

IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF JESUS: BAPTISM AND TEMPTATION AT THE JORDAN RIVER AND IN THE WILDERNESS



SCRIPTURE AND REFLECTION

The scriptures for this week are Mark 1:21-28, 32-34, John 1:40-42, Matthew 4:12-22. These activities focus on Matthew 4:12-22.

Jesus Calls the First Disciples

18 As he walked by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea—for they were fishermen. 19 And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fish for people.” 20 Immediately they left their nets and followed him. 21 As he went from there, he saw two other brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John, in the boat with their father Zebedee, mending their nets, and he called them. 22 Immediately they left the boat and their father, and followed him

REFLECTION

- Why do you think that Peter, Andrew, James and John were willing to follow Jesus?
- Do you think that they understood the importance of what they were doing?
- Do you think that they were scared?

ACTIVITIES

Fishers of People- Use your Swedish Fish The only way for Jesus to spread his mission was to have followers who could share his Holy Words with others.

- There are multiple Swedish fish. Eat or save three for yourself.
- Then take the remaining and share them with your family, friends or neighbors.
- Say “this fish is to remind you of Christ’s Love.”

Healing Ministry- Use your band aids Healing the sick through prayer and miracles is a crucial part of Jesus's work. His apostles were part of that mission.

- The band aids remind you of how the "fishers of men" were also healers.
- The next time you need a band aid, use this band aid and remember Jesus's words.

Recreating the Healing Story

- Make playdough out of 3 cups flour, 1 cup salt (mix together), add 1 cup of water and 1 tablespoon vegetable oil. Mix all together. Add water IF too dry to mold, add flour if too sticky.

Based on Mark 2:1-5, 11-12 CEB

*This is a story about five friends.
Divide your play dough into five pieces.*

- 1** One of the friends was paralyzed. This means he could not walk. He spent all day, every day, lying on a mat.
 - Take one of your pieces of play dough and flatten it to make a sleeping mat.
- 2** These five friends lived in a town called Capernaum. One day Jesus came to their town. The friends had heard how Jesus had healed people who were sick. They decided to take their friend who could not walk to see Jesus.
 - Roll each of the other four pieces of play dough into a ball and place a ball at each corner of the sleeping mat you made.
- 3** The four friends picked up the mat their friend was lying on and took him to see Jesus. Jesus was in a house in Capernaum. People had come to the house looking for him, and Jesus was teaching them.
 - Now use your play dough to make a house. In Jesus' day, houses had flat roofs. They looked like big boxes with a door and windows.
- 4** So many people had come to hear Jesus that when the friends reached the house they couldn't get in. As hard as they tried, they could not get close to Jesus. The four friends were determined to get their friend to Jesus so they carried their friend up onto the roof of the house.
 - How is your house coming? Does it have a roof on it? Now make a hole in the roof of your house.
- 5** Once they were on the roof, the friends began digging a hole in the roof. Imagine what the people inside the house must have thought! When the hole was big enough, the four friends lowered their friend on his mat through the hole so that he was in front of Jesus.
 - Use your play dough to make a happy face.

When Jesus saw the faith of the paralyzed man's friends, he looked at the man and said, "Your sins are forgiven. . . . Get up, take your mat, and go home." And the man did. All of the people in the house were amazed and praised God.

WRITE POST CARD

Write to anyone 13-22 years old in our congregation. You can search anyone in our online directory for their age. **Write to them a word of encouragement this week.**