

# **WE ARE CALLED BY JESUS?**

## **Why? What for?**

### **The Call of the Disciples**

Mk 3/13-19

**Note:**

- *These jottings, originally, were prepared for a vocational event for youngsters*
- *After some editing they can be given to all Christian audiences and age groups.*
- *Moderators make any changes to make them suitable to your audiences*

**Intent of these Jottings**

- *All baptized persons have been called to be Jesus' companions and disciples.*
- *We are called to be one with Jesus and family members in the Christian Family.*
- *We are called also to do things for Jesus, namely; to preach the Gospel and build God's kingdom on earth.*
- *To realize than to be with Jesus is more important than to do things for Him.*

## **1. Introductory session**

- Quiet down.
- Remain in silence for while.
- Pray with the lyrics of one or two of the vocational hymns suggested below:
  1. Come Follow me
  2. I Have Decided to Follow Jesus.
  3. All to Jesus I surrender.
  4. I'll Say Yes!
  5. It Takes Courage to Answer a Call.
  6. Walking with the Lord
  7. We shall overcome.
  8. Where He leads me, I will follow. \
- Finally sing them.

## **2. Fantasy: Jesus chooses and calls 12 followers, whom he called Apostles**

Lead the participants through a fantasy based on Mark 3/13-19

### **Jesus choose His disciples**

**The Choice.**

- Jesus went up on a mountain side .....
- He called to Him those He wanted.....
- And they came to him. ‘’

- He chose twelve, ...
- And He called them the Apostles...

### **The names of the chosen ones.**

These are the twelve he chose: Simon - *to whom he gave the name Peter* - James and John - ....Andrew, Philip, Bartholomew, Matthew, Thomas, James, Thaddeus, and Judas Iscariot,

### **The Purpose of His choice.**

And He told them: I have chosen you.....

- **First, that you may be with me:**
- **Secondly, also, I'll send you to preach** (*You will have authority to cast out demons*).

## **3. Application of the Fantasy to our life today**

### **Even today, Jesus keeps choosing disciples - you and me**

#### **The Choice.**

- He freely chose and called you and me at Baptism.... ..
- And we went to Him. ....
- He keeps choosing also many other persons to Him..... those He wants
- And He names them Disciples, Christians, Christ-like. ...
- Why? Because. He wants us to be his disciples, his apostles, his companions,...
- His choice is a privilege, not merited, a free call given to us....

#### **The Purpose of His calling us**

**First of all,** to be with Him, to be his friends, to be close to Him, to build a family, a Christian community.....

Some of us by building Christian Homes and families, still others to be priests, brothers or sisters... WHAT ABOUT YOU????

**Secondly,** to work for Him and to serve others in all possible ways as He did in his life..

## **4, Personal Work:**

Reflect on and answer to the following points, if possible in writing.

Did the disciples deserve, do we deserve to be called by Jesus? What sort of call or invitation is that of Jesus?

Why does Jesus call us?

What for does He call us?

What sort of person is He calling you and me -us- **To Be**?

What sort of task or work is He calling us **To Do** later on in life?

## **5. Teaching, Explanation based on the Fantasy.**

**Explain and stress the following points:**

### **The call to Discipleship**

- Jesus prayed on the mountain for a long time before deciding whom to call...
- Because He called us, we know that Jesus' love, friendship and choice are already ours
- To be a disciple of Jesus is an honor, a favor. It is gift to be accepted with love; yet it can be rejected and spurned. \

### **The purpose of the call.**

- **First of all**, the purpose of Jesus calling disciples is that we should be with Him. To be his friends, to live with Him
- To build sort of company or family of friends and companions in the Lord.
- **Secondarily only**, that later on, we would become his apostles, his workers, the preachers of the Good News., the builders of God's kingdom on earth.
- Keep in mind, however, that the work, the task Jesus has in mind for us – however important – takes a second place or priority in Jesus' thinking.
- The most important thing to be able to carry out the work Jesus expects from us - his Apostles - is that we be one with Him and with one another.
- If we are not united with Jesus and with one another, we shall never be able to accomplish anything worthy of Jesus.
- Being like Jesus is more important than doing things for Jesus. **Being iwith Jesus s the tree, doing are the fruits.**

## **6. Closing Prayer Session**

- Remain in silence for some time.
- Read, reflect on and sing the hymn "I Have Decided to Follow Jesus"
- **Never forget that prayer is necessary to discover God's choice and vocation**
- Personal prayer and reflection. *Give some time to reflect on the two points below.*

1) **What sort of person Jesus calls you TO BE?**

2) **What sort vocation or task He calls you TO DO?**

- *End with the Prayer of Generosity:*  
Dear Lord, Teach us to be generous,  
Teach us to serve you as you deserve;  
To give and not to count the cost,  
To fight and not to heed the wounds,  
To toil and not to seek for rest,  
To labor and not to ask for any reward  
Save that of knowing we do your will.
- Final Hymn

## **APPENDIX**

### **Suitable Vocational Hymns for the session**

Come Follow Me.  
Follow Christ.  
Go Tell Everyone.  
Have Thine Own Way, Lord  
I Abandon Myself.  
I Have Decided to Follow Jesus.  
I Surrender All.  
I'll Say Yes!  
It Takes Courage to Answer a Call.  
Just a Closer Walk.  
Make God Your Guru.  
Send Forth Your Messengers.  
Somebody Is Knocking at the Door.  
The Impossible Dream.  
The Savior Is Waiting.  
To Be Like Jesus  
Walking with the Lord  
We shall overcome.  
We Stand for God  
Where He leads me, I will follow.