

Basic Truth: Jesus wants to be my friend forever.

Key Question: Who can you follow?

Bottom Line: I can follow Jesus.

Memory Verse: “Come and follow me,’ Jesus said.”

Matthew 4:19

Bible Story Focus: I can follow Jesus.

The Twelve • *The Gospels*

Memory Verse Chain:

What You Need: Different colors of paper (if possible), markers, stickers, scissors, and a stapler

What You Do: Before the Activity: Cut paper into wide strips. Write a word of the memory verse on each strip. And have your preschoolers help you decorate each strip with stickers and drawing fun things!

During the Activity: Work together to practice the verse and make a paper chain by putting the words in order and stapling them into rings.

What You Say: “Let’s say our verse together. (*Say Verse*) When Jesus said, ‘Come and follow me,’ He was speaking to some special friends. But you and I can follow Jesus, too. He’s the BEST leader we could follow! **Who can you follow?** [*Bottom Line*] ‘I can follow Jesus.’

Footprint Path:

What You Need: Paper, scissors, marker

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Trace your child’s individual feet on the paper and cut out multiple sets. Create a path through the house of the feet.

During the Activity: Encourage your child to follow the path. Then, move the path and do it again. Give them an opportunity to make a path for you to follow as well.

What You Say: “Let’s FOLLOW the path! While you are walking the path be sure to FOLLOW the feet by putting your feet on the feet on the floor. Great job FOLLOWING the path! **Who can you follow?** [*Bottom Line*] ‘I can follow Jesus.’

Find the Disciples:

Made to Move: An activity that uses a preschooler's natural desire to move to help them learn

What You Need: Little People or a version of toys that could resemble people.

What You Do:

Before the Activity: You will need 12 toy people to use as “Disciples.” Use an additional toy person to represent Jesus. Hide the “disciples” around the house or each take turns hiding them.

During the Activity: Instruct your preschoolers to go and find the “disciples” and bring them back to “Jesus.”

After the Activity: Retell the Bible story.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: “Today we learned about Jesus and His disciples.”

During the Activity: “Here is Jesus (*show toy person*) and His disciples are all over our room. (*Point.*) Let’s go and find them and bring them back to follow Jesus.” (*Do activity.*)

After the Activity: “Jesus had 12 friends that followed Him. They were His disciples! They all loved Jesus and wanted to be His friend forever. They knew that they could always follow Jesus, and so can we!

Who can you follow? [Bottom Line] I can follow Jesus!”

Prayer Time:

“Dear God, thank You that (*name each child*) gets to hear about how much Jesus loves them. Thank You that they get to hear that Jesus wants to be their friend forever. I pray that (*name each child*) will follow Jesus, because He is our best friend and He will always lead us in the best way. We love You, God. In Jesus’ name, amen.”