

The Junior Observer

Vol. 37, No. 5 Published by The Observer, Official Catholic Newspaper of the Diocese of Rockford JuniorObserver@RockfordDiocese.org

A Good News Story

Jesus Calls His First Apostles

Catholic News Service

Q&A

What message did Jesus preach?

What did Jesus say when He called Peter and Andrew?

Read more about it in Matthew 4

When Jesus learned that John the Baptist had been arrested, He left Nazareth and moved to Capernaum, a city on the sea.

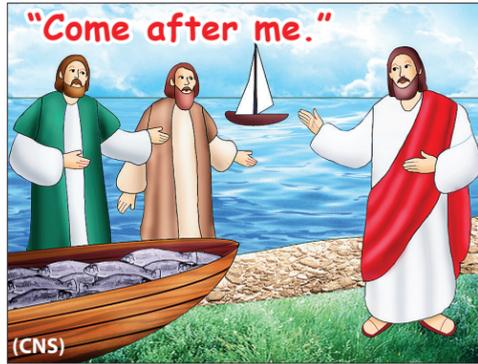
By doing this, He fulfilled the prophecy of Isaiah that said, “Land of Zebulun and land of Naphtali, the way to the sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles, the people who sit in darkness have seen a great light, on those dwelling in a land overshadowed by death light has arisen.”

From that moment, Jesus knew He had to continue to preach the message of John: “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

John said he had been chosen to prepare the way of the Lord. Jesus was the Lord, and His message and ministry would be much more powerful than that of John.

Jesus knew He would need men to help Him and learn from Him, men He knew He could trust. He went out to find the right men.

As He walked along the shore of the Sea of Galilee one afternoon, He saw two men casting their fishing nets into



Bible Trivia

What was the name of James' and John's father? (Hint: Mt. 4:21)

Answer: Zebedee

the water. They were brothers, and their names were Simon and Andrew.

Jesus called out to them, “Come after me, and I will make you fishers of men.”

Even though fishing was the only way they could support their families, the two brothers immediately left their work and followed Jesus.

As Jesus walked further along the shore with His new friends, they saw two other brothers, James and John, who were fishing from a boat with their father. Jesus called them, and they, too, left their work to follow Jesus.

Having selected the first of His Apostles, Jesus traveled throughout the region of Galilee. He preached everywhere He went, spreading the good news of the kingdom of God, and He healed people who were sick with many different kinds of diseases and ailments. People who had been in pain or were paralyzed or tormented by spirits were cured and made whole.

Word of the wonders performed by Jesus spread as far away as Syria, and crowds from Galilee, Jerusalem, Judea and beyond the River Jordan formed around Him.

Gospel Guide

Jan. 29: Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Mt 5:1-12a)

OSV Kids

This Sunday’s Gospel is called the Sermon on the Mount, which gives us a great challenge but promises an even greater reward. Jesus gave His Apostles and people of His time — and us — a way to live, to be truly happy. This sermon’s teachings are called the Beatitudes, and they are not the way

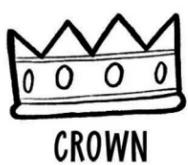
our world around us thinks about being happy.

The Beatitudes call us to action — for instance, not just to pray for peace, but to make peace. What would be different in our world if everyone acted in the ways of the Beatitudes?

What kind of action can we do this week that is a Beatitude action?

A Good News Game

When St. John the Baptist baptized Jesus in the Jordan River, Jesus accepted His mission on Earth! Find the hidden objects in this illustration of the Baptism of Jesus, courtesy of OSV Kids.



(OSV News illustration/Eric Carlson)