

TEACHER'S NOTES

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| 6 year olds | OUR HEAVENLY FATHER |
| Chapter 13 | Jesus Begins His Work |
| Lesson 2 | Jesus Calls the Apostles |

AIMS

1. Children will learn about the call of the 12 Apostles and, in particular, the call of Peter.
2. They will be able to explain the mission of the Apostles.

STEP 1

Direct the children's attention to the two special words in their packs: "Disciple" and "Apostle" and explained that as Jesus travelled the holy land teaching people about God, there were many who became devoted to Him, and some even followed Him from town to town. That is what "disciple" means - a person who follows another. But even those who did not travel with Jesus followed the teachings of Jesus and their way of life he taught them. Explain that the "Apostles" were followers, also, but they were to be given special jobs by Jesus. While He was on Earth, Jesus was preparing them for their special jobs. Today, the class will learn more about the Apostles.

STEP 2

Read with the children the two "special paragraphs" in the children's pack.

STEP 3

Read the account from the Bible in the children's pack about the call of the twelve Apostles.

STEP 4

Explain that Jesus showed twelve men to be His closest followers, or Apostles. They live with Him, travelled with Him, ate with Him, learned from Him when he spoke publicly to people, and when He spoke privately to them. They were Jesus' closest friends on Earth.

STEP 5

Explain to the children that in addition to being Jesus' closest friends, Jesus prepared the twelve men to carry on His work after He returned to Heaven. Before Jesus ascended to the Father after His death, He spoke to the Apostles one last time. Read the passage from the children's pack, "Jesus' Final Orders to the Apostles". Explain that this is the meaning of the word "apostle": one who is sent by another to do his work.

STEP 6

Have the children study the famous painting *The Calling of the Twelve Apostles* by Ghirlandaio Domenico that is in their packs. Explain to the children that this is an unusual painting because it shows two different events as though they happen at the same time: the call of the 12 Apostles and the specific call of St Peter. Asked these questions about the painting:

- Who is in the centre the painting, in the foreground? (Jesus).
- To whom is he is speaking? (Two men with halos, who kneel before Him - two of the Apostles).

- Who is in the background, to the far right? (Jesus, again).
- To whom is He speaking? (To, Three men in a fishing boat).
- How are the men reacting to Jesus, both the two kneeling and those in the boat? (They are kneeling in front of Jesus and are praying).

STEP 7

I have the children draw a picture of the twelve report Apostles in their packs.

Practice Catechism Question 31 with all the children.

Tell the children that Jesus said, "follow me and I'll make you become fishers of men." (Mark 1: 17). Asked the children to explain what Jesus meant by this. Help them to understand this passage is necessary.

CONCLUDE

1. Pray the Our Father.
2. Sing "to Jesus Christ's, our sov'reign King," *Adoremus hymnal*, # 480

PREVIEW

In our next lesson, we will learn about how the work of the Apostles is gone on for more than 2000 years, and how we can do our part in spreading the message of Jesus.