

## Sunday Gospel Background

In Sunday's Gospel, Jesus calls four fishermen to leave their boats and follow him. By responding to this call, Simon Peter, Andrew, James, and John become Jesus' first followers. Jesus tells them that he will teach them to fish for people—catching them with the bait of the message of God's love.

## Share Experiences

Check off the boxes as you complete each part of the lesson.

- Pray together** "Jesus, we want to be your followers. Help us learn how to follow you and share your Good News about God's love. Amen."
- Story • The New Teacher.** Ask your child to listen to a story about a teacher who calls to her students.

The preschoolers at Saint Donatus parish were surprised to meet a new teacher one Sunday. Their regular teacher, Mrs. Miller, wasn't feeling well. "I'm Miss Young. I will be your teacher today," she said. "Let's play a name game. I will tell about a child I can see. If you are the child I describe, please tell me your name. Listen carefully." She looked around the group. "I see one girl who looks just like another girl, who looks just like the first girl." The children giggled. "That's me," said one girl. "That's me too!" said another girl. "We're twins!" "It's nice to meet you. Do you have names?" Miss Young asked. "My name is Mary," said one girl, "and she is Kerri." "Thank you, Mary and Kerri," said Miss Young.

"Now, I see a boy," she continued, "with a nice smile and freckles. Who is that?" "It's me," a boy said shyly. "My name is Michael." "Michael is a great name to go with your great smile," said Miss Young. "Now I see someone with red eyes and

blue hair!" The children laughed at the thought of red eyes and blue hair. "I am glad you were listening and caught my mistake," Miss Young said as she laughed. "I mean red hair and blue eyes." "That's me. I am Patrick," said a boy. "I am pleased to meet you, Patrick," said Miss Young.

"Now I see someone with curly hair and wheels," said Miss Young. "Who is that?" "That's me," said Trevor, rocking his wheelchair back and forth. "My name is Trevor Allen Harmon." "Trevor Allen Harmon, the pleasure is mine," Miss Young said. The game went on until Miss Young had described all the children. Julie had lots of dark braids, and Sarah had two blond pigtails. Aaron had glasses, and Megan was the tallest of all.

"Let's see if I can remember your names," said Miss Young. "There's Mary, Kerri, Michael, Trevor Allen Harmon, Julie, Sarah, Aaron, Megan, and Patrick. I hope I didn't forget anyone. Please follow me into the church."

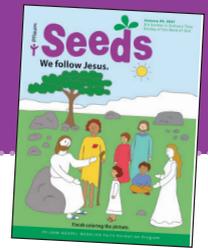
## Discover Gospel and Doctrine

- Sunday Gospel • We follow Jesus. (page 1)** Share Sunday's Gospel:

One day, Jesus was walking by Lake Galilee. This was a big lake not far from the town where Jesus grew up. Andrew and Peter were out fishing. They saw Jesus coming. Jesus called out to them, "Come follow me, and I will make you fishers of men." Andrew and Peter got out of the boat, left their nets

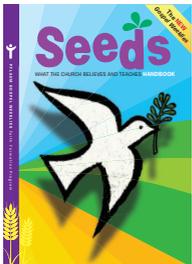
and followed Jesus.

Jesus and Andrew and Peter walked farther down the shore of the lake. They saw James and John in their boat with their father, Zebedee. Jesus called to them, "Come, follow me." James and John got out of the boat and followed Jesus.



Invite your child to finish coloring the picture. **Ask:** What do you think Jesus and his new followers are going to do now? *They will tell everyone that God loves everyone very much.* Recall the story of Miss Young and the children. **Ask:** How do you think the children felt to be called by their names? Explain that Jesus knows us and calls each of us by name to follow him.

- Word of the Week • mission (page 4)** Help your child find the Word of the Week on page 4. Share this definition: *A mission is being sent to love and help other people.* Explain that Jesus wanted to have followers to help him on his mission of love.
- Activity • Jesus says, “Follow me!” (pages 2–3)** Have your child retell the Gospel story using the illustrations on pages 2–3. **Ask:** Can you find Andrew and Peter? *Boat with two men.* John and James? *Boat with three men, since they were with their father.* Have your child use a crayon to follow the dotted lines of the nets so the fish will stay in them.



- Open** the *What the Church Believes and Teaches* handbook to page 22. Read the words at the top of the page. **Ask:** Can you find Jesus? Point out the little children.

Invite your child to color the word *Come*. Explain that Jesus calls all of us to be his followers. Encourage your child to think about this Gospel and look at this picture often. This is a good prayer to say when looking at this picture: “Jesus, I will always come to you.”

*Once you have completed this section of the lesson, close the handbook and return to Seeds pages 3–4.*

## Live the Gospel

- Activity • Follower of Jesus Mobile (pages 3–4)** If you’d like to make a mobile as shown in the small illustration on page 3, make extra copies of the fish on pages 3–4 for each person in your family. If not, simply skip this step and cut out the fish on pages 3–4. Help your child print his or her name on the line. Read the sentence with your family and talk about what it means. We are followers of Jesus when we go to church, learn about Jesus, are kind to others, share our toys, play nicely, or listen to others.
- Activity • I follow Jesus at home. (page 4)** Cut out the chart and place it where it can be easily seen. Whenever your child does an action that follows Jesus’ example of loving, including, or forgiving, write it on the chart and invite your child to color the fish by those words. When all five fish have been colored, be sure to praise your child for being a follower of Jesus.
- Closing Prayer** “Jesus, thank you for calling us to be your followers. We will follow your example of love at home, at school, and at play. Amen.”



## Parent Resources

For weekly videos, assessments, and more, scan this code or go to [pflaumweeklies.com/family](https://pflaumweeklies.com/family)  
Visit [www.usccb.org/bible/readings](https://www.usccb.org/bible/readings) to read this Sunday’s Scripture