

Come Follow Me!

- **Register:** Ask the children what makes them smile?
- **Activity:** Play **Follow My Leader**: Have a parent/carer start by walking around the room, hopping, jumping, skipping, running or doing anything silly that the children behind them can follow and copy. Once the children have the idea, let them lead one at a time doing actions for you to copy.

Or play **'Simon Says'** where one-person says 'Simon says touch your nose, Simon says stand on one leg.' After a while, the person playing Simon, says an action without 'Simon says' before it like 'hop on the spot' if any of the children do it then one of them becomes Simon - you can choose which one. Keeping going until every child has had a go. You may need to help younger children with ideas.

You could play **'We're Going on a Bear Hunt'**: Everyone walks around the room following each other saying "We're going on a bear hunt, we're going to catch a big one! What a beautiful day! We're not scared. Oh, oh we've come to a river: we can't go over it, we can't go under it, Oh no, we've got to go through it! Squelch, Squelch, Squelch" (Do the action of squelching through a river). Then you start the rhyme again each time you come to another problem - long grass and swish, swish, swish, through it, thick snow or lots of leaves crunch, crunch, crunch; a cave – we've got to go through it echo, echo, echo. Arrgh! a bear and then go back through everything: crunch, crunch, crunch through the snow, swish, swish, swish through the grass, squelch, squelch, squelch through the river, back to the house through the door up the stairs and hide in the bed. Oh, oh did we close the door?
- **Sing:** Great Big God, Superhero, Lighthouse, Wiggle Freeze, Wiggle like a worm.
- **Talk:** Jesus had lots of followers, but he had 12 special ones who stayed with him all the time. He taught them about God and his kingdom, even when the crowds had gone. They called him 'Rabbi' which means teacher. In Jesus' time a Rabbi was a religious teacher who would be followed by the cleverest boys who knew the scriptures, hoping to become rabbis themselves one day. These boys would live with the rabbi and do everything the rabbi did - it was how they learnt to be a rabbi. Jesus was super special - so do you think he had really clever followers? Or superheroes like the Avengers? E.g. Iron Man with his cool tech or Spider Man with his web fluid... Or do you think he just had ordinary people? **He just had ordinary people, some of the people weren't even liked very much by others! And even though most rabbis only had boys following them, Jesus made a point of including girls as well – women like Mary Magdalene.** If Jesus' followers were ordinary people, where did they get their power to heal people from? **From Jesus.**
- **Watch/Read:** - Jesus Calls Peter at <https://youtu.be/EhlwTU9RbxY> and Jesus Calls Matthew at <https://youtu.be/xgy6TWuUkK0> on You Tube, or Jesus Chooses his Disciples in The Beginners Bible (p308), or read Matthew 4:18-22, 9:9 and 10:1-4, Mark 1-3 and Luke 5-6 or John 1:35-50.
- **Discussion:** - What did Jesus say to the fishermen? **Come follow me, I will make you fishers of people.** What did the men in the stories do when Jesus said 'Come, follow me'? **They left everything and followed him. Even good jobs or businesses they owned.**

Does Jesus only call good people to follow him? **No, Jesus calls everyone – even those who other people don't like very much! Matthew was a Tax Collector who the Jews disliked because not only did they collect taxes/money for the Romans, but they took extra money from the people for themselves as well! That meant they got richer while poor people got even poorer! But Jesus never gives up on anyone – even dishonest tax collectors!**

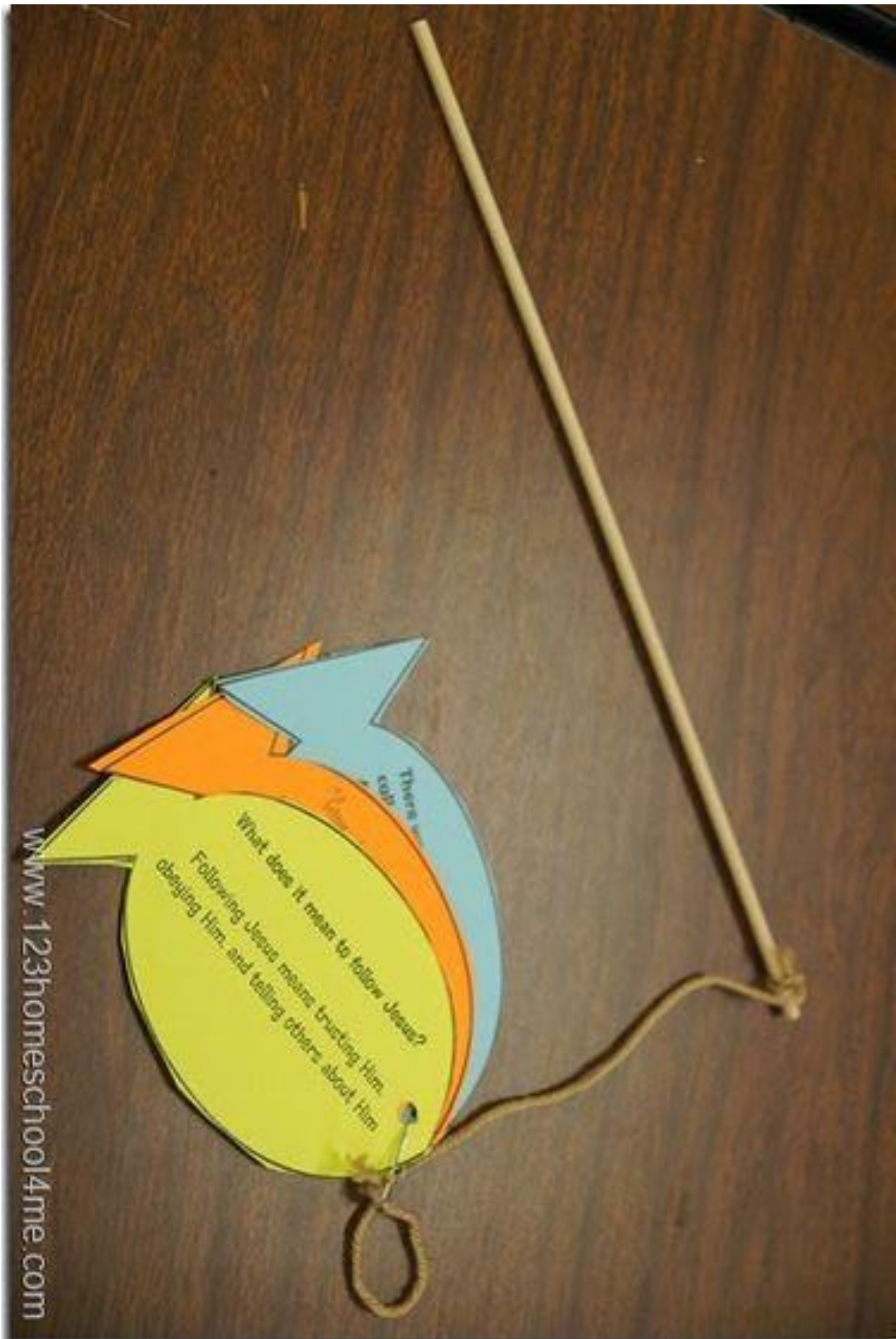
What do you think following Jesus means for us? **Unlike the disciples, we don't follow behind Jesus physically like they did, but we can do the things that Jesus did when he was here on earth.**

What things might we do when we are following Jesus? **Be kind to everyone, listen to our parents and teachers, pray to God, help others, give to others who have less than us (e.g. the foodbank or charity shops), read the Bible, tell others how much Jesus cares for them, go to church...**

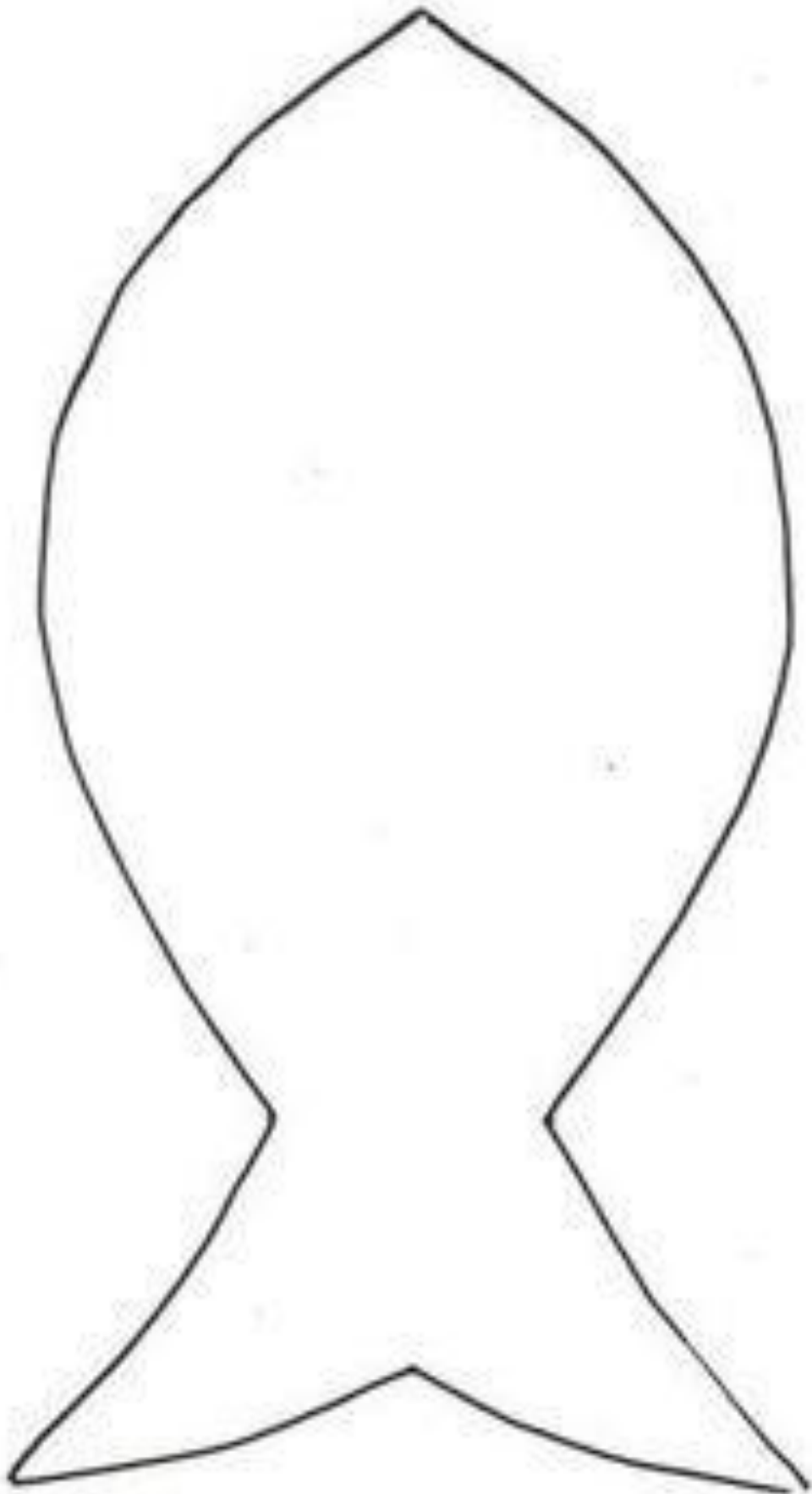
What do you think you could do to follow Jesus this week?

- **Pray:** 'Thank you Jesus that you love us no matter what. Thank you that you love us even when others do not. Thank you that you call us to follow you. Please help us to follow you, especially when we find it difficult. Amen.'
- **Make:** 'I Will Follow Jesus' Fishing Rod. Print or draw 3-4 fish, colour and decorate with sequins and shiny paper. Then using a piece of string glued or sticky taped to the fish tie the other end to a garden cane, lollipop stick or kebab stick make sure to remove the point first for safety. Then ask the children what it means to follow Jesus, or what we can do to follow Jesus? Help the children to write their answers on each fish to help them to remember.
- **Make:** Cheerio Fish: Print template or draw your own fish. Allow the children to colour the fish in and then decorate it with Cheerios using PVA glue to stick them on. You could write on the fish "Come Follow Me".
- **Make:** Fisher of People net craft: You will need four lollipop sticks. A net from a fruit bag or fruit box or gardening netting, fish templates or draw some people to put in your net. Fold the net in half and glue two lollipop sticks on the bottom and two on the top to make a net. Glue a string or rope to the top of the net to make it look like a fishing net. Write on the lollipop sticks "Follow me and I will make you Fishers of People" Matthew 4:19
- **Make:** The Disciples Fishing Picture: Print off the template from below and colour in the picture. Cut out a sail as per the template below in a bright coloured paper or sugar paper, or on plain paper and colour in. Use a lollipop stick/piece of card/paper as the mast of the ship, and stick it to the boat and the sails. Use a fruit net, garden net or a piece of sack cloth for the net. Using the fish template below make some fish to go in the net before gluing the net to the picture.
- **Make:** Follow Jesus Sandal. Draw around your foot onto colourful fab foam, card, or sugar paper. Cut out your foot shape and hole punch 3 holes one on the left, one on the right and one between the big toe and second toe of the foot. Thread some pretty beads onto two pipe cleaners and then thread a pipe cleaner through the right hole to the middle hole. Then thread the second pipe cleaner from the middle hole to the left hole to make a flip flop style sandal. You may wish to sticky tape the ends of the pipe cleaners to the bottom of the sandals to stop them coming off. You can write all the things you can do to follow Jesus on the sandal such as listen to your parents, be kind to others, help those in need, pray etc.
- **Copy:** The attached and colour in colouring pages, search for the objects and the words, do the crosswords and the anagrams.
- **Play:** - Fishing game from the cupboard by the toilet top shelf. Play some more follow me games or set up an assault course that the children follow each other around. See if they can do the assault course holding hands and walking sideways like crabs or jumping/skipping/hopping between activities/obstacles.

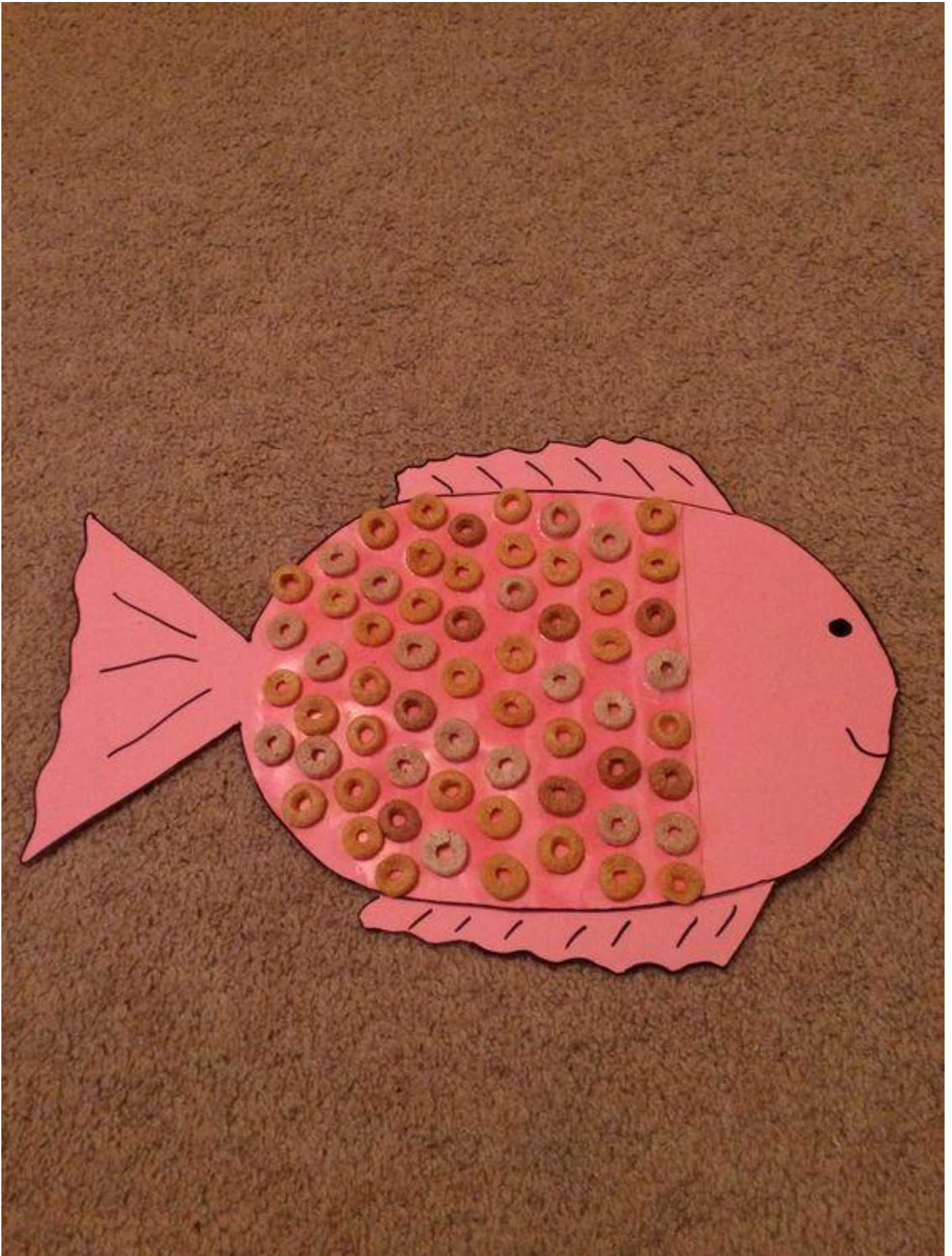
'I Will Follow Jesus' Fishing Rod



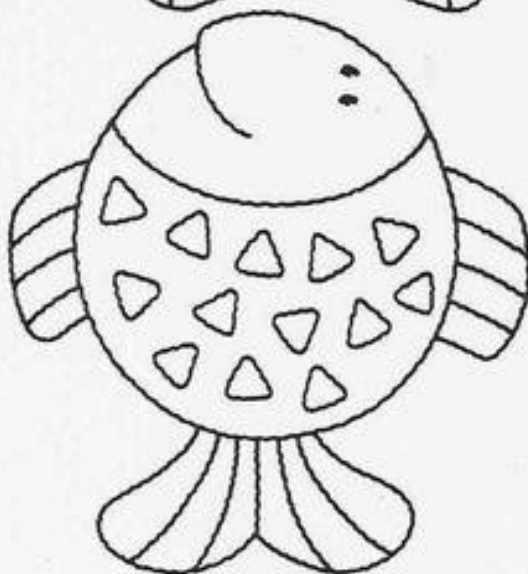
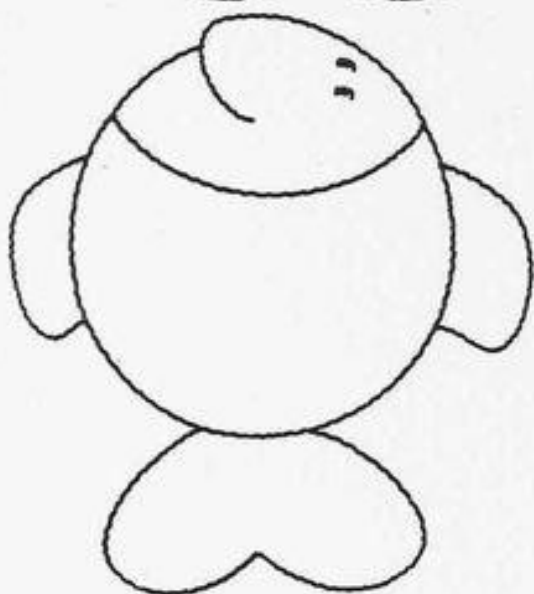
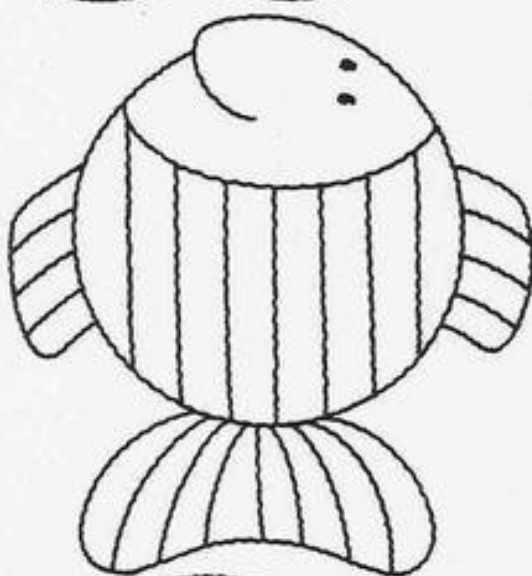
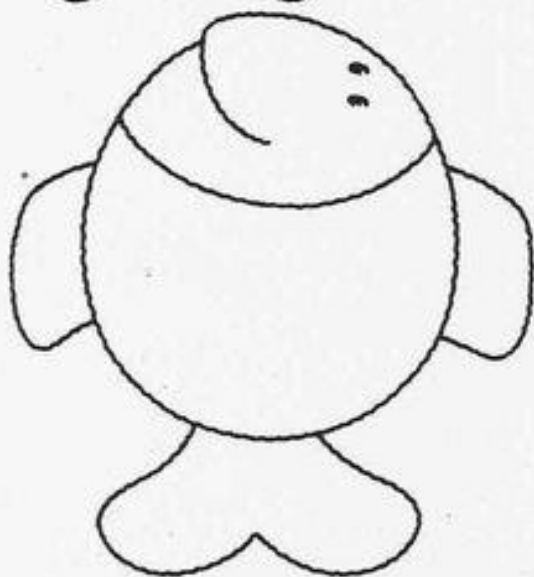
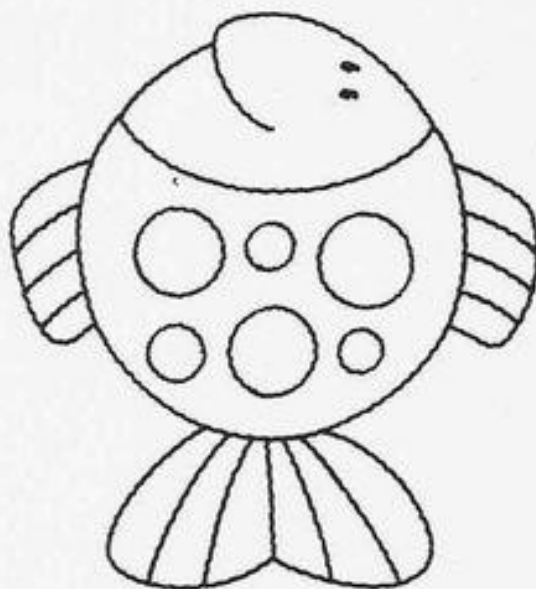
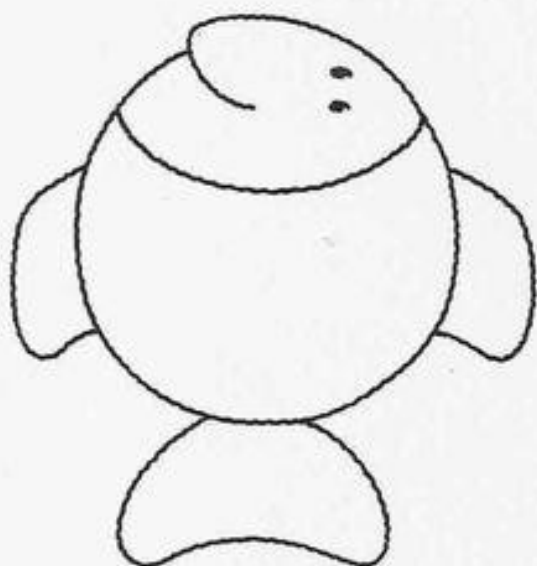
Fish Template



Cheerio Fish

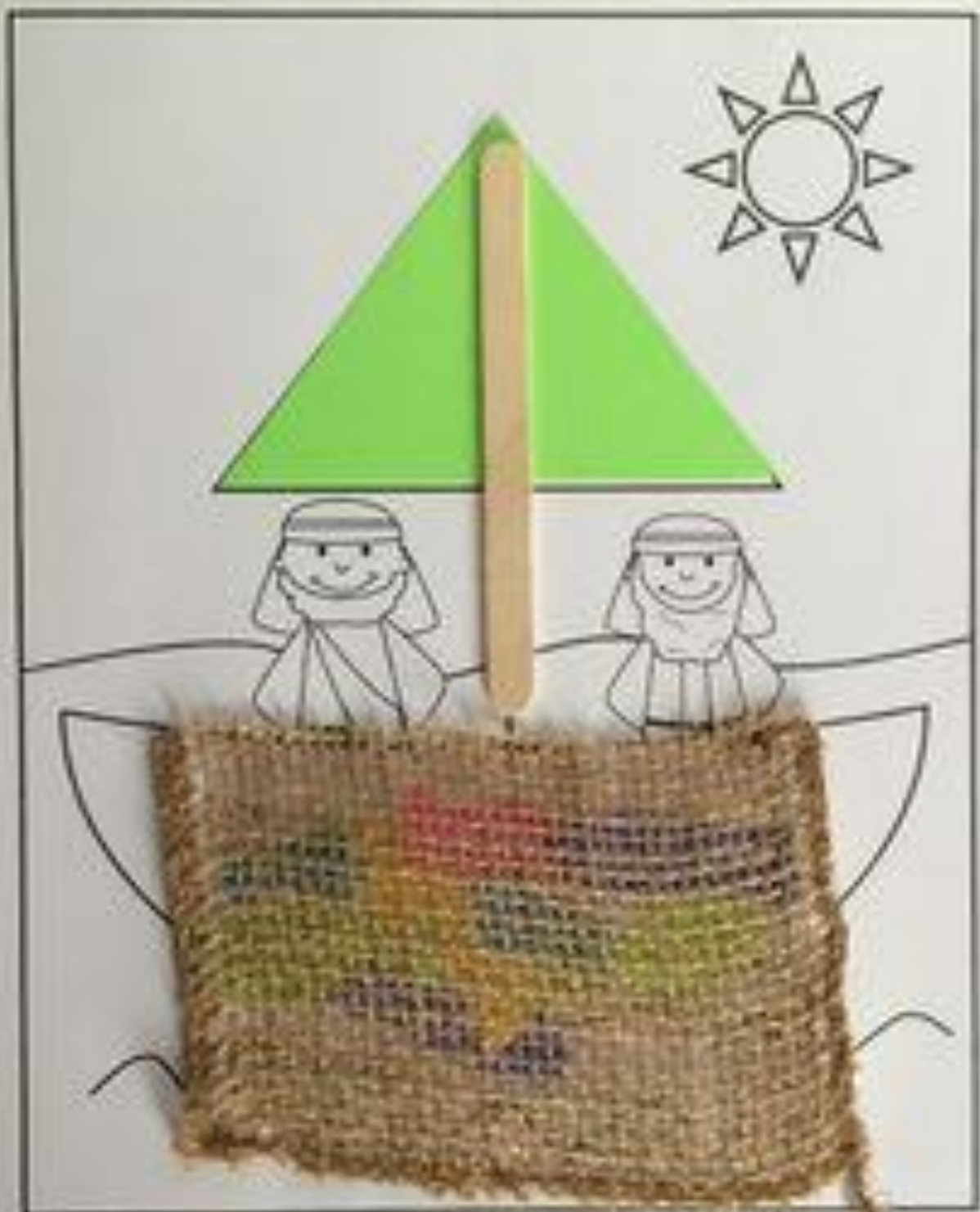


Fish Templates





Disciples Fishing Picture



When Peter and his friends obeyed Jesus, their nets were filled with fish!
The fishermen left their boats and nets to follow Jesus. Luke 5:1-11



Pipe Cleaner Fish



Jesus' Disciples Take home Sheet

{ "Come follow me," Jesus said, {
{ "and I will make you fishers {
{ of men." Matthew 4:19 }

How are you going to follow Jesus this week?

- pray for someone?
- help someone?
- tell someone about God?
- read a Bible story?
- worship God?



- Make the clay into a fish shape and leave it to dry.
- Keep the fish by your bed this week to remind you to follow Jesus.

Following Jesus

This week I
will follow
Jesus by
doing this



Color in the
foot day by
day as you
follow
Jesus!

Lord God



For I am not ashamed of this Good News
about Christ. It is the power of God
at work, saving everyone who believes.
Romans 1:16

When I'm at school I _____

When I'm at church I _____

When I'm at home I _____

When someone is mean to me I _____

When I hurt someone I _____

I follow Jesus everyday by _____

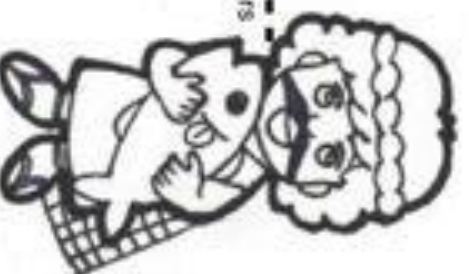
Matthew 10:2

12 Disciples of Jesus

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Studio



Simon
(Peter)



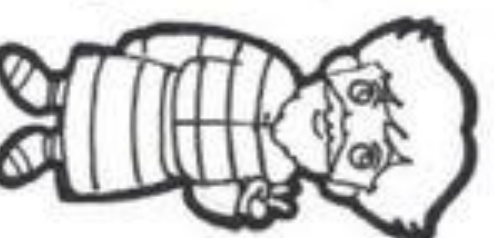
Andrew



James



John



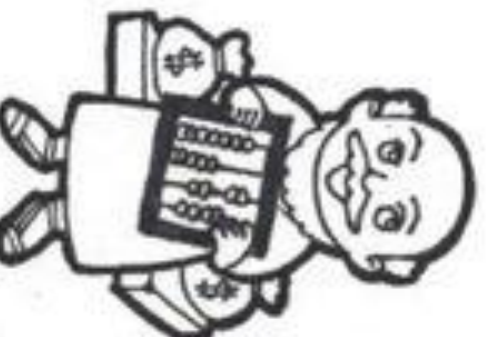
Philip



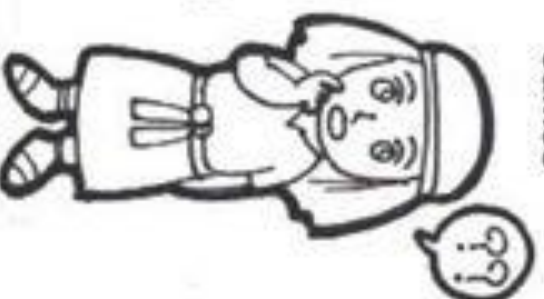
Bartholomew
(Nathanael)



Simon
(The Zealot)



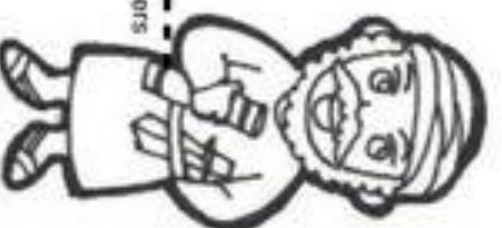
Matthew



Thomas



James
(Son of Alphaeus)

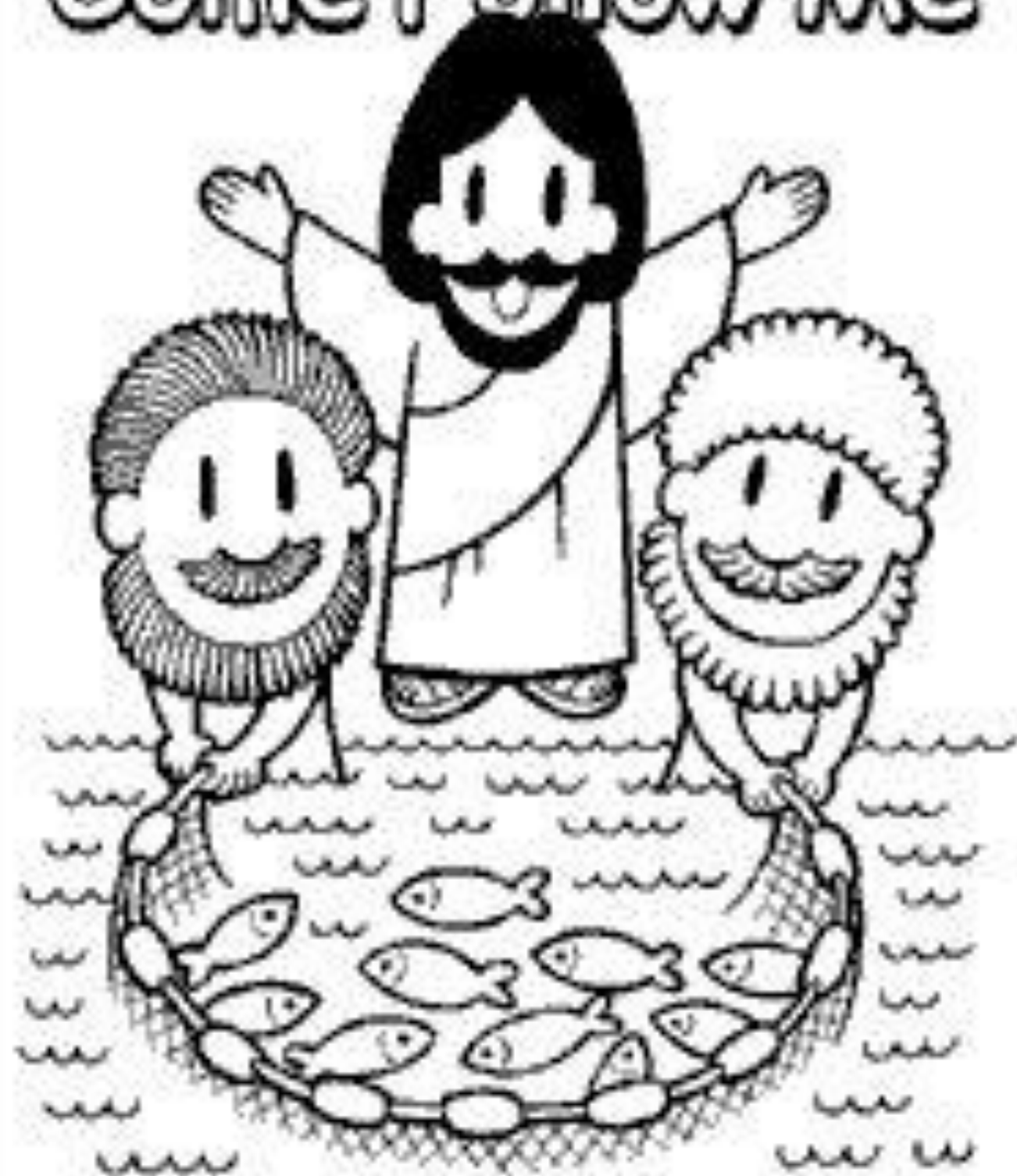


Judas
(Jude,
Thaddaeus,
Lebbeaus)



Judas
(Iscaariot)

Come Follow Me



And I Will Make You
Fishers Of Men



Jesus wants to
be my friend
forever.

*Catching Fish
Luke 5:1-11*

"With God, all
things are possible."

Matthew 19:26



"Come, follow
me."

Jesus said,
"and I will make
you fishers
of men."

Matthew 4:19

Twelve Disciples Coloring Activity

Jesus' disciples were twelve men he picked to travel with him and learn from him.

1. Color the twelve disciples and read their names.
2. Peter and Andrew were brothers. Draw a circle around both of them together.
3. James and John were brothers. Draw a circle around both of them together.
4. Peter, John, and Matthew all wrote books of the Bible. Put a check mark next to each of them.
5. Judas turned against Jesus and betrayed him. Draw a big X to cross out Judas.



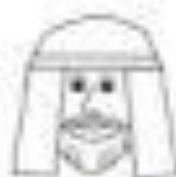
Peter



Andrew



James
(brother of John)



John



Philip



Bartholomew



Thomas



Matthew



James
(son of Alphaeus)



Thaddaeus



Simon

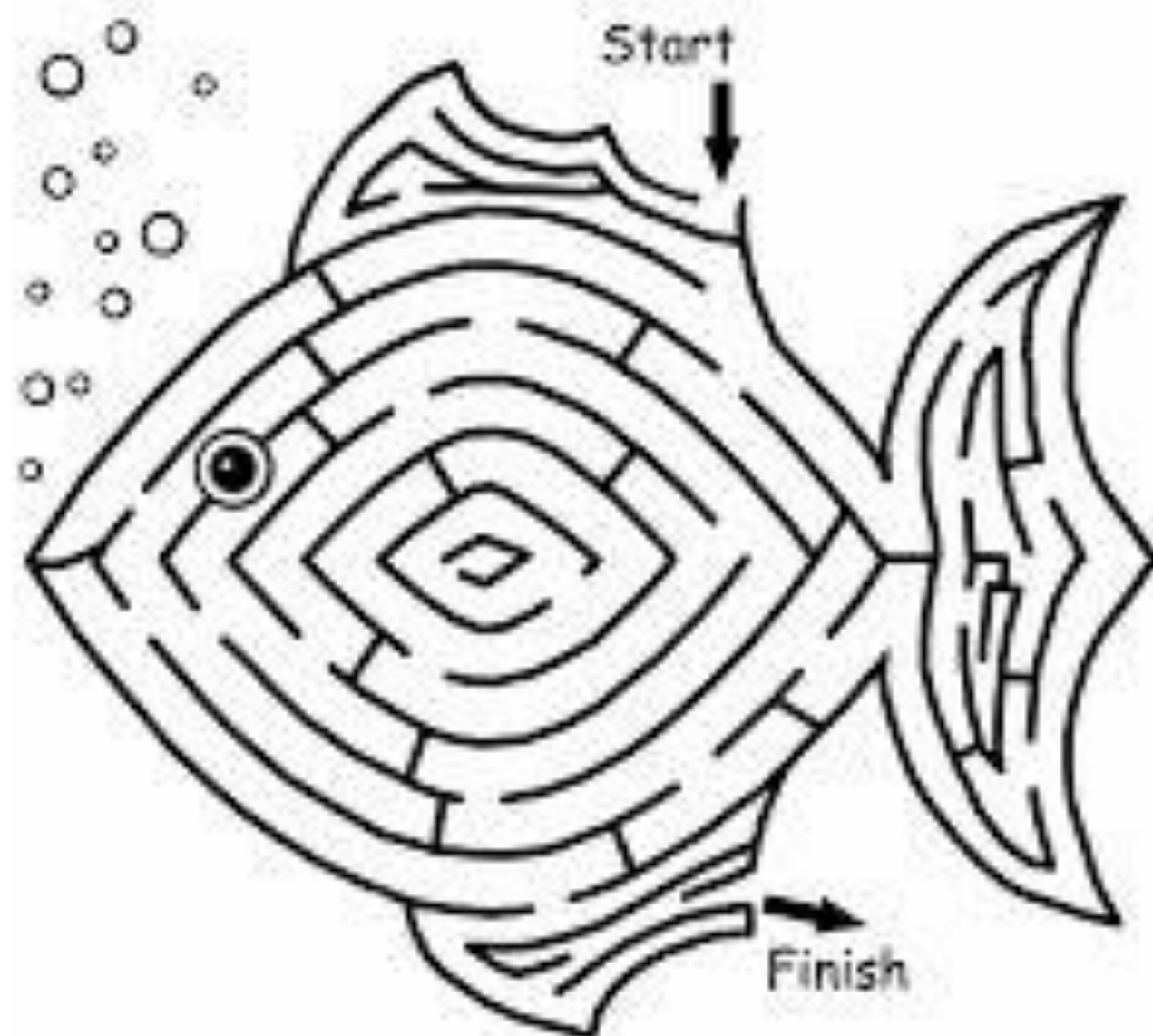


Judas

A disciple is someone who learns from Jesus. How can you learn from Jesus?

Name _____

I like to follow Jesus!



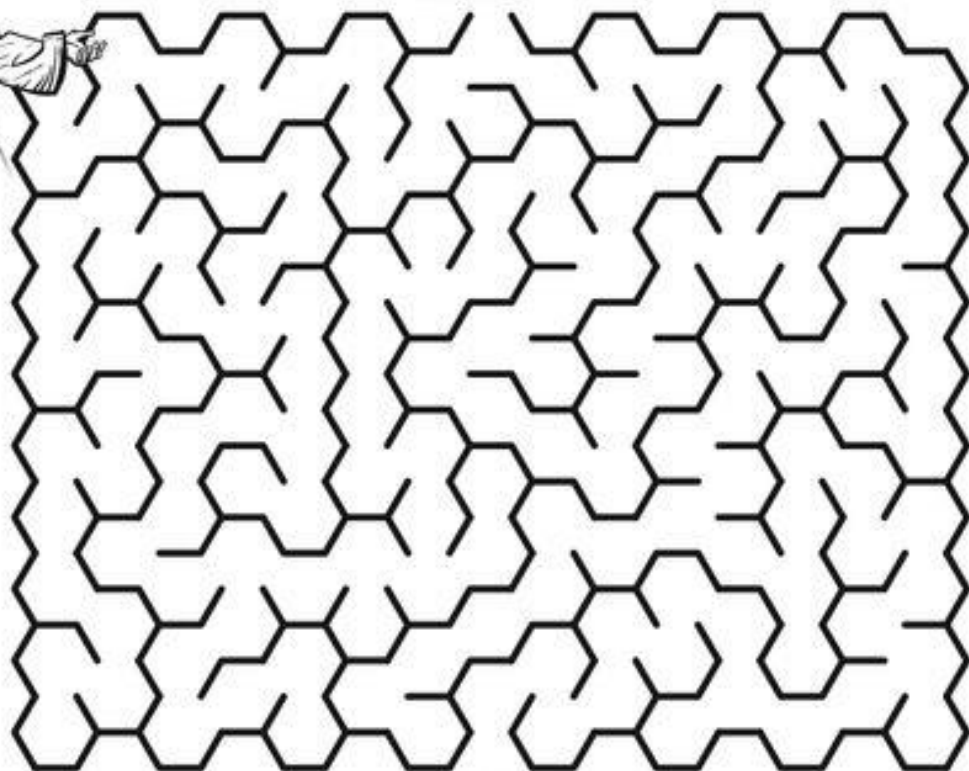
**From now on, you will fish for people.
Luke 5:10b**

JESUS CHOOSES HIS 12 DISCIPLES

Jesus is calling his disciples. Lead the men to him.



END



START



Search for Jesus' 12 Disciples



C	M	T	P	H	I	L	I	P	A	G
M	T	I	E	E	O	Y	N	J	D	L
B	A	R	T	H	O	L	O	M	E	W
J	Z	Q	E	A	Y	S	C	A	K	V
A	N	D	R	E	W	Z	T	T	D	R
M	B	W	P	S	J	R	H	T	E	H
E	J	A	E	N	C	J	O	H	N	N
S	A	D	U	J	G	O	M	E	U	O
W	M	H	B	Q	X	D	A	W	V	M
F	E	B	P	L	U	K	S	X	F	I
I	S	T	H	A	D	D	A	E	U	S

Can you find the names of the twelve disciples from the word box below?

ANDREW
BARTHOLOMEW
JAMES
JAMES

JOHN
JUDAS
MATTHEW
PETER

PHILIP
SIMON
THADDAEUS
THOMAS



JESUS and the 12 DISCIPLES Word Search

A	M	L	W	J	O	F	T	H	H	P	O	W	N	G
T	H	A	D	D	A	E	U	S	W	E	Y	V	L	K
L	L	T	I	T	E	M	B	P	J	T	K	Q	Y	U
S	X	H	T	N	B	X	E	I	F	E	P	V	Y	B
P	U	O	J	J	J	W	F	S	K	R	M	Y	V	A
K	N	M	D	U	S	X	G	D	D	U	A	T	Q	R
S	L	A	L	D	A	E	M	Y	O	S	T	P	R	T
F	V	S	F	A	E	N	X	Z	K	D	T	H	J	H
F	J	Y	D	S	T	H	D	I	U	L	H	I	E	O
C	V	O	X	U	N	N	O	R	J	D	E	L	S	L
O	V	V	H	L	Q	H	W	G	E	A	W	I	U	O
A	X	P	G	N	C	C	D	Q	B	W	M	P	S	M
X	S	I	M	O	N	V	Q	E	T	F	Z	E	J	E
P	F	V	L	N	F	R	J	S	D	C	Y	Q	S	W
X	V	M	C	Q	N	O	T	Q	D	B	D	X	M	F

Find these names:

Jesus

Andrew

Bartholomew

**James (Son of
Zebedee)**

John

Judas

Matthew

Peter

Philip

Simon

**James (Son of
Alphaeus)**

Thaddaeus

Thomas



Did you find them all?



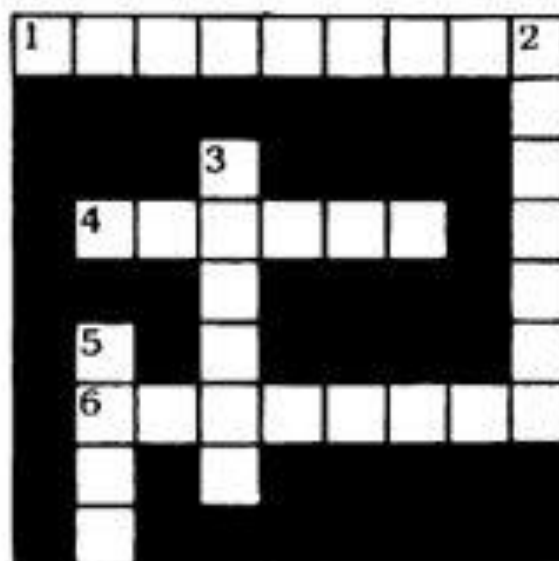
Wendell says,

GOOD JOB!

THE DISCIPLES OF JESUS



*All 6
answers
can be
found in
Mark
6:6-13*



1. Another name for the followers of Jesus
2. The disciples wore these while travelling
3. Jesus taught them
4. The number of the disciples
5. Jesus had authority over this kind of spirit
6. Where the people lived

Name: _____

Date: _____

Jesus' Disciples

Cipher Key:

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M
▲	✦	★	☆	●	●	※	✱	→	>	■	■	●
N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
●	●	♥	☾	✱	✱	♣	✓	♣	†	♣	×	●

Decipher this code to find the names of the disciples:

✱ → ● ● ● , > ▲ ● ● ✱ , > ● ● ● , ▲ ● ✱ ● ● † ,

_____ , _____ , _____ , _____ ,

♥ ● → ■ → ♥ , ✦ ▲ ● ♣ ● ● ● ■ ● ● ● † , ● ▲ ♣ ♣ ● ● † ,

_____ , _____ , _____ ,

♣ ● ● ● ▲ ✱ , > ▲ ● ● ✱ ✱ ● ● ● ●

_____ , _____ , _____ ,

▲ ■ ♥ ● ▲ ● ✓ ✱ , ♣ ● ▲ ✱ ✱ ▲ ● ✓ ✱ , ✱ → ● ● ●

_____ , _____ , _____ ,

♣ ● ● ● ● ▲ ■ ● ♣ , > ✓ ✱ ▲ ✱ → ✱ ★ ▲ ● → ● ♣

_____ , _____ , _____ ,