



# JESUS' MINISTRY - PART 2

Life & Ministry of Jesus • U2#2 1st-3rd Grade • July 23, 2023

## Concept

Jesus makes His followers fishers of men.

## Goal

Students will learn about the context of the second part of Jesus' ministry. From the example of the apostles, they will see what it means to follow Christ and be fishers of men.

## Passage

Mark 1:14-28, 3:14

Key Verse: "Come follow me and I will make you fishers of men." Mark 1:17

## Planning Ahead

Lesson Supplies	Craft Supplies
<p><b>Activity Station:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>"Life in Jesus' Time"</i> <i>laminated collage of pictures depicting life in Israel when Jesus lived</i></li><li>• <i>The Children's Illustrated Bible, Hastings &amp; Thomas</i></li><li>• <i>Adventure Bible Handbook</i></li><li>• "Jesus in His Land of Israel" map with questions, 1/student</li></ul> <p><b>Introduction:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>Large laminated "Jesus in his Land" map</i></li></ul> <p><b>Learning Activity #2:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>Map of Israel on a king-size sheet</i></li><li>• <i>Styrofoam cups, 12/class</i></li></ul> <p><b>Learning Activity #3:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>3 Styrofoam bowls</i></li><li>• <i>Goldfish crackers</i></li><li>• <i>Plastic spoons, 3/class</i></li></ul>	<p><b>Activity Stations:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Transparencies with printed fish, both sides of one fish/student</li><li>• Stapler</li><li>• Markers</li><li>• Scissors</li><li>• Various pieces of colored tissue paper</li><li>• <i>Hole punch</i></li><li>• <i>Yarn</i></li></ul>

### \*TEACHERS PLEASE NOTE

For clarity, the italicized areas in the Planning Ahead section indicate supplies that are in—and should be returned to—your classroom SHARED SUPPLY bag.

# Background Information/Teacher Helps

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"The second part of Christ's public ministry, the Galilean Ministry, lasted about a year and a half, from AD 30 to AD 32. Capernaum in Galilee was Jesus' home and many came to Him to have their physical and spiritual needs met (Matt. 9:36,37; Mark 6:31; Mark 8:1). Many people came to hear Him teach with authority (Luke 4:32), to heal the sick and to investigate this man who performed miracles (Luke 4:40). Jesus chose His twelve disciples (Matt. 10:1-5) and trained them to be 'fishers of men' (Matt. 4:19)." [1]

"I sometimes ask myself if I would have wanted to join the Twelve. No matter. Unlike other rabbis, Jesus handpicked his inner circle of disciples, rather than letting them choose him. Such was Jesus' magnetism that it took only a few phrases to persuade them to leave their jobs and families to join him. Two sets of brothers—James and John, and Peter and Andrew—worked as partners on fishing boats, and when he called them they abandoned the business (ironically, after Jesus gave them their most successful fishing day ever). All but Judas Iscariot come from Jesus' home province of Galilee; Judas hails from Judea, which shows how Jesus' reputation has spread across the country."

"Why does Jesus invest so much time in these apparent losers? To answer that, I turn to Mark's written account...

**"That they might be with him.** ... They became his family... They gave everything up for him, as he had given up everything for them. He loved them, plain and simple.

**"That he might send them out.** ... From his very first invitation to the Twelve, Jesus had in mind what would transpire one day on Calvary. He knew his time on earth was short, and the ultimate success of his mission depended not just on what he accomplished in a few years but on what the Twelve—then eleven, soon to be thousands and then millions—would do after he had left." [2]

**Additional Reading:** Luke 5; Mark 3; Matt. 5-7, 10-13; Mark 6-8; John 4-7

[1] Adapted from the International Inductive Study Bible, 1993, Precept Ministries, Harvest House Publishers, Eugene, Oregon, pp. 2095, 2096.

[3] Ibid, pp. 98, 99.

## Incorporation Lg. Group

## Introduction Lg. Group

## Transition

## Lesson Lg. Group

### Activity Stations:

- **Geography – Galilean Ministry**
  - **Instructions:** Look up the verses in the box beside the map. Identify the location of the event and write its number on the map.
- **Life in Jesus' Time [1]**
  - **Instructions:** Look at pictures on the laminated collage. Have students look at the listed pages in the Adventure Bible Handbook and The Children's Illustrated Bible and discuss a few of the following (pick one or two):
    - **The Children's Illustrated Bible:** Daily Life - Pages 208, 209.
    - **Adventure Bible Handbook:** Spiritual Life - Page 136, 140.
    - **Religious Life** – Pages 136, 137, 164-169.
    - **Political Life** – Page 139 King Herod
- **Craft – Fish Sun Catchers**
  - **Instructions:** Have each student cut out two fish and color with markers on the printed side. Cut bits of tissue paper and glue them to the colored side. Put the two sides together and staple them. Punch one or two holes in the top and tie a piece of yarn as a hanger.

[1] Collage pictures from Jesus the Man Who Changed History, Meryl Doney, ©1988, Lion Publishing plc, #4, #14; Lamps, Scrolls & Goatskin Bottles, Julia B. Hans, © 2000 Julia B. Hans, Standard Publishing, pp. 15, 45, 57; The Bible the Really Interesting Bits, Brian Delf, © 1999 Dorling Kindersley Limited, London, pp. 19, 21.

Last week we discussed the first year of Jesus' public ministry. The second year and a half Jesus spent a lot of His time in Galilee, the region in the northern part of Israel, west of the Jordan River and the Sea of Galilee. (Show students Galilee on the classroom map. Point out surrounding landmarks and cities.)

During this time Jesus made Capernaum His home (Matt 4:13; Luke 4:31) after being rejected at Nazareth (Luke 4:14-24). Many people came to Jesus to have their physical and spiritual needs met (Matt 9:36, 37; Mark 6:31; Mark 8:1) and to have demons cast out (Luke 4:41).

Luke 4 tells us about Jesus' followers. Many people were attracted to Him because He spoke with authority (Luke 4:32). Jesus traveled from town to town preaching in the synagogues, telling people the good news of the kingdom of God (Luke 4:43, 44). The good news is that Jesus came to earth to pay the price for our sins so that we can have a friendship with God!

Let's sit down and read about what led to people following Jesus.

Please listen as I read **Mark 1:14-28**.

Simon Peter, Andrew, James and John left their fishing jobs, families and homes to follow Jesus.

## Lesson Continued

They lived with Jesus and wanted Him to teach them about God. Jesus showed them how to live and how to tell others about God's love. They were men who worked hard and were paid very little. They gave up the few things they had to follow Jesus and learn from Him. Why do you think these men were willing to give up everything to follow Jesus? (Allow students to respond.)

Jesus loved the people and gave them answers to their questions about life. He taught them about God's character, love and forgiveness. In verse 22 we read that the people were amazed at His teaching because He taught them with authority, not like anyone else, even the Pharisees (Jewish teachers). He performed many miracles and healings that only someone with God's power could perform. These people had been waiting for the Messiah talked about in the Old Testament. Many decided to follow Jesus hoping He was the Messiah for whom they had waited for.

## Transition

Let's get into our small groups to talk about this more.

## Learning Activity #1 Sm. Groups

### Discussion Groups

Our key verse says, "Come follow me and I will make you fishers of men" (Mark 1:17).

1. What does it mean that God calls us to be "fisher of men/people?"  
(Allow students to respond) A fisher of men tells others how awesome God is and how Jesus died to pay for their sins. A fisher of men helps others understand the good news of God's grace. (Share the Gospel)
2. What might be some reasons someone doesn't want to do this?
3. Why is it important that we talk with other people about God and Jesus' love?

**Mission Prayer:** Talk about and pray for Oasis Giving campaign.

People today need to know about God's love and grace just like they did back in the time when Jesus lived on earth. Those of us who know Jesus and have started a relationship with him get the joy of sharing with people how awesome Jesus is! We have the sweet purpose of being fishers of men by letting people know that Jesus died for them too and wants a relationship with them.

Let's pray together for the things that we learned today! We can thank God for how awesome He is and for how He has given us such great news to share with people.

## Learning Activity# 2 Lg. Group

### Game – Where in Israel?

#### Part 1 - Questions

**Instructions:** A teacher will ask the whole class a question and point to an area on the large map. The first person to raise their hand will answer to the question. Feel free to include questions about the lesson as well!

1. In what region of Israel did Jesus live during the second year of His ministry? A. Judea **B. Galilee** C. Samaria
2. What is the name of the river that runs through Israel? A. Nile River **B. Jordan River** C. Mediterranean River
3. In which city in Galilee did Jesus perform His first miracle, where He turned water into wine? A. Judea B. Jerusalem **C. Cana**
4. In what city in the region of Galilee did Jesus grow up? **A. Nazareth** B. Bethlehem C. Jerusalem
5. Where was Jesus baptized by John the Baptist? A. Sea of Galilee B. Mediterranean Sea **C. Jordan River**
6. During the first year of His public ministry, in which region did Jesus spend most of His time? **A. Judea** B. Galilee C. Perea
7. In what city was Jesus born? A. Jerusalem B. Nazareth **C. Bethlehem**
8. In which region did Jesus and His followers spend most of the second year of His ministry? A. Judea **B. Galilee** C. Samaria
9. The city of Capernaum is in what region? A. Judea B. Samaria **C. Galilee**
10. The city of Jerusalem is in what region? **A. Judea** B. Samaria C. Galilee

#### Part 2 - Map

**Instructions:** Spread the sheet map on the floor. Have the players form a line. At the signal, the first player will be given the name of the place, grab a location marker, run to the map and place the marker on the correct location. If they place it incorrectly, shout “NO” and they try again. At this point, they can solicit help from the rest of the class for the correct location. When they get the flag in the correct location, shout “YES” and the next player is given the next location to find.

**Locations:** Judea, Cana, Dead Sea, Perea, Sea of Galilee, Bethlehem, Jerusalem, Mediterranean Sea, Nazareth, Galilee, Samaria, Jordan River

#### Game - Fishing for Goldfish Crackers:

**Instructions:** Set up the room according to chart. Divide class into 3 teams. Have each team line up with half the team on one side of their bowl of goldfish crackers and half the team on the other side of the bowl. Each "X" represents a student. Each "B" represents a bowl.

X	X	X	X	X	B	X	X	X	X	X
X	X	X	X	X	B	X	X	X	X	X
X	X	X	X	X	B	X	X	X	X	X

## Learning Activity# 3 Lg. Group

## **Learning Activity#3 Continued**

Each student on the team will "fish" one goldfish cracker out of the bowl using the spoon and drop it into the hand of the next teammate. When the teacher says "Go," first person runs to the bowl of crackers and picks one, carries it to the first person in line on the other side of the bowl, gives the spoon and cracker to that person, goes to the back of that line and sits down.

The person who just ate the cracker goes to the bowl, fishes out a cracker using the spoon, gives it to the first person in line on the other side of the bowl, then sits down at the back of that line. (If cracker is dropped, throw it out and fish out a new one from the bowl.) The first team sitting down wins. The last "fisher" gives a cracker to someone who is sitting down.

## **Review**

Today we learned that many people began to follow Jesus. Many people came to hear Him teach and many to be healed. He chose twelve disciples and He became well known in Israel. Jesus said, "Come follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men" (Mark 1:17). A fisher of men tells others that Jesus died to pay for their sins. A fisher of men helps others understand the good news of God's grace.

## **Optional Activity**

### **Game - Israel Twister**

**Instructions:** Use large floor map to play twister. Call out a region and body part-players will follow instructions