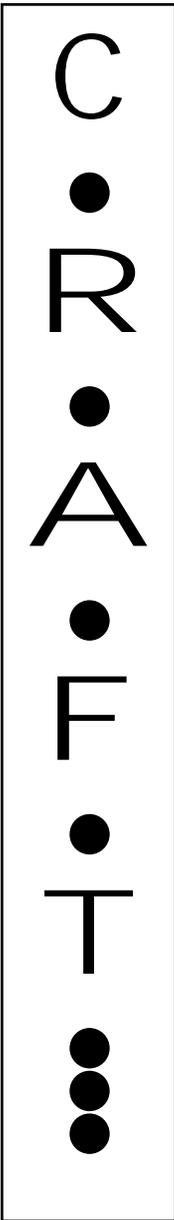
**SIMON**

**ANDREW**

**THOMAS**

**JUDAS**





# Time with the Disciples

## A Very Special Book

The children will make their own personal Quiet Time Books.

### Materials

*For each child:*

- 1 piece of cardboard or poster board, 6" x 9"
- 1 piece of fabric, 6" x 9"
- white glue or glue stick
- 1 large, white, self-sticking label
- crayons or markers
- 21 miniature stickers of smiley faces, etc. (optional)

*For the teacher:*

- scissors
- large writing surface
- pinking or sewing shears (optional)

*Reproducible Pages:*

- Pages B and C, 1 copy for each child

### Preparation

1. Prepare the cardboard and fabric for each child.
2. Cut out the four sheets from the copies of Reproducible Pages B and C for the children.
3. On the large writing surface, neatly print the words: Jesus Loves Me.
4. On each of the white labels, write: \_\_\_\_\_'s Quiet Time Book, as shown in Figure C.
5. Make a sample of this craft to show the children.

### Instructions

1. *In our Bible Story this week, we are learning about the different ways that Jesus spent time with his disciples. It is a wonderful thing to spend time with Jesus. One way that we can spend time with him is called a "Quiet Time." This is when we read the Bible, pray to God, sing songs and think of people we want to tell about Jesus.*
2. Tell the children that disciples of Jesus should have a Quiet Time every day. Today, the children are going to make their own special Quiet Time Book to help them learn how to have a Quiet Time. Show the children the sample you made.

3. Distribute the cardboard, fabric and glue. Help the children to fold the cardboard in half, as shown in Figure A.
4. Help the children apply glue to the outside of their cardboard and apply the fabric, as shown in Figure B. Have them do one side at a time to avoid a mess with the glue.
5. Distribute the white labels and have the children write their names in the spaces provided. Help them to stick their labels on the front of their book covers, as shown in Figure C. Have the children set their book covers aside to dry as they prepare the pages.
6. Distribute the four sheets you prepared and the crayons to the children. Have them trace over and color the titles of each page. Circulate among the children as they are coloring to staple their pages to the top right sides of their books, as shown in Figure D. Let the children decide the order of the pages.
7. Show the children the large writing surface. Have them copy the words "Jesus Loves Me" onto the left insides of their booklets, as shown in Figure E.

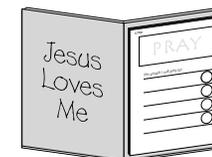
### Conclusion

Encourage the children for their work. Distribute the stickers (if available) and tell the children to place a sticker on each page every day that they have their Quiet Time, or draw a happy face in the circle at the end of each line. Close with a prayer for the children to know how much Jesus loves and wants to spend time with them.

NOTE: Tell the children to bring their Quiet Time Books to church for the following (supplement) lesson to be used during the Life Application Center.

### Teacher Tips

- Ask parents to donate colorful, brightly patterned fabric scraps for this craft.
- To prevent the pieces of fabric from unraveling, cut them with pinking shears.



# Time with the Disciples

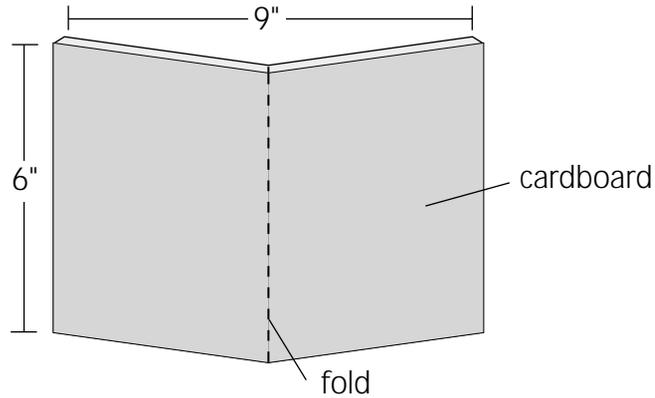


Figure A

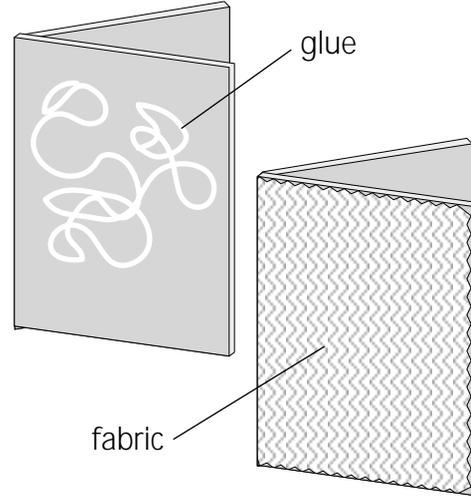


Figure B

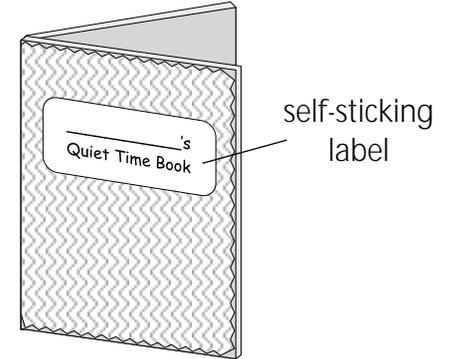


Figure C

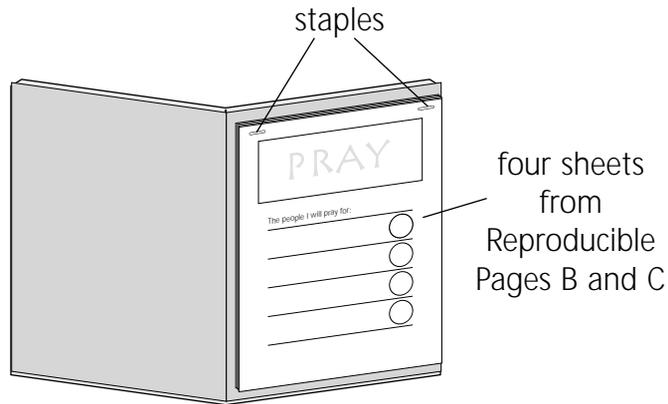


Figure D

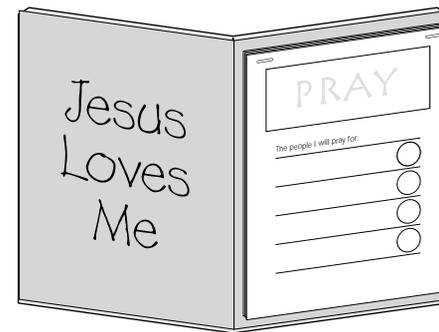


Figure E

SCR  
IPT  
URE  
MEM  
ORY

# Time with the Disciples

## A Very Special Prayer

The children will learn and memorize today's Scripture Memory Verse as they think about their own prayers to God.

### Scripture Memory Verse

Hear my prayer, O God; listen to the words of my mouth.  
*Psalms 54:2*

### Materials

For the teacher:

- Quiet Time Book from the Craft Center

### Preparation

1. Learn and memorize the Scripture Memory Verse prior to class.
2. Practice leading this activity at home.
3. Obtain a sample Quiet Time Book from the Craft teacher.

### Instructions

1. *Today, we are learning how Jesus spent special time with his disciples and how much he wants to spend time with us. In your craft, you are making a special Quiet Time Book that has a place for you to write down the people and things you want to pray for. Show the children the page in the Quiet Time Book labeled "Pray." Today, our memory verse is actually a prayer asking God to hear us when we pray to Him.*
2. Show the children the Scripture Memory Verse on the back of this Lesson Card. Read it to the children three times as they follow along silently. Have the children read the verse together with you three more times.
3. Show the children three different hand motions to do as they say this verse. First, have them fold their hands as if praying. Then, have them hold their hands to their ears as if listening. Last, have them point to their mouths. With the children sitting in a circle, say the verse in the following way, with the children listening and watching:  
Hear my prayer, O God (folding your hands);  
Listen to (holding your hands to your ears);  
the words of my mouth (pointing to your mouth).

4. Have the children say the verse and practice the hand motions together three times.
5. Tell the children that there are many different ways to pray. Tell them that they are going to say the verse several different ways using the hand motions. Say the verse three times in each of the following ways: standing up; kneeling down; lying down on the floor (if appropriate); in unison with a partner; in a whisper; singing a song.
6. Let each child choose one of these different ways to say the verse for the group from memory.

### Conclusion

Ask the children how it feels to know that God listens to their prayers. Close with the children praying the memory verse all together.

### Teacher Tips

- Practice saying the memory verse several times using the hand motions.
- This activity will be a lot of fun if you are well prepared and out-of-yourself.



Hear my prayer, O God;  
listen to the words  
of my mouth.

Psalm 54:2



pre class

ACTIVITY

# Time with the Disciples

Jesus' Mission  
Lesson 1

## Lesson Objectives

- The children will describe ways that Jesus spent time with the disciples.
- The children will state that Jesus loves to spend time with each of them.
- The children will plan to have a special Quiet Time with Jesus.

## Lesson Text

John 1:35-42

## Scripture Memory Verse

Hear my prayer, O God; listen to the words of my mouth.  
*Psalm 54:2*

## Lesson Plan

Greeting and Registration

Preclass Activity: Planning a Great Time

Welcome and Singing

Centers:

Life Application: Favorite Meeting Places

Game: Great Times

Bible Skills: Remember When?

NOTE: Allow time for a snack.

## Planning a Great Time

The children will make plans to have a special time with Jesus.

### Materials

For each child:

- pencil
- crayons or markers

For the teacher:

- large writing surface

Reproducible Pages:

- Page D, 1 copy for each child

### Preparation

Complete the activity on your copy of Reproducible Page D.

## Instructions

1. Greet the children as they arrive. Tell them that in today's lesson, they are going to review the Bible Story and continue to think about ways to spend special time with God.
2. Distribute the copies of Reproducible Page D, the pencils and crayons. Show the children your completed page. Ask the children how many of them have been using their Quiet Time Books (that they made in the Craft Center at their last class). Explain that in today's activity, they will continue to think of different ways to spend time with God. Tell them that in the middle of their pages, they can draw a picture of themselves reading the Bible, praying, singing or telling someone about God.

3. Circulate among the children to offer help with spelling and to talk about their Quiet Times. For children who did not hear the Bible Story, encourage them to work together with another child who did.

## Teacher Tips

- Use a large writing surface to help spell words so that all the children can see.

## Favorite Meeting Places

The children will role play different ways and places to have a Quiet Time.

### Materials

For each child:

- Quiet Time Book from the Core lesson Craft Center (if available)

For the teacher:

- blanket
- bedsheet
- 4 chairs or a table
- songbook
- Children's Bible (optional)
- Children's Quiet Time books from DPI including: *Heart of a Champion For Kids*, *The Servant King*, *Follow Me* (optional)

### Preparation

1. Prepare the following "favorite places" for the children to see:
  - a tent made from putting a sheet over a table or four chairs;
  - a blanket on the floor by a window (if possible).
2. Practice leading this activity at home.

### Reviewing the Bible Story

*In our Bible Story this week, we learned that Jesus spent all day with his disciples. Jesus spent time with the disciples because he loved them. He wanted to walk with them and talk with them. Together they prayed and sang songs and helped other people to know God. We can still spend special time with Jesus today—because Jesus loves each one of us as much as he loved the disciples in the Bible. Let's think about some special places that we can spend time with God.*

### Life Application

Ask the children to show you their Quiet Time Books from the (Core) Craft Center. Remind the children that a Quiet Time Book helps them to focus on a few special thoughts. Show them a sample of the Quiet Time Book from the (Core) Craft Center, if available. Show them the other Quiet Time books from DPI and the Children's Bible,

if available. Explain that one of the fun parts of having Quiet Times is having different things to do and different places to go.

Explain that there are many ways to have a special time with Jesus. *Where can you go to be alone with Jesus? Anywhere! You might like to pick a special place where you go to talk to Jesus. That could be your Favorite Meeting Place. If you can find a quiet place and keep a certain time every day to pray, it will help you build a great friendship with Jesus. Remember: Jesus wants to hear from you every day because he loves you.*

Tell the children that you are going to show them several different places where they can have a special time with Jesus.

Show them the tent that you prepared. If space permits, have them sit with you under the tent. Suggest that they can also put a pillow in the corner of a large closet, with their parent's permission, and sit with a flashlight to read and pray. Show them the blanket. Tell them that they can take a special blanket and sit under a tree in the yard, by the beach or on a porch to have special time with God. NOTE: Always leave an opening to the tent, so that you and the children are not fully hidden.

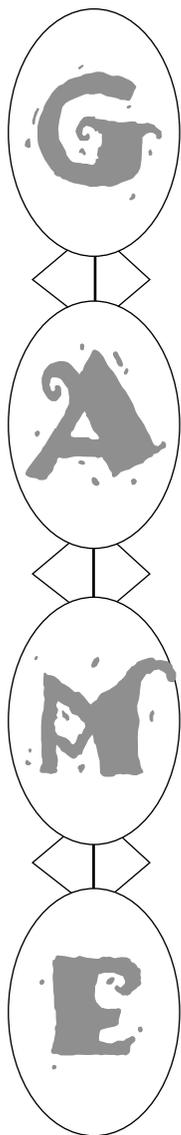
Ask the children if they can think of other special places where they can have Quiet Times with God. (Suggest: a playhouse or treehouse; a big empty refrigerator box; their beds.) Tell the children it is very important that they talk to their parents before they choose a favorite place. God wants them to obey their parents.

### Conclusion

Share with the children your favorite place to spend time with God. *You can make your daily time to visit with Jesus special by meeting him in a favorite place. He wants to have time with you, too. He will be happy to hear from you because he loves you.* Close with a prayer for the children to find a favorite place this week to meet with God.

### Teacher Tips

- Be very careful to stress that the children talk with their parents before setting up a Quiet Time area.
- Arrange to talk with parents after class and encourage them to discuss today's topic of "Favorite Places."



## Great Times

The children will think about different ways that the disciples spent time with Jesus through this relay game.

### Materials

*For the teacher:*

- scissors
- 7 red balloons
- 7 blue balloons
- 2 large boxes
- 1 piece of poster board, 22" x 28"
- 1 red marker
- 1 blue marker
- invisible tape
- large writing surface

*Reproducible Pages:*

- Page E, 2 copies for the teacher

NOTE: If possible, reproduce one copy of Page E on red paper and the other copy on blue paper.

### Preparation

1. Cut out the phrase strips from the two copies of Reproducible Page E. You should have two sets of strips, each set numbered one through seven.
2. Fold or roll up the strips and place one (blue) strip inside each of the seven blue balloons. Do the same with each of the (red) strips, putting them into the red balloons. You should have two complete sets of balloons containing strips numbered one through seven. Inflate the balloons and tie them.
3. Place the red balloons in one large box and the blue balloons in the other.
4. Cut the poster board, in half, one for the Red Team and one for the Blue Team. See Figure A on the back of this Lesson Card as an example. Use the blue marker to number one to seven for the Blue Team and the red marker for the Red Team. Put the poster boards on the floor.

5. Tear small pieces of tape, ready for the children to use, on a table or chair between the poster boards. Make sure they are easy for the children to reach.
6. On the large writing surface, write and number the seven phrases exactly as they appear on your copy of Reproducible Page E.

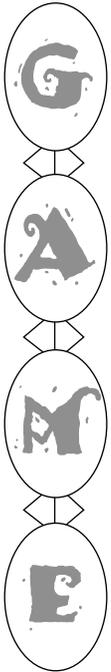
### Instructions

IMPORTANT: Keep balloons away from any other class areas with children three years old or younger. Do not allow any child to put a balloon in his mouth.

1. *In our lesson this week, we are learning about different and special ways that the disciples spent time with Jesus. In this fun relay today, you are going to find seven different ways that the disciples spent time with Jesus. Let's review the ways that Jesus and the disciples spent time together.* Read the list on the large writing surface with the children.
2. Divide the children into two groups, the Red Team and the Blue Team. Try to balance the number of older and younger children on each team.
3. Line up both teams approximately seven feet from their boxes of colored balloons. Mark a line for both teams to stand behind.
4. Explain that the object of the game is for each team to pop all of their balloons, take the slip of paper that is inside each of the balloons back to their team and, using the tape already prepared, tape it in the correct space on the poster board. Show them the two poster boards, numbered one to seven. Tell them that each balloon contains one slip of paper numbered one to seven. After they sit or stomp on the balloon to pop it, they should remove the slip and read it out loud for everyone to hear and then return to their team, so the next child in line can go. (You or an assistant should be available to help the children who are beginning readers.) The child must then tape the slip to the correct space on the poster board. The first team to correctly fill their poster board, wins! See Figure B on the back of this Lesson Card.
5. After both teams have completed their posters, let them take turns reading all seven phrases together as a team.



# Time with the Disciples



## Conclusion

Close with a prayer thanking God for all the fun ways that we can spend time with him.

## Teacher Tips

- Invite parents or assistant teachers to help insert the paper slips and inflate balloons before class.
- A few children may be uncomfortable sitting or stomping on the balloons to pop them. Have a pair of scissors available to deflate the balloons for children who may be fearful of the sound.
- For teams with more than seven children, send a pair of children to pop one balloon.

**Red Team**

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_
7. \_\_\_\_\_

Figure A

**Blue Team**

1.
2.
3.
4.
5.
6.
7.

tape

phrase strip from Reproducible Page E

Figure B





## Remember When?

The children will review the names of the twelve apostles and the ways they spent time with Jesus as they play a memory game.

### Materials

*For the teacher:*

- scissors
- pen
- score pad

*Reproducible Pages:*

- Page F, 4 copies for the teacher  
NOTE: Reproduce Page F onto heavy paper and laminate, if possible, to create a durable set of cards.

### Preparation

1. Cut out the cards from your copies of Reproducible Page F. You should have forty-eight cards.
2. Practice leading this activity at home.

### Instructions

1. *In our Bible Story this week, we learned about different ways that Jesus spent time with the disciples. In our activity today, we are going to learn the names of the twelve apostles and review some of the ways they spent time together.*
2. Show the children the names of the twelve disciples on the back of this Lesson Card. Explain that James Z. is James the son of Zebedee and James A. is James the son of Alphaeus, and that Simon is Simon the Zealot (not Simon Peter). Read the list for the children once. Ask them to read it with you the second time. Ask the children to take turns reading the list of names with you.
3. Show the children the cards you prepared from the copies of Reproducible Page F. Explain that there are two matching pairs of each disciple. The goal of the game is to find as many matches as possible. Shuffle the cards and place them in four rows of twelve or six rows of eight.

4. Divide the group into two teams. Explain that each team will take turns turning over two cards to make a match. If the two cards do not match, they put them face down again. Once a match is found, the team gets two points. The child who finds the match then can earn an extra point by naming one way that apostle could have spent time with Jesus. For example: Andrew prayed with Jesus. Bartholomew sang songs with Jesus.
5. As you keep score, continue this activity until all the pairs have been found. Total each team's points. Remind the children that they are all winners for having completed the activity.
6. Ask the children for volunteers to say the names of the twelve disciples from memory.

### Conclusion

Ask the children to imagine they could spend a day with Jesus and be one of the disciples. Ask each child to name the disciple they would like to be and what they would like to do with Jesus. Do the first one as an example: *I would like to be John. I would like to go for a walk with Jesus and ask him about heaven.* Close with a prayer for the children to know and love Jesus.

### Teacher Tips

- Keep the cards to use for activities before and after future lessons.



# Time with the Disciples



PRAY SING TELL READ WALK PRAY PRAY SING TELL READ WALK PRAY SING TELL READ WALK PRAY SING

Peter	Philip	James A.
James Z.	Bartholomew	Thaddaeus
John	Matthew	Simon
Andrew	Thomas	Judas

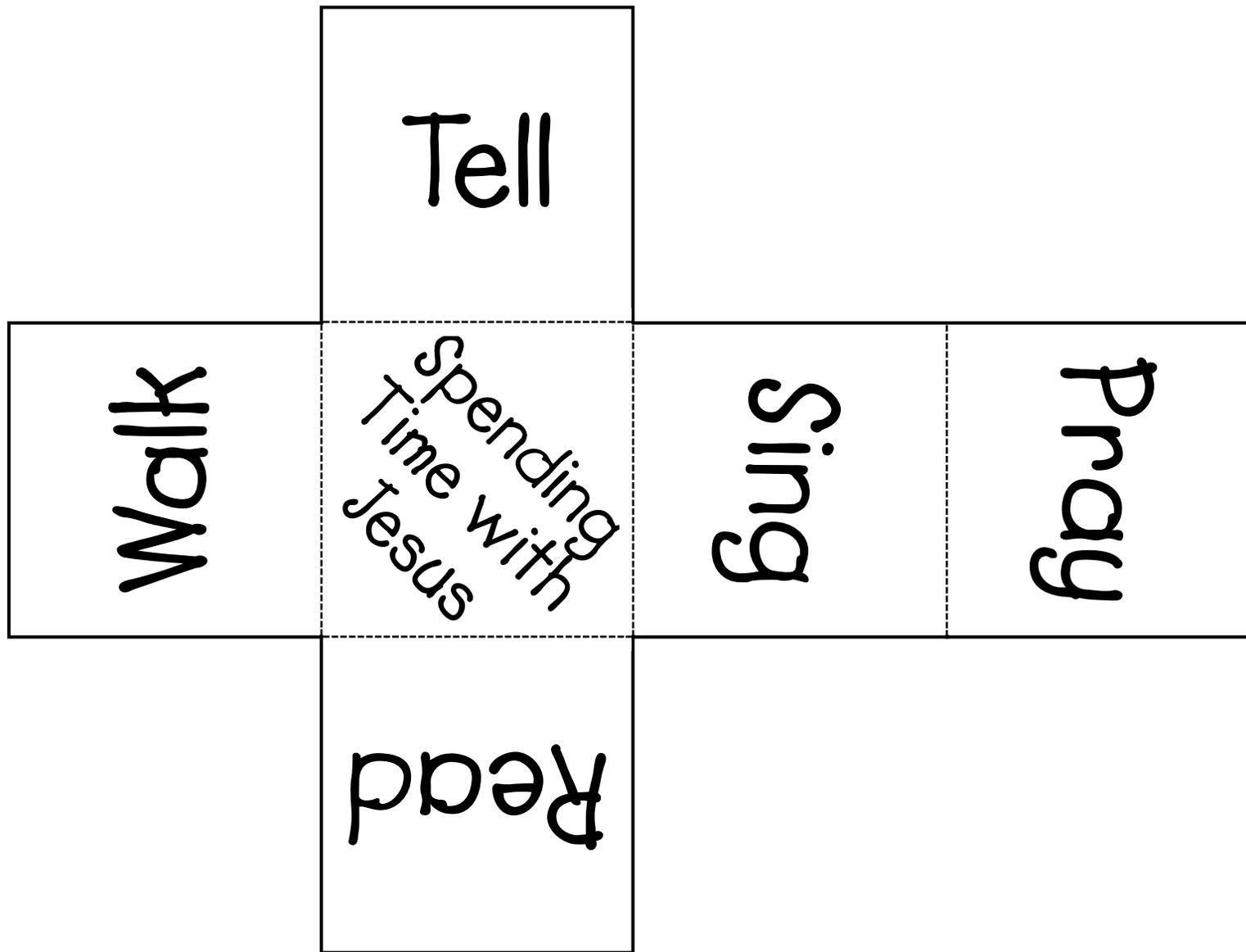
PRAY SING TELL READ WALK PRAY PRAY SING TELL READ WALK PRAY SING TELL READ WALK PRAY SING



Core/Preclass  
1 copy for each child

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

PAGE  
A



P  
R  
A  
Y

The people I will pray for:

---

○

---

○

---

○

---

○

---

S  
I  
N  
G

The songs I like to sing to God:

---

○

---

○

---

○

---

○

---



Read



The Bible verses I am learning:

---

---

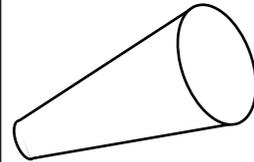
---

---

---

---

Tell



The friends I will tell about Jesus:

---

---

---

---

---

---

This page intentionally left blank



Supplement/Preclass

1 copy for each child

**READ**

Hear my prayer, O God;  
listen to  
the words of my mouth.  
Psalm 54:2

**PRAY**

People I will pray for:

**SING**

Songs I like to sing to God:

**TELL**

Friends I will tell about Jesus:

Jesus Loves to Spend Time with Me



**Supplement/Game**

2 copies for the teacher

1. The disciples followed Jesus.

2. The disciples talked with Jesus.

3. The disciples ate with Jesus.

4. The disciples asked Jesus questions.

5. The disciples told their friends about Jesus.

6. The disciples sang songs with Jesus.

7. The disciples listened to Jesus.

Supplement/Bible Skills  
4 copies for the teacher (on heavy paper)

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

PAGE  
F

Peter

James  
Z.

John

Andrew

Philip

Bartholomew

Matthew

Thomas

James  
A.

Thaddaeus

Simon

Judas

