



**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Series:** Jesus Is Our Friend  
Winter Year 1, Lesson 33

# Jesus Calls His First Disciples

**Take Home Point:** \*JESUS IS OUR FRIEND...*We follow Jesus.*

\*Repeat this phrase throughout the lesson. The leader will say the first part of the phrase (*CAPS*). The children respond with the second part of the phrase (*italics*).

**Bible Event:** Luke 5: 1-11

**We will help children know:**

- The Bible event when Jesus called his first disciples.
- Jesus also loves us and calls us to follow him.

**We will help the children feel:**

- Secure in Jesus' love.
- Love for Jesus.
- Desire to follow Jesus.

**We will help the children do:**

- Interact with puppet presentation to introduce the Bible Event.
- Participate in the Bible event and
- Craft: Make a Jesus path.
- Snack: Eat boats and fish.
- Game: Play Follow the Leader.
- Teach Albie the Take Home Point: JESUS IS OUR FRIEND...*We follow Jesus.*
- Sing and Pray.

Kingdom Quest Year 1 - Lesson 33- 1

# THIS LESSON'S ROADMAP

DESTINATION	PAGE #	DISCOVERIES ON YOUR JOURNEY	SUPPLIES NEEDED
<p><b>Large Group Opening</b></p> 	<p>3 4</p>	<p>Puppet Presentation  Bible Event</p>	<p><i>Puppet Presentation:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bubba puppet</li> <li>• Bible</li> </ul> <p><i>Bible Event:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bible</li> <li>• headpieces for four children</li> <li>• treasure box with gold coins</li> <li>• microphone (option: cover an empty paper towel tube with foil)</li> <li>• boat (sheet on floor or large box)</li> </ul>
<p><b>Small Group Application</b></p> 	<p>7 8 8 9</p>	<p>Activity 1: Craft  Activity 2: Snack  Activity 3: Game  Prayer Time</p>	<p><i>Activity 1: Craft</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Appendix A, one copy for each child (regular paper)</li> <li>• two craft sticks per child</li> <li>• markers</li> <li>• crayons</li> <li>• option: scraps of material and glue for clothes</li> </ul> <p><i>Activity 2: Snack</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• napkins, cups, water or juice</li> <li>• fish crackers</li> <li>• bananas (Option: mandarin oranges)</li> <li>• plastic knife</li> </ul> <p><i>Activity 3: Game</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• none</li> </ul>
<p><b>Large Group Wrap-up</b></p> 	<p>11 11</p>	<p>Singing (Optional)  Lesson Review with Puppet Skit</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• your choice of music</li> <li>• Albie puppet</li> <li>• Example of craft</li> <li>• Example of snack</li> </ul>

## **Pre-Session Singing (10 minutes)**

**Purpose:** *When all children are in one group singing, it is easy for children arriving later to join the group and immediately get involved.*

## **Large Group Opening (15 minutes)**



**Purpose:** *The puppet demonstrates today's lesson. The children are introduced to the take home point and experience the Bible event.*

## **Puppet Presentation**

*Supplies: Bubba puppet, Presenter holds a Bible*

**Presenter:** **Boys and girls, let's call Bubba.** *(Children call "Bubba".)*

Bubba: *(Comes out looking side to side.)* Hi everyone. Is she behind me?

**Presenter:** **Hi Bubba. Is who behind you?**

Bubba: My sister Judy. Is she following me?

**Presenter:** **I don't see her right now.**

Bubba: Good! I thought she would never stop following me.

**Presenter:** **Why is she following you?**

Bubba: She wants to go where ever I go. It is really, really annoying.

**Presenter:** **Hmmm. I wonder if Jesus felt annoyed?**

Bubba: Did he have someone following him?

**Presenter:** **Yes he did. He asked people to follow him.**

Bubba: He wanted people to follow him around?

**Presenter:** **Yes he did. His followers were called disciples.**

Bubba: Why did Jesus want people to follow him?

**Presenter:** **Jesus knew that he would have to die on the cross for our sins. He needed people here on earth to teach others about him.**

Bubba: Did Jesus have a pesky sister following him?

**Presenter:** No. The Bible tells us that he asked three men to be his first disciples. They were fishermen. Jesus told them they would become fishers of men.

Bubba: Fishers of *men*?

**Presenter:** Yes. Would you like to learn more about that Bible event?

Bubba: Yes. It sounds very interesting.

**Presenter:** First, let's practice the take home point. I'll say the first part and you say the second part.

Bubba: O.K.

**Presenter:** \*Jesus is our friend... now you say, "We follow Jesus."

Bubba: We follow Jesus.

**Presenter:** Do you think you can teach the boys and girls?

Bubba: Sure.

**Presenter:** Ok everybody, \*Jesus is our friend...

Bubba: (and everyone): We follow Jesus.

**Presenter:** Wonderful. Say "goodbye" Bubba.

Bubba: Bye everyone!

## **Bible Event:** Imagination Theater

Imagination Theater is audience participation drama where the Bible event is told in creative fashion using children as actors. Distribute props to actors as they are called forward at the beginning of the presentation. Have them sit to the side until they are called onstage.

*Supplies: Bible; headpieces for four children; treasure box with gold coins; microphone (if you don't need a real one, cover an empty paper towel tube with foil; boat (sheet on floor or large box))*

# Jesus Calls the First Disciples

Presenter holds the Bible.

**Here we have the Bible. Today's Bible event is the story about Jesus calling the first disciples. Disciples are helpers who follow Jesus. Jesus chose some fishermen to be his first helpers.**

**Jesus amazed the fishermen with a miracle. He told them to put their nets into the water to catch some fish, even though they had not been able to catch any fish all night. When their net was filled with fish, Jesus said, "You will now fish for people." That meant that now instead of fishing for fish, they would bring people to meet Jesus.**

**Now let's put on our imagination hats and pretend the actors are Jesus and his disciples.**

Call four children forward and give them headpieces. One will be Jesus and three will be fishermen. Have the three fishermen go sit in the boat. Jesus will stand in front of boat.

Phrases that are underlined and italicized are to be repeated by the child actor or audience. Presenter will say first and actor will repeat. Point the microphone to the actor to show when it is his turn.

**One day Jesus was with a crowd of people near a lake. He was teaching the people about the treasures of heaven. The treasures he was talking about were more valuable than money. (*Grab a handful of coins and let them run through your fingers.*)**

**As Jesus spoke, all the people were amazed. They crowded around Jesus and said, "Wonderful." (*actors repeat*) "Wonderful."**

**Jesus stepped into a boat to get away from the crowd. Have Jesus step into the boat. In the boat were three men: Peter, James and John.**

**Jesus sat down (Jesus sits down facing audience) and taught the people from the boat. After a while, he told the men to go out into deep water and let down the net.**

**Simon Peter was surprised by what Jesus said because they had fished all night and had caught nothing. But he agreed to do what Jesus said.**

Have Peter and James pretend to pick up oars and row two or three times. Then have the disciples pretend to throw their net into the water.

**The men were very surprised. Their net was filled with fish!**

Peter was amazed. He knew he had seen a miracle. He knew that Jesus was God. Peter knew Jesus was very special. Peter thought he wasn't good enough to be around Jesus. He said, "*You are God. I'm a sinner. Get away from me.*" Peter thought Jesus wouldn't want to be his friend.

Do you think Jesus would want to be Peter's friend? This is what Jesus said, "*Do not be afraid. I am your friend. Follow me.*"

So, the men pulled the net into the boat, (actors pretend to pull the net into the boat) and rowed the boat back to shore. Two of the actors pretend to row back to shore. Then they got out of the boat (actors get out of the boat) and followed Jesus. Actors follow Jesus to center of stage.

Then Jesus said something very important to them. He said, "*You will fish for people.*" That meant that now instead of fishing for fish, they would catch people with God's love. They would bring people to meet Jesus.

For three years they followed Jesus. They watched him do wonderful things. They watched him teach about God's love for all people.

Finally, they watched him give his life for the whole world when he died on the cross. Though they were sad for a little bit, they saw how he came alive again. Now he is with every person who trusts in him, even today. Actors exit to side of stage.

So if these disciples were here right now, do you know what they would say to you? "You too can fish for people." Why? Because **\*JESUS IS OUR FRIEND...*We follow Jesus!***

Let's fold our hands and pray. Repeat after me.

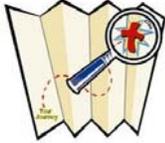
Dear God,  
We love you.  
Jesus is our friend.  
We follow Jesus.  
Thank you, thank you, thank you.  
In Jesus' name.  
Amen.

## **Song:**

Let's sing our song of the week. (To the tune of *Row, Row, Row Your Boat*)  
Capitalized letters indicate emphasis on that syllable when the rhyme is sung.

**JE SUS IS** our **FRIEND**  
**WE fol-LOW** je-**SUS**.  
**FOL-low FOL-low FOL-low FOL-low**.  
**WE fol-LOW** je-**SUS**.

## **Small Group Application (30 minutes)**



**Purpose:** *Children will break into small groups. Smaller groups enable children to develop closer relationships with adults and peers in the church. In your small groups you will reinforce the take home point with a fun hands-on activity and discuss the Bible event. Review questions help kids apply the take home point to their daily lives.*

### **Activity 1: Craft: Jesus Path**

*Supplies: Copies of Appendix A, one per child; 2 craft sticks for each child; markers and crayons; optional: scraps of material for clothes and glue*

Today we are going to decorate these craft sticks with a face and clothes so they look like people. When you are finished with your stick people, you can draw friends outside the path on your paper. Then you can color your picture. The picture will remind you to follow Jesus. The friends you drew are a reminder to tell them about Jesus so they can follow him too. You can use your stick people to walk down the path. Stop when you see friends and think of something you could say to them about Jesus.

Review the Bible Event.

What were Peter James and John doing when Jesus first saw them? (*fishing*)

Let's practice the take home point. **\*JESUS IS OUR FRIEND...We follow Jesus.**

Let's fold our hands and pray. Repeat after me.

Dear God,  
We love you.  
Jesus is our friend.  
We follow Jesus.  
Thank you, thank you, thank you.  
In Jesus' name.  
Amen.

## **Song:**

Let's sing our song of the week. (To the tune of *Row, Row, Row Your Boat*)  
Capitalized letters indicate emphasis on that syllable when the rhyme is sung.

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**WE fol-LOW je-SUS.**  
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## **Activity 2: Snack: Boats and Fish**

*Supplies: napkins, cups, water or juice; fish crackers; bananas; plastic knife (option for bananas: mandarin oranges) If using bananas, each child will receive one quarter of a banana by cutting it in half lengthwise and one across the middle.*

**\*\*\*CAUTION: Be aware of food allergies children may have, before you give them anything to eat.**

**Before we eat our snack, let's fold our hands and pray. Repeat after me.**

**Dear God,  
We love you.  
Jesus is our friend.  
We follow Jesus.  
Thank you, thank you, thank you.  
In Jesus' name.  
Amen.**

**Boys and girls, today we are going to eat fruit that looks like a boat and fish crackers.** (Give children napkins, fruit and crackers while you speak.) **Who can remember how many men sat in the boat to teach the people?** (four) **Did the fishermen catch any fish after Jesus told them to throw their nets into the water?** (Yes, so many the boat almost sank.)

Review the Bible event.

**When Peter saw all the fish they caught, why was he afraid of Jesus?** (*He thought he was too sinful and Jesus would not like him.*)

**Let's practice the take home point. \*JESUS IS OUR FRIEND...We follow Jesus.**

## **Song:**

**Let's sing our song of the week.** (To the tune of *Row, Row, Row Your Boat*)  
Capitalized letters indicate emphasis on that syllable when the rhyme is sung.

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**WE fol-LOW je-SUS.**  
**FOL-low FOL-low FOL-low FOL-low.**  
**WE fol-LOW je-SUS.**

## **Activity 3: Game:** Follow the Leader

*Supplies: none*

Today we are going to play **Follow the Leader**. I will lead you around the room. You will follow me and do the actions I do. **Let's go.**

1. Walk a few steps, stop and say: **Let's all pretend to get in a boat.**
2. After all children have complied, say: **Now let's row our boat out into the deep water.**
3. Wait for children to do action and say: **Now let's walk some more and throw our heavy nets overboard.**
4. Walk a few steps, stop and say: **Now pull those nets back into the boat. They are full of fish and so heavy, they are ready to break!**
5. Walk a few steps more, stop and say: **Now let's row back to shore.**
6. **Let's get out of the boat. Jesus wants us to follow him. Should we do it? YES!**

Review the Bible event.

**What did Jesus ask the men to do after they brought in the fish?** (To follow him and become fishers for people.)

**Let's practice the take home point. \*JESUS IS OUR FRIEND...We follow Jesus.**

**Let's fold our hands and pray. Repeat after me.**

**Dear God,  
We love you.  
Jesus is our friend.  
We follow Jesus.  
Thank you, thank you, thank you.  
In Jesus' name.  
Amen.**

## **Song:**

**Let's sing our song of the week.** (To the tune of *Row, Row, Row Your Boat*)  
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## **Prayer Time:**

**How can we follow Jesus?** *Let children give their answers (may include going to church, praying, telling others about Jesus, being kind, etc.)*

Ask children for prayer requests and pray as a group for child's request.

**Let's practice the take home point. \*JESUS IS OUR FRIEND...We follow Jesus.**

**Let's fold our hands and pray. Repeat after me.**

**Dear God,  
We love you.  
Jesus is our friend.  
We follow Jesus.  
Thank you, thank you, thank you.  
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Amen.**

## **Song:**

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**Safety and Security:** Safety and security procedures are important for each church to carefully define and implement according to their unique needs. The security, safety, illness and accident procedures described in this curriculum are provided for example purposes only and may not be appropriate, applicable or adequate for every situation. Each church is responsible for determining whether any security, safety, illness and accident procedures contained in the curriculum are appropriate, applicable or adequate for its unique situation. The activities described in this curriculum require adult supervision and may not be suitable for each child and each situation. Each church is responsible for ensuring that adequate adult supervision is provided for all activities and for determining whether an activity is appropriate for each child and each situation. Kids Kount Publishing disclaims all liability for the implementation of any procedures or the performance of any activities described in this curriculum.

# Large Group Wrap-Up (10 minutes)



**Purpose:** *The crazy bird puppet, Albie, struggles with learning the take home point. We try to teach him the take home point, but each time he confuses words or concepts. After three attempts, he finally gets it right.*

**Singing:** (Optional, two or three songs, as time allows)

*Supplies: Albie the puppet, sample of today's craft and snack.*

## Lesson Review with Puppet Skit

Presenter shows Albie an example of each of the Activities done in small group. Then the kids attempt to teach Albie the take home point.

**Presenter:** **We want to welcome all our guests today and thank them for coming.**  
(If you give guests a gift for coming, do it now.)

**Presenter:** **Albie, look at the craft the children made today. It shows stick people following the path to Jesus. The children are going to teach you our take home point. Listen carefully.**



**Presenter:** (says to kids): **\*JESUS IS OUR FRIEND...**

Kids say: ...We follow Jesus.

**Presenter:** (says to Albie): **\*JESUS IS OUR FRIEND...**

*Albie says: How far do you think I can bend?*

**Presenter:** **Albie, look at the snack we ate. It looks like boats and fish. Now listen carefully to the take home point.**

**Presenter:** (says to kids): **\*JESUS IS OUR FRIEND...**

Kids say: ...We follow Jesus.

**Presenter:** (says to Albie): **\*JESUS IS OUR FRIEND...**

*Albie says: I'll be your friend to the bitter end!*

**Presenter:** **Albie, today we played a game called Follow the Leader. Now, please listen closely to the take home point.**

**Presenter:** (says to kids): **\*JESUS IS OUR FRIEND...**

Kids say: ...We follow Jesus.

**Presenter:** (says to Albie): **\*JESUS IS OUR FRIEND...**

*Albie says: Do you want to be my best friend?*

**Presenter says:** **“Albie, listen one last time.**

**\*JESUS IS OUR FRIEND...**

Kids response: ...We follow Jesus.

**Presenter:** (says to Albie): **\*JESUS IS OUR FRIEND...**

*Albie's response:*

(Warms up his singing voice with “*Mee, mee, mee, mee...*” and sings in a silly dramatic opera-like voice)  
**\*JESUS IS OUR FRIEND...We follow Jesus.**

**Presenter says to Albie: Good job, Albie!**

Albie can leave stage or join in the prayer and song.

**Let's fold our hands and pray. Repeat after me.**

**Dear God,  
We love you.  
Jesus is our friend.  
We follow Jesus.  
Thank you, thank you, thank you.  
In Jesus' name.  
Amen.**

**Song:**

**Let's sing our song of the week.** (To the tune of *Row, Row, Row Your Boat*)  
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WE fol-LOW je-SUS.  
FOL-low FOL-low FOL-low FOL-low.  
WE fol-LOW je-SUS.**

**Goodbye boys and girls. Remember that God loves you and he wants you to follow our friend Jesus.**

