

Lesson 6

Jesus Calls Disciples

Matthew 4:12–25

Connections

Bible Words

And He said to them, “Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men.” Immediately they left their nets and followed Him.
Matthew 4:19–20

Catechism

Apostles’ Creed: Second Article meaning, CD Tracks 22–24

Hymn

“Listen, God Is Calling,”
CD Track 3; LSB 833

Get Ready

Before class: Get newsprint, markers, and masking tape. Preview the Lesson 6 YouTube video in the New Testament 2 Middle School Playlist at bit.ly/1knXwnU. Set up equipment. Skip ads; cue video.

God Speaks: Gather supplies for student presentations, such as newsprint, markers, writing paper, pens, pencils, foam cups, puppets, sheet (puppet stage), flashlights, colorful scarves, belts, or crepe-paper streamers.

We Live: Copy Bible Words Puzzle 6 for students.

1 Opening (10 minutes)

Make a Trade

Ask each student to name their most prized possession. Name yours too.

Ask **What would you need to receive to trade this possession?** Students may say they would never trade their possession, but encourage them to think seriously about what they would consider better.

If you do not show the video, continue with the opening prayer.

Say **This video shows a man willing to trade a prized possessions for something better.**

Show the Lesson 6 YouTube video, “Man sells prized possessions to give friend final wish” (1:54), in the New Testament 2 Middle School Playlist at bit.ly/1knXwnU.

Ask **Do you think the man will receive something better?** Answers vary.

Do you think the man will regret his decision? Answers vary.

MATERIALS NEEDED

1 Opening

Other Supplies

Newsprint, markers, masking tape (optional)
YouTube video; tablet, computer, or screen; Internet connection or downloaded video (optional)

2 God Speaks

Teacher Tools

Timeline Poster, Posters B and C

Student Pack

Lesson 6 Folios

Other Supplies

Bibles; newsprint, markers, masking tape; supplies for student presentations (see Get Ready list)

3 We Live

Teacher Tools

Copies of Bible Words Puzzle 6
Teacher CD

Student Pack

Lesson 6 Folios
Bible Exploration Guides

Other Supplies

Pens or pencils
CD player (optional)

4 Closing

Teacher Tools (optional)

Lesson 6 Bible Review Cards
Teacher CD
Lyrics sheets, Teacher CD

Other Supplies

CD player (optional)

Say We may not usually see the people in today's lesson as traders, but they left one way of life to live differently. God changed their lives when they became followers of Jesus.

Pray Dear Lord Jesus, open our eyes and ears so that we can see Your actions, hear Your words, and understand Your truth. In Your name we pray. Amen.

2 God Speaks (32 minutes)

Jesus' Work in Galilee

Say This lesson focuses on Jesus' ministry in Galilee, where the people had walked in darkness. Jesus, the great light in the flesh, walked among the people, teaching, preaching, and healing.

Jesus returned to Galilee after John the Baptist died at Herod's command.

Show the Timeline Poster and Poster B to show this event location and context.

Hand out Bibles and Lesson 6 Folios.

Divide into groups of two to five students. Assign one of the three sections to each group. If you have fewer students or prefer to stay together, plan one presentation and do it together.

Read the directions from Folio page 2: **Read Matthew 4 verses. Discuss questions. Then choose a way to present your part of the lesson. For example, you could draw a series of pictures; write a song, poem, or readers theater script; or present a skit or puppet show.**

Give students twenty minutes to work. Point out supplies they can use. Give Poster B or a New Testament map to those doing Part 3. Help groups as needed.

PART ONE: Verses 12–17

Herod Antipas ruled Galilee. What would you expect Jesus to do when Herod arrested John? What did He do instead? We might think Jesus would move out of this area of Galilee, but instead, Jesus went home to Galilee.

Jesus left Nazareth when the people there rejected Him. Where did He go?

To live in Capernaum by the Sea of Galilee

Capernaum, a town on the Sea of Galilee, was home to a thriving fishing business located on the road from Damascus to the Mediterranean Sea. Some of Jesus' disciples lived there. How did these things make Capernaum a good home for Jesus? He had friends and disciples there. People knew Jesus' disciples and may have been more open to Him because of it. The area was busy, yet far away from Jerusalem's religious leaders.

Galilee once belonged to two tribes of Israel, Naphtali and Zebulun. In 722 BC, the Assyrians conquered the Northern Kingdom of Israel and exiled most of the royal, rich, military Jews. They never returned. Gentiles and poor Jews stayed. The region became known as an unsophisticated, backward area. What did Isaiah say would happen to the Jews and the Gentiles here (vv. 14–16)? A great light would shine on the people dwelling in darkness and in the shadow of death.

Key Point

Jesus preached, taught, and healed, and He called His disciples to do the same. Today, Jesus continues His saving work through the Office of the Ministry, where His Word is preached and His Sacraments are administered.

*Digs into
God's Word*

Pronunciations

Decapolis: dih CAP oh liss

Naphtali: NAF tuh lie

Syria: SEER ee uh

Zebedee: ZEB uh dee

Zebulun: ZEB you luhn