Lesson Guide 9 – The Life of Jesus (Jesus Calls His First Disciples)
Matt. 4:18-22, Mark 1:16-20, Luke 5:1-11, John 1:29-51

Pre-class Activity – Starter Worksheet (Brainercise Answer: **No one**, Who Am I: **Mark**)

1

Prayer Requests
> Praise
> Thanksgiving
> Concern
> Grow up to be like Jesus

2

Disciple
> The word means "a learner." Anyone who loves Jesus enough to learn and follow his teachings is his disciple.

3

Apostle
> A person chosen personally by Jesus to be His messenger in the world. The Greek word means "a sent one." There were 12 Apostles chosen by Jesus during His ministry.
> - **Thomas** – Called "Didymus" or "the twin," Thomas doubted the resurrection, but later believed when Jesus invited him to touch his hands and side. Thomas said he was willing to die with Jesus.
> - **Matthew** - A tax collector, Matthew left his trade to follow Jesus. Matthew, also called Levi, held a great feast in honor of Jesus. Name means 'gift of God'. Was chosen by Jesus after Peter, Andrew, James, and John. From the town of Capernaum.
> - **James (Son of Alphaeus)** – This James is known as "James, the younger" or "James, the less." His name is recorded with the other disciples in the gospels of Matthew, Mark, and Luke. He was in the upper room after Jesus' resurrection, election of Judas' replacement.

3-15

> - **Thaddaeus** - Also called Judas. He is mentioned only twice in Scripture. His name is only mentioned in the gospels of Matthew and Mark. He may be the same person mentioned in the gospel of John as Judas (not Iscariot).
> - **Simon (Called the Zealot)** - This Simon is called a "Zealot," a political party that sought to overthrow the Roman stranglehold on Israel. The Zealots led a revolt in 66 AD which led to the destruction of Jerusalem in 70 AD.
> - **Judas Iscariot** - Judas is the disciple who betrayed the Lord. "Iscariot" likely refers to his hometown of Kerioth in Judea. He served as the disciples' treasurer. After Judas betrayed the Lord, he committed suicide by hanging himself. Only disciple not from Galilee. John refers to him as a thief and betrayer. Betrayed Jesus for 30 pieces of silver. Not mentioned during trial or crucifixion
> - **Simon (Who is Called Peter)** - Along with his brother Andrew, Simon was a fisherman by trade. He was the most prominent of the twelve disciples. Peter's name means Rock. He was a native of Bethsaida. His native language was Aramaic. Jesus healed his mother-in-law.

Circled numbers correspond to Presentation Slides

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- **Andrew** - One of the twelve disciples of Jesus. Andrew was convinced that Jesus was the Messiah and he brought his brother, Simon Peter, to him. He was a disciple of John the Baptist. He also was from Bethsaida. He brought the boy with 5 loaves and 2 fish to Jesus. Also brought a group of Greeks to see Jesus.
- **James (Son of Zebedee)** - Jesus called James and his brother John, both former fishermen, "sons of thunder." James was martyred by Herod Agrippa I.   James and John asked a special favor of Jesus. His death is the only apostles death reliably recorded (except Judas).
- John - Known as the 'disciple whom Jesus loved'. Part of Jesus' inner circle. Ran faster than Peter when going to the tomb after Jesus' resurrection.
- **Philip** - Philip introduced Bartholomew to the Lord. Like Simon and Andrew, Philip was a native of Bethsaida. According to tradition, Philip did mission work in Asia Minor. He also was a fisherman. He brought Nathanael or Bartholomew to Jesus. He doubted that Jesus could feed the crowd of 5,000. Disciple of John the Baptist.
- **Bartholomew** - Philip introduced Bartholomew, also called Nathanael, to Jesus. Christ praised Bartholomew's integrity at their initial encounter and he became one of Jesus' twelve disciples. From Cana. When his name is mentioned it is always linked to Philip.

Discussion Questions

Question 1: Describe how you came to know Jesus. Was your first encounter similar to Andrew's or Nathanael's?
Question 2: How well do you think Jesus knows you?
Question 3: What actions can people take to respond to His invitation, "Follow me"?