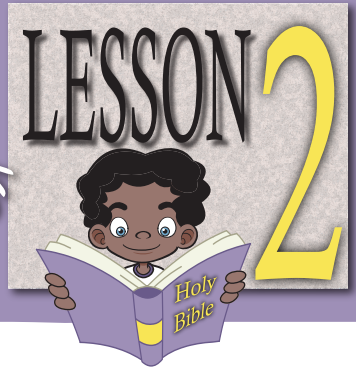


Jesus Chose Matthew



New Testament 3
Part 1: The Apostles

SUNDAY MORNING

New Testament 3 [Class Attendance Sheet](#) provided in activity sheets (NOTE: The document is interactive, allowing the teacher to type in the Class, Teacher, and the children's names.)

SCRIPTURE REFERENCES:

Matthew 9:9-13; 10:1-4; Mark 2:14-17; 3:13-19; Luke 5:27-32; 6:13-16

MEMORY WORK:

The names of the original 12 apostles (Matthew 10:2-4)

SONGS AND FINGERPLAYS (SEE END OF LESSON FOR WORDS):

A [song book](#) and [audio recordings](#) of many of the curriculum songs are available on the curriculum Web site. “

- [“Follow Me”](#)
- [“The Apostles”](#)
- [“Jesus Called Matthew”](#)
- [“Jesus Called Four Fishermen”](#)
- [“The Four Fishermen”](#)
- [“Jesus Chose His Twelve Apostles”](#)
- [“Jesus Called Them One by One”](#)
- [“Jesus Calls Us, Too”](#)

LESSON VISUALS AND TEACHING AIDS (NOTE ANY DISCLAIMERS):

- See [AP's Pinterest page](#) for ideas on bulletin boards, visuals, crafts, etc. [DISCLAIMER: Pins may sometimes need to be adjusted to be Scriptural.]
- [Apostles & N.T. Teams](#) Bible fact cards (provided under “N.T. 3 Bible Facts” on curriculum Web site)
- “Summary of the Bible” from [“Kids Prep”](#) CD by Jeff Miller
- Ministry of Jesus flannel graph
- Boyhood and Early Ministry of Jesus picture set from A Beka (DISCLAIMER: use the cards, *not the lesson book*; note on card CB 3.5, angels were male humans without wings when they appeared to humans in the Bible)

PERSONAL APPLICATION:

I can listen to Jesus by reading His words in the Bible, and I can follow Him by doing what He said to do.



LESSON STARTS HERE

INTRODUCTION: (YOUNGER CHILDREN)

We know that Jesus picked 12 apostles to help Him during His ministry and to carry out His work when He was no longer with them. They were special followers of Jesus. We know we can be a follower of Jesus when we do what the Bible says. Today, we are going to study about when Jesus picked Matthew to be an apostle.

INTRODUCTION: (OLDER CHILDREN)

Last week we studied about the 12 men that Jesus chose to be His apostles. (Review that lesson.) These men were not rich and powerful men. They were ordinary men just like we are ordinary people. Even though they had done things that were wrong, Jesus still loved them. He taught them what was right, just like He teaches us what is right through the Bible.

POINTS TO EMPHASIZE:

1. Jesus continued teaching and healing the sick in **Capernaum**. He walked by a booth where taxes were being collected for the Roman government by a Jew named Matthew (or Levi). Jesus knew that Matthew was hated by his fellow Jews because he was working for the Romans; Matthew may have been known for being dishonest. Jesus also knew that, because of his job, Matthew would have been excluded from worship in the synagogue (the local house of worship). For all the negative things that might have been said about Matthew, Jesus knew he could be a good worker in the Church some day. So He told Matthew, “Follow Me!” Without any hesitation at all, **Matthew** left his work behind and followed Jesus.

NOTES:

Capernaum: Mark 2:1 and Matthew 9:1 call Capernaum “His own city.” Matthew 4:13-16 says He settled there to fulfill prophecies in Isaiah.

Matthew: Matthew may have previously seen Jesus perform miracles and heard Him teach. He likely was searching for something more in his life, hungry for spiritual food, since he was not allowed to worship in the synagogue.

2. Matthew took Jesus to his own home and prepared a banquet for Him and His disciples. Matthew invited his friends—other **tax collectors** and “sinners”—to join them for the meal. When the Jewish leaders (Pharisees) heard about Jesus eating in the house of a tax collector, they were very upset. They wanted to know why Jesus would eat with “bad people” rather than “good people” like themselves.





HISTORICAL NOTE: Tax collectors / publicans: “In New Testament times, tribute by taxation had to be paid to the Roman Empire. Roman officials would sell the right to collect taxes in an area to the highest bidder. The tax commissioner (chief publican) would then have to supply a certain amount of money. He would employ local people as the collectors (publicans), and both commissioner and collectors would tax excessively so that they made a good living as well as passing on what was required by the government.... Levi would have been a local collector. The Jews hated the publicans, not only because the publicans took the Jews’ money, but because publicans were regarded as traitors to the occupying power. The name was therefore a name of derision. Jewish leaders could not accept Jesus’ friendship with such people (Matthew 9:11; 11:19; 21:31). Dislike of the publicans was not entirely unjustified. John the Baptizer spoke generally of the need of the publicans not to be greedy (Luke 3:12).” *New Manners and Customs of Bible Times*, p. 178.

YOUNGER CHILDREN: Tell them a tax collector was a man who collected money for the Roman government.

3. Jesus said that people who think they are righteous (acceptable to God) just because they are religious (like the Pharisees) won’t see the need to turn to Jesus. But those who realize they are sinful (like tax collectors) are the ones who want to do something about it; they are more willing to repent (turn away from sin and choose to obey Jesus’ words). Matthew chose to repent and follow Jesus, to completely change his life. He chose to leave his life of luxury and comfort for poverty and selflessness. He was willing to listen to Jesus, obey Him, and share the good news about Jesus with his friends.
4. Matthew continued to share the Good News by writing one of the books of the New Testament, putting to good use the writing and record-keeping skills he had used as a tax collector. Though the book of Matthew was written mainly to convince the Jews that Jesus was the long-awaited Messiah, it has touched the lives of millions and millions of people for over 2,000 years.
5. We learn about Jesus’ life and work from Matthew’s book and the three other Gospel accounts: Mark, Luke, and John. We learn how Jesus wants us to live by studying His life and the teachings of the other books of the New Testament. I can be a follower of Jesus if I listen to Him (study my Bible regularly) and then obey Him, like Matthew did.

PRE-CLASS ACTIVITIES/LEARNING CENTERS (TO BE USED AS CHILDREN ARE ARRIVING—BEFORE CLASS, AND UP TO THE FIRST FIVE MINUTES OF CLASS; OR AS HOMEWORK):

- Click here for complete [Activity Book](#) and [Answer Key](#).

Ages 2-5:

- “[Jesus Chose Matthew Coloring Sheet](#)” (provided in activity sheets)
- Bible Bowling with clues about the apostles
- Let kids help make a mural or bulletin board by coloring black and white illustrations of the apostles (enlarged to at least 8 x 14 inches) from a Bible story coloring book or CD of Bible art. If this was completed last week, skip this activity.
- Make a memory game using fish cut-outs: Make two copies of each fish card with an apostle’s name on it. Turn the cards over and let each child in turn turn up two cards. If the two cards match, the child keeps the cards. If they do not match, the cards are turned back over and the next child tries.

- Whoever has more cards at the end wins ([Apostles Fish Cutouts](#) provided in activity sheets).
- Play “Go Fish” using the apostles’ names: Make four copies of each card with an apostle’s name on it. Each person gets five cards (if there are three to six players; seven cards, if there are only two players). The rest of the cards are put in a “draw pile.” Each person, in turn, asks another player to give him his cards that are the apostle he asks for (He has to have one of the cards he asks for.). For example, Sue has a Peter card. So she asks, “Sam, do you have any Peter cards?” If Sam has any, he has to give them to Sue, and Sue gets to go again (She can ask Sam for another apostle, or she can ask another player for his Peter cards.). If Sam does not have any Peter cards, he says, “Go fish,” Sue has to draw a new fish from the “draw pile,” and then the next person gets a turn. When a player has four of the same apostle, the cards are laid down in front of the player. The game is over when someone runs out of cards ([Apostles Fish Cutouts](#) provided in activity sheets).

1st-2nd Graders:

- [“Special Helpers for Jesus Worksheet”](#) (provided in activity sheets)
- [“Facts about the Apostles Crossword Puzzle”](#) (provided in activity sheets)
- Egg Carton Game: Write clues about each apostle on small slips of paper (without the name of the apostles) and attach them on the inside, bottom of each empty egg slot. Put a marble in the carton, close it, and shake the carton. From whichever slot the marble lands, have a student read the slip of paper and answer which apostle belongs with the clue (repeat).
- [Apostles Memory Game](#) (provided in activity sheets)
- Put the crossword puzzle (with names of apostles) on power point. Let kids write the answers on the puzzle being projected on marker/chalk board.
- Let kids help make a mural or bulletin board by coloring black and white illustrations of the apostles (enlarged to at least 8 x 14 inches) from a Bible story coloring book or CD of Bible art. If this was completed last week, skip this activity.

3rd-4th Graders:

- Write names of apostles on game cards. Let kids take turns drawing cards, telling something he/she remembers about the apostle named on the card drawn ([fish cutouts](#) with apostle names provided in activity sheets).
- [“Special Helpers for Jesus Worksheet”](#) (provided in activity sheets)
- [“Facts about the Apostles Crossword Puzzle”](#) (provided in activity sheets)
- Put crossword puzzle (with names of apostles) on power point. Let kids write the answers on the puzzle being projected on marker/chalk board.
- Students can make a bulletin board with the names of the apostles and information about each one.
- Advanced Bible Reader: Have the children read Mark chapter two (as well as one and 3-5 if they did not do so in NT1 and NT2). [This could be assigned Sunday, to be completed by Wednesday.] Print out copies of the Mark 1-5 quiz from AP’s [Advanced Bible Reader](#) (ABR) site. Have each of the children take the quiz if they have yet to do so. If you have not already, outside of class, make ABR accounts for each of the children and put their answers into the ABR quiz for each child. Show them their scores in the next Bible class, and explain what ABR is.
- Have the children read the following:
 - *Twelve Who Followed Jesus* Arch Book
 - *The Story of Jesus and His Disciples*, Alice in Bibleland Storybook, Davidson (DISCLAIMER: some believe that one should only pray to the Father)

FINGERPLAY:

“FOLLOW ME”

Once when Jesus was walking, (make walking movement with feet)
By the shining sea, (make wave motions with hands)
He called out to four fishermen, (cup hands around mouth)
“Come and follow Me.”
So they left their fishing nets, (make a dropping motion)
And followed, one by one. (count the four on your fingers)
They followed Jesus everywhere, (make walking movement again)
Because He is God’s Son.

SONGS:

“THE APOSTLES”

Author: Jeff Miller
(Tune: See “[Kids Prep](#)” CD)

Peter and Andrew his brother;
James and John of Zebedee;
Philip and Bartholomew,
and then Thomas and Matthew.

James the son of Alpheus,
And also, there was Thaddeus,
Simon, and Judas Iscariot,
Paul and Matthias

“JESUS CALLED MATTHEW” ([Click to hear](#))

Author: Lora Laycook
(Tune: “Battle Hymn of the Republic”)

Jesus said to Matthew, “Come, o come and follow Me.” (3X)
He arose and followed Him.

(REPEAT)

“JESUS CALLED FOUR FISHERMEN” ([Click to Hear](#))

Author: Lora Laycook
(Tune: “We’re Marching to Zion”)

“Come ye and follow me!” James and John were told.
They left their father, Zebedee, for Jesus said, “Come follow Me.”
Their lives He then could mold, their lives He then could mold.

“Come ye and follow me!” two fishermen were told.
I’ll make you fishers of men, I’ll make of you fishers of men.”
Andrew and Peter were told, Andrew and Peter were told.

CHORUS:

They worked then for Jesus,
Wonderful, wonderful Jesus,
They left their nets and followed,
The wonderful Son of our God.

“THE FOUR FISHERMEN” ([Click to Hear](#))

Author Unknown*
(Tune: “Mulberry Bush”)

This is the way we load our boats, load our boats, load our boats;
This is the way we load our boats, every day we go fishing.

This is the way we push from shore, push from shore, push from shore.
This is the way we push from shore, every day we go fishing.

This is the way we row our boats, etc.

This is the way we drop our nets, etc.

This is the way we pull our nets, etc.

This is the way we row back home, etc.

“JESUS CHOSE HIS TWELVE APOSTLES” ([Click to Hear](#))

Author: Unknown*
(Tune: Chorus of the “Battle Hymn of the Republic”)

Jesus called the 12 to teach the Gospel everywhere,
Jesus called the 12 to teach the Gospel everywhere,
Jesus called the 12 to teach the Gospel everywhere,
And all but one obeyed.

CHORUS:

Jesus loved the 12 apostles.
Jesus loved the 12 apostles.
Jesus loved the 12 apostles.
They helped to spread God’s Word.

You and I can teach the Gospel to neighbors and friends.
You and I can teach the Gospel to neighbors and friends.
You and I can teach the Gospel to neighbors and friends,
And share with them God’s love.

2nd CHORUS:

God wants us to use our talents.
God wants us to use our talents.
God wants us to use our talents.
We can help to spread God’s Word.

“JESUS CALLED THEM ONE BY ONE” ([Click to Hear](#))

Author: Unknown*
(Tune: “Jesus Loves Me”)

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

CHORUS:

Yes, Jesus called them, (3X)
And they all followed Him.

James the one they called the Less,
Simon, also Thaddeus;
Twelve apostles Judas made;
Jesus was by him betrayed.

(CHORUS)

Matthias then took Judas’ place,
To preach to men of every race.
Paul three preaching trips did make,
And went to Rome for Jesus’ sake.

(CHORUS)

“I CAN BE A FOLLOWER” ([Click to Hear](#))

Author: Unknown*
(Tune: “Mary Had a Little Lamb”)

I can be a follower, follower, follower.
I can be a follower of my Lord, Jesus Christ.

(Child’s Name) can be a follower, follower, follower.
(Child’s Name) can be a follower of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

“JESUS CALLS US, TOO” ([Click to Hear](#))

Author: Unknown*
(Tune of “Bringing in the Sheaves”)

There were Twelve Disciples Jesus called to help him.
Simon Peter, Andrew, James, his brother John,
Phillip, Thomas, Matthew, James the son of Alpheus,
Thaddeus, Simon, Judas, and Bartholomew.

CHORUS:

Jesus calls us, too. Jesus calls us, too.
We are his disciples. Jesus calls us, too.
Jesus calls us, too. Jesus calls us, too.
We are his disciples. Jesus calls us, too.

*Author Unknown: Please contact us through the feedback button for this lesson if you are aware of any copyright information for this song.

*** IF YOU HAVE SUGGESTIONS PERTAINING TO THIS LESSON, PLEASE CLICK THE
“SUGGESTION” BUTTON BESIDE THE BUTTON FOR THIS LESSON ON THE
CURRICULUM WEB SITE.



Jesus Chose Matthew



New Testament 3
Part 1: The Apostles

WEDNESDAY EVENING

New Testament 3 [Class Attendance Sheet](#) provided in activity sheets (NOTE: The document is interactive, allowing the teacher to type in the Class, Teacher, and the children's names.)

SCRIPTURE REFERENCES:

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MEMORY WORK:

The names of the original 12 apostles (Matthew 10:2-4)

SONGS AND FINGERPLAYS (SEE END OF SUNDAY'S LESSON FOR WORDS):

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PERSONAL APPLICATION:

I can listen to Jesus by reading His words in the Bible, and I can follow Him by doing what He said to do.



INTRODUCTION:

[N.T. 3 Bible Facts Flashcards](#) (provided under “N.T. 3 Bible Facts” on curriculum web site)

POINTS TO EMPHASIZE:

1. Briefly review Sunday morning’s lesson (see [N.T. 3 Review Questions](#) for example questions)
2. Review the “[A-P-O-S-T-L-E-S](#)” acronym from Lesson 1 (provided in activity sheets).

PRE-CLASS ACTIVITIES/LEARNING CENTERS (TO BE USED AS CHILDREN ARE ARRIVING—**BEFORE** CLASS, AND UP TO THE FIRST FIVE MINUTES OF CLASS; OR AS HOMEWORK):

- See Sunday morning’s lesson
- Let the children continue working on toilet roll dolls, stick puppets, or apostles mural from Lesson 1.

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