



Application Objective

Students will make following Jesus more important to them than doing anything else.

► Application verse: Luke 5:11

Materials Needed

See Quick Instructions for normal materials.

Welcome!

1. Welcome students warmly and learn their names.
2. **Who were Jesus' twelve closest followers?** Chant the "Apostles" (Disc 1, Track 3).
3. **We are going to play "Rhythm Repeat." I will clap a rhythm and then, all together, you will clap that same rhythm. Let's try.** Clap several simple rhythms and have the students repeat them.

Now we're going to add a challenge. You have to copy my rhythms AND movements. Let's try. This time when you clap a rhythm, move your hands high, low, right, left, even behind your back. Try several rhythms.

Was the challenge harder? What did you need to do to do it well? (We had to listen. We had to watch you. We didn't give up when we made a mistake.)

You did a good job following me! Later, we will

Jesus Rejected; Big Catch Luke 4:16-30; 5:1-11

learn about the most important person we could ever follow. But first...

Memory Workout

1. **These cards can help us learn what each Bible book is about.** Review the Leviticus, Numbers, Matthew, Mark, and Luke Bible Book Summary Cards.
2. Divide into teams. (Teams of three to five students are ideal, but any number is fine. Try to divide them so that the more experienced students are spread out among teams.)

I will say the name of a person in the Bible. The first team to have every team member find the name in their Bible will win 10 points. You can help each other, but you may not do it for each other. You must not touch another person's Bible! Raise your hands when everyone on the team finds the name.

Here's a twist. You may have people on your team who are not used to finding things in their Bible. If your team is patient, kind, and helpful to those who need more help, your





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team gets 10 points. If you are first AND I see you being kind and helpful to teammates, you get 15 total points.

Ready? Find Eve. When all the members of a team find the name and raise their hand, check that they all found it. Let all the teams finish finding the name because you are giving points for kindness too! Do the same with **John (the Baptist)**. Announce the winning team and praise students for their kindness. Have students stay in their teams for **Remember It?**

Remember It?

Keep students in their teams and give each team six blank index cards or card-size pieces of paper. Choose a writer and a runner for each team.

I will ask a question. Work together as a group and decide on your answer. Have your writer write the answer, then have your runner bring it to me. If your team is first and correct, your team gets 100 points. If your team is correct, but not first, you get 50 points. Have teams change runners each question.

1. **What did Abraham and Sarah name their promised son?** (Isaac)
2. **What were the names of Isaac and Rebekah's twin sons?** (Jacob and Esau)
3. **When Jesus turned the water to wine, his disciples... a) laughed at him. b) doubted him. c) believed in him.** (c)

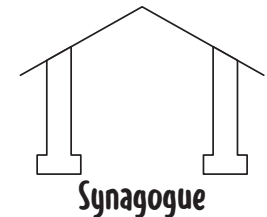
4. **Jesus spoke to Nicodemus at night. Jesus said that God loves the world so much that he did what?** (He gave his Son.)
5. **Jesus told the Samaritan woman at the well that if she asked him for water, his water would give her what?** (eternal life)
6. **Jesus said that God wants us to worship him in spirit and in ____.** (truth)

Answers: 1) Gen 21:3 2) Gen 25:26 3) Jn 2:11 4) Jn 3:16 5) Jn 4:14 6) Jn 4:23

Add up the points and see who wins!

Guess What...

On the board, draw a simple building and write "Synagogue" below it. **A synagogue was a place where a group of Jews met to worship God and learn the Old Testament.**



Jews went to the synagogue on Saturday, the seventh day of the week. Write a number 7 on the board. **This day was called the Sabbath day. In the Law of Moses, God commanded the Jews to rest and not work on the Sabbath day.**

Today we will see people who made following Jesus more important to them than doing anything else.

Have students open their Bibles to Luke 4 while you hand out the **Discover the Bible** page.

Discover the Bible

Nazareth

Luke 4:16-19

1

temple
synagogue
library

The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to tell good news to the poor.

2

scripture is fulfilled

- won't happen
- is happening now
- will happen



Elisha



Jonah

4:20-27



Elijah

both:

leprous
widows

Gentiles

1. Summary of Luke 4:16-19: Jesus went to Nazareth, his hometown. On the Sabbath day, he went to the synagogue and was given the scroll of Isaiah the prophet. Jesus read these words: "The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to tell good news to the poor."

Fill in the blank to name the town where Jesus had been raised. On the column, underline the place where Jesus spoke. In each gray box, mark out the word that does not belong.

2. Summary of 4:20-23: Jesus said, "Today, this scripture is fulfilled." Read 4:24-27. In the bubble, draw a line to what Jesus meant when he said, "This scripture is fulfilled." Draw a star by the two prophets Jesus mentioned. Circle what both of the people they helped had in common.

3

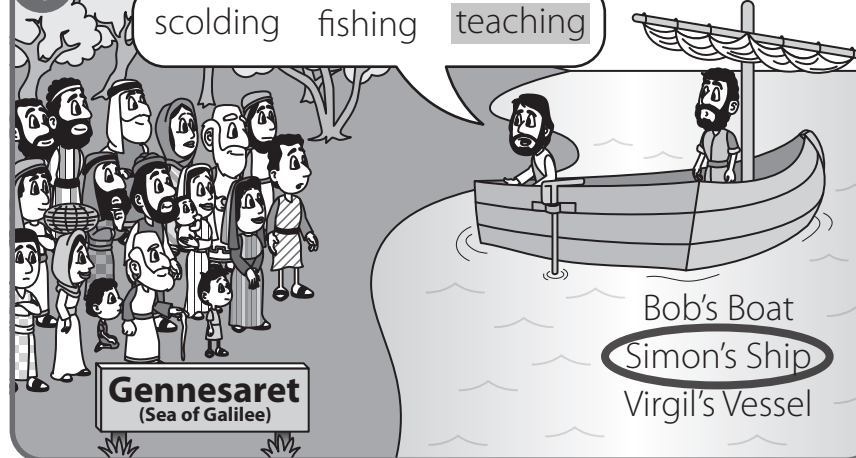
4:28-30



4

scolding fishing teaching

5:1-3



3. Read 4:28-30. Draw Jesus to show what he did when the people tried to throw him down a cliff. How do you think he was able to walk away?

4. Read 5:1-3. In the bubble, highlight what Jesus was doing. Under the boat, circle what might have been the name of the boat.

5
5:4-7

☐ We just started.
☒ We fished all night.
☐ We already caught plenty.
☒ Because you say so, I will do it.
☐ I'm too tired.

5. Read 5:4-7. Write an X by the things Simon Peter said.

6
5:8-10

Go away, I am a _____ man!
☐ silly
☒ sinful

From now on you will catch _____.
☒ people
☐ balls

6. Read 5:8-10. Fill the circles by the words that belong. Who were Simon Peter's fishing partners?

7
5:11

(Drawings may vary.)

Simon
James
John

7. Read 5:11. Fill in the blanks to name the men who followed Jesus. Quickly draw what they left behind.

Wall Time Line

Give these labels from your label book to different students: building with "Synagogue" (25), Elijah (25), Elisha (25), and the pointed forefinger with "teacher" (25).

The Time Line helps us understand the order things happened in the Bible.

1. **The Jews started meeting together in synagogues during or after the time of Daniel. (Remember Daniel who was thrown in a lions' den?)** Have your student holding the building with "Synagogue" (25) place it after (and above) 600 B.C.
2. **What day did Jesus speak in the Synagogue? (Sabbath) What law made the Sabbath a day of rest?** Point to "Law" of Moses (0) above 1500 B.C. Point to the top of the Time Line to show how long God's people followed the Law of Moses.
3. **Jesus read from the prophet Isaiah. Isaiah lived about 700 B.C.** Point to about 700 B.C.
4. **Jesus told two stories from the Old Testament to show God's love for people who are not Israelites (Israelites are called "Jews" in the New Testament and today). In these stories, the prophet Elijah and the prophet Elisha helped people who were not Israelites.** Let students place Elijah (25) at about 850 B.C. and Elisha (25) below him. **Why do you think the Jews in Nazareth got mad at Jesus for telling these stories?** (They thought God loved Jews more than other people.) **Are you an Israelite/Jew? Does God care about you?**



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5. **How did Jesus make a way for all people to have their sins taken away and become God's children?** Point to the death, burial, and resurrection (0) of Jesus. **The gospel, or good news, of Jesus is that we can have life with God forever because Jesus came to earth, died for our sins, and rose from the dead.**



6. **How can you follow Jesus?** Let students answer. **You can do what Jesus taught you and showed you. Jesus is the greatest teacher.** Have the student with the pointed forefinger with "teacher" (25) place it above 30 A.D. **As you keep following Jesus, you learn to love God the Father the way he does and care about people the way he cares about them. Following Jesus changes you on the inside.**

Wall Map 2

1. Place Sidon (25) on the Mediterranean Sea coast above Galilee and Syria (25) northeast of the Sea of Galilee. **The woman Elijah helped was from the city of Sidon.** Point to Sidon (25). **The man Elisha helped was from the land of Syria.** Point to Syria (25). **These were not places where Israelites usually lived.**
2. **What was the town where Jesus grew up?** Point to



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Nazareth (15). **How did the people in Nazareth treat Jesus?** (They tried to kill him!)

3. **When Jesus' disciples caught so many fish that their nets began to break, where were they fishing?** Point to the Sea of Galilee (15).

Get Active

Choose two students to be leaders. One is money (or popularity, comfort, etc.) and one is Jesus. You might want to tape a sign on each one.

Choose a student to be the follower. The follower will stand in between the leaders and put a hand on the shoulder of each one.

Then have the leaders walk forward in different directions so that the student has to let go of one and stay with the other. Repeat with other students.

Could you follow both money and Jesus? How did you decide which one to follow?

Apply It!

Find Luke 5:11 in your Bible. Have a student read it.

Give students a blank piece of paper—perhaps the paper they used with the **Remember It?** activity.

Today you are going to be a story writer! Listen closely to the beginning of this story. You will write the ending.

Nora lived next door to an older lady who couldn't get out of the house by herself. Nora checked the

lady's mail, fed her cat, and did other little jobs to help her. The lady insisted on paying Nora a little bit of money each week. Nora's dad asked her, "What are you going to do with that money you're collecting?" Nora smiled and said, "I'm following Jesus." Tell the rest of the story.



Give students a couple minutes to write an ending to the story. If you have time, let a few students share what they wrote.

In the Bible story, who started following Jesus? What did they leave behind? Why do you think they left those things behind?

What is more important for you to do than follow Jesus? What are some things you might need to leave behind as you follow Jesus? What are some things you might need to begin doing as you follow Jesus?

Prayer

Lead (or have a student lead) students in prayer about what they have just learned.

Example: **Father, thank you for loving us so much that you want us to know you and be a part of the good things you are doing in the world. Help us listen to your Son Jesus and follow him with all our hearts.**