

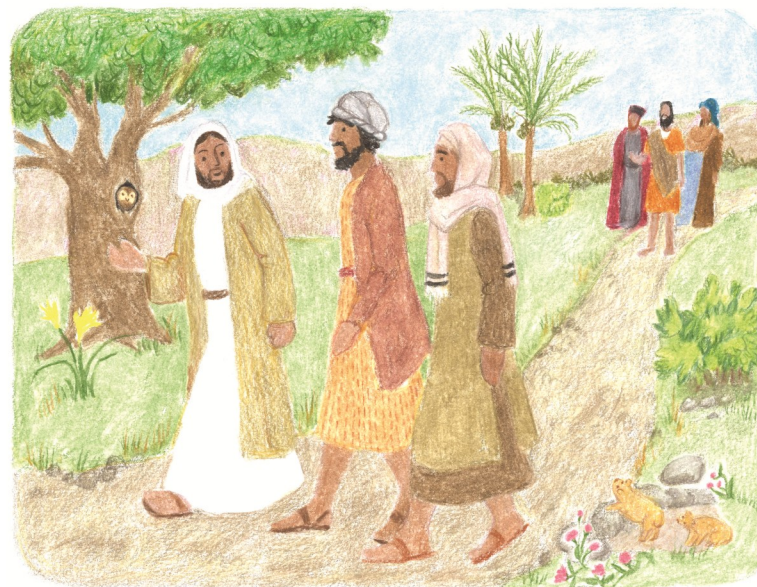
10. Seven Disciples Are Called

The Word of the Lord: The New Testament for Young Children

Notes for Parents & Teachers

10. Seven Disciples Are Called

- a) Note that the disciples left everything else they were doing to follow the Lord right away. They must have felt how special He was, and they must have been fine people to do this. They spent the rest of their lives serving Him.
- b) Note how Nathaniel thought nothing good could come out of Nazareth. It was a small village far away from Jerusalem.
- c) The Lord could see that Nathaniel was sitting under a fig tree even when He was a long way away. Nathaniel was obviously very impressed, but the Lord said he would see much more wonderful things.
- d) Ask children how they would feel if they could see heaven opened and angels coming down and going up.
- e) Matthew was a tax collector. The Jews often didn't like tax collectors because they were working for the Romans who made them pay unfair taxes. But he, too, followed the Lord right away. Matthew was an educated man. Most of the disciples couldn't even read or write, but he could, and the Lord led him to write the gospel of Matthew.



Text simplified by Carol Bongers Buss
Pictures by Dianna Echols Synnestvedt
Notes by the Rt. Rev. Peter M. Buss, Sr.

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The Lord Calls Some Disciples to Follow Him

One day John the Baptist stood with two of his followers on the bank of the river Jordan. Seeing Jesus walking nearby John said, “Look, there is the Lamb of God!” And when the two disciples heard John speaking, they followed Jesus.

And Jesus, turning and seeing them following Him, said to them, “What are you looking for?” And they said to Him, “Rabbi (which means Teacher), where do You live?” He said to them, “Come and see.” They came and saw where Jesus stayed, and they stayed with Him that day. Andrew was one of the disciples who followed Jesus. Then Andrew found his brother Simon and said to him, “We have found the Messiah, who is Christ.” And Andrew led Simon to Jesus. And Jesus seeing him, said, “You are Simon. From now on, you shall be called Peter, which means a rock.”

The following day Jesus went to Galilee. There He found Philip and said to him, “Follow Me.” Then Philip found Nathaniel and said to him, “We have found the One that Moses wrote about, the One who is called Jesus of Nazareth.” And Nathaniel said to Philip, “Can anything good be from Nazareth?” Philip said to him, “Come and see.” Now when Jesus saw Nathaniel coming to Him, He said, “Look, an Israelite who never tells a lie.” Nathaniel said to Him, “How do you know me?” Jesus answered and said to him, “Before Philip called you, when you were under the fig tree, I saw you.” Nathaniel answered and said to Him, “You are the King of Israel!” Jesus answered and said to him, “Do you believe because I said to you that I saw you under the fig tree? You shall see greater things than these.” Then Jesus said to Nathaniel, “Truly, I say to you, you shall see heaven open and the angels of God going up and coming down.”

John 1

Later, Jesus saw a man named Matthew sitting collecting tax money. Jesus said to him, “Follow me!” Then Matthew got up and followed Jesus.

Matthew 9

