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WALKING ON THE ROAD WITH JESUS

Jesus Calls the Disciples

Mark 1:16–17;
Matthew 9:9

BIG IDEA:
Jesus calls us to follow Him.

WALKING ON THE ROAD with Jesus

A JOURNEY OF FAITH

WEEK 8

JESUS CALLS HIS DISCIPLES

MARK 1:16–17

MEMORY VERSE

"Come, follow me," Jesus said.

MARK 1:17 (NIV)

BIG IDEA

Jesus invites us to follow Him.

BOTTOM LINE

Following Jesus means helping others know Him too.

SUPPLIES

- Paper fish (with actions written on them)
- Bucket, tub, or "pond"
- String with tape, paper clips, or small magnets (or toy fishing poles)
- Classroom net or bulletin board

TIME BREAKDOWN

Welcome & Hook	3 min
Bible Story	8 min
Main Activity	10 min
Teaching Connection	3 min
Prayer & Wrap-Up	1 min

TOTAL: 25 MINUTES

BIBLE STORY SUMMARY

One day Jesus was walking beside the Sea of Galilee when He saw Simon and Andrew casting their nets into the water. They were fishermen doing their everyday work. Jesus called out, "Come, follow me, and I will send you out to fish for people."

Simon and Andrew left their nets and followed Jesus. A little farther down the shore, Jesus called James and John. They followed Him too.

Jesus invited ordinary people to join Him on His journey and help others know God.

Jesus still invites people to follow Him today.

KEY POINTS

- ✓ Jesus invited ordinary people to follow Him.
- ✓ Simon and Andrew trusted Jesus and followed.
- ✓ Jesus called them to become fishers of people.
- ✓ We can help others know about Jesus.
- ✓ God works in people's hearts as they grow in their relationship with Him.

WHAT THIS MEANS

Following Jesus is more than knowing about Him. It means listening to Him, learning from Him, and walking with Him every day.

Jesus also invites us to help others know Him. We can do that by showing kindness, sharing God's love, encouraging others, and inviting people to learn about Jesus.

Every person's relationship with God is between them and God.
Our job is to love people, point them toward Jesus, and remember that every person's relationship with God is between them and God.

LIFE APPLICATION

This week, look for ways you can show Jesus' love and help others know Him.
Be a friend, be kind, pray for others, and invite someone to learn about Jesus!

MAIN ACTIVITY
FISHING FOR WAYS TO SHOW JESUS' LOVE

1. Children take turns "fishing" for a fish from the bucket or pond.
2. Read the action on the fish aloud.
3. Ask: How could this help someone know what Jesus is like?
4. Place the fish on the classroom net or bulletin board.

TEACHING CONNECTION

Jesus invited Simon and Andrew to follow Him. Then He gave them a new purpose: helping others know Him too.

We can invite, encourage, and share God's love with others.

Every person's relationship with God is between them and God.
Our job is to love people, point them toward Jesus, and remember that every person's relationship with God is between them and God.

OPTIONAL TEACHING ILLUSTRATION
EMPTY NET / FULL NET

Show an empty net and then a net full of fish.
Ask: Which net would a fisherman rather have?
Explain: Jesus gave the disciples a new purpose—to help people know God's love. They weren't just catching fish anymore!

PRAYER & WRAP-UP

Dear God, thank You for inviting us to follow Jesus. Help us listen to You and learn from You. Show us ways we can love and help others know You. Thank You for always walking with us. Amen.

TRUST
FOLLOW
OBEY

WALKING ON THE ROAD with Jesus

A JOURNEY OF FAITH

WEEK 8

FAMILY JOURNEY

JESUS CALLS HIS DISCIPLES

MARK 1:16–17

LEARN THE STORY

MEMORY VERSE

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Jesus said.
MARK 1:17 (NIV)

BIG IDEA

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BIBLE STORY SUMMARY

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Jesus still invites people to follow Him today.

JOURNEY TALK

Take time to talk together as a family.

- Why do you think Jesus asked fishermen to follow Him?
- What did Simon, Andrew, James, and John have to leave behind?
- What does it look like for our family to follow Jesus?
- How can we help others know Jesus this week?

LIVE THE STORY

FAMILY ACTIVITY

FISH FOR SOMEONE TO BLESS

Place the fish in a bowl, bucket, or paper pond. Each family member catches one fish.

Talk together: How can we show Jesus' love to this person this week?

Make a plan and do it!

INVITE SOMEONE TO CHURCH
Invite a friend, neighbor, or family member to join you at church or a church event.

GRANDPARENT OR SPECIAL FRIEND
Call, visit, draw a picture, or send a note to someone special in your life.

FRIEND
Tell them something you appreciate about them.

TEACHER
Make a thank-you card or share one thing you've learned from them.

CHURCH VOLUNTEER
Thank someone who helps at church.

SOMEONE WHO IS LONELY
Invite them to join a game, conversation, or activity.

COMMUNITY HELPER
Thank a firefighter, police officer, librarian, mail carrier, crossing guard, or other helper in our community.

JOURNEY TRUTH

Following Jesus means helping others know His love.

FAMILY REMINDER

Jesus invited His disciples to follow Him and help others know God's love. We can do that too through kindness, encouragement, invitations, and friendship.

FAMILY PRAYER

Dear Jesus,
Thank You for inviting us to follow You. Help us show Your love to others this week. Thank You for always walking with us.
Amen.

LOOKING AHEAD

THIS WEEK'S JOURNEY CHALLENGE

Catch a fish. Bless that person. Share what happened.
At the end of the week ask: How did our family help someone know God's love this week?

- Catch a fish.
- Bless that person.
- Share what happened.

FOLLOW HIM

FOLLOWING JESUS MEANS HELPING OTHERS KNOW HIM TOO.