

Lesson 4: THE TWELVE APOSTLES

With various texts from the gospels

Lesson 4-A

INTRODUCTION:

Though many people followed, befriended, and served the Lord while He was in the world, the Lord chose twelve men for a special purpose. These men would not only be disciples (followers) of Jesus, as many other people were. They would also be trained to become apostles (teachers). These men would leave their homes and stay with Jesus, going wherever He went. He would teach them many things, so that they could continue teaching others when He was no longer on earth. The Lord would even give them special powers, to cast out devils and to heal people.

Who were these men? The Word tells us who they were, though the different gospels sometimes call them by different names. When did the Lord first call them to follow Him? The Word does not tell about the calling of each of the apostles, but it does tell about the calling of seven of them. Let's fill in the names on our charts as we find them.

READING – PART 1:

(Have a Bible for every student, and have everyone look up the following references as you go along and read aloud. You can choose how to divide up the verses among the students for reading aloud.)

Turn to **John 1:35-42** (8 verses). It begins with John the Baptist telling something to two of his own disciples. **(Have it read aloud.)** So John the Baptist sent two of his disciples to follow Jesus, because he knew Jesus was the "Lamb of God". One of the disciples was Andrew. We are not told the name of the other one, but it seems to be the disciple John, the one who is writing this book. Andrew fetches his brother Simon. Here the Lord adds something new to his name -- "Cephas", which means "a stone". He is also called Simon Peter, or later just Peter, because "Peter" also means "a rock", or "a stone".

It seems that these three men went with Jesus for a while, and then returned to their fishing, because Jesus calls them again to follow Him, and this time they seemed to stay with Him. Let's turn to **Matthew 4:18-22** (5 verses). **(Have it read aloud.)** Now turn to **Mark 1:16-20** (5 verses). **(Have it read aloud.)** And finally to **Luke 5:1-11** (11 verses). **(Have it read aloud.)**

DISCUSSION – Part 1:

1. Who were the first four disciples Jesus called? (Andrew, Simon Peter, James, and John.) **(Fill these names out on your charts.)**
2. How were they related? (Andrew and Simon Peter were brothers. James and John were brothers.)
3. Who were James and John the sons of? (Zebedee.)
4. What did all four do for a living? (They were fishermen.)

Lesson 4 – Oak Arbor New Church Sunday School, page 2

5. What were they doing when Jesus called them? (Andrew and Simon Peter were fishing. James and John were mending their nets.)
6. Did they hesitate when Jesus called them or did they come immediately? (Came immediately.)
7. Jesus was calling them away from their jobs as fishermen, but what did he promise Andrew and Simon Peter He would make them into? (Fishers of men.)
8. What do you think that means, “fishers of men”?

READING – PART 2:

To learn about the next two disciples called ____ and _____, turn to **John 1:43-50** (8 verses). **(Have it read aloud. Fill in Philip and Nathanael on your charts.)**

DISCUSSION – Part 2:

1. What did Philip do when Jesus called him? (Ran to find Nathanael.)
2. What did Philip say to Nathanael? (That he had found the One written about by Moses in the law and the prophets—Jesus of Nazareth. This showed He believed Jesus to be the promised Messiah.)
3. What was Nathanael’s reaction to Philip’s news? (He was skeptical, asking, “Can anything good come out of Nazareth?” Nazareth was known as a town with a lot of uneducated peasants.)
4. When Philip led Nathanael to Jesus, what did Jesus say that surprised Nathanael? (“Before Philip called you, when you were under the fig tree, I saw you.”)
5. Nathanael was amazed that Jesus knew this when He couldn’t have seen him from where He was. What did Nathanael say to the Lord? (“Rabbi, You are the Son of God! You are the king of Israel!) The Lord assured Nathanael that he would see more amazing things than this.

READING – PART 3:

Now we will learn about the calling of one more disciple, and it is described in three places. First turn to **Matthew 9:9-13** (5 verses). **(Have it read aloud.)** Next turn to **Mark 2:13-17** (5 verses). **(Read aloud.)** And finally, to **Luke 5:27-32** (6 verses). **(Read aloud.)**

Lesson 4 – Oak Arbor New Church Sunday School, page 3

DISCUSSION – Part 3:

1. What was this disciple's name? (It's given as Levi and as Matthew. This disciple is mostly called Matthew, so his name may have been changed from Levi to Matthew when he became a disciple.) **(Put the name Matthew (Levi) on the chart.)**
2. What was Matthew's job? (A tax collector.)
3. Do you know why the Jews did not like tax collectors? (They collected money from the Jews to give to the Romans, who had taken control of the Jews. Tax collectors were often thought to be taking more money than they were told to, and keeping it for themselves.)
4. What did Matthew do when Jesus called him? (Arose right away, left everything behind, and followed Jesus.)
5. Why did the Lord come to Matthew's house? (For a feast.)
6. Who else were there? (Other tax collectors and sinners.)
7. What did the Pharisees ask the disciples? ("Why does your Teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?" They themselves would never associate with such people.)
8. What did Jesus answer? (That He had come to help people who knew they needed His help, like a physician helps people who are sick.)

To fill in the rest of our chart, we will turn to three places in the Word that list the twelve men who were chosen to become apostles. Some of the names are listed differently in the different gospels. This could be giving a last name of the man in one gospel, and his first name in another, or his name could have been changed when he became a disciple. Turn to Matthew 10:2. **(Now fill out the chart together)**

NOTE: Bartholomew is another name for Nathanael, so put that name in parentheses beside Nathanael. Also, be sure to write out, "James the son of Alphaeus" to distinguish him from the other James.

Now turn to Mark 3:16 and read the list. Do you see any differences? Add them in parentheses.

NOTE: Thaddeus is the same as Lebbaeus. Simon the Canaanite is the same as Simon the Canaanite.

And finally, turn to Luke 6:14. Any differences? Add them in parentheses.

NOTE: Simon called the Zealot is the same as Simon the Canaanite or Canaanite. All refer to the kind of political group he belonged to -- a group which opposed the Romans. Judas the son of James is the same as Thaddeus.

PROJECT: FELT BANNER

Now we'll start on a felt banner which shows the twelve apostles, and what some were doing when they were called.

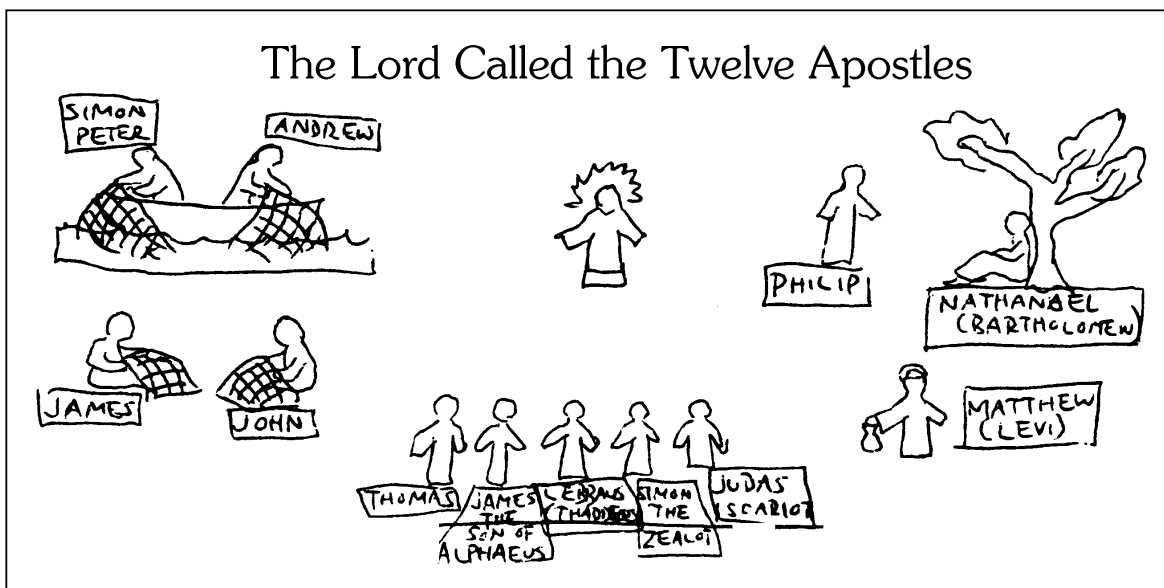
NOTE: If you don't have enough time for project, just start next week after Lesson 2.

Supplies :

- one large piece of light blue felt for the banner
- many different colored smaller pieces of felt (Make sure you have white and yellow felt for the Lord, brown for the boat and tree, green for the tree, and darker blue for some water.)
- some kind of netting for the nets (*Example: the plastic netting that onions or lettuce may be wrapped in at the store.*)
- Tacky glue or fabric glue
- scissors
- thin black fabric marker (a regular black pen might work)
- small pieces of white cloth or small pieces of white paper

Procedure:

Using the diagram below as a guide, create a felt banner. The children can use the patterns of the disciples and the Lord to trace and cut out the felt. Then they'll need to create their own felt tree, boat, water, and money bag. They can use letter stencils to trace and cut felt letters for the title. The names of the disciples can be written with a fabric marker on small pieces of white fabric and then glued beside the figures. (Or perhaps small pieces of paper can be used instead.) This can be worked on more during the next Sunday School class.



Although this diagram is not very well proportioned, you get the idea.

Lesson 4-B: The Twelve Apostles

INTRODUCTION:

Read or explain the following concepts to the students:

- ◆ The twelve disciples in the Word each represent something about how we act toward the Lord.
- ◆ The disciple Peter represents faith, or a belief in the Lord. In our faith, we can feel very loyal to the Lord, and very sure that we would never turn away from Him. Peter was a good man, who talked with great confidence, and acted quickly and surely, with strength.
- ◆ Our belief in the Lord is good, and feels very strong to us. But sometimes, when times get hard, Peter found he couldn't do what he thought he could. Sometimes, when times get hard, we might not believe in the Lord's power as much as we always thought we would, or act the way we thought we would.

Let's look at the stories about Peter, and see how he acted.

READING:

Read the stories about Peter and do the following:

- Discuss what kind of person Peter was, and how he is like faith.
- Point out how much the Lord loved Peter, even though he sometimes failed. (The Lord loves our faith in Him! We just need to see that our faith isn't perfect, or always strong. We need the Lord's help.)

PROJECT:

Work on flannel banner.

Lesson 4-C

READING:

Read over more stories about the disciples, discussing the following:

- the nature and characteristics of the disciples
- the many stories in which Peter, James, and John are taken somewhere special with the Lord
- it's through those three special, inner parts of us, faith, good works, and love, that the Lord can bring us extra close to Him.

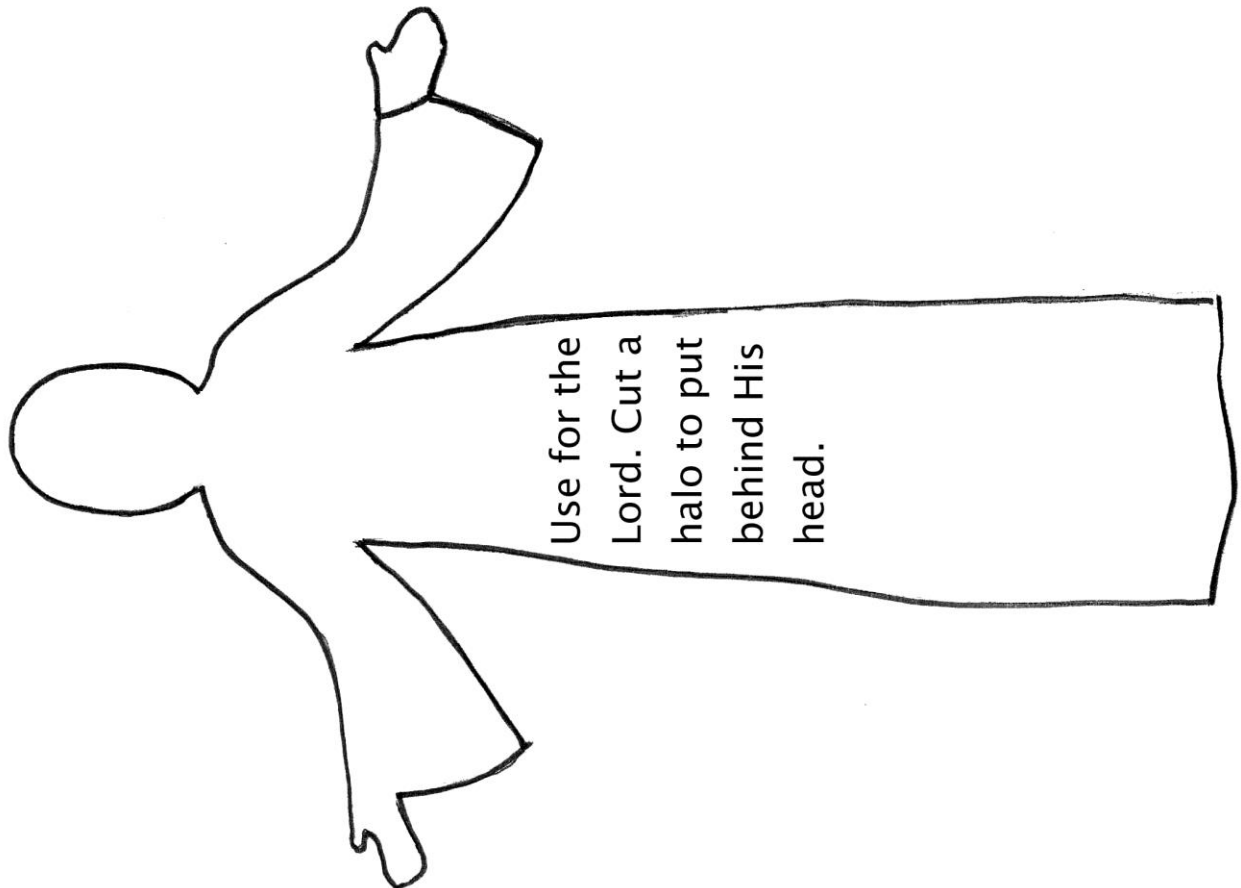
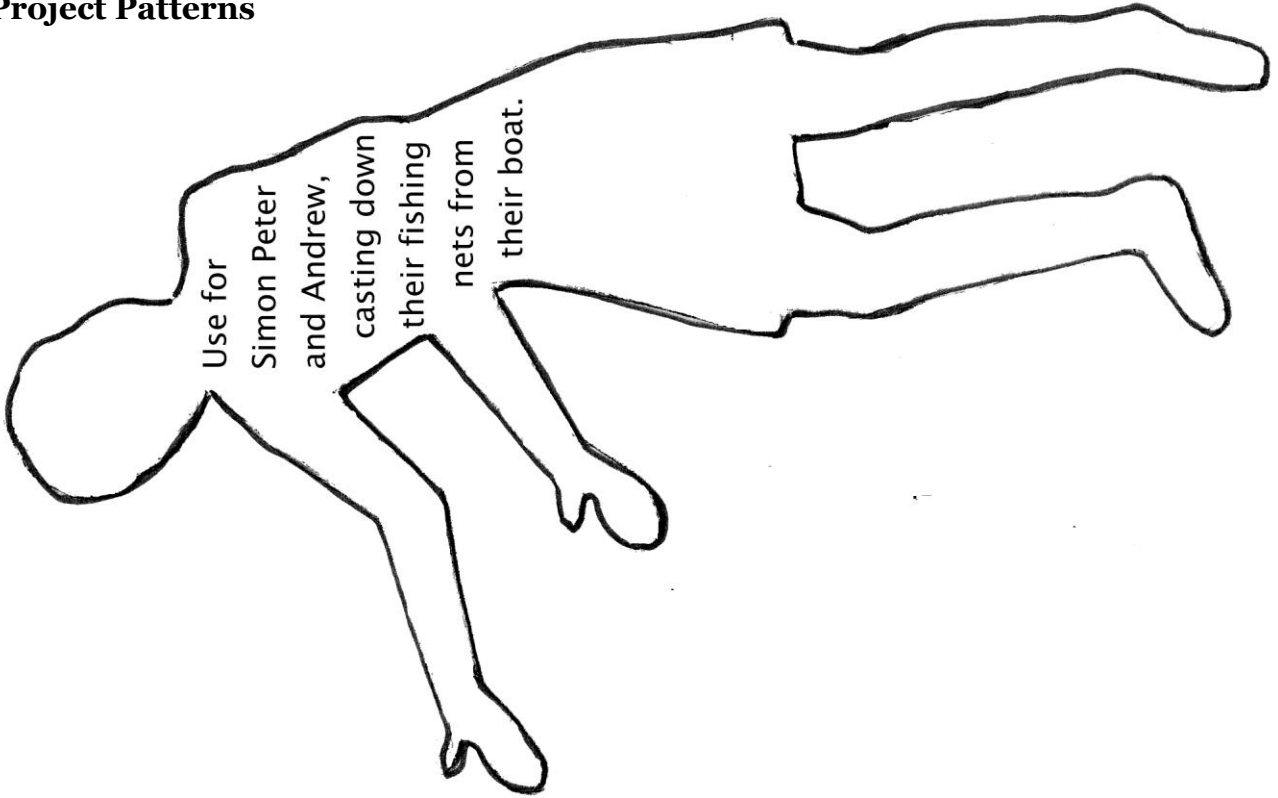
PROJECT:

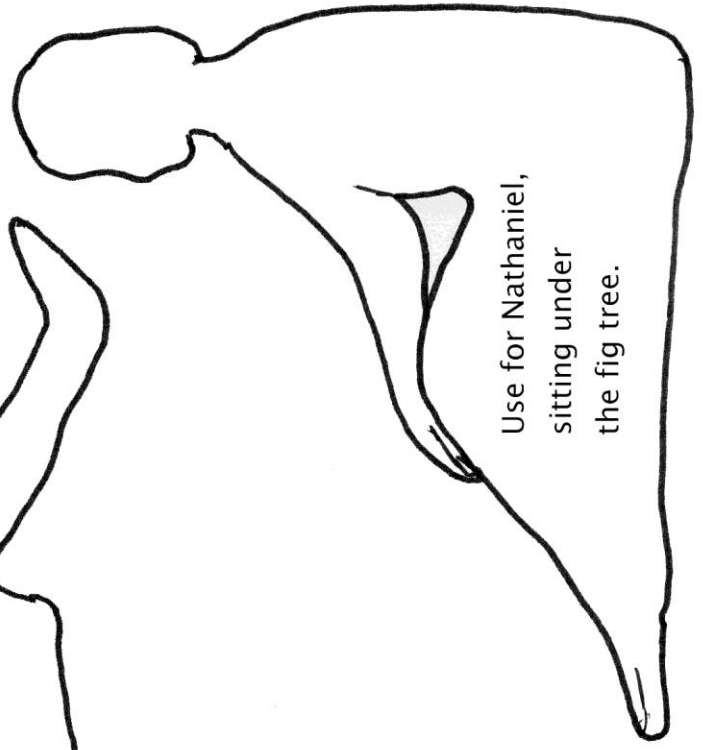
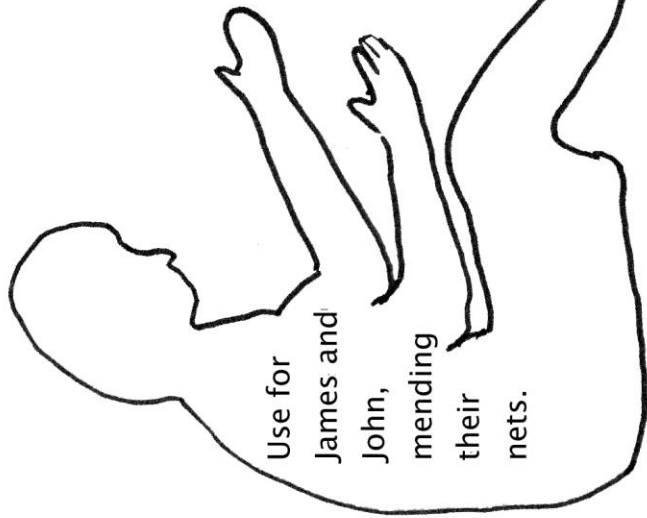
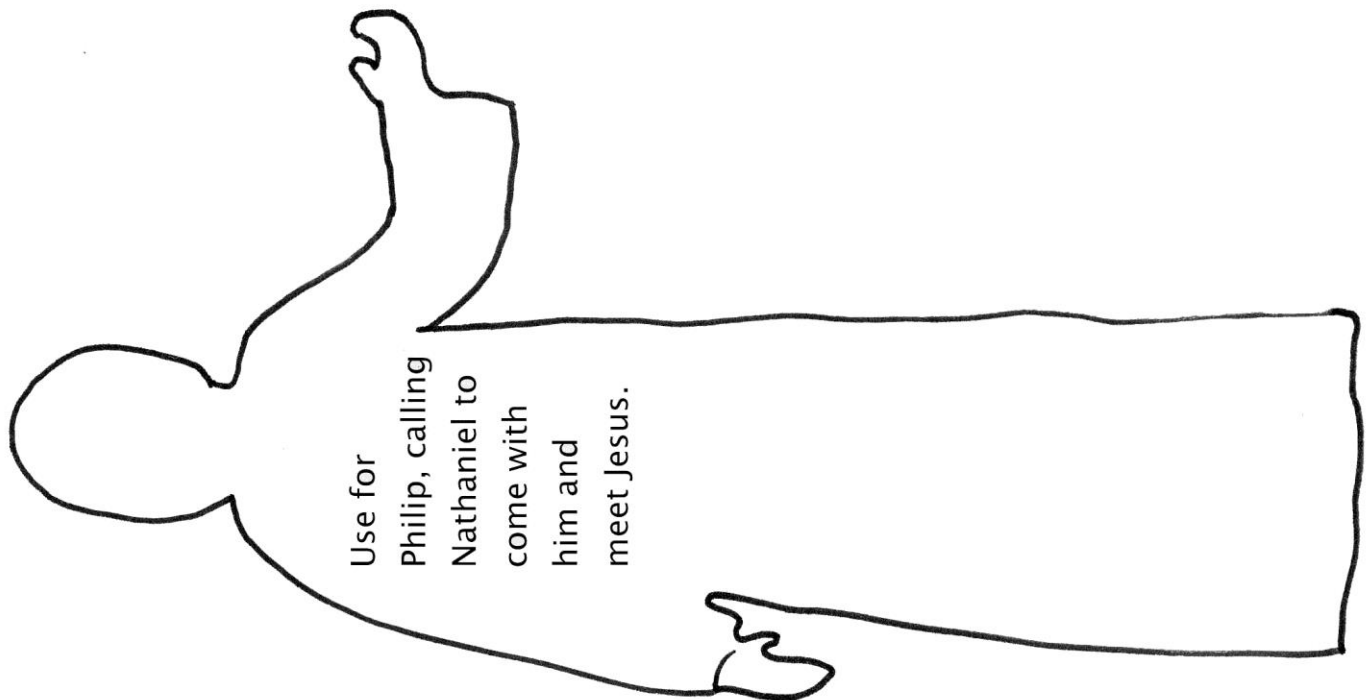
Finish up the banner

The Apostles

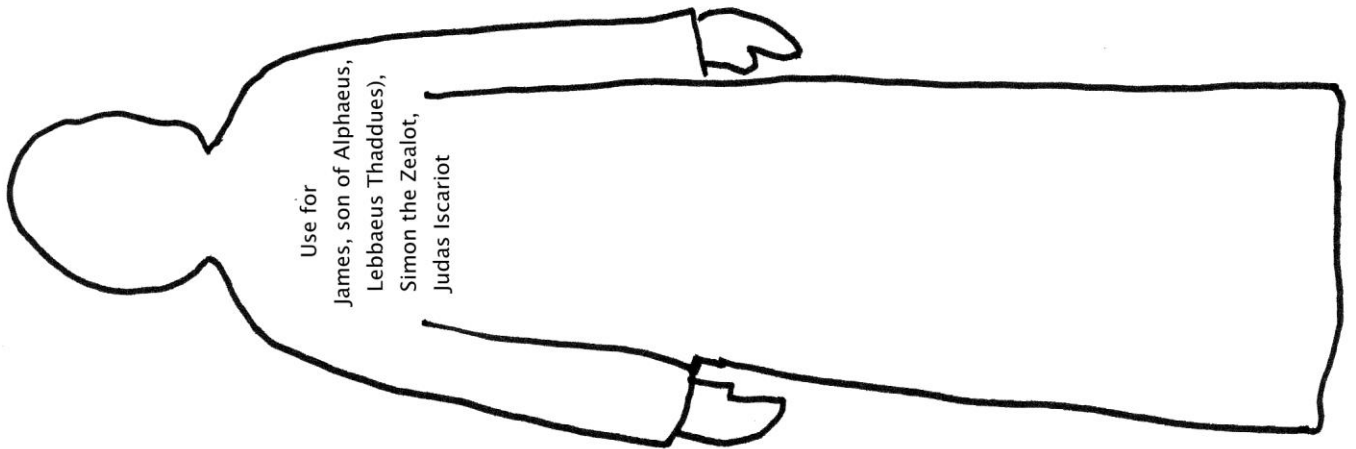
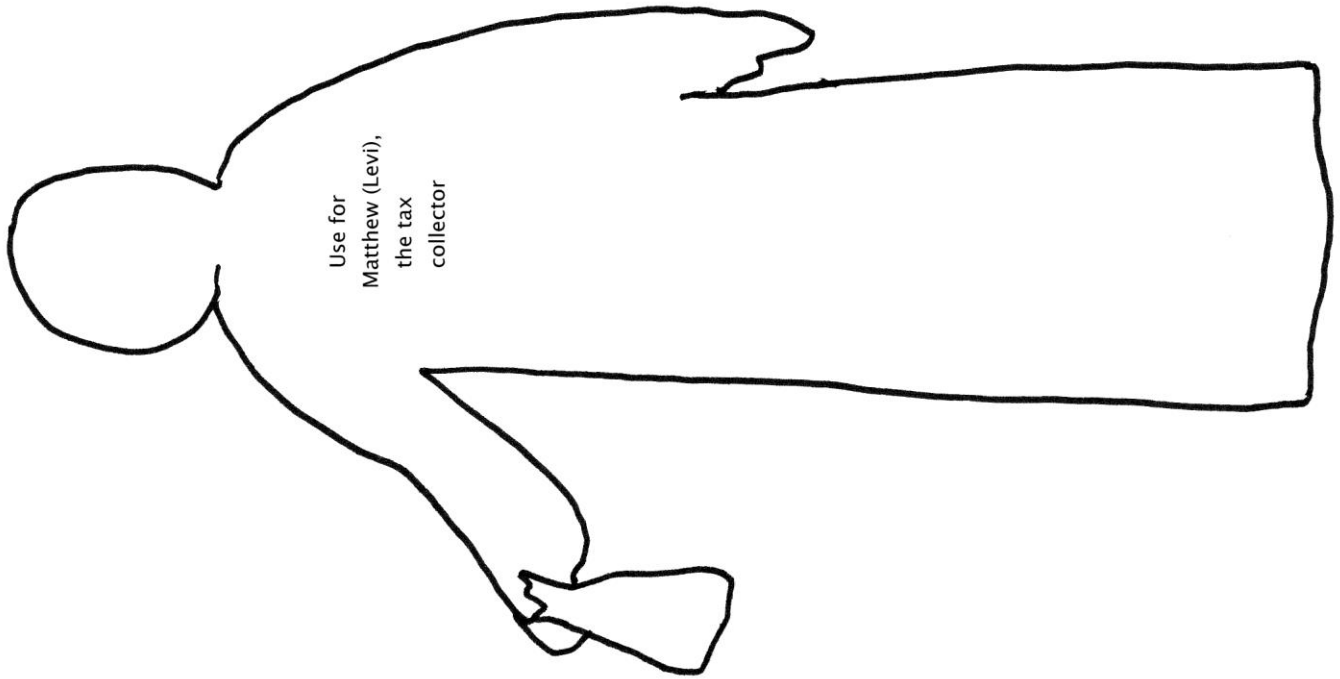
1	
2	
3	
4	
5	
6	
7	
8	
9	
10	
11	
12	

Project Patterns





Lesson 4 – Oak Arbor New Church Sunday School, page 9



Passages about the Disciples (relating to faith)

(To be used with Lessons 4-A and 4-B)

Peter has strong belief until the water gets rough:

Immediately Jesus made His disciples get into the boat and go before Him to the other side, while He sent the multitudes away. And when He had sent the multitudes away, He went up on a mountain by Himself to pray. And when evening had come, He was alone there.

But the boat was now in the middle of the sea, tossed by the waves, for the wind was contrary. Now in the fourth watch of the night Jesus went to them, walking on the sea. And when the disciples saw Him walking on the sea, they were troubled, saying, "It is a ghost!" And they cried out for fear.

But immediately Jesus spoke to them, saying, "Be of good cheer! It is I; do not be afraid." And Peter answered Him and said, "Lord, if it is You, command me to come to You on the water."

So He said, "Come." And when Peter had come down out of the boat, he walked on the water to go to Jesus. But when he saw that the wind was boisterous, he was afraid; and beginning to sink he cried out, saying, "Lord, save me!"

And immediately Jesus stretched out His hand and caught him, and said to him, "Oh you of little faith, why did you doubt?" And when they got into the boat, the wind ceased.

Then those who were in the boat came and worshiped Him, saying, "Truly You are the Son of God."
Matthew 14:22-33

Peter believes without having to have proof:

When Jesus came into the region of Caesarea Philippi, He asked His disciples, saying, "Who do men say that I, the Son of Man, am?"

So they said, "Some say John the Baptist, some Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets."

He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?"

And Simon Peter answered and said, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God."

Jesus answered and said to him, "Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah, for flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but My Father who is in heaven. And I also say to you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it. And I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven."

Then He commanded His disciples that they should tell no one that He was Jesus the Christ.

Matthew 16:13-20

Peter believes and wants to worship:

Now after six days Jesus took Peter, James, and John his brother, brought them up on a high mountain by themselves, and was transfigured before them. His face shone like the sun, and His clothes became as white as the light. And behold, Moses and Elijah appeared to them, talking with Him.

Then Peter answered and said to Jesus, “Lord, it is good for us to be here; if You wish, let us make here three tabernacles; one for You, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.”

While he was still speaking, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them; and suddenly a voice came out of the cloud, saying, “This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased. Hear Him!” And when the disciples heard it, they fell on their faces and were greatly afraid. But Jesus came and touched them and said, “Arise, and do not be afraid.” And when they had lifted up their eyes, they saw no one but Jesus only. Matthew 17:1-8

And when they had come to Capernaum, those who received the temple tax came to Peter and said, “Does your Teacher not pay the temple tax?”

He said, “Yes.”

And when he had come into the house, Jesus anticipated him, saying, “What do you think, Simon? From whom do the kings of the earth take customs or taxes, from their own sons or from strangers?” Peter said to Him, “From strangers.” Jesus said to him, “Then the Sons are free. Nevertheless, lest we offend them, go to the sea, cast in a hook, and take the fish that comes up first. And when you have opened its mouth, you will find a piece of money: take that and give it to them for Me and you. Matthew 17:24-27

Then one of the twelve, called Judas Iscariot, went to the chief priests and said, “What are you willing to give me if I deliver Him to you?” And they counted out to him thirty pieces of silver. So from that time he sought opportunity to betray Him. Matthew 26:14-15

Peter was sure that he couldn't stumble:

Then Jesus said to them, “All of you will be made to stumble because of Me this night, for it is written: ‘I will strike the Shepherd, and the sheep of the flock will be scattered.’ But after I have been raised, I will go before you to Galilee.” Peter answered and said to Him, “Even if all are made to stumble because of You, I will never be made to stumble.” Jesus said to him, “Assuredly, I say to you that this night, before the rooster crows, you will deny Me three times.” Peter said to Him, “Even if I have to die with You, I will not deny You!” And so said all the disciples. Matthew 26:31-35

Then Jesus came with them to a place called Gethsemane, and said to the disciples, “Sit here while I go and pray over there.” And He took with Him Peter and the two Sons of Zebedee, and He began to be sorrowful and deeply distressed. Then He said to them, “My soul is exceedingly sorrowful, even to death. Stay here and watch with Me.” He went a little farther and fell on His face, and prayed, saying, “O My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from Me; nevertheless,

Lesson 4 – Oak Arbor New Church Sunday School, page 12

not as I will, but as You will.” Then He came to the disciples and found them asleep, and said to Peter, “What, could you not watch with Me one hour? Watch and pray, lest you enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.” Matthew 26:36-41

And while He was still speaking, behold, Judas, one of the twelve, with a great multitude with swords and clubs, came from the chief priests and elders of the people. Now His betrayer had given them a sign, saying, “Whomever I kiss, He is the One; seize Him.” Then immediately he went up to Jesus and said, “Greetings, Rabbi!” and kissed Him. And Jesus said to him, “Friend, why have you come?” Then they came and laid hands on Jesus and took Him. Matthew 26:47-50

Peter is loyal and follows:

But Peter followed Him at a distance to the high priests’ courtyard. And he went in and sat with the servants to see the end. Matthew 26:58

Peter’s faith sometimes falters when times get tough:

Now Peter sat outside in the courtyard. And a servant girl came to him, saying, “You also were with Jesus of Galilee.” But he denied it before them all, saying, “I do not know what you are saying.”

And when he had gone out to the gateway, another girl saw him and said to those who were there, “This fellow also was with Jesus of Nazareth.”

But again he denied with an oath, “I do not know the Man!”

And after a while those who stood by came to him and said to Peter, “Surely you also are one of them, because your speech betrays you.”

Then he began to curse and swear, saying, “I do not know the Man!” And immediately a rooster crowed. And Peter remembered the word of Jesus who had said to him, “Before the rooster crows, you will deny Me three times.” Then he went out and wept bitterly. Matthew 26:69-75

While He was still speaking, some came from the ruler of the synagogue’s house who said, “Your daughter is dead. Why trouble the Teacher any further?”

As soon as Jesus heard the word that was spoken, He said to the ruler of the synagogue, “Do not be afraid; only believe.” And He permitted no one to follow Him except Peter, James, and John the brother of James.

Then He came to the house of the ruler of the synagogue, and saw a tumult and those who wept and wailed loudly. When He came in, He said to them, “Why make this commotion and weep? The child is not dead, but sleeping.” And they laughed Him to scorn.

Lesson 4 – Oak Arbor New Church Sunday School, page 13

But when He had put them all out, He took the father and the mother of the child, and those who were with Him, and entered where the child was lying. Then He took the child by the hand, and said to her, “Talitha, cumi,” which is translated, “Little girl, I say to you, arise.” Immediately the girl arose and walked, for she was twelve years of age. Mark 5:35-42

Now Jesus and His disciples went out to the towns of Caesarea Philippi; and on the road He asked His disciples, saying to them, “Who do men say that I am?”

And they answered, “John the Baptist; but some say, Elijah; and others, one of the prophets.” He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?” And Peter answered and said to Him, “You are the Christ.” Then He charged them that they should tell no one about Him. Mark 8:27-30

And He began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer many things, and be rejected by the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. He spoke this word openly. And Peter took Him aside and began to rebuke Him.

But when He had turned around and looked at His disciples, He rebuked Peter, saying, “Get behind Me, Satan! For you are not mindful of the things of God, but the things of men.” Mark 8:31-33

Now after six days Jesus took Peter, James, and John, and led them up on a high mountain apart by themselves; and He was transfigured before them. His clothes became shining, exceedingly white, like snow, such as no launderer on earth can whiten them. And Elijah appeared to them with Moses, and they were talking with Jesus.

Then Peter answered and said to Jesus, “Rabbi, it is good for us to be here; and let us make three tabernacles; one for You, one for Moses, and one for Elijah” -- because he did not know what to say, for they were greatly afraid.

And a cloud came and overshadowed them; and a voice came out of the cloud, saying, “This is My beloved Son. Hear Him!”

Suddenly, when they had looked around, they saw no one anymore, but only Jesus with themselves. Mark 9:2-8

Now John answered Him, saying, “Teacher, we saw someone who does not follow us casting out demons in Your name, and we forbade him because he does not follow us.”

But Jesus said, “Do not forbid him, for no one who works a miracle in My name can soon afterward speak evil of Me. For he who is not against us is on our side. Mark 9:38-40

Peter wants to continue believing in and following God; he learns that he must follow even when it's hard:

Then Peter began to say to Him, “See, we have left all and followed You.”

So Jesus answered and said, “Assuredly, I say to you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or father or mother or wife or children or lands, for My sake and the gospel's,

Lesson 4 – Oak Arbor New Church Sunday School, page 14

who shall not receive a hundredfold now in this time — houses and brothers and sisters and mothers and children and lands, with persecutions — and in the age to come, eternal life. But many who are first will be last, and the last first.” Mark 10:28-31

Then James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came to Him, saying, “Teacher, we want You to do for us whatever we ask.”

And He said to them, “What do you want Me to do for you?”
They said to Him, “Grant us that we may sit, one on Your right hand and the other on Your left, in Your glory.”

But Jesus said to them, “You do not know what you ask. Can you drink the cup that I drink, and be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with?”

And they said to Him, “We can.”

And Jesus said to them, “You will indeed drink the cup that I drink, and with the baptism I am baptized with you will be baptized; but to sit on My right hand and on My left is not Mine to give, but it is for those for whom it is prepared.”

And when the ten heard it, they began to be greatly displeased with James and John.

But Jesus called them to Himself and said to them, “You know that those who are considered rulers over the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones exercise authority over them. Yet it shall not be so among you; but whoever desires to become great among you shall be your servant. And whoever of you desires to be first shall be last of all. For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life for the redemption of many.” Mark 10:35-45

Then as He sent out of the temple, one of His disciples said to Him, “Teacher, see what manner of stones and what buildings are here!”

And Jesus answered and said to him, “Do you see these great buildings? Not one stone shall be left upon another, that shall not be thrown down.”

Now as He sat on the Mount of Olives opposite the temple, Peter, James, John, and Andrew asked Him privately, “Tell us, when will these things be? And what will be the sign when all these things will be fulfilled?”

And Jesus, answering them, began to say: “Take heed that no one deceives you. For many will come in My name, saying ‘I am He,’ and will deceive many. And when you hear of wars and rumors of wars, do not be troubled; for such things must happen, but the end is not yet.” Mark 13:1-7

Then Judas Iscariot, one of the twelve, went to the chief priests to betray Him to them. So when they heard it, they were glad, and promised to give him money. So he sought how he might conveniently betray Him. Mark 14:10-11

Peter is sure that he will never fail the Lord:

Then Jesus said to them, “All of you will be made to stumble because of Me this night, for it is written: ‘I will strike the Shepherd, and the sheep will be scattered.’ But after I have been raised, I will go before you to Galilee.”

But Peter said to Him, “Even if all are made to stumble, yet I will not be.”

And Jesus said to him, “Assuredly, I say to you that today, even this night, before the rooster crows twice, you will deny Me three times.”

But he spoke more vehemently, “If I have to die with You, I will not deny You!” And they all said likewise. Mark 14:27-31

Then they came to a place which was named Gethsemane; and He said to His disciples, “Sit here while I pray.” And He took Peter, James, and John with Him, and He began to be troubled and deeply distressed.

Then He said to them, “My soul is exceedingly sorrowful, even to death. Stay here and watch.” He went a little farther, and fell on the ground, and prayed that if it were possible, the hour might pass from Him.

And He said, “Abba, Father, all things are possible for You. Take this cup away from Me; nevertheless, not what I will, but what You will.”

Then He came and found them sleeping, and said to Peter, “Simon, are you sleeping? Could you not watch one hour? Watch and pray, lest you enter into temptation. The spirit truly is ready, but the flesh is weak.” Mark 14:32-38

And immediately, while He was still speaking, Judas, one of the twelve, with a great multitude with swords and clubs, came from the chief priests and the scribes and the elders. Now His betrayer had given them a signal, saying, “Whomever I kiss, He is the One; take Him and lead Him away safely.” And as soon as He had come, immediately he went up to Him and said to Him, “Rabbi, Rabbi!” and kissed Him. Then they laid their hands on Him and took Him. Mark 14:43-46

But Peter followed Him at a distance, right into the courtyard of the high priest. And he sat with the servants and warmed himself at the fire. Mark 14:54

Peter falters in hard times and then is ashamed:

Now as Peter was below in the courtyard, one of the servant girls of the high priest came. And when she saw Peter warming himself, she looked at him and said, “You also were with Jesus of Nazareth.”

But he denied it, saying, “I neither know nor understand what you are saying.” And he went out on the porch, and a rooster crowed.

Lesson 4 – Oak Arbor New Church Sunday School, page 16

And the servant girl saw him again, and began to say to those who stood by, “This is one of them.” But he denied it again.

And a little later those who stood by said to Peter again, “Surely you are one of them; for you are a Galilean, and your speech shows it.”

But he began to curse and swear, “I do not know this Man of whom you speak!”
And a second time the rooster crowed. And Peter called to mind the word that Jesus had said to him, “Before the rooster crows twice, you will deny Me three times.” And when he thought about it, he wept.
Mark 14:66-72

While He was still speaking, someone came from the ruler of the synagogue’s house, saying to him, “Your daughter is dead. Do not trouble the Teacher.”

But when Jesus heard it, He answered him, saying, “Do not be afraid; only believe, and she will be made well.”

When He came into the house, He permitted no one to go in except Peter, James and John, and the father and mother of the girl. Now all wept and mourned for her; but He said, “Do not weep; she is not dead, but sleeping.” And they laughed Him to scorn, knowing that she was dead.

But He put them all out, took her by the hand and called, saying, “Little girl, arise.” Then her spirit returned, and she arose immediately. And He commanded that she be given something to eat.
Luke 8:49-56

And it happened, as He was alone praying, that His disciples joined Him, and He asked them, saying, “Who do the crowds say that I am?”

So they answered and said, “John the Baptist, but some say Elijah; and others say that one of the old prophets has risen again.”

He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?” Peter answered and said, “The Christ of God.”
And He strictly warned and commanded them to tell this to no one, saying, “The Son of Man must suffer many things, and be rejected by the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and be raised the third day.”
Luke 9:18-22

And it came to pass, about eight days after these sayings, that He took Peter, John, and James and went up on the mountain to pray. And as He prayed, the appearance of His face was altered, and His robe became white and glistening.

Then behold, two men talked with Him, who were Moses and Elijah, who appeared in glory and spoke of His decease which He was about to accomplish at Jerusalem.

But Peter and those with him were heavy with sleep; and when they were fully awake, they saw His glory and the two men who stood with Him. And it happened, as they were parting from

Lesson 4 – Oak Arbor New Church Sunday School, page 17

Him, that Peter said to Jesus, “Master, it is good for us to be here; and let us make three tabernacles: one for You, one for Moses, and one for Elijah” – not knowing what he said.

While he was saying this, a cloud came and overshadowed them; and they were fearful as they entered the cloud. Then a voice came out of the cloud, saying, “This is My beloved Son. Hear Him!” And when the voice had ceased, Jesus was found alone. But they kept quiet, and told no one in those days any of the things they had seen. Luke 9:28-36

Now it came to pass, when the time had come for Him to be received up, that He steadfastly set His face to go to Jerusalem, and sent messengers before His face. And as they went, they entered a village of the Samaritans, to prepare for Him.

But they did not receive Him, because His face was set for the journey to Jerusalem. And when His disciples James and John saw this, they said, “Lord, do You want us to command fire to come down from heaven and consume them, just as Elijah did?”

But He turned and rebuked them, and said, “You do not know what manner of spirit you are of. For the Son of Man did not come to destroy men’s lives but to save them.” And they went to another village. Luke 9:51-56

Then Satan entered Judas, surnamed Iscariot, who was numbered among the twelve. So he went his way and conferred with the chief priests and captains, how he might betray Him to them. And they were glad, and agreed to give him money. Then he promised and sought opportunity to betray Him to them in the absence of the multitude. Luke 22:3-6

Then came the Day of Unleavened Bread, when the Passover must be killed. And He sent Peter and John, saying, “Go and prepare the Passover for us, that we may eat.” Luke 22:7-8

And the Lord said, “Simon, Simon! Indeed, Satan has asked for you, that he may sift you as wheat. But I have prayed for you, that your faith should not fail; and when you have returned to Me, strengthen your brethren.”

But he said to Him, “Lord, I am ready to go with You, both to prison and to death.”

Then He said, “I tell you, Peter, the rooster will not crow this day before you will deny three times that you know Me.” Luke 22:31-34

And while He was still speaking, behold, a multitude; and he who was called Judas, one of the twelve, went before them and drew near to Jesus to kiss Him.

But Jesus said to him, “Judas, are you betraying the Son of Man with a kiss?” Luke 22:47-48

Then, having arrested Him, they led Him and brought Him into the high priest’s house. And Peter followed at a distance.

Lesson 4 – Oak Arbor New Church Sunday School, page 18

Now when they had kindled a fire in the midst of the courtyard and sat down together, Peter sat among them. And a certain servant girl, seeing him as he sat by the fire, looked intently at him and said, “This man was also with Him.”

But he denied Him, saying, “Woman, I do not know Him.”

And after a little while another saw him and said, “You also are of them.”

But Peter said, “Man, I am not.”

Then after about an hour had passed, another confidently affirmed, saying “Surely this fellow also was with Him, for he is a Galilean.”

But Peter said, “Man, I do not know what you are saying!” And immediately, while he was still speaking, the rooster crowed. And the Lord turned and looked at Peter. And Peter remembered the word of the Lord, how He had said to him, “Before the rooster crows, you will deny Me three times.” Then Peter went out and wept bitterly. Luke 22:54-62

Peter rushes to go and see:

But Peter arose and ran to the tomb; and stooping down, he saw the linen cloths lying by themselves; and he departed, marveling to himself at what had happened. Luke 24:12

Then Jesus lifted up His eyes, and seeing a great multitude coming toward Him, He said to Philip, “Where shall we buy bread, that these may eat?” But He said to test him, for He Himself knew what he would do.

Philip answered Him, “Two hundred denarii worth of bread is not sufficient for them, that every one of them may have a little.”

One of His disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother, said to Him, “There is a lad here who has five barley loaves and two small fish, but what are they among so many?”

John 6:5-9

From that time many of His disciples went back and walked with Him no more. Then Jesus said to the twelve, “Do you also want to go away?”

Then Simon Peter answered Him, “Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Also we have come to believe and know that You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.”

Jesus answered them, “Did I not choose you, the twelve, and one of you is a devil?” He spoke of Judas Iscariot, the son of Simon, for it was he who would betray Him, being one of twelve.

John 6:66-71

Then Jesus said to them plainly, “Lazarus is dead. And I am glad for your sakes that I was not there, that you may believe. Nevertheless let us go to him.”

Lesson 4 – Oak Arbor New Church Sunday School, page 19

Then Thomas, who is called Didymus, said to his fellow disciples, “Let us also go, that we may die with Him.” John 11:14-16

Then Mary took a pound of very costly oil of spikenard, anointed the feet of Jesus, and wiped His feet with her hair. And the house was filled with the fragrance of the oil.

Then one of His disciples, Judas Iscariot, Simon’s son, who would betray Him, said, “Why was this fragrant oil not sold for three hundred denarii and given to the poor?” This he said, not that he cared for the poor, but because he was a thief, and had the money box; and he used to take what was put in it. John 12:3-6

Now there were certain Greeks among those who came up to worship at the feast. Then they came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida of Galilee, and asked him, saying, “Sir, we wish to see Jesus.” Philip came and told Andrew, and in turn Andrew and Philip told Jesus.

John 12:20-22

Peter wants to serve the Lord:

After that, He poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples’ feet, and to wipe them with the towel with which He was girded. Then he came to Simon Peter. And Peter said to him, “Lord, are You washing my feet?”

Jesus answered and said to him, “What I am doing you do not understand now, but you will know after this.”

Peter said to Him, “You shall never wash my feet!”

Jesus answered him, “If I do not wash you, you have no part with Me.”

Simon Peter said to Him, “Lord, not my feet only, but also my hands and my head!”

John 13:5-9

When Jesus had said these things, He was troubled in spirit, and testified and said, “Most assuredly, I say to you, one of you will betray Me.” Then the disciples looked at one another, perplexed about whom He spoke.

Now there was leaning on Jesus’ bosom one of his disciples, whom Jesus loved. Simon Peter therefore motioned to him to ask who it was of whom He spoke. Then, leaning back on Jesus’ breast, he said to Him, “Lord, who is it?”

Jesus answered, “It is he to whom I shall give a piece of bread when I have dipped it.” And having dipped the bread, He gave it to Judas Iscariot, the son of Simon. Now after the piece of bread, Satan entered him. Then Jesus said to him, “What you do, do quickly.”

But no one at the table knew for what reason He said this to him. For some thought, because Judas had the moneybox, that Jesus had said to him, “Buy those things we need for the feast,” or that he should give something to the poor. Having received the piece of bread, he then went out immediately. And it was night. John 13:21-30

Lesson 4 – Oak Arbor New Church Sunday School, page 20

Simon Peter said to Him, “Lord, where are you going?”

Jesus answered Him, “Where I am going you cannot follow Me now, but you shall follow me afterward.”

Peter said to Him, “Lord, why can I not follow You now? I will lay down my life for Your sake.”

Jesus answered him, “Will you lay down your life for My sake? Most assuredly, I say to you, the rooster shall not crow till you have denied Me three times.”

John 13:36-38

[Jesus said], “In My Father’s house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also. And where I go you know, and the way you know.”

Thomas said to Him, “Lord, we do not know where You are going, and how can we know the way?”

Jesus said to him, “I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me. If you had known Me, you would have known My Father also; and from now on you know Him and have seen Him.”

Philip said to Him, “Lord, show us the Father, and it is sufficient for us.”

Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you so long, and yet you have not known Me, Philip? He who has seen Me has seen the Father; so how can you say ‘Show us the Father’?”

John 14:2-9

“He who has My commandments and keeps them, it is he who loves Me. And he who loves Me will be loved by My Father, and I will love him and manifest Myself to him.”

Judas (not Iscariot) said to Him, “Lord, how is it that You will manifest Yourself to us, and not to the world?”

Jesus answered and said to him, “If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word; and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our home with him.”

John 14:21-23

When Jesus had spoken these words, He went out with His disciples over the Brook Kidron, where there was a garden, which He and His disciples entered. And Judas, who betrayed Him, also knew the place; for Jesus often met there with His disciples.

Then Judas, having received a detachment of troops, and officers from the chief priests and Pharisees, came there with lanterns, torches, and weapons.

Jesus therefore, knowing all things that would come upon Him, went forward and said to them, “Whom are you seeking?” They answered Him, “Jesus of Nazareth.”

Lesson 4 – Oak Arbor New Church Sunday School, page 21

Jesus said to them, “I am He.” And Judas, who betrayed Him, also stood with them. Then when He said to them, “I am He,” they drew back and fell to the ground. John 18:1-6

Peter wants to fight to defend:

Then Simon Peter, having a sword, drew it and struck the high priest’s servant, and cut off his right ear. The servant’s name was Maichus. Then Jesus said to Peter, “Put your sword into the sheath. Shall I not drink the cup which My Father has given me?” John 18:10-11

Peter becomes afraid and denies:

And Simon Peter followed Jesus, and so did another disciple. Now that disciple was known to the high priest, and went with Jesus into the courtyard of the High priest. But Peter stood at the door outside. Then the other disciple, who was known to the high priest, went out and spoke to her who kept the door, and brought Peter in.

Then the servant girl who kept the door said to Peter, “You are not also one of this Man’s disciples, are you?”

He said, “I am not.” And the servants and officers who had made a fire of coals stood there, for it was cold, and they warmed themselves. And Peter stood with them and warmed himself. John 18:15-18

Now Simon Peter stood and warmed himself. Therefore they said to him, “You are not also one of His disciples, are you?”

He denied it and said, “I am not!”

One of the servants of the high priest, a relative of him whose ear Peter cut off, said, “Did I not see you in the garden with Him?” Peter then denied again; and immediately a rooster crowed. John 18:25-27

Now there stood by the cross of Jesus His mother, and His mother’s sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus therefore saw His mother, and the disciple whom he loved standing by, he said to His mother, “Woman, behold your son!” Then He said to the disciple, “Behold your mother!” And from that hour that disciple took her to his own home. John 19:25-27

Peter goes right in to see:

On the first day of the week Mary Magdalene came to the tomb early, while it was still dark, and saw that the stone had been taken away from the tomb. Then she ran and came to Simon Peter, and to the other disciple, whom Jesus loved, and said to them, “They have taken away the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid Him.”

Lesson 4 – Oak Arbor New Church Sunday School, page 22

Peter therefore went out, and the other disciple, and were going to the tomb. So they both ran together, and the other disciple outran Peter and came to the tomb first. And he, stooping down and looking in, saw the linen cloths lying there; yet he did not go in.

Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb; and he saw the linen cloths lying there, and the handkerchief that had been around His head, not lying with the linen cloths, but folded together in a place by itself.

Then the other disciple, who came to the tomb first, went in also; and he saw and believed. For as yet they did not know the Scripture, that He must rise again from the dead. Then the disciples went away again to their own homes. John 20:1-10

Then, the same day at evening, being the first day of the week, when the doors were shut where the disciples were assembled, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood in the midst, and said to them, "Peace be with you." Now when He had said this, He showed them His hands and His side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord....

But Thomas, called Didymus, one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. The other disciples therefore said to him, "We have seen the Lord."

But he said to them, "Unless I see in His hands the print of the nails, and put my finger into the print of the nails, and put my hand into His side, I will not believe."

And after eight days His disciples were again inside, and Thomas with them. Jesus came, the doors being shut, and stood in the midst, and said, "Peace to you!" Then he said to Thomas, "Reach your finger here, and look at My hands; and reach your hand here, and put it into My side. Do not be unbelieving, but believing."

And Thomas answered and said to Him, "My Lord and my God!"

Jesus said to him, "Thomas, because you have seen Me, you have believed. Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed. John 20:19-29

Peter rushes eagerly to the Lord:

After these things Jesus showed Himself again to the disciples at the Sea of Tiberias, and in this way He showed Himself:

Simon Peter, Thomas called Didymus, Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of His disciples were together. Simon Peter said to them, "I am going fishing."

They said to him, "We are going with you also."

They went out and immediately got into the boat, and that night they caught nothing. But when the morning had now come, Jesus stood on the shore; yet the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. Then Jesus said to them, "Children, have you any food?"

Lesson 4 – Oak Arbor New Church Sunday School, page 23

They answered Him, “No.”

And He said to them, “Cast the net on the right side of the boat, and you will find some.” So they cast, and now they were not able to draw it in because of the multitude of fish. Therefore that disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, “It is the Lord!”

Now when Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on his outer garment (for he had removed it), and plunged into the sea. But the other disciples came in the little boat...dragging the net with fish.

Then, as soon as they had come to land, they saw a fire of coals there, and fish laid on it, and bread. Jesus said to them, “Bring some the fish which you have just caught.”

Simon Peter went up and dragged the net to land, full of large fish, one hundred and fifty-three; and although there were so many, the net was not broken. John 21:1-8

So when they had eaten breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, “Simon, son of Jonah, do you love Me more than these?”

He said to Him, “Yes, Lord; You know that I love You.”

He said to him, “Feed my lambs.”

He said to him again a second time, “Simon, son of Jonah, do you love Me?”

He said to Him, “Yes, Lord; You know that I love You.”

He said to him, “Tend My sheep.”

He said to him the third time, “Simon, son of Jonah, do you love Me?”

Peter was grieved because He said to him the third time, “Do you love Me?” And he said to Him, “Lord, You know all things; You know that I love You.”

Jesus said to him, “Feed My sheep.”

John 21:15-17