

The First Disciples of Jesus

(St John 1:35–45)

John was standing there again with two of his disciples, when he saw Jesus walking by.

“There is the Lamb of God!” he said.



The two disciples heard him say this and went with Jesus. Jesus turned, saw them following him, and asked, “What are you looking for?” They answered, “Where do you live, Rabbi?” (This word means “Teacher.”) “Come and see,” he answered. (It was then about four o'clock in the afternoon.) So they went with him and saw where he lived, and spent the rest of that day with him. One of them

was Andrew, Simon-Peter’s brother. At once he found his brother Simon and told him, “We have found the Messiah.” (This word means “Christ.”) Then he took Simon to Jesus. Jesus looked at him and said, “Your name is Simon son of John, but you will be called Cephas.” (This is the same as Peter and means “a rock.”)

The next day Jesus decided to go to Galilee. He found Philip and said to him, “Come with me!” (Philip was from Bethsaida, the town where Andrew and Peter lived.) Philip found Nathanael and told him, “We have found the one whom Moses wrote about in the book of the Law and whom the prophets also wrote about. He is Jesus son of Joseph, from Nazareth.”



Understanding the Story

1. There are a few people named John in the New Testament. Which John is the one mentioned in today's Gospel reading? (*Hint: look at the first picture, the way he is dressed might help you identify him. If not, look up St Mark 1:1–9*).

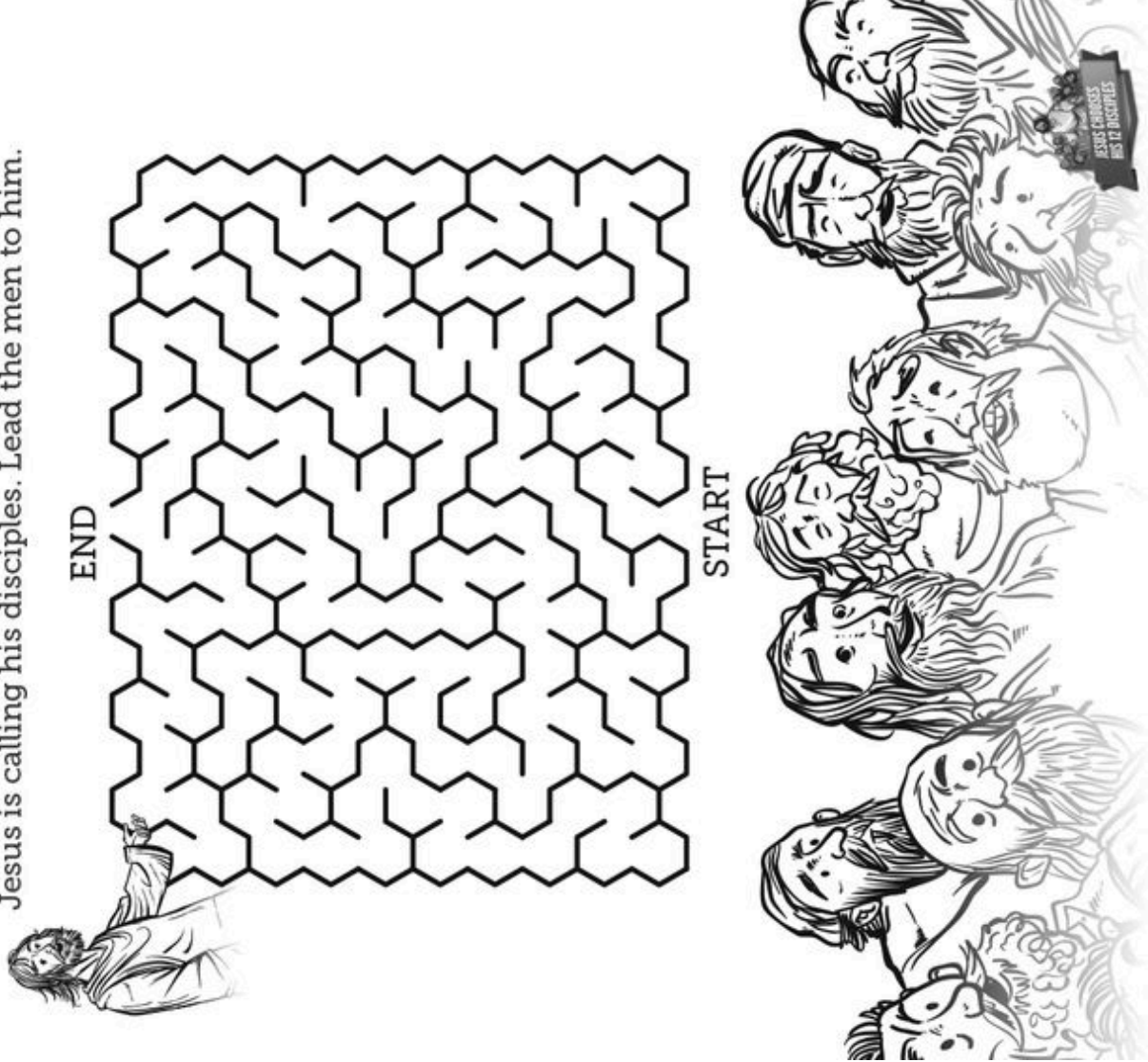
2. Jesus had many disciples. This word literally means “students” but we use it to mean followers. We are disciples of Jesus! His 12 closest followers are known as the Apostles, which means “I send” because Jesus sent them out into the world to spread the Good News. The Apostles were His first followers. How many of them are mentioned in this passage? Name them (*Note: one of the Apostles is called by 3 different names!*):

3. Jesus is called by many titles in the Bible. Find the two titles that Jesus is called in today's reading. List them here:



JESUS CHOOSES HIS 12 DISCIPLES

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



4. Which followers lived in the town of Bethsaida? Circle it on the map. Underline the city where Jesus grew up.

(not where He was born! That was further south ↓ and is not shown on the map)

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

Find the following words in the puzzle.

Words are hidden → ↓ and ↘ .

ANDREW
BETHSAIDA
BIBLE
CEPHAS
CHRIST
DISCIPLES
GALILEE

GOD
GOSPEL
JESUS
JOHN
LAW
MESSIAH
NATHANAE

NAZARETH
PETER
PHILIP
PROPHETS
RABBI



How many of these words appear in today's reading from the St John's Gospel? Read the passage again and underline any words you recognise from the word search!