

“Follow Me!” (Chapters 9-10)

1. How many words can you make from the letters of the phrase “FOLLOW ME”?

2. Some of Jesus' first disciples

Peter, Andrew, James, and John were _____.

While walking by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon (who is called Peter) and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen. And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.” Immediately they left their nets and followed him. And going on from there he saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, in the boat with Zebedee their father, mending their nets, and he called them. Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him. (Matthew 4:18-22)



Matthew was a _____.

As Jesus passed on from there, he saw a man called Matthew sitting at the tax booth, and he said to him, “Follow me.” And he rose and followed him. (Matthew 9:9)

Mary Magdalene, Joanna, and Susanna were followers and _____ of Jesus.

Soon afterward he went on through cities and villages, proclaiming and bringing the good news of the kingdom of God. And the twelve were with him, and also some women who had been healed of evil spirits and infirmities: Mary, called Magdalene, from whom seven demons had gone out, and Joanna, the wife of Chuza, Herod's household manager, and Susanna, and many others, who provided for them out of their means. (Luke 8:1-3)

Seventy disciples were _____ sent out by Jesus.

After this the Lord appointed seventy-two others and sent them on ahead of him, two by two, into every town and place where he himself was about to go. (Luke 10:1-23)

What did these people do as followers of Jesus? _____

Some of Jesus' miracles and how they demonstrate his power

Calming the storm. Power over _____

That day, at evening, Jesus said to his followers, “Come with me across the lake.” So they left the crowd behind and went with Jesus in the boat he was already in. There were also other boats that went with them. A very bad wind came up on the lake. The waves were coming over the sides and into the boat, and it was almost full of water. Jesus was inside the boat, sleeping with his head on a pillow. The followers went and woke him. They said, “Teacher, don’t you care about us? We are going to drown!” Jesus stood up and gave a command to the wind and the water. He said, “Quiet! Be still!” Then the wind stopped, and the lake became calm. He said to his followers, “Why are you afraid? Do you still have no faith?” They were very afraid and asked each other, “What kind of man is this? Even the wind and the water obey him!” (Mark 4:35-41)

Healing the sick. Power over _____

Jesus left the synagogue and went to Simon's house. Simon's mother-in-law was very sick. She had a high fever. They asked Jesus to do something to help her. He stood very close to her and ordered the sickness to go away. The sickness left her, and she got up and began serving them. When the sun went down, the people brought their sick friends to Jesus. They had many different kinds of sicknesses. Jesus laid his hands on each sick person and healed them all. (Luke 4:38-40)

Raising the dead. Power over _____

Again feeling very upset, Jesus came to the tomb. It was a cave with a large stone covering the entrance. He said, "Move the stone away." Martha said, "But, Lord, it has been four days since Lazarus died. There will be a bad smell." Martha was the sister of the dead man. Then Jesus said to her, "Remember what I told you? I said that if you believed, you would see God's divine greatness." So they moved the stone away from the entrance. Then Jesus looked up and said, "Father, I thank you that you heard me. I know that you always hear me. But I said these things because of the people here around me. I want them to believe that you sent me." After Jesus said this he called in a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" The dead man came out. His hands and feet were wrapped with pieces of cloth. He had a handkerchief covering his face. Jesus said to the people, "Take off the cloth and let him go." (John 11:38-44)



Casting out demons. Power over _____.

And he healed many who were sick with various diseases, and cast out many demons. And he would not permit the demons to speak, because they knew him. (Mark 1:34)

3. Why did Jesus perform miracles?

His miracles show that He is the _____.

His miracles are a fulfillment of _____.

And Jesus answered them, "Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind receive their sight and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised up, and the poor have good news preached to them. (Matthew 11:4-5 a fulfillment of Isaiah 35:5)

Jesus had _____ for people.

And when the Lord saw her, he had compassion on her and said to her, "Do not weep." (Luke 7:13)

And Jesus called His disciples to Him, and said, "I feel compassion for the people, because they have remained with Me now three days and have nothing to eat; and I do not want to send them away hungry, for they might faint on the way." (Matthew 15:32)

His miracles gave a picture of the _____ without disease, hunger, evil, death, etc.

4. Assignment: Read chapters 11-12 in the book and, if you have time, read Matthew chapter 16. Review the memory verses including John 1:1,14.

“Follow Me!” (Jesus’ Ministry on earth – chapters 9 and 10 of the book)

Lesson Preparation:

Read chapters 9 and 10 ("The Rabbi Chooses His Disciples" and "Wow! He Does Miracles!") ahead of time. Have your handouts ready.

1. Hook:

Begin with a prayer. Then in groups or individually have them make up as many words as possible from the letters of the phrase "Follow Me. The person or group who makes up the most words wins. (Possible words: elf, fell, few, low, meow, mole, moo, of, owe, owl, well, etc.). The first thing Jesus did when He began His earthly ministry was to call people to follow Him, to become His disciples. Today we will see who were some of the first to follow Jesus.

2. Book:

In our study of Jesus Christ, we have seen that He is God the Son who has existed forever, and that throughout the Old Testament there are pictures and prophecies pointing to His coming to earth. We have also seen that there is a battle for human souls on this planet between Satan and God. God the Son came to earth to defeat Satan and redeem people from the slavery of sin by paying with his life for the sins of mankind. In our last lesson we saw that Jesus came without fanfare and did not begin His public ministry until He was 30 years old. We will now look at different parts of His ministry. One very important aspect of Jesus' ministry was his call to believe in Him and follow Him as His disciples. This call has been going on for centuries, and there are now millions of disciples of Jesus around the world. Today

we will talk about some of His earliest disciples. Read the verses on the handout and fill in the blanks. (Answers: Peter, Andrew, James, and John were fishermen; Matthew was a tax collector; Mary Magdalene, Joanna, and Susanna were followers and sponsors of Jesus; the seventy disciples were messengers sent out by Jesus.) Ask, what did these people do as followers of Jesus? (Possible answers: left their jobs; served Jesus with their money; went around to other cities telling others about him, etc.) Jesus wanted His followers to put Him first in their lives. You might think He demanded a lot, but He promised that those who did so would be rewarded in the kingdom of heaven. And He Himself was willing to give His life for His followers, so He did not demand what He Himself would not do. One very important thing that Jesus taught His followers was who He is. This is the subject of our whole study. One way to find out who Jesus is is by looking at His miracles. There were many, but we will focus on just a few and see how they show His power as God. Read the verses that talk about His miracles and fill in the blanks in the handout. (Answers: Calming the storm - power over nature. Healing the sick - power over disease. Resurrection of the dead - power over death. Casting out demons - power over Satan.) These are just some of the miracles Jesus performed. Ask, "What other miracles of Jesus do you know?" (Possible answers: the feeding of 5,000 and then 4,000 more people (Matthew 14:13-21, Matthew 15:32-39); Jesus walking on water (Matthew 14:22-36); the miraculous catch of fish (Luke 5:1-11); and many others).

3. Look:

Ask, "why did Jesus perform miracles?" Have the group discuss this question. We will look at several answers to this question. One interesting story tells of John the Baptist, who, after being imprisoned for convicting King Herod of sin, began to doubt that Jesus was the Messiah. He sent his disciples to ask Jesus if He really was the Messiah. Read Jesus' answer to John in Matthew 11:4-5. Jesus pointed to his miracles as a sign that he was the promised Messiah, the Son of God. (Fill in the blank: His miracles show that He is the Messiah.) Another proof of this: His miracles were the fulfillment of prophecies spoken many centuries before He came to earth. (Fill in the blank: His miracles are a fulfillment of prophecy.) In our meeting on Old Testament prophecies, we talked about how the Messiah, according to the prophecies, was going to bring healing to people. The Bible also tells us that Jesus had compassion on people and helped them in their trouble. Read Luke 7:13 and Matthew 15:32. (Fill in the blank: Jesus had compassion for people.) Also, Jesus' miracles show what the world was like before man sinned and what God's future

kingdom will be like. (Fill in the blank: His miracles gave a picture of the world to come without disease, hunger, evil, death, etc.) Many people find it hard to believe in miracles. Ask why this might be difficult? (Possible answers: they have never noticed miracles; miracles go against the normal laws of nature; we did not live at the time of Jesus and did not see His miracles; etc.) The Bible is full of examples of God coming down to earth and doing things that are contrary to the laws of nature. These events can either be believed or considered mythology. Even today miracles like these occur, but certainly not often. Jesus' miracles, like the prophecies he fulfilled, are another sign that he is God. People react differently to who Jesus is, and in our next meeting we will discuss what Jesus said about Himself and why some people believed in him and others did not.

4. Took:

Give an assignment for next time: Read chapters 11-12 in the book and, if there is time, Matthew chapter 16, and review the memory verses including John 1:1,14. Close with prayer.

Leader's Guide