

# The Calling of the First Disciples

## Card 11

## Teacher Background

### Review Card Set

Scripture: Mark 1:4-20 and  
Matthew 4:18-22

Theme: calling

### 2 Read Aloud

Mark 1:16-20

### 1 Review Activity

### 3 Storytelling

Pass out Card 11. Share the story.

- One day, a man called John the Baptist saw Jesus and said, “Look! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!” One of John’s friends, Andrew, heard him say this and decided to follow Jesus.
- Andrew found his brother, Peter, and told him about Jesus. Walking by the Sea of Galilee, Jesus called Peter and Andrew saying, “Come, follow me, and I will show you how to fish for people!” Both Peter and Andrew answered Jesus’ calling and followed him.
- Further along, Jesus saw James and his brother, John, who were also fisherman, and called them to follow him. Both James and John answered Jesus’ calling and followed him.
- The next day, Jesus found Philip and said, “Come, follow me.”
- Philip went and found Nathanael and said, “We have found the very person Moses and the prophets wrote about! His name is Jesus.”
- When Nathanael saw Jesus, he said, “Rabbi, you are the Son of God—the King of Israel.” Rabbi means teacher. After this, both Philip and Nathanael followed Jesus.
- Jesus called Matthew, a tax collector, and said, “Follow me.” Matthew answered Jesus’ calling and followed him.
- Jesus went to a mountainside and spent the night praying. The next morning, he called his disciples (followers) to him and chose twelve to be apostles: Peter, Andrew, James, John, Philip, Nathanael, Matthew, Thomas, James, Simon, Judas son of James, and Judas Iscariot. Apostles were Jesus’ closest followers that he spent most of his time with.
- Jesus’ closest followers were neither perfect nor considered very important in their community. Jesus said, “Healthy people don’t need a doctor—sick people do. I have come to call not those who think they are righteous, but those who know they are sinners.” This means that Jesus came for anyone who is willing to answer his call.

### 4 Discussion Questions

1. What kind of fisherman would Jesus make Peter and Andrew? (fishermen for people)
2. What did Jesus spend the night doing before he chose his apostles? (praying)
3. Who does Jesus call to follow him? Only the perfect? (anyone, sinners)

### 5 Memory Verse

John 1:12

**But to all who believed him and accepted him, he gave the right to become children of God.**

### 6 Activity: Telephone

Break the children into different groups based on where they are sitting. Each group should have 10-15 children. Choose a child to be the leader. The leader thinks of a message to whisper to the person next to him. The message should be about the Bible story they have learned. The children whisper the message to the person sitting next to them around the circle until it reaches the leader again. The last child to hear the message says it out loud. The goal is for the message to be the same as what the leader first said.

### 7 Learning Point

In the game, the message sometimes became unclear. But Jesus’ message to us is very clear; he is calling us and wants us to follow him and be joined together in his family. We all come from different places and different backgrounds, but we are all one family through Jesus. Not everyone who hears about Jesus will follow him and be in his family, but those who do are given great purpose. Your greatest purpose in Jesus’ family is to spread the news about him. Have you decided to follow Jesus and join his family? How will you spread the news about Jesus? Is Jesus calling you?

### 8 Review Card Set

