

9. Jesus Sends the Disciples (Mark 6:7-13)

So they went out and proclaimed that people should change their hearts and lives.
(Mark 6:12)



PLAN

Session Outline

1. Gather

Greeting
Jesus Sends the Disciples
Walking Stick
Transition to Explore

2. Explore

Sacred Conversation
Hear and See the Bible Story
Interact with the Bible Story
Say the Bible Verse
Transition to Respond

3. Respond

Follow Me
Dusty
Loving God,
Loving Neighbor
Transition to Bless

4. Bless

Inviting
Praising
Blessing
At Home with God

Supplies

Basic Supplies: CD player | DVD player | Projector or screen | Television | Craft glue | Crayons | Markers | Offering basket | Paper | Pencils | Scissors | Tape

Gather: Bell | Carpet squares | Decorative supplies | Wrapping-paper tubes

Explore: Bell

Respond: Bell | Candle | Carpet squares | Multipurpose lighter | Sand | Plastic tub or sand table

Bless: Cup | Medicine dropper | Towel | Water

Before You Teach

This week's Bible story has Jesus sending his disciples out into the world. The message is the same, as stated in this month's Bible verse: "So they went out and proclaimed that people should change their hearts and lives" (Mark 6:12). Jesus sent the disciples out to share the good news. Today we are the disciples Jesus sends out to share the good news of God's love. Jesus empowered the disciples and sent them out to spread the Word. Jesus instructed them to take nothing with them, no bread, no money, and no change of clothes. They were to depend on the hospitality of others and to trust in God. As disciples of Jesus we must learn from Jesus' teachings, but we also must be willing to go out and spread the gospel, trusting God will be with us as we do so.

Too often, we may hesitate to share the good news of God's love with others because we are concerned about how our sharing will be received. Jesus warned his disciples that not everyone would welcome their message. What were the disciples to do when they were not welcomed? They were to leave. What should we do if our attempts to share God's love are not welcomed? It is easy to become discouraged, but rather we need to remember we cannot force people to receive God's love. That is not our job. We need to trust in God to make the connection. With our sharing we may have started a process that will be continued later. As a teacher of children, you have accepted God's calling to share the good news with others. You can share God's love with the children you teach and also help equip them to spread the good news to others. Help the children recognize ways they can spread the gospel by their actions and their words.

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GATHER

Greeting

Before class: Display your choice of attendance chart (Class Kit—pp. 16-17 or pp. 18 & 15).

- Play “Only You” (Annual Music CD).
 - Welcome and greet each child as he or she enters the room.
 - Indicate location of the offering basket.
 - Help children mark their attendance inside the building on the Community Attendance Chart (opt.).
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A—Jesus Sends the Disciples (Activity Sheet)

Before class: Obtain Activity Sheets (Session 9).

- Distribute “Time to Go”/“Pairs” (pp. 19-20).
 - Encourage the children to follow the journaling prompt and complete the activities.
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OR

B—Walking Stick (Art)

Before class: Obtain decorative supplies and wrapping-paper tubes.

- Distribute wrapping-paper tubes. (*Tape tubes together lengthwise, if more length is needed.*) Invite children to decorate their tube “walking sticks” using stickers, pom-poms, jewels, and so forth.

SAY: In today’s Bible story, Jesus sent out the disciples to share the good news. They had to leave everything they had except for a walking stick.

TIP: *If you choose, allow children to go outside and pick large branches for walking sticks.*

Transition to Explore

Before class: Obtain bell and carpet squares.

- Ring the bell to acknowledge that it is time to transition.
- Direct the children to choose carpet squares (or equivalent items), then sit in a circle on the floor.

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EXPLORE

Sacred Conversation

- Ask a few wondering questions.

ASK: I wonder:

- What made you laugh this week?
 - How did you help someone this week?
 - What are you grateful for?
 - Was there a difficult part of your week, and what made it better?
 - Where did you see God this week?
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Hear and See the Bible Story

Before class: Prepare television and DVD player.

- Read the Bible story together (*CEB Deep Blue Kids Bible—Mark 6:7-13*).
- Watch the Deep Blue Adventure DVD Session 9.

ASK: How do you work together?

Interact with the Bible Story

Before class: Obtain Bible Story Sheets (Session 9).

- Distribute the Bible Story Sheets and draw attention to Bible Story Retelling (p. 1).
 - Assign the six parts, then present “Jesus Sends the Disciples.”
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Say the Bible Verse

Before class: Display Poster: Unit 2 Bible Verse (Class Kit—pp. 12 & 21). Review Unit 2 sign language (Leader Guide—p. 92).

- Recite the Bible verse, “So they went out and proclaimed that people should change their hearts and lives” (Mark 6:12).
 - Invite the children to say and sign the Bible verse with you.
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Transition to Respond

Before class: Obtain bell.

- Ring the bell, then invite the children to put away their carpet squares.

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RESPOND

A—Follow Me (Game)

SAY: We are going to play a game. The rules are simple. I will give directions and you are to follow them. The only other rule of the game is that you must follow the directions that I repeat two times. If I only say a direction once, do not follow that command.

- Read the instructions in “Follow Me” (Leader Guide—p. 60).
- Continue playing the game using your own commands.

SAY: In the Bible story, Jesus gave the disciples important instructions.

OR

B—Dusty (Sensory)

Before class: Obtain a sand table or a tub of sand.

- Set out the sand table or tub of sand.

SAY: In today’s Bible story Jesus told the disciples to dust off their feet. Let’s get our feet (or hands) a little dirty and mimic dusting off the sand.

ASK: What do you think it means to dust off your feet?

- Let the children place their feet (or hands) in the sand, then dust them off into the sand. When they dust off their feet (or hands), encourage them to say, “Jesus sends me out into the world.”

Loving God, Loving Neighbor

Before class: Obtain Map 6: Deep Blue Shores (Class Kit—p. 8) and Figures/Pieces: Deep Blue Shores Map 6 (Class Kit—p. 25). Display Mission Poster (Class Kit—p. 5).

- Display the Deep Blue Shores Map 6 on the floor or table. While the children interact with the map and figures, talk about the mission.

SAY: Today we continue to learn about our mission project, The Jubilee Project. The Jubilee Project helps people living in poverty who do not have clean water. Let’s say a prayer for our mission project.

- Invite a volunteer to pray for The Jubilee Project.

Transition to Bless

Before class: Obtain bell, candle, multipurpose lighter (or battery-operated candle), carpet squares.

- Ring the bell to signal transition.
- Direct the children to each choose a carpet square, then sit in a circle on the floor.

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BLESS

Inviting

Before class: Continue to display Poster: Unit 2 Bible Verse (Class Kit—pp. 12 & 21) where it is easily accessible for children. Obtain Poster Pieces: Unit 2 Bible Verse (Class Kit—p. 29).

- Gather the children around the Bible-verse poster.
- Display the poster pieces.
- Invite a child to attach to the poster the poster piece “Jesus sends me out into the world.”

PRAY: Dear God, help me to show others your love. Amen.

Praising

Before class: Obtain CD player and Deep Blue Song Sheets.

- Distribute the song sheets for “Only You” (Annual Music CD).
 - Sing the song “Only You” (Annual Music CD).
 - Sign the Bible verse (Leader Guide—p. 92).
 - Collect the song sheets and store.
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Blessing

Before class: Obtain a cup of water, medicine dropper, and a towel. Fill the dropper with water.

- Direct the children to be seated in their chairs in a circle.
- Working inside the circle, place a drop a water on the back of each child’s hand.
- As the water runs off the child’s hand, say the blessing.

SAY: You are dearly loved.

At Home with God

ASK: What is one thing that you learned today? Can you share with your family what you learned?

- Send home with each child Bible Story Sheets—Session 9 leaflet.

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Follow Me

1. **Stand up. Stand up.**
2. **Clap your hands three times. Clap your hands three times.**
3. **Stomp your feet three times. Stomp your feet three times. Stomp your feet three times.**
4. **Snap your fingers. Snap your fingers. Snap your toes. (Some children can't snap.)**
5. **Pat your head. Pat your head. Pat your tummy. Pat your tummy. Pat your tummy.**
6. **Touch your toes. Touch your toes. Touch your elbows.**
7. **Shout "Amen." Shout "Amen." Shout "Alleluia."**
8. **Turn around. Turn around. Turn around.**
9. **Spin in a circle.**
10. **Put your hands in the air. Put your hands in the air.**

