

God Speaks Through **PEOPLE!!**

As we continue our series we focus today on the to people in the Bible (and through **PEOPLE!** We speaks through prophets people. But there are to use “everyday” **PEOPLE**, and NOT prophets, in order to speak to others. Today we will consider the disciples of Jesus, who were ordinary men in ordinary jobs until they met Jesus and decided to follow Him.



on ways God speaks to us, ways in which God speaks even in our lives today!) recently learned how God in the Bible, and they ARE times when God chooses

Memory verse: Romans 10: 15b

“How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!”

Scripture lesson: John 1: 35-51, Matthew 4: 18-22

Thinking about it:

When Jesus began His ministry at the age of thirty, he didn't have any followers. Soon after John the Baptist baptized Jesus, He went walking along the shores of the Sea of Galilee. While he walked he noticed fishermen out on the water. As Simon and his brother Andrew cast nets upon the water, Jesus called out to them and said, “Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.” They IMMEDIATELY left their work and followed Him. As they continued walking along the shores they saw two other brothers, James and John, in a boat with their father Zebedee, mending their nets. Jesus called out to them too, and they left their father to follow Him. The following day as they went to Galilee again Jesus found Philip, and Philip brought Nathanael. These were the first people to follow Jesus and become His disciples. They followed Him throughout His ministry and continued bringing the Gospel (Good news!) to people even after His death and resurrection. God empowered them to do amazing things for His glory, and yet, they were, simply, MEN. They were ordinary people who had worked in ordinary jobs until Jesus called them to follow Him. Once they encountered Jesus they walked countless miles to tell others about Him. We can be deeply grateful for the commitment and sacrifice they showed in order to spread the news of Jesus Christ to the world around them, because it is on the basis of their work that WE can know what Jesus did for us! They fearlessly shared the Gospel to others in order that people would know Jesus is the Messiah who brought salvation to the world. And we can follow them, and most of all Jesus, when we bring the good news to others! **“How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!” (Romans 10: 15b)**

Video suggestion: The Call of Peter (from the movie *Son of God*)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xUSAoICqmD8>

Craft suggestion:

Our craft today utilizes “bleeding tissue paper”* squares and outlines of our feet on watercolor paper! We will outline one of our feet onto watercolor paper and go over it with a black marker. After this we will either write **“How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news” (Romans 10:15b)** with the marker or wait until the paper dries and paste the verse onto the page. When we have finished we will use bleeding tissue paper squares to fill in the outline of the foot (or fill in around the foot if you’d like!). When the paper is the way we like it, we will lightly spray water onto the paper in order to dampen the tissue paper. After letting the tissue paper dry, we will remove it to see the patterns that the dye left on our pictures. If you haven’t already written the Bible memory verse on the page, you can do so now (or paste it if that is what you chose to do!).

*It is important to use ONLY bleeding tissue paper with this craft, as regular tissue paper will not “bleed” color onto the watercolor paper effectively!

Questions to ponder:

- **Why did the four men leave their nets to follow Jesus?**
- **Who were the first four disciples?**
- **How did Philip meet Jesus?**
- **How did Nathanael come to meet Jesus? Did he immediately follow Jesus like the others, or did he have some questions for Jesus?**
- **How do you think you would have responded to Jesus’ call?**



Prayer:

Dear loving God, Thank you so much for sending Your son Jesus to show us just how much You love us! Thank you also for the first disciples who were so willing to leave their regular lives in order to follow Jesus and then tell the world about His death and resurrection—so that all could know about Your grace and eternal life! Thank You for using “regular people” like Simon, Andrew, James, John, Philip, and Nathanael to spread the Good News to others! Help us to follow Jesus too, so that we might lead others to You and Your gift of life! In Jesus name, AMEN.