

March Week 2

Backyard
Go Team

March 10

CRAFT WEEK 2

Jesus and the Disciples

SUPPLIES:

Jesus page, 6 disciple squares, glue stick, crayons

TIP:

Set up the tables ahead of time with one craft page and the 6 disciple squares at each spot. This will prevent feeling chaotic passing out 6 different disciples and making sure they don't get mixed up! This is a great job for students to help with!

What You DO and SAY:

⇒ **Have children take a seat at the table. Have the Jesus page and a pile of the 6 disciples at each table spot. Pass out crayons.**

- *"Today in our true Bible story we heard about the first people who followed Jesus – Jesus' very first team! Everybody, take a look at your paper and tell me what you see in the middle. That's right! It's a heart with Jesus inside!"*
- *Let's color the heart and Jesus. Nice job!*
- *Now each of you has 6 little pictures of Jesus' disciples. There were 12 of them! Let's count the people together – 1, 2, 3.....12! Let's color the disciples."*

⇒ **Use glue sticks to glue each of the disciples to the page.**

- *"Now it's time to glue the disciples so they can follow Jesus. Just a little glue will do on the back of each disciple! Be careful not to cover Jesus up!"*

⇒ **Use a sample craft to retell the story as you point to the pictures.**

- *"In our Bible Story, we learned about these twelve people—they were the first people who followed Jesus. This is Peter and Andrew. (Point.) They were fishermen. One day, while they were fishing, Jesus told them, 'Follow Me!' And they did! James and his brother John were fishermen too. (Point.) They were working with their dad when Jesus said, 'Follow Me!' And they did! In the next town, Jesus found a man named Philip! (Point.) Philip followed Jesus and brought his friend Nathanael (point) to follow Jesus too! Next, we have Matthew. (Point.) He was a tax collector and made a lot of bad choices. But Jesus still loved Matthew and wanted to be his friend. Jesus said, 'Come, follow Me.' And Matthew did! There was also Thomas and James... (point)...Thaddeus and Simon and Judas! (Point.) These were Jesus' twelve disciples! That was His first team. Go team!"*

⇒ **Complete craft and Bring it Back to Jesus**

- *Jesus wants YOU to be on His team too . . . and your friends . . . and your family . . . because Jesus loves everyone, and Jesus wants everyone to be His friend forever! Yes! EVERYONE!! Yes, Jesus wants to be everyone's friend forever.*
- ***Who wants to be your friend forever? Jesus wants to be my friend forever!"***

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ACTIVITY #1

Come and Follow Me

SUPPLIES: Floor tape

SET-UP: Place one long line of tape on the floor on one side of the room and one across from it on the other side of the room.

What You DO and SAY:

⇒ **Have children stand on the tape line on the floor on one side of the room.**

- *"Today in our true Bible story we learned that EVERYONE can be friends with Jesus! We can all follow him – no matter who we are, what we look like, where we're from, or what we've done!"*
- *Let's play a game. This will help us to remember that everyone can be friends with Jesus! I want you all to line up on this line. Now, I am going to go stand on the other side of the room in the middle of the line and I am going to call you to come and follow me. You need to listen very carefully to how I call you, though!"*

⇒ **Have children listen to the direction you give and then come across the room to the other side and stand on the tape line.**

- *"If you are wearing something blue, walk across the room. Come and follow me!"*
- *If you are wearing something [fill in colors until every child has been called], walk across the room. Come and follow me.*
- *Nice job, boys and girls. Remind me, **Who wants to be your friend forever? Jesus wants to be my friend forever!***

⇒ **Repeat with different descriptions and commands.**

- *Descriptions: Boys/girls, Brown hair/blonde hair/red hair/black hair, 3 years old/4 years old/5 years old/6 years old, etc.*
- *Actions: Hop, crawl, bear walk, crab walk, skip, etc.*

⇒ **Complete the activity and then Bring it Back to Jesus.**

- *"Great job, friends! You did such a good job following! I loved that we got to see that no matter who we are, we can be friends with Jesus!"*
- ***Who wants to be your friend forever?***
- ***Jesus wants to be my friend forever!"***

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ACTIVITY #2

Go Team Freeze Dance

SUPPLIES: CD Player, EC Worship CD

What You DO and SAY:

⇒ **Have children join you in the center of the room.**

- *“All month long we are learning that everyone can be friends with Jesus! No matter where we are from or what we’ve done...we all have a place on Jesus’ team!”*
- *Today we are going to play a game of freeze dance. I’m going to be the coach of our team and when I call out a command, I want you to dance that way. But when I pause the music it’s time to freeze. Are you ready? Go team!”*

⇒ **Turn the music on. Call out dancing directions. Turn the music off and have kids freeze**

⇒ *“Alright, let’s dance! Everybody clap your hands!*

⇒ *Do the twist [jump up and down, spin around, etc]*

⇒ *Now freeze!*

⇒ *Wow, nice job friends! Let me ask you a question before we start dancing again: **Who wants to be your friend forever? Jesus wants to be my friend forever!***

⇒ *Now on the count of 3 let’s say ‘Go team!’ 1, 2, 3 **GO TEAM!***

⇒ **Repeat as long as children are interested and then Bring it Back to the Bottom Line.**

⇒ *“Nice job everybody! I am so glad that we all get to be part of this team with Jesus as our leader! We get to play on Jesus’ team forever!*

⇒ ***Who wants to be your friend forever?***

⇒ ***Jesus wants to be my friend forever!”***

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ACTIVITY #3

Memory Verse Practice

SUPPLIES: Reward Stickers

What You DO and SAY:

- ⇒ **This activity can be done from spots at the table or spaced out in the center of the room.**
 - *"Friends, we have an awesome memory verse to practice! I want to try saying it in lots of different ways!"*
- ⇒ **Do memory verse all together in a variety of ways.**
 - *"First, let's say it once together. 'I have called you friends.' John 15:15"*
 - *Now let's try it...*
 - *Super loud*
 - *Super quiet*
 - *Really fast*
 - *Really Slow*
 - *Jumping up and down*
 - *Running in Place*
 - *All the boys*
 - *All the girls*
 - *Kids only*
 - *Teachers only*
- ⇒ **Repeat as long as children are interested. If time permits, you can do one person at a time and give out stickers.**
- ⇒ **Complete the activity and Bring it Back to the Bottom Line.**
 - *"Nice work, my friends!"*
 - *Who wants to be your friend forever?*
 - *Jesus wants to be my friend forever!"*

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READ, REVIEW, CONNECT IT, & PRAY MARCH WEEK 2

PASS OUT MOON SAND

READ

- The Beginner's Bible: *Jesus Chooses His Disciples*, p. 308

REVIEW *(You may choose to pass out stickers as kids answer!)*

- ⇒ Key Question and Bottom Line
 - ***Who wants to be your friend forever?***
 - ***Jesus wants to be my friend forever.***
- ⇒ Memory Verse
 - ***"I have called you friends."***
John 15:15

CONNECT IT AND PRAY

- ⇒ "Since Jesus wants to be your friend forever, when I say your name, **I want you to stand up and say 'Jesus wants to be my friend forever!'**, and I will write down your name. Got it?
 - *Write their names down on the weekly question strip/board/paper.*
- ⇒ Yay! Everyone can be friends with Jesus! Let's pray!
- ⇒ Let's fold our hands and bow our heads and **pray**:
 - "Dear God, Thank you for sending Jesus to be our friend forever. Thank you that *[child's name]* can be friends with Jesus. Thank You that...*(continue with each child's name)*. And that I can be friends with Jesus, too. You're the best, God, and we love You. In Jesus' name, amen."