

Bible Story 31: JESUS CALLS HIS TWELVE DISCIPLES AND SERMON ON THE MOUNT

SCRIPTURE: Matthew 5:1-12; 6:9-13, 25-34; 7:7-8; Mark 3:13-19; Luke 6:12-19

MEMORY VERSE: "...Let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven." Matthew 5:16 **NIV**

BIBLE STORY:

Jesus went one evening on a mountainside and spent all night praying to God. The next morning, Jesus chose twelve apostles (disciples). They were:

1. **Simon Peter**.....A fisherman; Andrew's brother
2. **Andrew**.....A fisherman; took his brother Simon Peter to see Jesus
3. **James**.....A fisherman; son of Zebedee; John's brother
4. **John**.....A fisherman; son of Zebedee; James' brother; later known as beloved apostle
5. **Philip**.....Took Nathanael (Bartholomeu) to see Jesus
6. **Bartholomeu**.....Known as Nathanael
7. **Matthew**.....Known as Levi; a tax collector
8. **Thomas**.....Known as Didymus, the Twin; later known as doubting Thomas
9. **James**.....Son of Alphaeus
10. **Thaddaeus**.....Known as Judas, son of James
11. **Simon**.....Known as the Zealot; member of a revolutionary group against the Romans
12. **Judas Iscariot**...Later would betray Jesus

One day Jesus took His disciples to a mountainside to teach them. A crowd followed and listened to Jesus teach too. (*It was later known as the Sermon on the Mount*). Jesus said:

Blessed are those who mourn, because God will comfort them.

Blessed are those who are thirsty to know more about God, because they will be filled.

Blessed are the merciful, because God will show them mercy.

Blessed are those who are peacemakers, because God will call them His sons.

Be like light in the world, shining for God.

Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you.

Then Jesus taught a model prayer, the Lord's Prayer. Jesus said to pray to your heavenly Father, asking God to do His will on earth as it is done in heaven. Pray, asking God to forgive you as you forgive those who do you wrong.

Jesus said not to worry. Pray, asking, seeking and knocking for God's guidance and help.

The crowds were amazed at Jesus' teaching.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. What do you like about the story?
2. Is there anything in the story that is hard to understand?
3. Who are the main people in the story?
4. What problems did the people face?
5. How did the people face their problems?
6. How have you faced similar problems?
7. Is there someone in the story who is similar to you or who is different from you?
8. What does the story tell about God?