

Stop

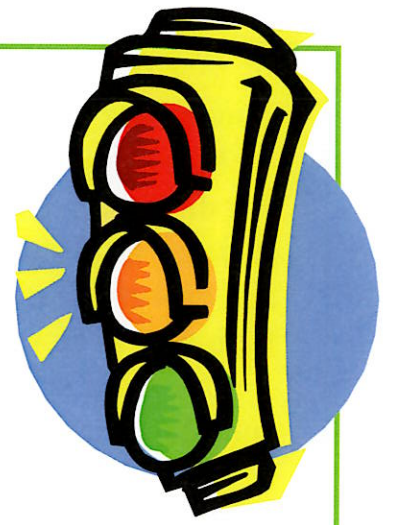
at Bible Class

Look

at Jesus' Works

Listen

to Jesus' Words



Lesson 6

The Twelve Apostles

Theme: Faith—Deciding to follow Jesus

Memory Verse

“He said to them, ‘But who do you say that I am?’ Simon Peter answered, ‘You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.’”
Matthew 16:15-16

Daily Bible Readings

Thursday Matthew 10:1-10; Luke 6:12-19
Friday Matthew 10:16-23, 31-32, 40
Saturday Luke 7:18-23, 28-30
Monday Luke 7:36-48; 8:1-3
Tuesday Matthew 11:1-6, 25-30

After this lesson you should be able to ...

- List the twelve apostles
- Describe the job Jesus gave His apostles
- Identify what it means to follow Jesus

Jesus was in the world to be the Savior. He knew He would die and then return to heaven. He wanted people to know about His life, death, and resurrection. He wanted people to know how to be saved and how to live as God’s people. Jesus knew He needed help to get His message to everyone. After thinking and praying, Jesus chose twelve men to be His special followers. These men would be close to Jesus, and this would prepare them to take His message of salvation to everyone.

Matthew 10:1-10; Luke 6:12-19

Circle all correct answers. What did Jesus do the night before He chose His twelve special followers?

prayed sang slept stayed up all night

Name two things Jesus gave the Twelve power to do:

- _____
- _____

Using a Bible dictionary, if possible, define “apostle” —



Jesus Chose the Twelve

Many people followed Jesus. They heard Him teach and saw Him work miracles. For different reasons, some who once followed chose to return to their homes. But some stayed with Jesus. Peter, Andrew, James, and John, for example, left their fishing boats and everything else and followed Jesus. The time came when Jesus chose some of His followers to be special followers.

The night before He chose His twelve special followers, Jesus went to a mountain and spent the whole night praying. When the day dawned, Jesus called His followers and selected twelve of them as apostles — His special messengers. Their names were Simon Peter, Andrew, James, John, Philip, Bartholomew, Matthew, Thomas, another James, Simon the Zealot, Thaddaeus, and Judas Iscariot. From what we know about these men, they were regular men. They were not rich or famous. Four were fishermen. One was a tax-collector. They must have been men of faith and character who could do the work to which Jesus called them. The Twelve had special and important work to do for Jesus!



Matthew 10:16-23, 31-32, 40
Why would some people hate the Twelve?

were Simon Peter, Andrew, James, John, Philip, Bartholomew, Matthew, Thomas, another James, Simon the Zealot, Thaddaeus, and Judas Iscariot. From what we know about these men, they were regular men. They were not rich or famous. Four were fishermen. One was a tax-collector. They must

The Apostles' Work

At first, Jesus sent the apostles only to the people of Israel, God's Old Testament people — the family of Abraham. God had prepared Israel for the Coming One, so His message was taken to them first. Jesus gave His closest followers power to cast out evil spirits and heal people of sicknesses and diseases. With these special powers, the apostles could help people and point them to Jesus as the Savior.

The apostles' work would not be easy. Jesus described it as sending out sheep in the middle of wolves. Many people in the world did not know God and did not want to know Him. They would not help the apostles, and some would try to get them to stop preaching. Jesus told them to do their work bravely and promised that the Spirit of God would be with them.

Jesus gave the apostles authority to speak and write His Word. We have this Word today in the New

Luke 7:18-23, 28-30

Matching:

John	not baptized
People and tax collectors	Jesus said he was great
Pharisees and lawyers	baptized with John's baptism



Testament. We should respect the New Testament completely because it is from God.

Come to Jesus

Herod had put John the Baptist in prison because he didn't like his preaching. While in prison, John began wondering if Jesus really was the Coming One. When men came to Jesus with John's question, Jesus instructed them to go back to John and tell him about seeing Jesus' mighty works.

These works show He was the Coming One — the One sent by God to save the world from sin.

Jesus explained that people have to be humble to follow Him. Many people think they don't need a Savior; they think they can take care of everything by themselves.

Jesus invited the ones who knew they needed help to follow Him. The New Testament tells us how we can follow Him as the Savior.

Luke 7:36-48; 8:1-3

Circle all correct answers. What kind of attitude did the sinful woman have toward Jesus?

loving proud humble happy

What did Jesus do for her?



Matthew 11:1-6, 25-30

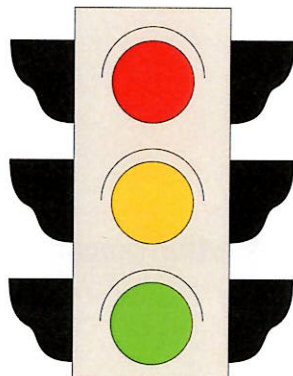
When he was in prison, what question did John the Baptist send to Jesus? "Are you _____?"

Name two things Jesus told the messenger to report to John.

- _____
- _____

What does Jesus promise to give to people who are "weary and heavy-laden"?

When I have a difficult job to do, I gripe and complain.



Put an X in the light that best describes you.

Red — most of the time

Yellow — sometimes

Green — rarely

SLOW DOWN TO THINK

You have been assigned to take an important message to everyone who lives in your town. That's a big job! You wonder how you will ever do it. How will you ever find the time or have the energy to go to so many people? List some things you would do to get this message to everyone.

GO FOR THE BIBLE FACTS

Write from memory the names of Jesus' apostles. If you need help, read Matthew 10:2-4.

What is the book of Matthew about?

On a map inside the back cover, find the Mediterranean Sea, the city of Jerusalem, and the city of Nazareth.