



**Series Overview:** “When I’m older!” “When I’m taller!” Every kid is excited to grow up — even if it’s just to finally ride that big kid roller coaster they’ve had their eye on. This five-week series is about another kid who grew up — Jesus! Through stories from Jesus’ early life and ministry, kids will learn five important truths to help them continue growing: God guides us to safety, we can love God with our actions, we can follow Jesus, God makes us ready at the right time, and God’s words help us make wise choices.

**Bible Story:** Jesus Begins His Ministry: Matthew 4:12–23

**Big Idea:** God makes us ready at the right time.

**Series Memory Verse:** “But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.” -Matthew 6:33

**Lesson Guide:**

1. Dance and sing with your child to these songs.

- [Yancy - Wanna Be Like Jesus \[OFFICIAL LYRIC VIDEO\] from Kidmin Worship Vol. 3 - YouTube](#)
- [Follow On - YouTube](#)
- [Matthew 6:31-34 - Seek First - YouTube](#)

2. Show this video to teach the Bible story.

- [Measure Up Preschool Week 4 \(vimeo.com\)](#)

### 3. Review the Bible story like this:

**\*Supplies: Bible and a Bible story picture**

- One day, while walking by the Sea of Galilee, Jesus saw two brothers named Andrew and Simon Peter. They had spent time with Jesus before, but this time was different. **(Show the Bible story pic)**



- Andrew and Peter were fishing on their boats by throwing huge nets into the water. **(Let's pretend we are on a boat and sway side to side.)**
- Jesus called out to them saying, "Come, follow me!" and invited them to share about God with other people so that others can follow Jesus, too. **(Let's wave like we are inviting someone to follow us.)**
- What do you think Andrew and Peter decided to do? They left their fishing nets right away and went with Jesus! **(Everyone stand up! Let's run from this side of the room to the other side!)**
- After this, Jesus saw two more brothers named James and John. They were also fishing on the lake. **(Let's sit and sway side to side like we're on a boat again.)**
- Jesus called out to them, too, saying, "Come, follow Me." **(Let's wave like we are inviting someone to follow us.)**
- **What do you think James and John decided to do?** Just like Andrew and Peter, they also left their fishing nets right away and went with Jesus! **(Everyone stand up! Let's run back to the other side of the room!)**
- Andrew, Peter, James, and John were all ready to follow Jesus!
- Jesus made them a promise when they decided to follow him. He told them that instead of fishing for fish, like they were used to, now they would fish for people!
- That meant that they would go out and tell lots of people about Jesus — when the time was right.
- Jesus traveled all over Galilee. Jesus healed people who were sick and continued teaching people all about God. And his new friends were right there beside him the whole time.
- **BIG IDEA | God makes us ready at the right time.**

- Discuss the following questions with your family:
  - When was it the right time for Jesus to tell others to follow God?
  - What were Andrew, Peter, James, and John doing before Jesus spoke to them?
  - How did these brothers respond to Jesus when he told them to follow him?
  - What does this story tell you about being ready to follow God?

#### 4. Practice the December Memory Verse like this:

**\*Supplies: Bible & a die**

- Look up Matthew 6:33 in the Bible and read it to your family.
- Help your family learn part a of the verse using these motions:  
<https://www.dropbox.com/s/jb6vtb5mppkp1i7/Jan2023MemVerseMotions.MOV?dl=0>
- Talk about how seeking God's kingdom and his righteousness is how we can follow Jesus!
- Play a variation of Follow the Leader where one family member comes forward and helps you lead everyone else in saying the memory verse with the motions.
- Then have that family member come up with something for the whole family to do (like spin in a circle, touch their toes, pat their head, jump, etc.).
- Next, let that family member roll a die to see how many TIMES you all will do the motion.
- Have everyone do the motion that many times.
- Repeat until everyone has had a chance to be the leader.

#### 5. PRAY WITH THE YOUR FAMILY!