

# Sending the Disciples

Jesus' Mission  
Lesson 3

## Lesson Objectives

- The children will state one reason why Jesus sent out his disciples.
- The children will explain one way that friends can reach out together.
- The children will practice inviting their friends to church.

## Lesson Text

Luke 10:1-16

## Scripture Memory Verse

For the Son of Man came to seek and to save what was lost.

*Luke 19:10*

## Lesson Plan

Greeting and Registration

Preclass Activity: Amaze Your Friends

Welcome and Singing

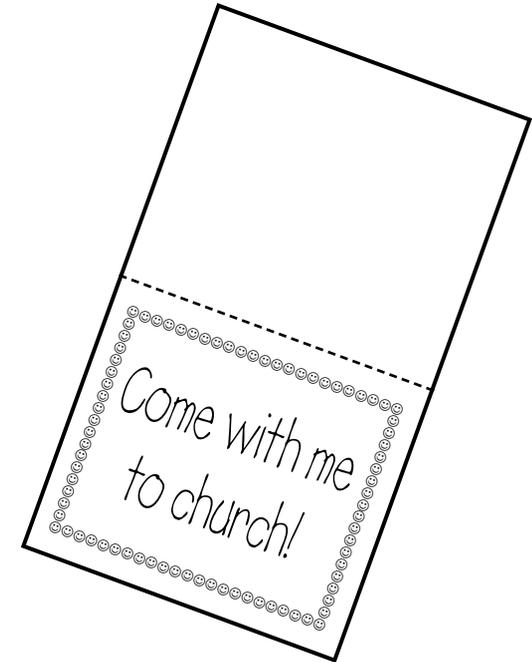
Centers:

Bible Story: Two by Two

Craft: Forever Friends

Scripture Memory: Lost and Found

NOTE: Allow time for a snack.



# Sending the Disciples

## Amaze Your Friends

The children will preview today's lesson as they think about bringing their friends to church.

### Materials

For each child:

- 4 crayons or markers (red, blue, green, orange)

Reproducible Pages:

- Page A, 1 copy for each child

### Preparation

Complete the activity on your copy of Reproducible Page A.

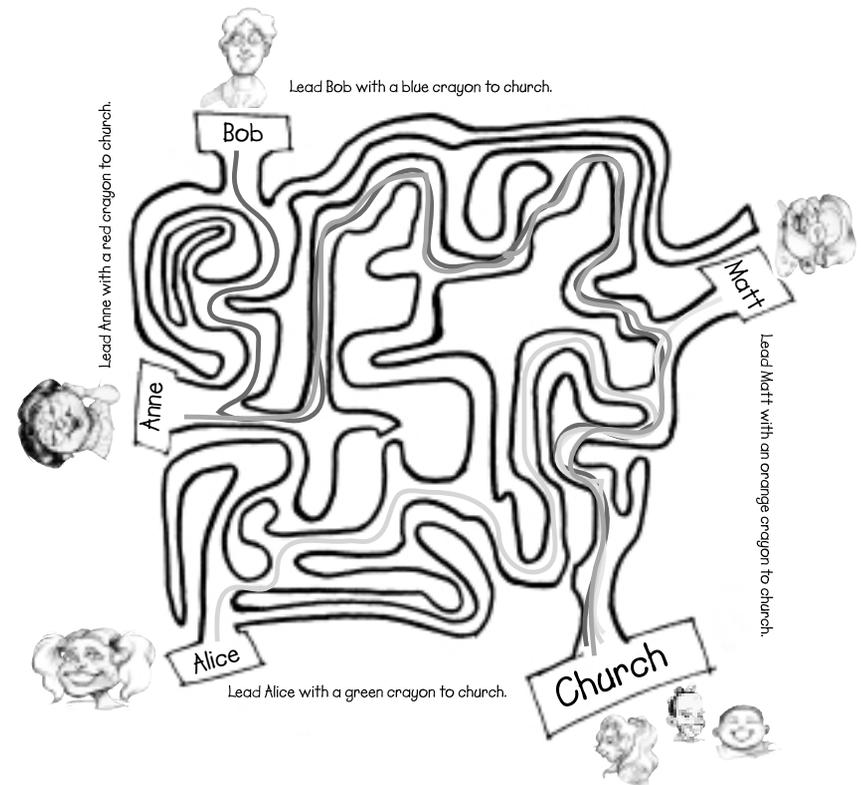
### Instructions

1. Greet the children as they arrive. Explain that in today's lesson, they are going to learn that Jesus sent out his disciples to teach others. In this activity, they will be sent out to bring their friends to church in a "maze." Show the children your completed copy of Reproducible Page A.
2. Distribute the copies of Reproducible Page A and the crayons. Explain that each of the four friends in the maze should be led with a different color crayon. Remind them to write their names on their pages. Encourage the children to work together and help each other.
3. Circulate among the children to offer help as needed. Encourage the children that God can use them to teach others about Jesus, and bringing friends to church is one very good way.

4. As the children finish the maze activity, have them turn their papers over and draw a picture of themselves bringing a friend with them to Bible class. Encourage the children to think of friends that they could invite to church next week.
5. For a more advanced variation: Encourage the children (who are able) to make their own maze on the back of their pages and write the names of their own friends in the place of the names provided.

### Teacher Tips

- Share with the children about the friends you have been bringing to church recently.



# B Sending the Disciples

S

## Two by Two

The children will learn why Jesus sent out his disciples.

### Materials

For the teacher:

- 2 pieces of cardboard or poster board, 9" x 12"
- black marker
- large writing surface

### Preparation

1. On one piece of cardboard, write: TEACH; on the other piece write: HELP.
2. On the large writing surface, write: The kingdom of God is near you.
3. Practice presenting this Bible Story with genuine excitement.

### Introducing the Bible Story

Open your Bible to Luke 10:1-16. Tell the children that today's Bible Story comes from the New Testament book of Luke in chapter ten. Remind the children that they have been learning about Jesus' mission. Explain that Jesus spent time teaching his disciples so that they would be ready to go out and teach others about God. Tell the children that in today's story, they will learn what happened when Jesus sent out his disciples.

### Presenting the Bible Story

*Listen to what the Bible says in Luke 10:1, "After this the Lord appointed seventy-two others and sent them two by two ahead of him to every town and place where he was about to go." Jesus spent a lot of time with the disciples and had taught them many things. The Bible says that he appointed—or chose—seventy-two others! Jesus' followers were growing! And Jesus sent them two by two. What do you think it means to go "two by two"? (Take responses.) It means that he sent people out with partners—he did not want them to go out alone. He wanted them to have a friend to encourage them to be brave, to obey, to share and to help each other when people were mean or did not want to hear their message.*

*What do you think that Jesus sent them out to do? (Take responses.) The Bible says that he sent them to teach. Hold up the*

*card that says TEACH. What do you think Jesus wanted the disciples to teach people? (Take responses.) Listen to what Jesus said in Luke 10:9, "Tell them, 'The kingdom of God is near you.'" Jesus wanted his disciples to teach the people about God and his kingdom. Today, we know that the kingdom is the church. That is why God wants us to bring our friends to church—because they can learn about God and his kingdom today!*

Tell the children that they can practice going two by two so they can teach others. Help the children find a partner. (With an odd number of children, create a threesome.) Line up the children side by side, so that the partners are all standing next to each other. Choose one pair of children to stand facing the line. Referring to the large writing surface, tell the children to pretend they are teaching the people, saying: "The kingdom of heaven is near you." Then have them return to the line and call the next pair up to "teach." Continue until all the children have had a chance to say, "The kingdom of heaven is near you."

*What else do you think Jesus sent them out to do? (Take responses.) The Bible says that he sent them to heal. Hold up the card that says HELP. Jesus also said in Luke 10:9, "Heal the sick who are there." Jesus wanted his disciples to show the people that God cared about them very much. By healing the sick people, the disciples showed that God loved them very much. Today, God can still heal people, but he uses us in other ways to help people see how much he loves them. What are some other ways we can show people that God loves them? (Take responses.) We can pray for them, we can go to their houses and help them, we can take care of them when they are sick, we can share our money and food if they don't have any.*

Tell the children that they can practice going two by two to help people. Line up the children in the same way as before. Choose one pair of children to stand facing the line. Tell them to choose one way to show God's love. Let each pair of children act out helping someone in the line of children. For example, Tim and Thomas can walk up to Luke and Matthew and offer them some pretend money for food. Or, Joanna and Rachel can walk up to Katie and Lucy and offer to pray for them. Continue until all the children have had a chance.

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# Sending the Disciples

## Share and Tell

Bring the children together in a circle. Tell each child that Jesus said there are many people in the world who are looking for a church and wanting to know about God. Encourage them that God wants to use them to help people find him. Remind them that God wants them to help each other to reach out. Ask the children if they can think of some different ways they can go two by two to tell people about God. Ask the children to find out where they each live, and what schools they go to, etc. Close with a prayer for the children to want to share their faith together.

## Teacher Tips

- Think of additional scenarios for the children to role play and supply play money or food, or other props for the children to use.



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# Sending the Disciples

## Forever Friends

The children will make a craft to remind them that God wants friends to reach out together.

### Materials

For each child:

- 1 Styrofoam cup
- 2 craft sticks
- crayons
- invisible tape
- glue stick

For the teacher:

- scissors

Reproducible Pages:

- Page B, 1 copy for each child

### Preparation

1. For each child, cut out the puppets and the banners from the copies of Reproducible Page B.
2. Cut two small slits in the cup bottoms for the children. See Figure A.
3. Make a sample of the craft to show the children.

### Instructions

1. *In our Bible Story, we learn that Jesus sent out his disciples two by two so they could teach the people about God and heal the sick. Today, when we reach out to people and tell them about God, it helps if we have a friend go with us so we don't feel alone. In your craft, you will make something to remind you that Jesus sent out his disciples two by two.*
2. Show the children the sample craft you prepared. Explain that the two puppets belong together and should remind the children that it is a great thing to reach out to others with a friend.

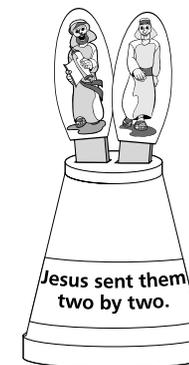
3. Distribute the puppets, banners and the crayons to the children. Have them color in the puppet figures and banners.
4. Distribute the paper cups, craft sticks, glue sticks and tape. Have the children write their names on the cups. Have them glue the banners to the cups, as shown in Figure B.
5. Have the children glue their puppets onto the tops of the craft sticks, securing them with tape. See Figure C. Circulate among the children to offer help.
6. Have the children put the two stick puppets into the two slits on their cups, as shown.

### Conclusion

Have the children sit in a circle and take turns moving their puppets and saying to the group, "Jesus sends us two by two." Remind the children that Jesus sent the disciples two by two so they could teach about God, heal the sick and help people. Have the children take turns moving their puppets and saying, "Jesus sends us two by two so we can \_\_\_\_\_." Let them fill in the blank. Close with a prayer thanking God for all the ways he helps us to be like Jesus.

### Teacher Tips

- Share with the children about times that you and another disciple went together to reach out and invite people church.
- Encourage the children that they are never alone. Even if they don't have another friend to help them reach out, they always have Jesus!



# Sending the Disciples

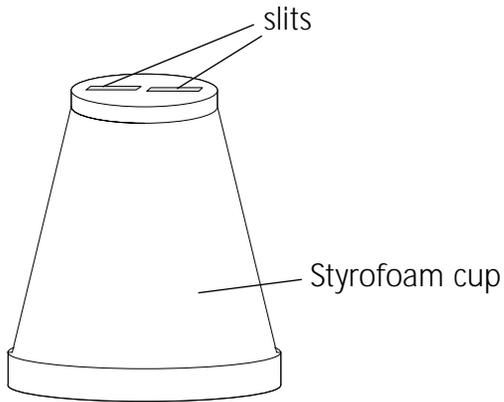


Figure A

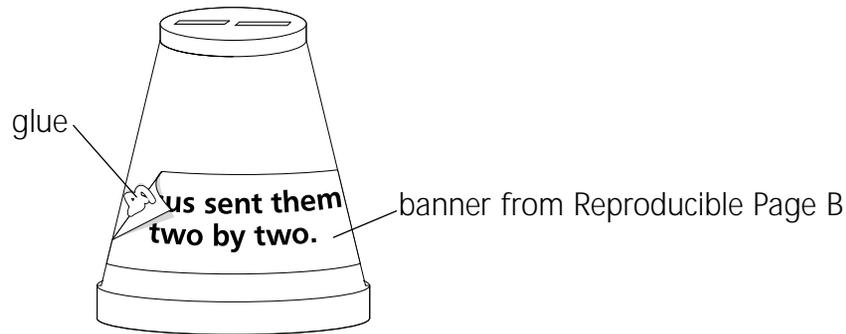


Figure B

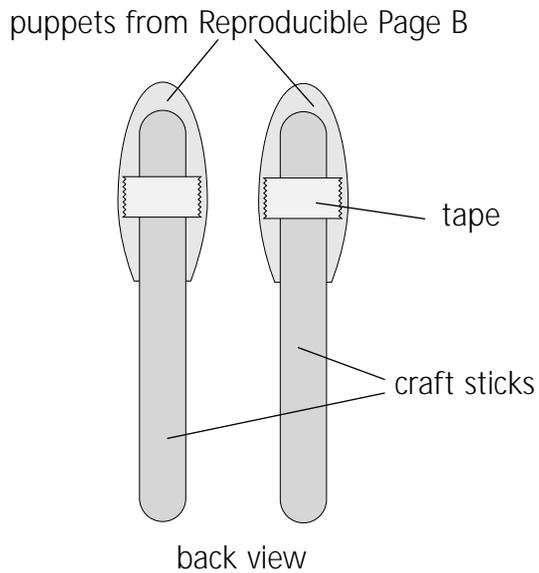


Figure C



Finished Craft

# Sending the Disciples

## Lost and Found

The children will learn and memorize today's Scripture Memory Verse as they think about Jesus' mission.

### Scripture Memory Verse

For the Son of Man came to seek and to save what was lost.  
*Luke 19:10*

### Materials

For each child:

- 1 index card, 5" x 7"

For the teacher:

- black marker

### Preparation

1. Write the Scripture Memory Verse, divided into five phrases, on the index cards.  
NOTE: Adapt the number of phrases to the number of children in your group.
2. Practice leading this activity at home.

### Instructions

1. Introduce this activity, saying: *In our Bible Story today, we learn that Jesus sent out his disciples to teach and to help people. He sent them two by two. Today, we will learn more about why Jesus came and why he sent out the disciples.*
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. Have the children join you in saying the verse together three more times. Ask the children to each take turns saying the verse with you. Then invite each child to say it alone.
3. Show the children the index cards you prepared. Distribute the cards and ask the children to put them on the floor in front of them in the correct order of the verse. Let them see the back of the Lesson Card to guide them. Have the children do this three times, with you shuffling the cards and handing them out to the children.

4. Distribute the cards again. This time have all the children sit down in the order of the verse that appears on their cards. Then have each child stand up and say the words on his card and sit down again. Have each child do this until all have gone. Collect the cards and pass them out again. Repeat this one more time.
5. Now, remove one of the cards. Hand out the rest and tell the child without a card to say from memory the words that are missing. Collect the cards, remove another, and repeat this activity. Do this until all the cards are removed and the children say the verse entirely from memory.

### Conclusion

Close this activity by asking the following questions:

- *This verse says that Jesus came to seek and to save the lost. Where did Jesus come from? (heaven)*
- *Have you ever tried hard to find something? That is what it means to "seek." Jesus was always trying hard to find the people who did not know about God so he could teach them.*
- *Have you ever heard of someone being saved or rescued? Jesus saved people who were sad and hurting. Who did Jesus come to save? (the lost)*

*Have you ever been lost? Maybe you were in a store and you got separated from your mother or father. How does it feel to be lost? (scary) When people are separated from their father in heaven, God, they are lost and it is very scary. Jesus came to find those people and help them find God. The Bible says that finding God is like being saved. God wants everyone to find him. Close with a prayer thanking God for seeking and saving you.*

### Teacher Tips

- This activity involves a lot of physical movement. Encourage the children to spread out so that they are not bumping into each other.

# Sending the Disciples

For the Son of Man came  
to seek and to save  
what was lost.

Luke 19:10

# Sending the Disciples

Jesus' Mission  
Lesson 3

Lesson at  
a Glance supplement

## Lesson Objectives

- The children will state one reason why Jesus sent out his disciples.
- The children will explain one way that friends can reach out together.
- The children will practice inviting their friends to church.

## Lesson Text

Luke 10:1-16

## Scripture Memory Verse

For the Son of Man came to seek and to save what was lost.  
*Luke 19:10*

## Lesson Plan

Greeting and Registration

Preclass Activity: Come with Me!

Welcome and Singing

Centers:

Life Application: Toss and Tell

Game: Pass It On

Bible Skills: Disciples' Picnic

NOTE: Allow time for a snack

1st and 2nd Grades



pre  
class

ACTIVITY

## Come with Me!

The children will make a set of church invitations to give to their friends this week.

### Materials

For each child:

- 2 envelopes, at least 4" x 4"
- crayons or markers
- stickers (optional)

For the teacher:

- large writing surface

Reproducible Pages

- Page C, 1 copy for each child

### Preparation

1. On the large writing surface, neatly print the correct date, time and place of your next church service.
2. Make a sample invitation to show the children.

### Instructions

1. Greet the children, saying: *In your Bible Story, you learned about Jesus' mission to seek and save the lost. Today, you will make something that will help you to be just like Jesus.* Show them your sample and explain that they will make church invitations for their friends.
2. Distribute the copies of Reproducible Page C, the crayons and scissors. Tell the children to color the invitations.
3. Tell them to cut out the invitations and fold them on the dotted line. Show them the words you prepared on the large writing surface. Tell them to copy these words on the insides of their invitations so that their friends will know where and when to come to church.

4. Distribute the envelopes. Have the children place the invitations inside and write the names of their friends on the outsides.
5. Offer help with writing and spelling.

### Teacher Tips

- Print labels with the information to the services for the children to place inside their invitations.
- Gather leftover envelopes from old stationary for this activity.



## Toss and Tell

The children will think about how it feels to reach out to people.

### Materials

For each child:

- invitations made in Preclass

For the teacher:

- scissors
- invisible tape

Reproducible Pages:

- Page D, 1 copy for the teacher
- Page E, 1 copy for the teacher

### Preparation

1. Cut out the two cube forms from your copies of Reproducible Pages D and E.
2. Make the cubes by folding along the dotted lines until the sides touch. Tape the sides together, forming cubes.
3. Practice leading this activity at home.

### Reviewing the Bible Story

Open your Bible to Luke 10:1-16. Remind the children that this week's Bible Story comes from the New Testament book of Luke. *The Bible says that Jesus sent out seventy-two disciples, two by two, so they could go out and teach the people about God. He also told his disciples to heal the sick. Jesus wanted people to see how much God loved them and wanted to help them. Jesus loves all people. In our Scripture Memory Verse this week, we learned that Jesus came to seek and to save the lost. That means that he came down from heaven to earth so he could help people learn about God and how to go to heaven.*

### Life Application

Tell the children that the disciples went out two by two. Remind them that not everyone they taught was happy to hear their message. Some people rejected them and others were angry. Jesus knew that some people would not want to hear about God, but he still loved them and wanted to help them.

Tell the children that they are going to role play different situations that could happen to them. Show the children the two cubes that you prepared. Explain that one cube shows pictures of different situations where the children could reach out to their friends. On the other cube, it shows the pictures of different reactions. Choose a child to be your partner and toss the cubes. Tell the children that you and your partner are going to invite, while the other children role play the reactions. Here are some examples of situations that you can role play:

**Playground/Happy**—You and your friend walk up to the other children who are on the playground. You invite them to church. They are happy to come with you.

**Cafeteria/Angry**—You and your friend are eating lunch with some other children in the cafeteria. You share about what you did in Bible class last night and invite them to church. They are mad that you are talking to them about church.

**Movies/Curious**—You and a friend go to see a scary movie with some other children. After the movie, you tell the children that you are glad that God protects you and that you don't have to be afraid. Then you invite them to church. They are curious and ask you to tell them more about how God protects you.

Continue this activity until every child has had a chance to be your partner and reach out to the other children.

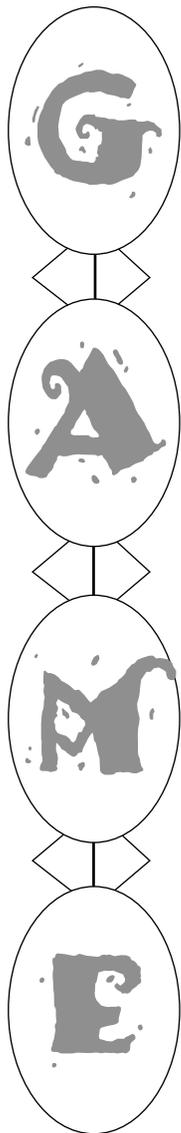
### Conclusion

Ask the children how it felt when the response was happy? Angry? Curious? Ask them how it felt to have a partner while they were sharing. Tell them that Jesus wants us to go two by two so that we will be able to help each other reach out. Remind the children that they have two invitations to give to their friends to come to church. Close with a prayer for the children who will be receiving the invitations this week.

### Teacher Tips

- Be sure the children know exactly the location and time of their service so they are inviting their friends with confidence.





## Pass It On

The children will review this week's Bible Story as they think of different ways to reach out to others.

### Materials

For the teacher:

- 1 small bean bag or soft ball
- 1 radio or cassette player

### Preparation

Practice playing this game at home.

### Instructions

1. Introduce today's activity: *In this game, you will think of different ways that God wants you to tell others about Jesus.* Show the children the bean bag they will be tossing. Explain that they will play this game in a similar way to Hot Potato.
2. Have the children sit in a circle. Tell the children that you are going to play music and they are going to pass the bean bag. When the music stops, the child holding the bean bag will tell the group one way that they can reach out to their friends. For example: "I can tell my friends from my after-school program what I am doing in Bible class." Continue playing and stopping the music in this way until all of the children have had a chance to share.
3. Now tell the children that they will pass the bean bag in the opposite direction. When the music stops, they will share the name of one friend that they will share with this week. For example: "I will talk to my friend Liz tomorrow after school." Continue playing and stopping the music in this way until all of the children have had a chance to share.

4. As a review of the Bible Story, do a third round where the children share one reason why Jesus sent out his disciples. Encourage the children who heard the Bible Story to help those who did not. For example: "Jesus sent out the disciples to teach people about God." Continue playing and stopping the music in this way until all of the children have had a chance.
5. For a challenge round: have the children say this week's Scripture Memory Verse when the music stops. Display the verse on the back of this Lesson Card for children who need help.

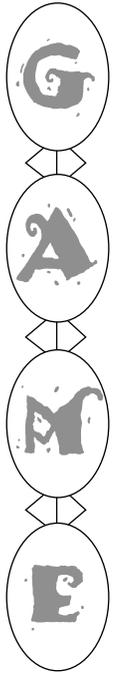
### Conclusion

Ask the children how it feels to think of ways to help others. Remind them how happy it makes God feel to know that they will be teaching and helping their friends. Encourage the children to play this game at home for a family devotional. Close with a prayer thanking God for the children's hearts and creative ideas to reach out to others.

### Teacher Tips

- This is a great opportunity to play contemporary Christian music for the children.
- Have working batteries or access to an electrical outlet for the radio or cassette player.





For the Son of Man came  
to seek and to save  
what was lost.

Luke 19:10



## Apostles' Picnic

The children will review the names of the apostles in this sequencing activity.

### Materials

For the teacher:

- large writing surface

### Preparation

1. Neatly print the names of the twelve apostles on the large writing surface, using the list on the back of this Lesson Card.
2. Practice leading this activity at home.

### Instructions

1. Introduce today's activity: *In our Bible Story this week, you learned that Jesus sent out his disciples to teach the people about God and to help them. Jesus sent out seventy-two disciples! The number of his followers had grown. Today, we are going to review the names of the twelve apostles through this fun memory game.*
2. Have the children sit in a circle. Show them the large writing surface. Have them review each of the names with you out loud. Tell the children that they are going to play a game to help them remember the apostles' names.
3. Tell the children to pretend they are going to a very special picnic. Explain that at this picnic they will pretend to see the twelve apostles. Encourage them to use their imagination and memory for this game.

4. Begin the game by saying: *I am going on a picnic, and there I will see Peter.* Tell the next child to repeat after you, only this time adding another name: "I am going on a picnic, and there I will see Peter and Andrew." Explain that each child will repeat exactly what the previous one said and then add another name. Continue until all twelve names have been added. (The order in which they are said is not important for this activity.)
5. Play two rounds. In the first round, have the large writing surface available to help the children. In the second round, cover the large writing surface so that the children must use their memory. Encourage the children to help each other.

### Conclusion

Tell the children that the Twelve were the early church leaders. They traveled all over the world to take Jesus' message to people. They wanted to be just like Jesus by seeking and saving the lost. Ask the children if they would like to travel to different places to teach people about God. Close with a prayer for God to give the children the desire to teach others about God.

### Teacher Tips

- Bring a picnic blanket and basket with a snack to create a more realistic picnic atmosphere.



# Sending the Disciples



Peter

Matthew

James Z.

Thomas

John

James A.

Andrew

Thaddaeus

Philip

Simon

Bartholomew

Judas



Core/Preclass  
1 copy for each child



Lead Bob with a blue crayon to church.

Lead Anne with a red crayon to church.

Lead Alice with a green crayon to church.

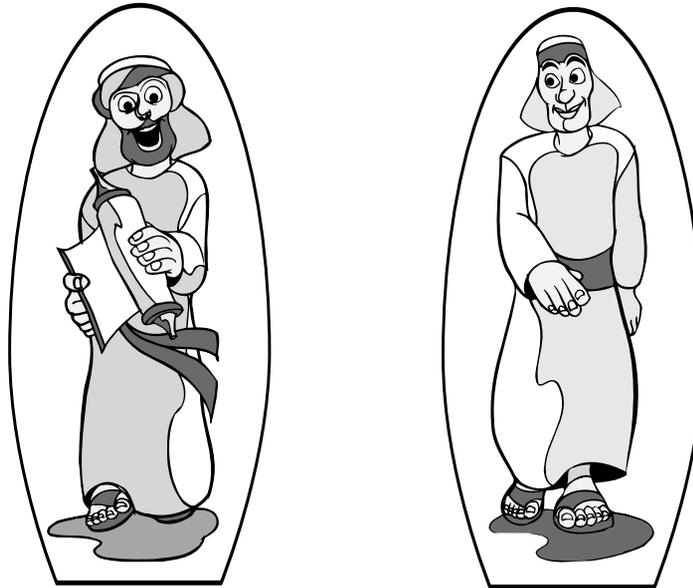
Lead Matt with an orange crayon to church.



Core/Craft  
1 copy for each child

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puppets

Jesus sent them  
two by two.

banner



Supplement/Preclass

1 copy for each child

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Come with me  
to church!

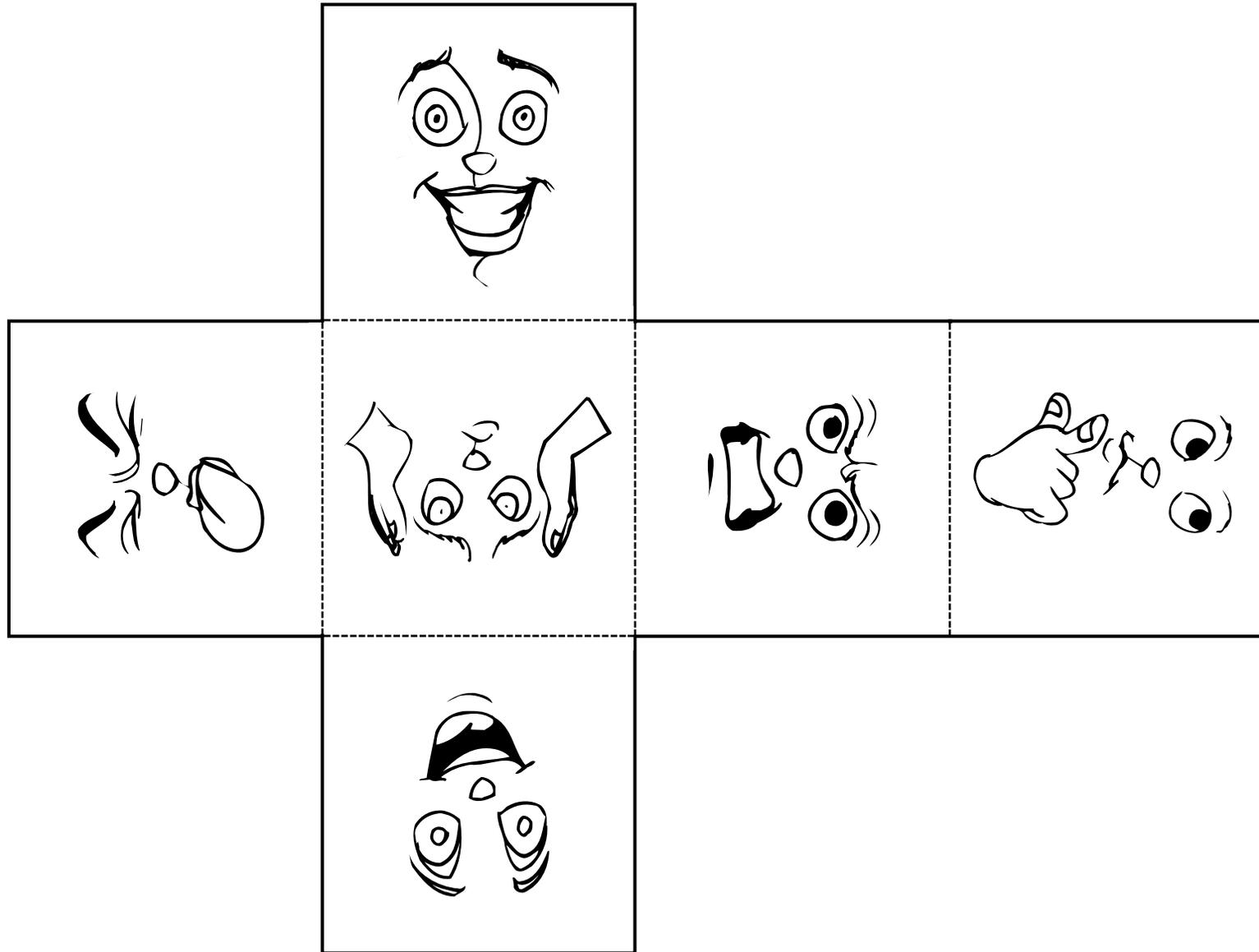
Come with me  
to church!



# Supplement/Life Application

1 copy for the teacher

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# Supplement/Life Application

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