

# 2<sup>ND</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

## DISCIPLES FOLLOW JESUS

In this week's Gospel reading, John the Baptist calls Jesus the Lamb of God and John's followers leave him and start following Jesus. Jesus invites people to follow Him, in particular Andrew and his brother Simon. Jesus greets Simon and calls him Peter. At this time, it was not unusual for someone to travel and teach accompanied by a group of followers. Followers of a particular teacher were called disciples.

### PRIMARY LEARNING OBJECTIVES

**Jesus invites others to be His disciples, which means to follow, learn from, and imitate Him.**

*Scripture Resources:* [John 1:35-42](#); [Matthew 10:1-4](#)

*Catechism Resources:* [CCC 787](#)

**We respond to Jesus' invitation to be His disciples by following Him in faith.**

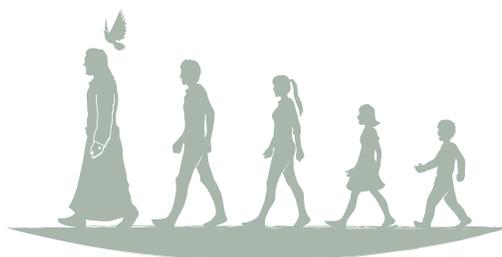
*Scripture Resources:* [John 1:43-51](#)

*Catechism Resources:* [CCC 878](#)

**As disciples of Jesus, we invite others to be His disciples too, like John and Andrew did.**

*Scripture Resources:* [Matthew 28:16-20](#)

*Catechism Resources:* [CCC 857-865](#); [CCC 878](#)





## PONDER: EXPLORE KEY THEMES FOR THE WEEK

*Look for opportunities throughout the week to ponder with and communicate these truths to your child(ren). Use the questions below each objective to explore the topic throughout the week. Remember that our faith is a mystery and you don't always need all the answers. Refer to the Parent Guide for more recommendations on pondering with your child(ren).*

### FOR YOUNGER CHILDREN:

#### *Learning Objectives*

## 01 Jesus invites others to be His disciples, which means to follow, learn from, and imitate Him.

*To help your child ponder this idea, ask:*

- Who in your life do you follow, learn from, and imitate?
- What kinds of things do you learn from the different people whose example you follow?
- Why do you think the disciples were following Jesus?
- What do you think they had to learn from Jesus?

## 02 We respond to Jesus' invitation to be His disciples by following Him in faith.

*To help your child ponder this idea, ask:*

- Who is Jesus?
- Why does He ask us to follow Him?
- What are some things that you can do to follow Jesus and be His disciple?

## 03 As disciples of Jesus, we invite others to be His disciples too, like John and Andrew did.

*To help your child ponder this idea, ask:*

- What are some ways that you can invite other people to follow Jesus?
- Why is it important for us to invite others to follow Jesus? How can we do that?

**FOR OLDER CHILDREN***Learning Objectives***01 Jesus invites others to be His disciples, which means to follow, learn from, and imitate Him.**

Jesus travelled, taught, and preached in a way that attracted followers to Him. People knew that God had promised to send a Messiah, a Savior, to His people and were watching and waiting for the Messiah to come. Jesus' closest followers are sometimes those who were the first to believe that He is this Savior.

*To help your child ponder this idea, ask:*

- Can you think of a skill, habit, or virtue learned by following and learning from someone else's example? Describe how you learned this skill, habit, or virtue as someone else's follower.
- Can you name one of the saints who followed Jesus? What skill, habit, or virtue of Jesus did that saint imitate?
- What can you learn from the example of the first disciples about following Jesus?

**“Go, therefore, and make DISCIPLES of all nations...”**

Matthew 28:19

**02 We respond to Jesus' invitation to be His disciples by following Him in faith.**

Being a disciple means more than just being a student in a classroom or being a nice person. Disciples carefully learn and follow the example of their teacher, Jesus, and seek to learn from everything He did in His life. A disciple not only learns from Jesus, but does his/her best to study sacred scripture, spend time in prayer, practice the virtues, and to obey God's laws. We act as His disciples when we choose to do the same.

*To help your child ponder this idea, ask:*

- Do you have any friends or family members who are disciples of Jesus?
- Who in your life follows Jesus and encourages you to follow Him, too?
- How would you encourage that person to continue to grow in discipleship?

### 03 As disciples of Jesus, we invite others to be His disciples too, like John and Andrew did.

Following Jesus and inviting others to follow Him is what Jesus Himself asked us to do. He does not and cannot force us to follow Him or to be His friend, yet He wants to be friends with us. He wants to teach us how to live, and to help us when we are in need. More than anything else, Jesus wants each and every one of us to be with Him forever in Heaven.

*To help your child ponder this idea, ask:*

- If someone asked you, who would you say that Jesus is?
- What would you say about why you follow Him?
- What would someone following your example learn about what it means to be a disciple of Jesus?
- How would you tell someone about Jesus who didn't already know about Him? How could you invite him or her to learn more?

**“Jesus said to Simon, ‘Do not be afraid; from now on you will be catching men.’”**

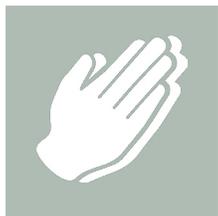
Luke 5:10



#### LISTEN: FAMILY LECTIO DIVINA

*Choose one or more of the passages listed below for this week's family Lectio Divina time. Ask what your child's favorite part is or what stood out to them. Ask what God may be trying to show your child through the chosen scripture. Please refer to the Parent Guide for further recommendations on doing Lectio Divina with children.*

[John 1:35-42](#) - The first disciples of Jesus  
[Luke 5:1-11](#) - Jesus calls the first disciples



## PRAY: SPECIAL PRAYER FOR THE WEEK

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### FOR FAMILIES AND YOUNGER CHILDREN

Mary is sometimes called the first disciple because she knew who Jesus was and followed Him before many other people did. She also stayed with Him when many other people left. Pray the “Hail Mary” each day this week and ask for Mary’s help to be a follower and disciple of Jesus who is able to stay close to Him. You can find this prayer in the Prayer Guide on page 3.

### FOR FAMILIES

Consider praying a rosary at least once this week, reflecting on what it must have been like for Mary and Jesus’ other disciples to follow Him during the events described in the mysteries appropriate to that day. Refer to pages 13-14 in the Prayer Guide for guidance.



## ACT: CONCRETE WAYS TO LIVE OUT THIS WEEK’S THEME

Find someone in your life (a family member, friend, or classmate) and **SHARE** with them who Jesus is and what it means to you to follow Him. If this person is also a follower of Jesus, ask him or her what it means to them to be a follower of Jesus. Say a **PRAYER** together, thanking God that you are both part of His family, the Church. Perhaps you can pray the prayer Jesus taught us, the “Our Father.”

If this person is not a follower of Jesus, ask them if he or she would like to get to know Jesus better. Ask if you can say a **PRAYER** for, or even with, this person. Say a prayer, either together with them or at another time, for them.

If it is hard to imagine doing this with others, do the activity with family members. You can role play as someone who doesn’t know about Jesus. One day, when you are more comfortable, you can try with other people outside of your family.