

Life of Christ

Matthew follows Jesus

Luke 5:27-29

Younger Verse

God did not give us a spirit of fear, but of power, love and discipline. 2nd Timothy 1:7

Older Verse

God did not give us a spirit of fear, but of power, love and discipline. 2nd Timothy 1:7

Welcome Time

If you had to move quickly, what would be the 3 things that you would grab and take with you? We have lots of “stuff” that is important to us. Let's see what Matthew does when Jesus comes to him.

Bible Story

*Please note: This portion of the lesson is given to help in teaching the lesson. Please read through the story and read it in the Bible. Do **NOT** read from this piece of paper. Instead, make a note sheet and place it next to the story in the Bible.*

Matthew's other name is Levi. The name Levi is used in Mark and Luke. The name Matthew is used in the book of Matthew.

Jesus went from town to town telling people about God. He also invited people to go with Him. Jesus had already asked 4 fishermen to come and follow Him. They excitedly followed, not sure what was to come.

One day, Jesus was in a town and He saw a tax collector named Matthew. Matthew's job was to collect taxes from people. Back then, they did not have computers or cash registers that added tax to a purchase. The tax collectors would go to everyone in town and demand taxes for things that they bought. Some tax collectors were sneaky and would ask for more than they would need. They would keep the extra.

Jesus walked up to Matthew's money table. Jesus asked Matthew to come and follow Him. Immediately, Matthew left the table and followed Jesus. He knew that Jesus was more important than money. He freely gave up these things and began to walk with Jesus.

The Bible tells us that he had a big banquet for Jesus and invited a crowd of his friends. They came to listen and learn. Matthew knew that Jesus could change their lives just like Jesus changed his. He invited his friends so that they could see that Jesus was more important than anything else in the world.

In another part of the Bible, Jesus shares what is most important. He shares that we should seek God first and everything else will work out. That

Lesson Goals

Are you willing to leave all to follow Jesus like Matthew did?
Examine your life to see what is most important?

means we should live for God and do things for Him and He will take care of all our needs.

Matthew's life changed when he followed Jesus. He helped Jesus and saw how Jesus really was God's Son. After Jesus died and came back to life, Matthew saw Him. Matthew wrote about all his experiences in one of the books of the Bible. It is called Matthew.

Jesus died and came back to life to make a way for us to go to Heaven. If we believe in Him and trust Him with all our heart, He will come into our life and clean out all the sin that is there. He will make us clean. Jesus will help us do things God's way and help us live for God instead of for the things we want. If you want to know more about loving God, talk to us about it.

Learning Activities

Help the kids see how important it is to love God most of all.

Memory Verse Activities

Try to learn sign language to this verse. It is such an important verse to help in our time of need.

Prayer Time

Ask God to help us love Him more than anything else.

Snack Time/CleanUp

Share snack with the kids.

Planning for March 7th
Jesus helps a man on church day
Luke 6:1-10

Preschool Lesson
For
Matthew

(Bring pennies and tell the kids that they will give them to you at a certain time in the lesson.)

Jesus went from town to town telling people about God. He also invited people to go with Him. Jesus had already asked 4 fishermen to come and follow Him. They excitedly followed, not sure what was to come.

One day, Jesus was in a town and He saw a tax collector named Matthew. Matthew's job was to collect taxes from people. Back then, they did not have computers or cash registers that added tax to a purchase. The tax collectors would go to everyone in town and demand taxes for things that they bought. (Ask the kids to give you their pennies) Some tax collectors were sneaky and would ask for more than they would need. They would keep the extra.

Jesus walked up to Matthew's money table. Jesus asked Matthew to come and follow Him. Immediately, Matthew left the table and followed Jesus. He knew that Jesus was more important than money. He gave up these things and began to walk with Jesus.

The Bible tells us that Jesus went to Matthew's house for dinner. Many of Matthew's friends came to listen and learn. Matthew knew that Jesus could change their lives too. He invited his friends so that they could see that Jesus was more important than anything else in the world.

Sing this to the tune of "BINGO."

There was a man who took money
And Matthew was his name-O
MONEY, MONEY, MONEY is what he collected.

Jesus came into the town
And Matthew followed Him now
JESUS, JESUS, JESUS, He loved Him most of all.

Hands-On Activities
For
Matthew

Talk about how Matthew invited his friends to meet Jesus. Ask the kids for ideas on how to invite their friends to church. Think of fun ways to help new people come.

All the kids have played on a merry-go-round at a park. Share that when a person stays in the center of the merry-go-round, they are stable. When a person sits near the edge, there is a higher chance that the person will fall off. Explain that when God is in the center of our lives, we are calm and stable. However, when we choose stuff above God, God is not in the center anymore; we slide to the edge of the merry-go-round. There is a higher chance that we will get into trouble or do wrong things. What is the moral of the story: Keep God as the center of your life, not stuff.

God wants us to work and make money but He does not want us to be obsessed with getting money or using it to buy things that take time away from Him.