



Whirl Director
Guide
CLASSROOM SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sampler

Inside you'll find a Getting Ready for the Story devotional, Large Group Opening, and Children's Bulletins for readers and pre-readers.

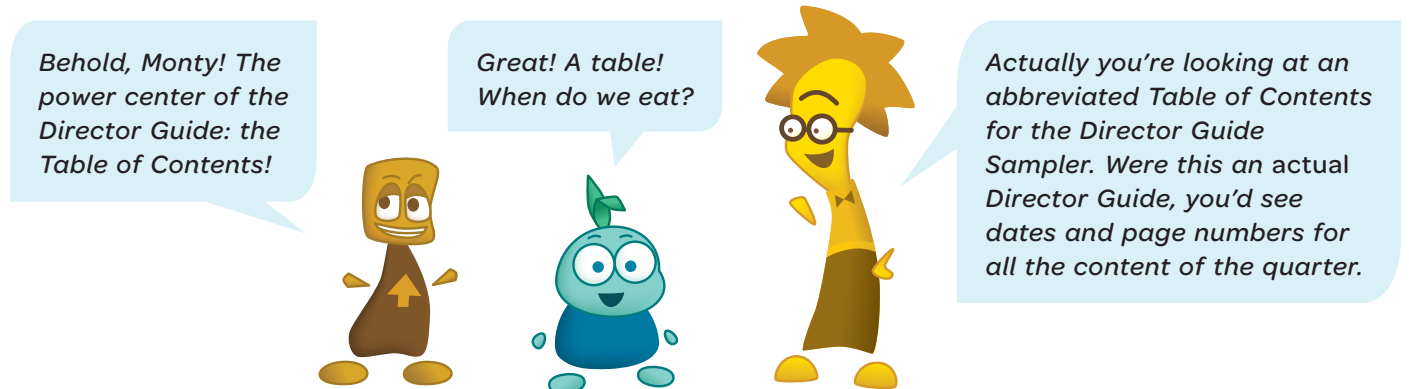
Welcome to the Director Guide Sampler!

This sampler provides you with all the content you'll need for the Sarah and Abraham lesson.



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Getting Ready for the Story

MANY FOLLOW JESUS

***This week's story is Luke 5:1-11; 6:12-16; 8:1-3.
The theme is Disciples.***

WHAT ARE SOME DOORS INTO THIS STORY?

After you read the Bible text for this week's story, try one or more of these ways to enter the story further and prepare yourself to share it with kids.

Poll Your Friends

Poll your friends, perhaps online, and ask them, "What is a disciple?" and "Where do you see the word *disciple* outside of a church context?" Invite their ideas about a disciple's job description as you begin to prepare to talk to kids about this name we share. Reflect on which aspects of discipleship feel liberating and which feel burdensome in your life.

Writing Prompt

Most of us wonder if we would have been as obedient as the fishermen were when Jesus directed them to try again. Jesus was evidently a very charismatic stranger, and the disciples were faithful listeners. Do your best to be a faithful listener as you ask Jesus this question: What are you asking our faith community to try again? Share this prompt with another Sunday school teacher. Each of you can write about it and share your thoughts.

St. Peter's Fish

Amazingly, we still eat one of the same kinds of fish that fishermen caught and people ate in Jesus' time. It's called tilapia, but is also known as "St. Peter's fish." Around the world people are fish-farming tilapia to provide a reliable food source and encourage sustainability. Search online for stories about tilapia fish-farming.

WHY DOES THIS STORY OR THEME MATTER TO KIDS?

Read about these ways to view the story and today's theme through a kid lens to help inspire you as you prepare for Sunday school.

Show Me (PreK–Grade 2)

Simple images resonate with young kids. This story is a perfect example! It is filled with memorable images, like fish and nets, frowns and smiles. Keep in mind how much kids this age latch onto a story with things that match their level of understanding—a few clear pictures illustrating cause and effect.

Boys and Girls (Grades 3–6)

Be sure to include all three texts so kids can pick up on the inclusion of female disciples in Luke 8:1-3. The names may be new to them—Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Chuza, Susanna. Some kids grow up in churches with male and female pastors and take for granted that these leadership opportunities will be available to them later. Other kids grow up in churches where women cannot have certain roles. By reading all three texts, you'll invite a conversation about who can be a disciple.

Authority (All Ages)

Jesus must have spoken with great authority, because the fishermen were willing to do what he asked of them. Kids of all ages can determine which of their leaders earn their respect. In order for Sunday school teachers to claim respect, we need to be prepared for class each week and make an effort to connect with kids. Spend time with the story and pray about it. Kids know if we're ready—and will eat us alive if we aren't!

PRAYER

How did Jesus call you? Offer a prayer of thanks for your call. And if you work with little kids, sing a piggyback song for a closing prayer to the tune of "One Little, Two Little . . ."

Jesus wants to take us fishing,
Hopes our nets will all be swishing.

Every day Jesus is wishing
We will try again.

REMEMBER TO PREP

Read through your leader guide, check your supplies, and make sure you have enough leaflets for the kids in your class.

Large Group Opening

MANY FOLLOW JESUS

***This week's story is Luke 5:1-11; 6:12-16; 8:1-3.
The theme is Disciples.***

WELCOME

As kids arrive, invite them to get into the "boat." **Today we will meet Jesus' first disciples and other people who traveled around with him, cared for him, loved him, and supported him. The Bible tells us there were twelve men and some women who were Jesus' special followers.**

All of us are Jesus' followers, so let's play a quick game of Follow the Leader. Invite a volunteer leader to join you. **All of you have to follow exactly what our leader does.** Encourage the volunteer to move and make sounds that kids can copy from the "boat," such as clapping, snapping, waving arms overhead, swaying, making beat-box sounds, and whistling.

HEAR

Today's story is from Luke's gospel. For a unique approach to this story, emphasize all the places Jesus went to find people to follow him. **Where did Jesus go when he was looking for people to follow him? Work with your classroom groups to create things that remind us of some of the places.**

Ask groups to make a fish net with their hands and feet: **Jesus went to the lake to find fishermen to hang out with him.** Ask classroom groups to make themselves into a mountain: **Jesus went to the mountain to pray with friends.** Ask classroom groups to make themselves into cities and towns: **Jesus went to cities and towns telling people about God's kingdom.**

RESPOND

Draw a *giant* fish on a large piece of paper. Across the top, print *We follow Jesus. We are disciples.* **Now, everyone print your name somewhere on, in, or around the fish.** Younger kids may draw whatever they want to draw on the fish, and someone older can add their names to their artwork.

SUPPLY CHECKLIST

- Whirl Kids Story Bible
- Whirl Kids Study Bible
- Painter's tape
- Large piece of paper
- Marker

BEFORE KIDS ARRIVE

Tape a large boat on the floor with painter's tape. Make it big enough so all kids can fit inside.

LAUNCH

Pray a Follow the Leader prayer, walking slowly around the room while kids echo your words. **Whatever the leader does and says, please follow.**

**Jesus,
We will follow
Wherever you lead.
Amen!**

Send kids to their classrooms.

MUSIC RECOMMENDATIONS

SONG 1: ALL TOGETHER (tracks 2 and 22, page 10 in Songbook)

Sing this song that is all about Jesus calling the disciples. Challenge the kids to memorize the names of the disciples!

SONG 2: THESE ARE THE BOOKS OF THE BIBLE (tracks 20 and 40, page 120 in Songbook)

It's helpful for disciples to know the names of the books of the Bible. Practice this song and arrange to have kids sing it in worship when they are ready!

SONG 3: I AM A D-I-S-C-I-P-L-E, YEAH!

Change the lyrics for "I Am a C-H-R-I-S-T-I-A-N" to "I am a D-I-S-C-I-P-L-E, yeah!"

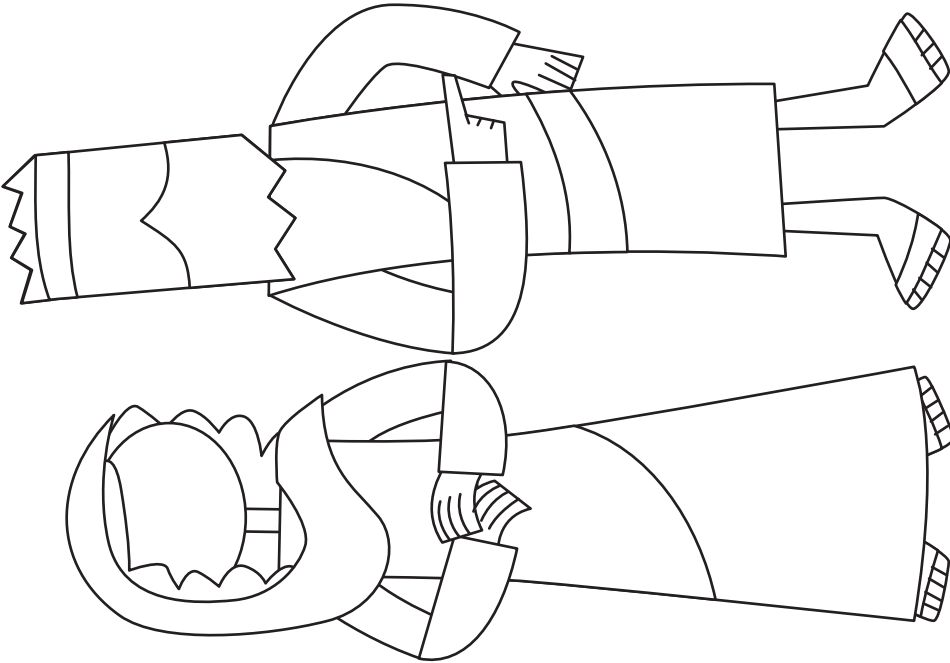
I am a D. I am a D-I. I am a D-I-S-C-I-P-L-E, yeah!

And I have C-H-R-I-S-T in my H-E-A-R-T,

And I will L-I-V-E E-T-E-R-N-A-L-L-Y!

Anyone can follow Jesus!

Draw eyes and a smile on the followers below.



Did you follow someone into worship today?

What a good leader they must be! Write their name here:

Many Follow Jesus

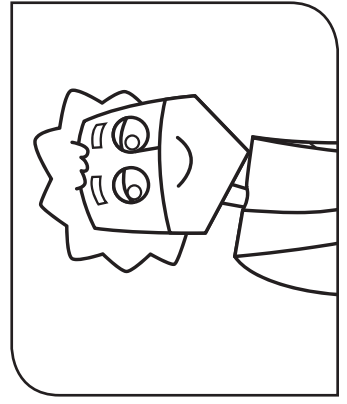
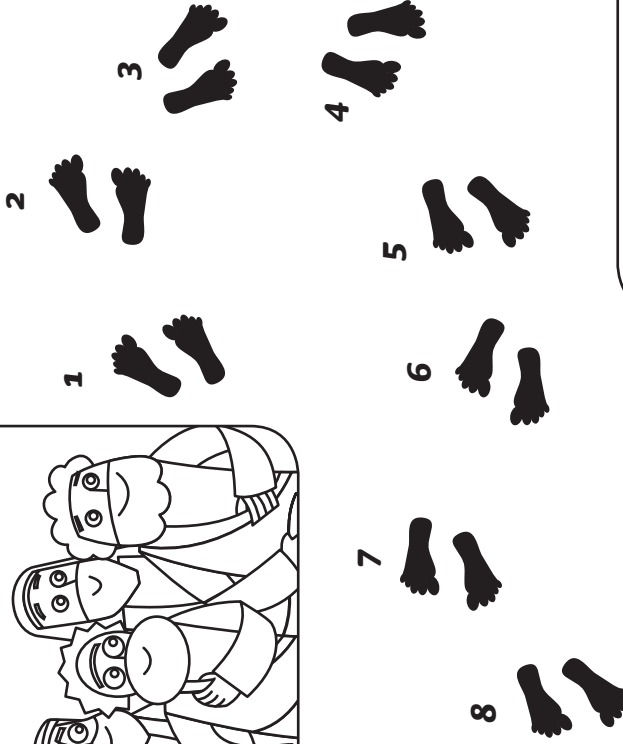
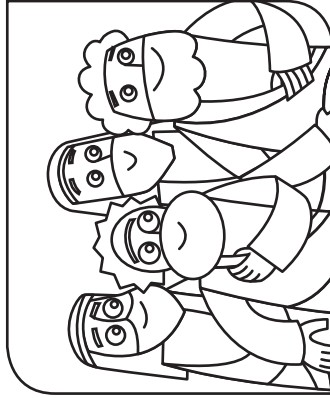
Pre-Reader

TODAY'S THEME IS DISCIPLES.



The disciples are trying to follow Jesus.

Can you help them get their steps in order? Start with 1 and follow the numbers to Jesus.



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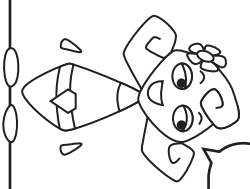
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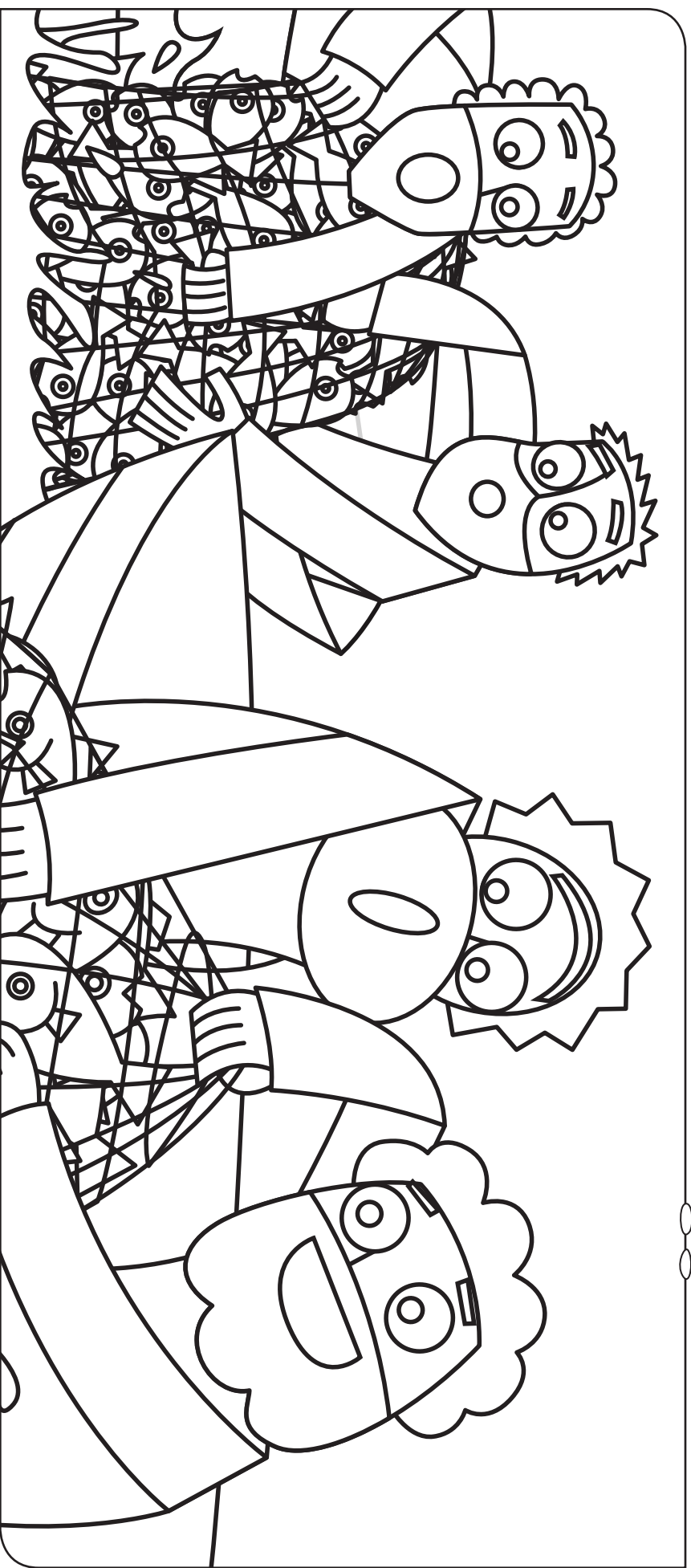
Jesus told the disciples, “We won’t catch any more fish. We’ll catch PEOPLE.”

What did the disciples have to do to catch people? Trace the letters below to see what Jesus wants even YOU to do.

Y
O
U
D
O
I
T

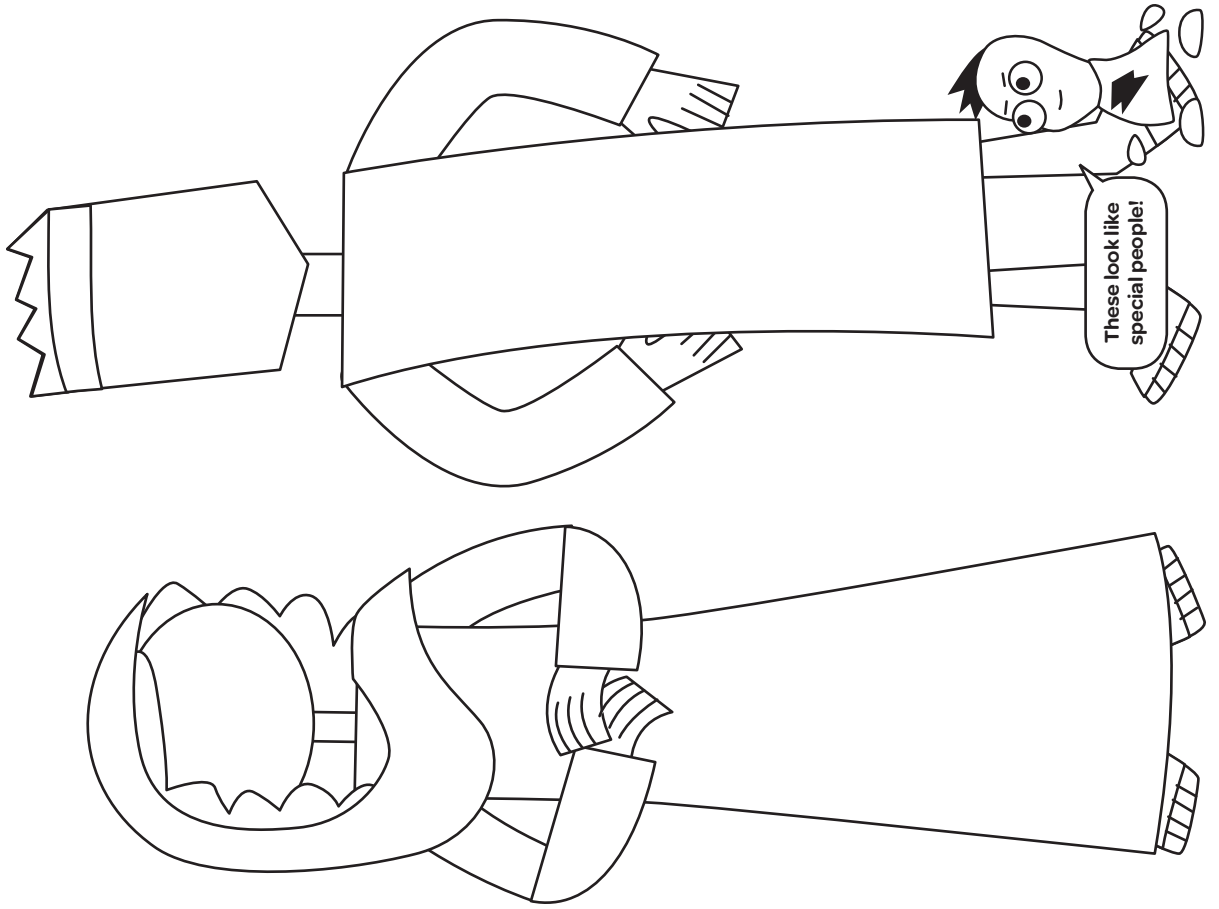


Catching people sounds less smelly anyway.



Today our church family prays for...

Look around you at all of the people in worship who help lead you toward Jesus. Imagine two of them in Bible time clothing and fill in their features below. Isn't it neat how they are leading you toward Jesus?



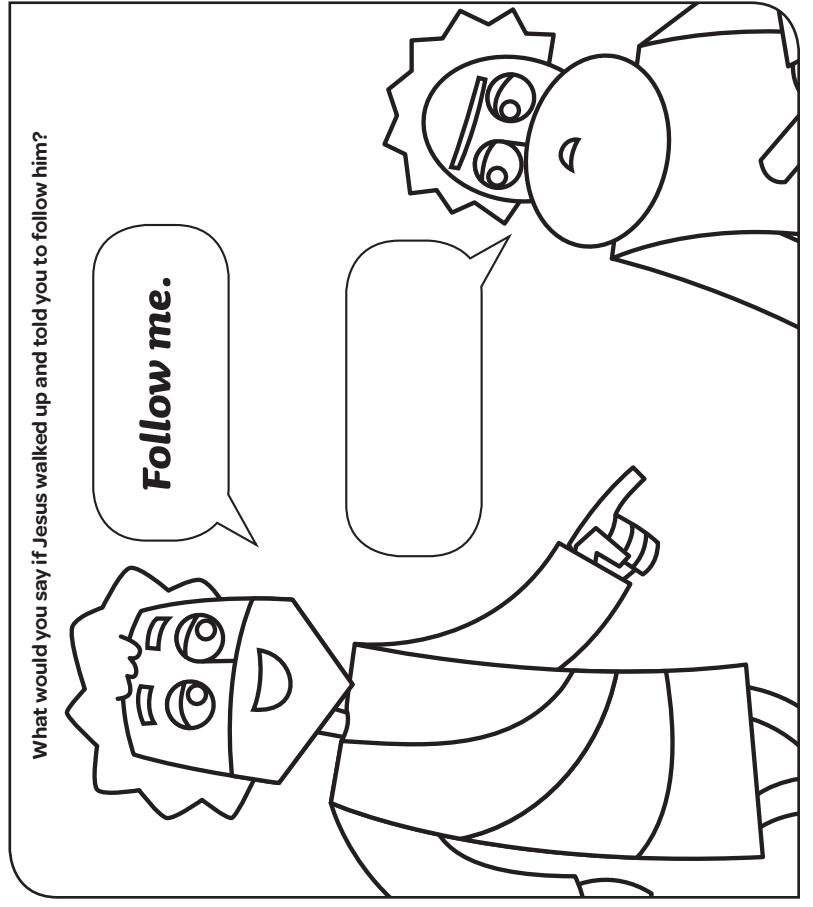
Many Follow Jesus

TODAY'S THEME IS DISCIPLES.



The disciples followed Jesus and then became leaders.

Write down some ways you could be a leader for others to follow.



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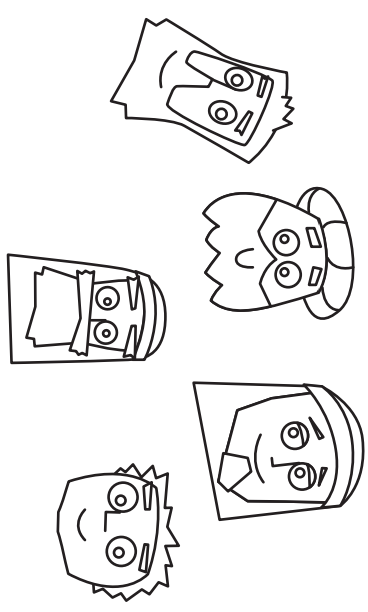
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Twelve men heard Jesus and followed him.

Can you name the disciples?

P _ _ _ e _ _ J _ _ h _ _



T _ _ _ a _ _

A _ _ _ r _ _

B _ _ _ t h _ _ _ m _ _ _

J _ _ d _ _ _

J _ _ m _ _ _

M _ _ _ h _ _ _

J _ _ _ a _ _

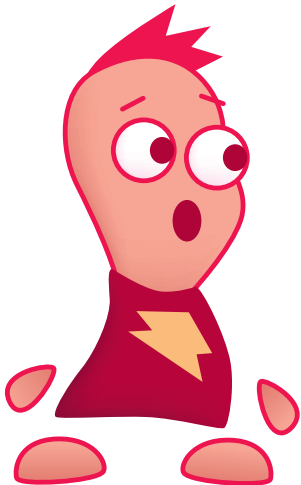
J _ _ m _ _ _

P _ _ _ _ _ p S _ _ _ _ _ n

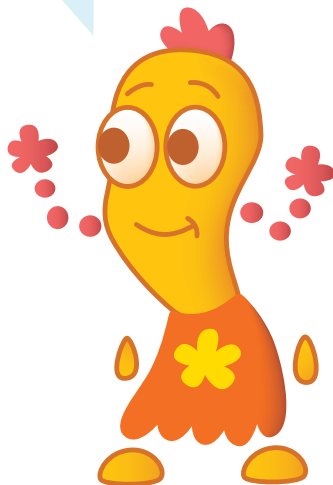
Today our church family prays for...



Where are we?



I think we're in the Director Guide, Otto.



I'm not sure we should be here. Don't we need a permission slip to be in the Director Guide? What if we get in trouble?



This Director Guide was pretty fun.



Yeah, I think that went really well.



We can only hope, Ada. We can only hope.



Wait, no one asked for my permission slip.



I still don't see any tables . . .