



UNIT 20 | SESSION 4 | MAY 2-3, 2020

Elementary Parent Guide

Jesus Called Disciples

Bible Passage: Matthew 2 & 9; Mark 1-3; Luke 5-6

Story Point: Jesus called disciples to follow Him.

Key Passage: “He must become greater; I must become less.” John 3:30

Christ Connection: Jesus told His disciples to tell others about Him, and we are Jesus’s disciples when we trust and follow Him.

Use this guide as a way to continue the conversation from the KidCity Online Experience. Pick an activity that works best for your family and lead your kids through the key passage and discussion questions. Check out the [Younger Kids Activity Page](#) for K-1st or the [Older Kids Activity Page](#) for 2nd-5th as an additional resource for your kids to do during the week.

ACTIVITY OPTION 1: CANDY DISCIPLES

(M & M’s & Mint-flavored Mentos...feel free to make substitutions)

Retell the story of the good news of Jesus using candy. Your kids are sure to pay attention! Place one of each of the candies below in front of you and your child(ren). Discuss the meaning of each candy color as you explain the good news Jesus wanted everyone to know: Everyone can be saved from their sins because of God sending Jesus.

DARK BROWN m&m – SIN Romans 3:23 | All have sinned. Sin separates us from God.

RED m&m – BLOOD 1 John 1:7 | Jesus’ blood covers all sin.

WHITE Mento – PURE Psalm 51:7 | Jesus washes away confessed sin.

YELLOW m&m – HEAVEN John 14:2 | Believe in Jesus and receive eternal life with Jesus.

GREEN m&m – GROWTH 2 Peter 3:18 | Grow to know Jesus better.

Now, eat the candy! Feel free to get another round of the same colors and let your child lead you through it this time.

IMPORTANT: If your child (or you) has questions about salvation or growing in their relationship with Jesus, check out our [Salvation Conversation Guide](#). If they’d like to pray with you to start a new relationship with Jesus, here’s a sample prayer:

SAY • Today, we learned the good news that Jesus came to save us from our sins and that we can (and should!) tell others this good news. His perfect plan was for us to get to be in Heaven with Him one day. If you believe that and want to start a relationship with Jesus, let’s pray this prayer together: ‘Dear God, thank you for sending your Son,

Jesus, to live on earth and die for our sins. Thank you that He didn't stay dead but rose from the dead and went to Heaven where I will get to be with Him forever. I believe that I am a sinner and want Jesus to be my friend and Savior. Thank you for saving me, Jesus. I am excited to start my new life with you!'

Be sure to celebrate this decision and let us know so we can celebrate it, too! E-mail us at KidCity@gethope.net with your child's name and age, and we will send a gift for him/her.

ACTIVITY OPTION 2: FAMILY HANDSHAKE

(No Supplies Needed)

Ask each child to contribute to creating a unique family handshake. With one person at a time leading, including you, practice the handshake until everyone knows it.

SAY • Once you know and understand that good news of Jesus, you know all you need to know to share that news with your friends. **Jesus called disciples to tell others about Him, and each one of us can be His disciples, too.** Everyone needs to know that Jesus loves them and came to save them.

DISCUSSION

(Bible)

Guide your kids to open their Bibles to Matthew 4. Read Matthew 4:19-20 out loud. Explain that Jesus told the men He called that He would teach them to fish for people. But they wouldn't use nets or boats; they would use their words to gather people and tell them about Jesus.

Discuss the following questions:

SAY •

1. Why do you think Jesus picked fishermen and tax collectors to be His disciples instead of kings or religious leaders?
The Bible says God uses people who have nothing to offer to show His power and strength through them.

2. What does it mean to follow Jesus?

Prompt kids to recognize that following Jesus means trusting Him, obeying Him, and telling others about Him.

3. What do you think might keep someone from following Jesus?

Help kids understand that everyone follows something, and we follow what we value the most. The Bible says we must follow Jesus and nothing else. We can pray that God will soften the hearts of those who do not follow Jesus so that they would come to know and love Him.

Read John 3:35-36 aloud. Explain that we follow Jesus and no one else because Jesus is the One who brings salvation. When we trust in Him, we are saved from sin and death.

4. How can we point others to Jesus?

Invite kids to discuss how we can tell people directly about Jesus, and we can also show kindness and have peace in a way that shows we trust Jesus with our lives and our future.

REFLECTION AND PRAYER

Pray as a family and ask the following questions:

- What does this story teach me about God?
- What does this story teach me about myself?
- Who can I tell about this story?

CONNECT

(Younger Kids Activity Page – K-1st, Older Kids Activity Page – 2nd-5th)

Download the Kids Activity Page and encourage your child to do it at home with you this week.