

Questions / Answers

1. What does the word 'disciple' mean?
Someone who learns and follows.
2. What did Jesus do before he chose the 12 disciples?
He prayed to God all night.
3. What did the 12 disciples do?
They listened to Jesus and helped him with his work.
4. How did the 4 friends get the paralysed man to Jesus?
They let him down through the roof.
5. How did Jesus show the religious leaders that he had power to forgive sins?
He had the power of God to heal the paralysed man.
6. How did Jesus show his power over weather?
He calmed a fierce storm.
7. How many people did Jesus feed with 5 loaves and 2 fishes?
He fed 5,000 people.
8. Give 2 reasons why Jesus would not let the people make him king?
*They did not want to change their ways, they just wanted the food.
It was not the right time for Jesus to be king.*
9. Who did Jesus raise from the dead at Bethany?
Lazarus.
10. What happens to believers when they die?
They go back to dust and Jesus will raise them when he comes.

Memory verses

John 15:10 Mark 4:39 John 11:25

Discussion

What can we learn from Jesus choosing his disciples? - what he did before choosing them, the sort of people he chose, how he treated Judas. How can we be disciples of Jesus?

Writing

Write about Jesus raising the widow of Nain's son (Luke 7:11—18)
OR the daughter of Jairus (Luke 8:40—56)

CBM Senior Lessons



Lesson 32 Jesus—his work

READING Mark 1:16—19; Mark 2:1—14; Luke 6:12—16;
Mark 4:35—41; Mark 6:32—44; John 11:1—7 & 17—44

LESSON

Jesus had a great work to do. He had to teach all the people about God's Kingdom and about how God wants men to live. Jesus needed some helpers. He chose twelve men to help him with the work of teaching the people. These twelve men were called disciples, which means someone who learns and follows. The disciples learned from Jesus teaching. When they had learned themselves, they were able to help Jesus with the work of teaching, calling others to follow Jesus. Jesus needed to choose good and faithful men to help him. He prayed all night to God for help to make the right choice. The next day he chose the twelve disciples.

The disciples were ordinary men with ordinary jobs. Peter, Andrew, James and John were fishermen. When Jesus called them, they left their nets behind and followed him. Peter, James and John became the closest friends of Jesus and they worked very hard to preach the Gospel after his death. Matthew was a tax collector. Tax collectors were hated by the Jews because they collected money for the Romans. Philip may have been a Greek. Simon was a political extremist. Jesus calls all sorts of people to be his disciples. Jesus is not interested in our job or whether we are important. Jesus is interested in our attitude and our desire to serve God.



Judas Iscariot was one of the disciples. He later betrayed Jesus. Jesus knew that Judas would betray him, but he treated him the same as all the other disciples. He allowed Judas be in charge of the disciples' money, although he knew he was dishonest.

The disciples left their work and travelled round the country with Jesus for about three years. They listened to Jesus and helped him with his work. God gave Jesus His power. Jesus used this power to do many miracles. The miracles showed the people that Jesus was the Messiah. They showed that the teaching of Jesus came from God.

Jesus used God's power to heal many people. These healing miracles showed how much Jesus loved and cared for people. Jesus always tried to help people in need. He healed the lame, the blind, the deaf and dumb. He healed lepers, those who had epilepsy and the mentally ill.

One day Jesus was sitting in a house talking to some important religious leaders. A great crowd of people gathered round the house. They wanted to listen to Jesus. They wanted Jesus to heal people who were sick. Four men came to see Jesus. They were carrying their friend, who was lying on a bed. They tried to get through the crowd to the door of the house. But there were too many people; they could not push their way through the crowds.

The four men climbed up the outside stairs on to the flat roof. They made a hole in the roof, big enough to lower the man down into the room below. The man was paralysed. He could not move. Jesus looked at him, and told him that his sins were forgiven. The men in the room were astonished. "Only God can forgive sins," they said. Jesus replied that he would prove his power to forgive sins. Jesus said to the paralysed man, "Get up. Take up your bed roll and walk." Immediately the man was healed. He got up and walked.



Jesus proved to the religious leaders and to the people that he had the power of God. Jesus had the power to forgive sins. He had the power to heal people. Jesus was the Messiah, the Son of God.

Jesus also showed the power of God by his control over weather. Once Jesus was in a boat with his disciples on the Sea of Galilee. A fierce storm blew up and the boat was in danger of sinking. Jesus told the storm, "Peace, be still." The wind and rain stopped. The great waves disappeared and the sea was calm. Jesus saved the disciples from the storm.

One day great crowds followed Jesus out into the countryside to hear his teaching. When evening came, Jesus saw how tired and hungry the people were. Jesus asked the disciples to find some food. They brought a boy to Jesus, who had five loaves and two fishes. Jesus took the loaves and fishes. He prayed to God, thanking Him for the food. Then Jesus broke the loaves and fishes into pieces and gave them to the disciples. The disciples took the loaves and fishes and gave them to the crowds of people. There were more than five thousand people, and there was plenty of food for everyone. In fact, the disciples gathered up twelve baskets full of pieces that were left!

This miracle made everyone very excited. The people wanted to make Jesus their king. Jesus did not want this to happen. He knew that the people did not want to change their ways and follow his teachings. They just wanted a king who could always give them food. It was not the right time for Jesus to be king so he went away and did not let the people make him their king.

Jesus also had the power to raise the dead. He raised the son of a widow woman. The widow's son was being carried out of the city of Nain to be buried. He raised the 12 year old daughter of Jairus, a ruler of the Synagogue at Capernaum.

A great friend of Jesus, called Lazarus, lived in the village of Bethany with his sisters, Mary and Martha. When Lazarus became ill, his sisters sent for Jesus. But Jesus did not go to Bethany straight away. After two days Jesus told his disciples, "Lazarus is asleep." The disciples said that sleep would be good for Lazarus. But Jesus explained, "Lazarus is dead."

When Jesus reached Bethany, he was met by Martha. Martha said that if Jesus had arrived earlier, Lazarus would not have died. Martha believed that Jesus could have healed Lazarus. Martha said, "I know that God will give you whatever you ask." Jesus said, "Your brother will rise again." Martha said, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection at the last day."

Jesus said, "I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, will live, even though he dies ..."

Then Jesus went to the grave. The grave was a cave, with a stone rolled across the entrance. It was four days since Lazarus died, so the body would already be smelling. Jesus told the people to roll away the stone. He called out, "Lazarus, come out." And Lazarus came out. He was stumbling because he was bandaged in grave clothes. Jesus said, "Take off the grave clothes and let him go."



Jesus taught that when believers die, it is like a sleep. Dead people are not conscious. They do not know anything. They have not gone to heaven. They go back to dust in the earth. They do not exist any more. When Jesus comes back to the earth, he will make those who have been faithful alive again. For believers death is like a long sleep, unconscious in the grave, until Jesus comes to wake them up again.