

Junior Teacher Guide – March 2019



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Dare to Care and Share

Get Excited!

Below are the instructions for the warm-up activity – Participate in the “Invitation RSVP.”

Show the class an old birthday party or wedding invitation you received. Share your experience of hospitality and humility at the party. Then ask students the following questions.

- Was there a time when you were not invited to a party? How did that make you feel?
- Have you ever invited an unpopular class mate in school to your party? How do you think it made them feel?

Key Verse Exercise

Read the verse to remember aloud.

When you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind....you will be blessed. (Luke 14:13-14a)

Tell students to color the words in the Word Box in their favorite color. Then write the words that are colored to reveal the verse to remember.

While	When	you	give	a	dinner	
banquet	feast		invite	the	an	poor
the	on	crippled	the	in	lame	and
God	the	Lord		blind	honored	you
will	be	thanked		blessed		

WORD BOX					
While	God	on	dinner	honored	
an	Lord	in	thanked	feast	

Read and Learn!

Read Zion and Zaya Talk about Being Humble and Kind aloud.

Zion and Zaya Talk about Being Humble and Kind

Zaya – Up is down and down is up.

Zion – That’s contradictory! How can that be?

Zaya – Jesus taught that those who humble themselves would be honored or “lifted up” while those who thought more highly of themselves than they should would be brought low or humbled.

Zion – I seem to remember a parable Jesus told that expresses this principle.

Zaya – In the parable Jesus gave instructions for responding to an invitation to a feast or a special event like a wedding. Do not seat yourself in a place of honor.

Zion – Jesus’ parable relates what might happen if an invitee takes a seat of honor without regard to the other invitees. If an invitee takes a seat of honor, he/she may be embarrassed when he/she is asked to move because a VIP has arrived and is escorted to the seat of honor.

Zaya – Not only did Jesus teach about the behavior of guests, He also taught a lesson to the host.

Zion – Yes. The host is told not to invite relatives, friends and celebrities, the rich and famous because they can repay the host with a similar invitation. A host should invite those who cannot repay him with an invitation to a similar activity.

Zaya – Jesus challenged the host to invite the blind, the crippled and the poor who could not return the favor.

Zion – God will repay those who give generously and graciously to those who cannot return the favor immediately.

Zaya – Not only does this parable teach proper etiquette, it also teaches about humility, putting others ahead of yourself. We are to seek the lower position and to serve others generously and lovingly. Jesus is our model for humility.

Rise Up!

Answers to questions in What Do You Think are underlined.

When invited as a guest, Jesus taught that you should allow the host to decide who will have the best seats.

True False

Does Jesus want us to only invite those who are our friends, family and people that are like us to our parties? No.
Jesus also wants us to show hospitality to others who are not like us.

Complete the Superhero Challenge if time permits.

Tell students Zion and Zaya want to encourage their peers to show good manners to everyone. You can help them by making a song with musical bottles. (NOTE: You will need 5 to 8 glass bottles and a spoon for this activity. Put the bottles in a line. Fill each bottle with a little more water than the preceding bottle. Strike each bottle with the spoon. The more water a bottle has, the lower the pitch will be. This is because the water adds weight to the bottle and makes heavier sound vibrations.)

Below are the instructions for the Time to Create activity – Make a birthday invitation.

Materials needed: Blank index cards, stickers, crayons or markers

Instructions: Design an invitation for your next birthday. Consider giving the invitation to someone you have never invited.

Close the lesson with prayer.

Lord God, today Jesus taught us how to be humble as a guest and hospitable as a host. Help us live out what Jesus taught the next time we attend a party and when we host one. In Jesus’ name we pray, Amen.

Paying the Cost

Get Excited!

Below are the instructions for the warm-up activity – Play “Track the Verse.”

Before class, write each of the following words (Follow, me, and, I, will, make, you, fish, for, people) on separate pieces of paper and attach them to various objects in the classroom. Ask students to look at the key verse and find the words that Jesus said throughout the classroom.

Key Verse Exercise

Read the verse to remember aloud.

Jesus said to them, “Follow me and I will make you fish for people.”...And immediately they left their nets and followed him. (Mark 1:17-18)

Tell students to use the clues to find the missing words in the verse to remember. They can find the missing words by writing the circled letters in the order they appear.

It is the opposite of near. f a r

It says “moo.” c o w

This is the greatest commandment. l o v e

This is what we call Jesus. L o r d

It follows the number 1. t w o

This is a victory. w i n

You can chew this. g u m

It is the opposite of good. e v i l

Word Choices
love
two
gum
evil
cow
Lord
win
far

Jesus said to them, “**follow me** and I will make you fish for people.”...And immediately they left their nets and followed him.

Read and Learn!

Read Zion and Zaya Talk about the Cost of Following Jesus aloud.

Zion and Zaya Talk about the Cost of Following Jesus

Zion – Sometimes we play “Follow the Leader.”

Zaya – The leader often makes some difficult maneuvers for us to follow.

Zion – Yes. It takes a lot of energy and skill to follow the leader in the game. But it costs so much more to the leader named Jesus.

Zaya – As Jesus prepared to start His public ministry, He chose twelve (12) men to become His disciples. Do you know what a disciple is?

Zion – Our Sunday School teacher Dr. C told us that a disciple is one who follows a leader and is taught by the leader and in many cases acts like the leader imitating the leader’s positive characteristics.

Zaya – I want to be a disciple of Jesus, don’t you?

Zion – Do you know what it costs to be a disciple of Jesus? In our lesson today we learn the first four disciples Jesus chose. And we will also learn what it costs to be a disciple.

As Jesus was walking along the shore of the Sea of Galilee, He saw two fishermen casting their nets into the sea. Jesus called out to them with an invitation and a promise – “Come, follow me and I will make you fishers of men.” Without hesitation, Simon (Peter) and Andrew left their nets and followed Jesus.

Going a little farther, Jesus saw James and John preparing their nest with their father Zebedee. They left their father with the hired men and followed.

Zion – Do you know how much these four men gave up to follow Jesus?

Zaya – Yes. They gave up their families, their livelihoods and their comfort to follow Jesus with no knowledge of what following Jesus would entail.

In the Luke passage of today’s lesson we find Jesus teaching what it costs to follow Jesus. If someone wants to follow Jesus, he/she must “hate” his mother and father, wife and children, sisters and brothers and even himself/herself.

Zaya – Wow! Jesus called for people to “hate.” What did He mean? I hope it didn’t mean “despise.”

Zion – By “hate” Jesus meant nothing was more important than the relationship with Him. Nothing can interfere with it. Jesus must have first place in one’s heart and life.

Another cost of discipleship is bearing a cross. Jesus was not speaking of a physical cross. The cross Jesus was talking about was establishing God’s Kingdom as we recite in the Lord’s Prayer – “Thy kingdom come” – that is, through how we serve others.

Jesus made some comparisons to explain His followers’ commitment. Jesus used the building of a tower and the cost of war to explain the cost of discipleship. If one wished to build a tower, he must count the cost and be sure he has the finances he needs to complete it. If a king goes to war, he needs to assess his ability to be successful on the battlefield. If not, the king should send an ambassador of peace to avert the war. In the same way, those who follow Jesus should understand the cost of discipleship.

Rise Up!

Answers to questions in What Do You Think are underlined.

Who were Jesus’ first disciples? Simon, Andrew, James and John

What were their jobs when Jesus asked them to follow him? Fishermen

You don’t have to make sacrifices to follow Jesus.

True False

Complete the Superhero Challenge if time permits.

Tell students Zion and Zaya to get a better understanding of the difficulties in following Jesus. Demonstrate this to them by creating a maze with roads and tracks. See if you can trace a path from one side of the maze to the other side without hitting a roadblock. (NOTE: You will need ink pads, toy cars, and blank sheets of paper for this activity. Rub a toy car on an ink pad to coat the wheels. Then drive the car over a blank sheet of paper to make roads and tracks. Do this two more times with two different colors. Put a circle around the areas where the colors cross each other. This is a roadblock. Now see if you can trace a path from one side of the paper to the next without hitting a roadblock.)

Below are the instructions for the Time to Create activity – Make a “Count the Cost” decal.

Materials needed: Copies of decal template in Appendix A (one per student), sticker paper, crayons or markers

Instructions: Before class print copies of the decal template on sticker paper. Cut out the decal patterns. You will need one decal per student. During class allow students to fill in the blank space on the decal with words or pictures. Then encourage them to color the decal with creative designs. Students should place the sticker in a place that will remind them of the cost to follow Jesus.

Close the lesson with prayer.

Jesus, thank you for your sacrifice to die on the cross for our sins. Help us to count the cost in following you as a disciple, even if it means making a hard decision. In Jesus’ name we pray, Amen.

Lesson 3 – March 17, 2019 | Luke 15: 11-24

He’s Looking for You

Get Excited!

Below are the instructions for the warm-up activity – Play “Lost or Found.”

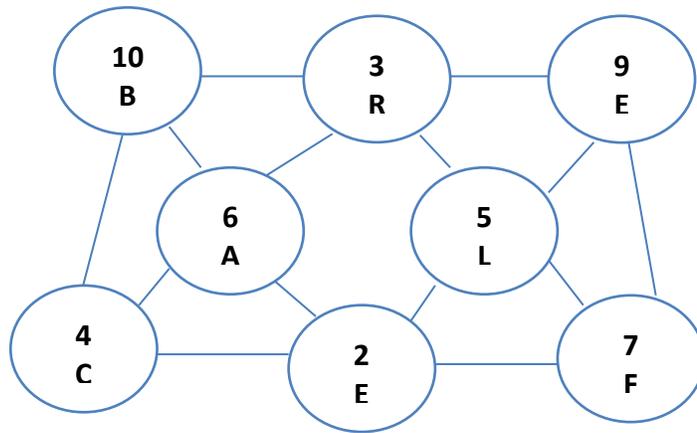
Hide items that pertain to today’s scripture lesson. Items can include (a robe, a ring, sandals, a picture of a young man, a pig, etc.) Call one item and let the class search for it. When the item is found, the students will shout – “Lost but Found!” Play the game until each hidden item is found.

Key Verse Exercise

Read the verse to remember aloud.

“Quickly, bring out a robe – the best – one and put it on him...for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!” (Luke 15: 22, 24)

Tell students to solve each math clue to find the matching letter on the number path. Use the matching letters to fill in the missing letters in the verse to remember. (NOTE: There is an error in the student bifold. The math clue to find the “c” in “quickly” should be $4 \div 1$ instead of $4 \div 2$. The math clue to find “e” in “dead” should be $10 \div 5$ instead of $10 \div 2$.)



Qui c kly, bring out a r obe – the b est one – and put it on
 $4 \div 1$ 3×1 5×2
 him...for this son of min e was d e ad and is a live again;
 3×3 $10 \div 5$ 2×3
 he was l ost and is f ound.
 5×1 $49 \div 7$

Read and Learn!

Read Zion and Zaya Talk about How Jesus Calls the Lost aloud.

Zion and Zaya Talk about How Jesus Calls the Lost

Zion – Our Sunday School teacher Dr. C challenged us to give you today’s lesson as an original skit.

Zaya – We will use both narrative and dialogue.

Zion – You have heard this story many times, I’m sure. But you’ve probably have never heard it the way we are going to tell it.

Scene 1

Narrator: A young man became disenchanted with living with his father. He was bored with tending his father’s animals and doing other chores.

Young son: There is nothing exciting around here. I need to go where I can have a good time.

Father: You have a good life here. You don’t have to want for anything.

Young son: I want to go to the big city and have some new experiences. I know I will receive an inheritance from you when you die, but I want my inheritance now. I’ve got to get away from this place.

Father: Even though your leaving home will make me sad, I will give you your portion of the inheritance I have for you and your brother.

Scene 2

Narrator: The young son was so excited about leaving home. He ran to his room, packed a bag and left right away. The young son traveled to a place far from home. He met some “friends” and partied hard,

Young son: Hey, “Bro,” how about joining me for dinner and wine.

“Friend 1”; Wow, man! You sure have a lot of money.

“Friend 2”: Sure, we’ll join you.

“Friend 3”: Then we can go to a show. We’ll find some girls and have a good time.

Narrator: The young son “partied” with his “friends” until his money ran out. All his “friends” abandoned him.

Scene 3

Young son: I’m hungry and cold. I’ve spent all my money and my “friends” have disappeared. I need to find a job and somewhere to sleep.

Narrator: The young son walked around trying to find someone who would hire him. After several days the young son came upon a pig farmer who needed someone to feed his pigs.

Young son: Thank you, sir, for giving me a job. May I sleep in the pig’s pen?

Narrator: How low the young son had fallen!

Young son: It’s been a hard day. Feeding pigs is not an easy job. Even though I’m in a pig’s pen, I’ll sleep good tonight,

Narrator: In the middle of the night, the young son woke up, thinking:

Young son: (Thinking aloud.) What’s wrong with me? I really have not been thinking. I didn’t need to work for a pig farmer. The men who work for my father have more than enough to eat and here I have been starving myself eating the slop of the pigs. I will go home and say to my father – “Dad, I have made a big mistake. I’m not good enough to be your son, but would you let me work for you?”

Scene 4

Narrator: As soon as daybreak came, the young son started on his journey home. All the way to his father’s house, he rehearsed what he would say to his father. Little did the young son know that every day his father had gone out every day looking for his son. The father would sit by the side of the road, hoping to see his son’s figure coming over the crest of the hill. Then one day, it happened. The father saw his son from away off and ran to meet him.

Young son: Father, I have made a big mis...

Narrator: The father embraced the son so strongly that the son could not finish his speech.

Father: Bring gifts to my son – a royal robe, a ring and sandals. Kill the fatted calf so we can celebrate my son’s homecoming.

Zaya – This story emphasizes what God will do for us. We may stray away from God, but God is always looking for us and waiting for our return.

Zion – Then God welcomes us back into the fold.

Answers to questions in What Do You Think are underlined.

Share your experiences at a family reunion. (Answers will vary)

Rewrite the parable from the older son's point of view. (Answers will vary)

What are some bad choices children often make? (Answers will vary)

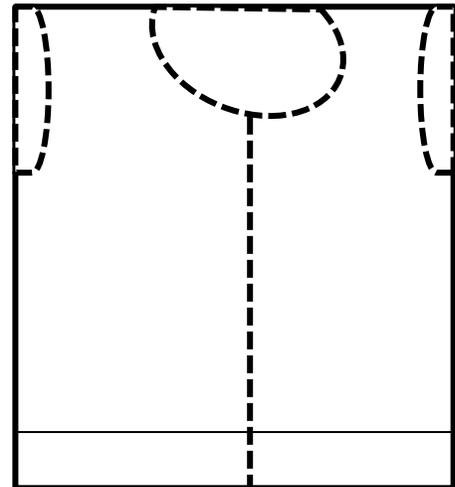
Complete the Superhero Challenge if time permits.

Tell students Zion and Zaya want to make a banner for Akeem's Uncle Jim. You can help them by designing a door hanger to welcome a family member home. (NOTE: You will need to print the door hanger template in Appendix B on cardstock and cut out the patterns before class. Students can use markers and glitter glue to create their designs.)

Below are the instructions for the Time to Create activity – Make a "Jesus Loves You" robe.

Materials needed: Plain pillow case, self-adhesive jewels or craft foam pieces, markers, scissors

Instructions: Cut an opening for the head and arms as shown by the dotted lines in the illustration. Decorate with craft foam pieces and jewels. Use markers to write "Jesus Loves You".



Close the lesson with prayer.

Lord, thank you for loving us, forgiving us and welcoming us back to you when we make unwise choices. Teach us to have wisdom when we make choices and teach us how to love others like you do when they make unwise choices. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

Lesson 4 – March 24, 2019, 2018 | Luke 19: 1-10

Jesus Saves Me

Get Excited!

Below are the instructions for the warm-up activity – Play "Can I See?"

You will need a fancy wrapped box with something special in it and two student volunteers to participate in this skit. Hold the fancy wrapped box in your hand. The first student wants to see what's in the box, but the second student does not want to show the contents. The first student pleads his or her case to convince the second student to open the box. Not happy to just see what is in the box, the first student wants to hold what is inside the box and take it home. Share with the students that in today's lesson, Zacchaeus wanted to see and hear Jesus so badly he climbed up a tree!

Read the verse to remember aloud.

The Son of Man came to seek out and to save the lost (Luke 19:10)

Tell students to use the clues to write the words in the verse to remember.



First four words

The Son of Man

Next four words

came to seek out

Last five words

and to save the lost.

Read and Learn!

Read Zion and Zaya Talk about Salvation aloud.

Zion and Zaya Talk about Salvation

Zaya – April 15th is the deadline for paying taxes.

Zion – Taxes! Ugh! The very mention of the word upsets Nana.

Zaya - She says that the only two things that are sure are death and taxes.

Zion –People who work at IRS (Internal Revenue Service) are not popular. In fact, they are disliked.

Zaya – That’s not new. In Jesus’ day the tax collector was despised and even hated. It was job of the publican/tax collector to collect taxes for the Roman government. Not only did they collect the taxes for the Roman government, they also became rich because they added fees for themselves.

Zion – Our lesson today is about such a man. His name was Zacchaeus. He worked for the Roman government and he was rich. The people despised Zacchaeus because he thought only of himself. He collected taxes from the people for Rome and for himself.

Zaya – No one wanted to associate with Zacchaeus. He had no friends. No one even wanted to be near him.

Zion – A call went out – “Jesus is coming!” (Jesus was on the Jericho road on His way to Jerusalem.)

Zaya – When Zacchaeus heard the announcement, he wanted to see Jesus. But Zacchaeus was short and could not see over the heads of the people in front of him. And because no one liked Zacchaeus, they would not let him move in front of them.

Zion – But Zacchaeus was determined to see Jesus. So he did what he had to do – he climbed up into a tree.
Zaya – All the people welcomed Jesus with shouts of joy. Zacchaeus waved to Jesus from the tree.
Zion – When Jesus saw Zacchaeus in the tree, He called to him, “Zacchaeus, come down from that tree. I want to have dinner at your house today.”
Zaya – Zacchaeus lost no time climbing down the tree. Zacchaeus took Jesus to his house.
Zion – The crowd of people who had come to see Jesus was upset. How could Jesus go to the house of the tax collector?
Zaya – But the people did not know what Jesus had in store for Zacchaeus and ultimately for them.
Zion – As Jesus talked to him, Zacchaeus’ heart was convicted. He saw the error of his ways. He understood that Jesus cared for others and so should Zacchaeus.
Zaya – Zacchaeus responded to Jesus’ love of him by promising to return the extra money he had taken from the people. He promised to even give back more than he had taken.
Zion – What a wonderfully blessed day for Zacchaeus and the people.
Zaya – Zacchaeus met Jesus and his life was changed forever.

Rise Up!

Answers to questions in What Do You Think are underlined.

Why did the people not like Zacchaeus? He was a tax collector who cheated them out of their money.

What did Zacchaeus do to see and hear Jesus? He climbed a tree.

How did Jesus change Zacchaeus’ life? Jesus changed Zacchaeus’ heart about what he was doing to the people.

How did Jesus change your life? (Answers will vary)

Complete the Superhero Challenge if time permits.

Tell students Zion and Zaya are always happy when children accept Jesus into their hearts. Help them make a drawing that shows the joy of knowing Jesus.

Below are the instructions for the Time to Create activity – Make Zacchaeus in a tree.

Materials needed: Large piece of aluminum foil, tissue paper (green and brown), picture of Zacchaeus (Appendix C), crayons or markers, glue, scissors.

Instructions: Before class cut small squares out of the tissue paper. Also cut out individual pictures of Zacchaeus (one per student). During class spread glue onto the piece of aluminum foil in the shape of a tree. Be sure to include tree limbs. Instruct students on where to gently press the brown squares and the green squares of tissue paper onto the glue. Color the picture of Zacchaeus. Glue Zacchaeus to a limb in the tree.

Close the lesson with prayer.

Lord, thank you for giving your love and salvation freely to us. Help us to continue to allow you to change our hearts so that we can act more like you. May those who are lost and don’t know you encounter you and have their lives changed forever. In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen.

Follow the Leader

Get Excited!

Below are the instructions for the warm-up activity – Play “Out of the Boat.”

Arrange chairs in the formation of a row boat with the seats of the chairs facing the inside of the boat. Ask students to sit in the chairs as if they were on a boat. Then teach them the Fishers of Men song. The lyrics are below.

I will make you fishers of men
Fishers of men,
Fishers of men,
I will make you fishers of men,
If you follow me.

After students learn the song, call one student by name to come out of the boat and stand next to you. Repeat the song with the remaining students until all the students have been called out the boat. Share that today’s lesson is about men who responded to Jesus’ call to come and follow him.

Key Verse Exercise

Read the verse to remember aloud.

Immediately they left the boat...and followed him. (Matthew 4:22)

Tell students to decode the verse to remember.

A B C D E F G H I J K L M .
! @ # \$ % ^ & * () + = x

N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z
÷ ? / : ≥ ≤ ≠ ← ↑ → ↓ Ω ∞

l m m e d i a t e l y t h e y l e f t t h e b o a t
(x x % \$ (! ≠ % = Ω ≠ * % Ω = % ^ ≠ ≠ * % @ ? ! ≠

a n d f o l l o w e d h i m.
! ÷ \$ ^ ? = = ? → % \$ * (x

Read and Learn!

Read Zion and Zaya Talk about Following Jesus aloud.

Zion and Zaya Talk about Following Jesus

Zion and Zaya were so excited about going to bible study tonight. They were going to help teach a lesson to their little superhero friends, the Faithful Five. When they arrive to the church they saw the Faithful Five assembled in their seats for bible study.

Ms. Quincy, the bible study teacher, introduce Zion and Zaya to the class. Of course, the Faithful Five knew who they were. Ms. Quincy then took her seat so Zion and Zaya could begin the lesson. Zion began by saying, “Today’s scripture lesson is about following Jesus. In this passage, Jesus is walking on the sea shore of Galilee and calls four fishermen to follow him. They immediately stopped what they were doing, got out of their boats and began to follow Jesus.”

“Excuse me?” Mekhai (one of the boys in the Faithful Five Beginner Crew) said with his hand raised high, “Why would the men just drop everything and follow Jesus? What was so special about him?”

Zaya jumped in to explain, “Back in Jesus’ day, there were many teachers called rabbis that people wanted to follow. Only the best men could be a disciple of a **rabbi**. They had to study everything the rabbi taught them. Their goal was to one day become a rabbi. Fishermen weren’t likely to be chosen to become rabbis. The fishermen were regular people just like me and you, but Jesus wanted them!”

“Wow!” Mekhai exclaimed, “Jesus doesn’t have favorites. He wants everyone to follow him. And he chose ordinary fishermen as his first disciples!”

“I have a question,” said Nevaeh (one of the girls in the Faithful Beginner Crew). “What does it mean to follow Jesus?” Zion answered, “To follow Jesus means that you have allowed him to be your teacher. He is a good leader, but you must give up everything. When you follow Jesus, your lives will change for the better. There will be days that are tough, and you will have some problems, but you must be willing to let go of things that don’t help you grow and become who God wants you to be.”

Zaya added, “Following Jesus also means that you make him first in your life. You must be concerned about how Jesus feels about the things you watch, things you listen to, the way you act and the way you treat others. All our decisions should be made with how Jesus would feel and what he would think.”

Akeem (one of the boys in the Faithful Five Primary Crew) raised his hand to share an experience he had with following the wrong person. “I remember following someone once. I followed an old friend to the playground as he bullied another student. Following Jesus helped me realize who I don’t need to hang around.”

“That’s why I love following Jesus!” said Tori (one of the girls in the Faithful Five Primary Crew), “He shows us who are good and bad influences. It’s not easy giving up our friends, but if we are going to be like Jesus, we must be an example and lead them to live the life Jesus wants us to live!”

“That’s right,” said Zion and Zaya.

Ms. Quincy thanked Zion and Zaya for a great class and encouraged everyone to always follow Jesus as their leader.

Rise Up!

Answers to questions in What Do You Think are underlined.

What did Jesus ask the men to do and how did they respond? Jesus asked the men to leave their boats to follow him and they did.

Jesus only selects special and great people to follow him? True False

How do you know if you are following Jesus? (Answers will vary but emphasize this text from the lesson story to remind students what following Jesus means. *“To follow Jesus means that you have allowed him to be your teacher. When you follow Jesus, your lives will change for the better. There will be days that are tough, and you will have some problems, but you must be willing to let go of things that don’t help you grow and become who God wants you to be. Following Jesus also means that you make him first in your life. You must be concerned about how Jesus feels about the things you watch, things you listen to, the way you act and the way you treat others. All our decisions should be made with how Jesus would feel and what he would think.”*)

Complete the Superhero Challenge if time permits.

Explain that a calling is a strong urge toward a particular action. Jesus calls all of us to follow him. Then tell students Zion and Zaya are proud to be followers of Christ. Help them make a graffiti wall by drawing pictures of the places you are called to go and the actions you are called to do. (NOTE: Tape three large black foam boards together and give each student a piece of chalk to make the graffiti wall.)

Below are the instructions for the Time to Create activity – Make the Big Foot Prayer.

Materials needed: Construction paper, copies of Big Foot pattern in Appendix D (one per student), crayons or markers, glue, stickers, craft foam pieces

Instructions: Give each student a Big Foot pattern and a piece of construction paper. Allow students to color and decorate the Big Foot. Cut out the Big Foot pattern and glue it to the construction paper.

Close the lesson with prayer.

Lord, thank you for calling our names so that we can follow you. Help us to hear your voice more clearly as you lead us daily in making the right decisions and choices. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

