

Disciples in the Open

Infant Project Pack

Notes for Teachers:

This project pack is designed to build on existing knowledge of the disciples and their work. You can photocopy the pages with puzzles or instructions for the number of children in your group. Try out the cooking and craft activities before so you are aware of how much support your children may need.

Unit 1 - Meet the Disciples:

Activity 1-2 - Activities intended to revise (or teach) the names of the disciples.

Activity 3 - Make a paper 'Disciple Garland', for sticking up at home as a reminder of the names.

Unit 2 - Fishers of Men:

Explain the concept of the disciples being chosen by Jesus to 'fish for men'!

Activity 1 - Children 'fish' for the 4 disciples Jesus chose in Matthew 4:18-22

Activity 2 - A game to extend this idea to the children's own friendships.

Activity 3 - Instructions for making magnetic fishing games to take home. (packs of adhesive magnets can be bought online)

Activity 4 - Cooking: Instructions are given to make biscuits in a fish shape. If you don't have a biscuit cutter in a fish shape you could always make card templates for children to draw and cut round.

Unit 3 - Disciples and Miracles:

Activity 1 - After reading Matthew 14:22-33 or telling the children the story, make edible fishing boats out of oranges and orange jelly.

Activity 2 - A matching game to help reinforce the understanding of the story of Jairus' daughter.

Activity 3 - A word puzzle which 'tests' the children's understanding of the Feeding of the Five Thousand

Activity 4 - Recipe for microwavable meringues. You might need to explain that this isn't really a miracle.

Unit 4 - Jesus needs Help from his Disciples:

Activity 1 - Children are asked to find times when Jesus needed his friends. They will need to find Bible references and answer questions so this is probably for the older infant and/or better reader.

Activities 2-4 - A choice of active games which the children can play to illustrate the point that just as Jesus needed help from his friends so we do too. Explain the significance of any games you choose to play. Only the last of the 3 games requires any equipment.

Unit 5 - The Disciples find Jesus is alive again!

Activity 1 - Talk about metamorphosis from tadpole to frog or caterpillar to butterfly and relate this to Jesus' resurrection.

Activity 2 - Not all the disciples were able to accept Jesus had risen from the dead. Thomas needed physical proof. You could share the story of this from John 20: 24-31 before they solve the word puzzle which identifies the doubting disciple. (Answer to puzzle - NAILMARKS)

Activity 3 - Make a miniature garden to show the open tomb. You will need to collect the materials beforehand.

Activity 4 - After reading the story of Jesus meeting his disciples for breakfast on the beach, from John 21:1-14, glue a wall hanging from material, netting, beads and buttons and hang it from a piece of dowelling. There is a small word puzzle to finish the unit.

Unit 6 - The Disciples tell the World about Jesus.

Activity 1 - A code to break to find out what it was Jesus told his disciples to do once he had ascended.

Activity 2 - A simple puzzle about the disciples leaving Jerusalem to go and preach.

Activity 3 - Map and Word puzzle to unscramble the names of some of the places where the disciples preached.

Activity 4 - Jesus is God's Son, written in speech bubbles in Italian, Turkish and French.

Activity 3 - A wordsearch to find the fruit of the spirit which all disciples need to cultivate.

Activity 6 - Making a Mediterranean smoothie.

Activity 7 - Children find out something dangerous about being a disciple.

Activity 8 - Let's tell our friends about Jesus.

Activity 9 - Playing a game about being good disciples.

Unit 1 - Meet the Disciples

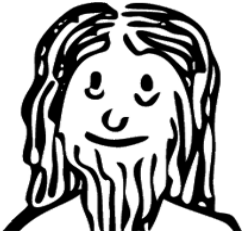
Say hello to all the disciples in the gallery! Can you remember all their names? If not, you can check them out in Matthew 10: 2-4.



P _____



Ph _____



A _____



B _____



J _____



M _____



J _____



T _____



J _____



S _____



Th _____



J _____

Unit 1 - Meet the Disciples

Now you know the names of the disciples, can you find their names in this wordsearch?

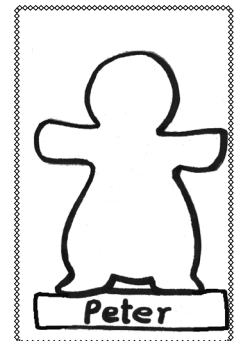
t	h	a	d	d	a	e	u	s	j	k
r	s	a	n	d	r	e	w	v	a	c
d	p	f	e	i	j	h	g	l	m	m
p	h	i	l	i	p	s	u	n	e	a
j	p	p	a	t	h	o	m	a	s	t
o	a	e	j	a	m	e	s	a	y	t
h	b	t	e	g	m	t	i	d	o	h
n	p	e	n	s	j	l	m	x	h	e
b	a	r	t	h	o	l	o	m	e	w
e	i	j	u	d	a	s	n	w	r	a

James
Thaddaeus
Andrew
John
James
Peter
Philip
Bartholomew
Matthew
Thomas
Simon
Judas

How to Make a Disciple Garland

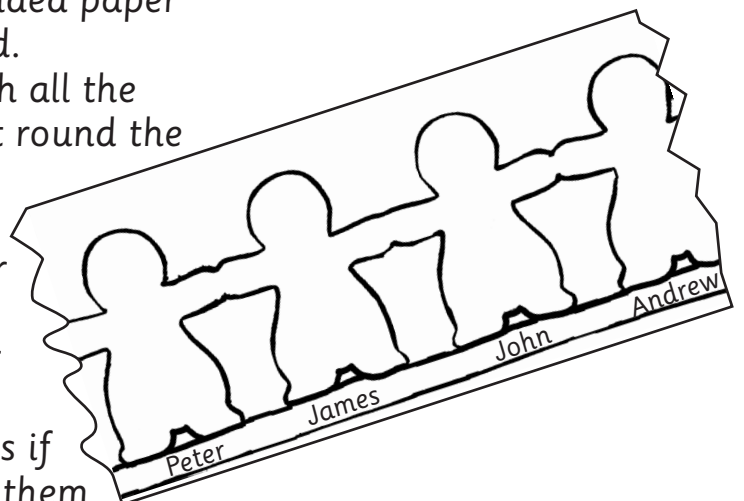
You will need:

- A card template of a disciple like this one
- A long strip of paper zig-zag folded into 12 and large enough to accommodate the template
- Scraps of coloured paper, crayons or felt pens
- Scissors and glue



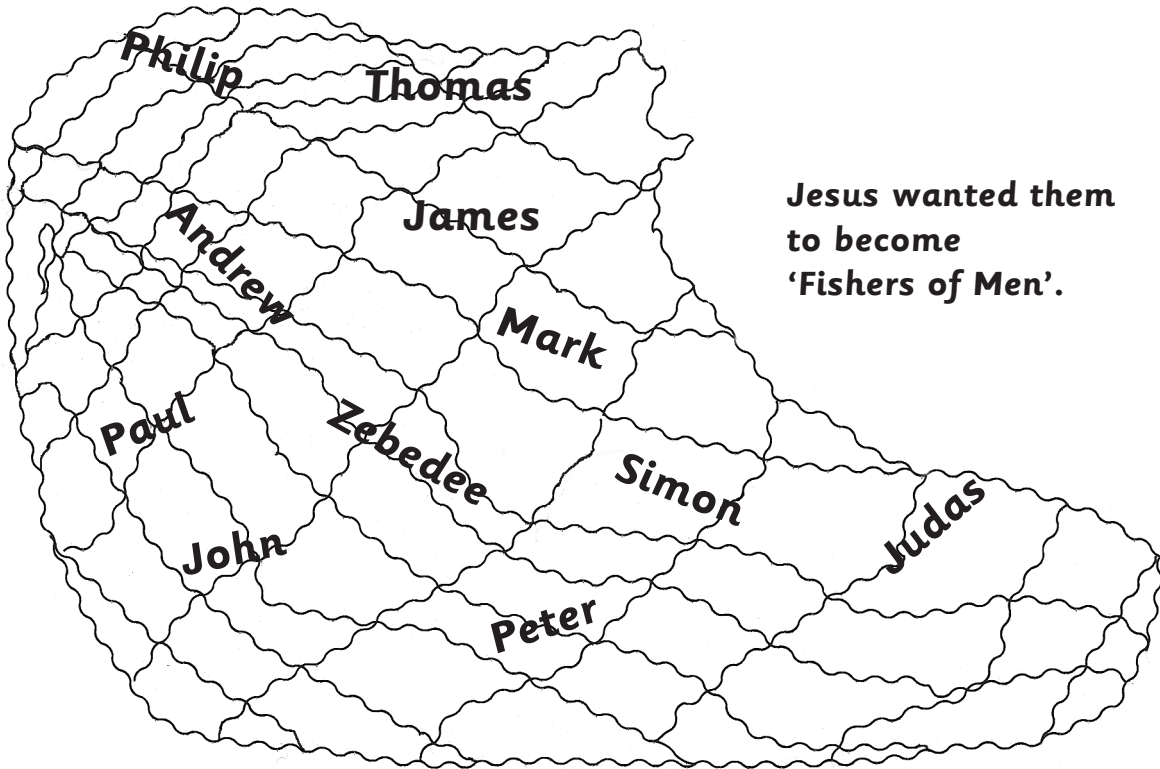
What to do:

1. Draw round the template onto the folded paper strip so that each hand touches a fold.
2. Cut round the disciple outline through all the thicknesses of paper but DO NOT cut round the hands at the fold or they'll all fall apart!
3. Open out the disciples and write their names in the boxes underneath.
4. 'Dress' them with the scraps of paper and colour them with pens.
5. Take them home and ask your parents if you can put them where you will see them often so you can learn the names of the disciples.



Unit 2 Fishers of Men

Which 4 fishermen did Jesus choose to follow him in Matthew 4:18-22?
Draw a fish shape round each one.



Game:

We can be 'Fishers of Men' as well and bring other people to know God and Jesus. Make a fish shape out of paper and write on it the name of someone you would know who does not yet come to Sunday school but who you would like to. Then play this game:

You need:

- 2 teams of children
- 1 old magazine per team
- one cut out and named fish shape (about 30cm long and 20cm wide) per team member

How to Play:

- Make a starting and finishing line on either side of your room.
- Teams line up behind the starting line with each person holding their fish.
- Player One has the magazine and on the word 'Go', has to fan his fish to move it across the floor and over the finishing line.
- The player then runs back to give the magazine to the next player, who then has a go.
- Fish can only be moved by fanning.
- The winning team is the one with all their fish over the finish line first.

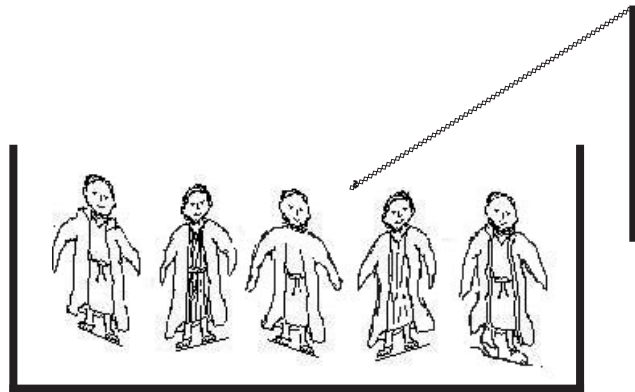
Unit 2 - Fishers of Men

You will need:

- Small magnets (available over the internet)
- Short (green) garden canes
- Nylon cord
- Cardboard box
- Paper clips
- Paint, felt tip pens, stickers
- Glue gun
- Sellotape

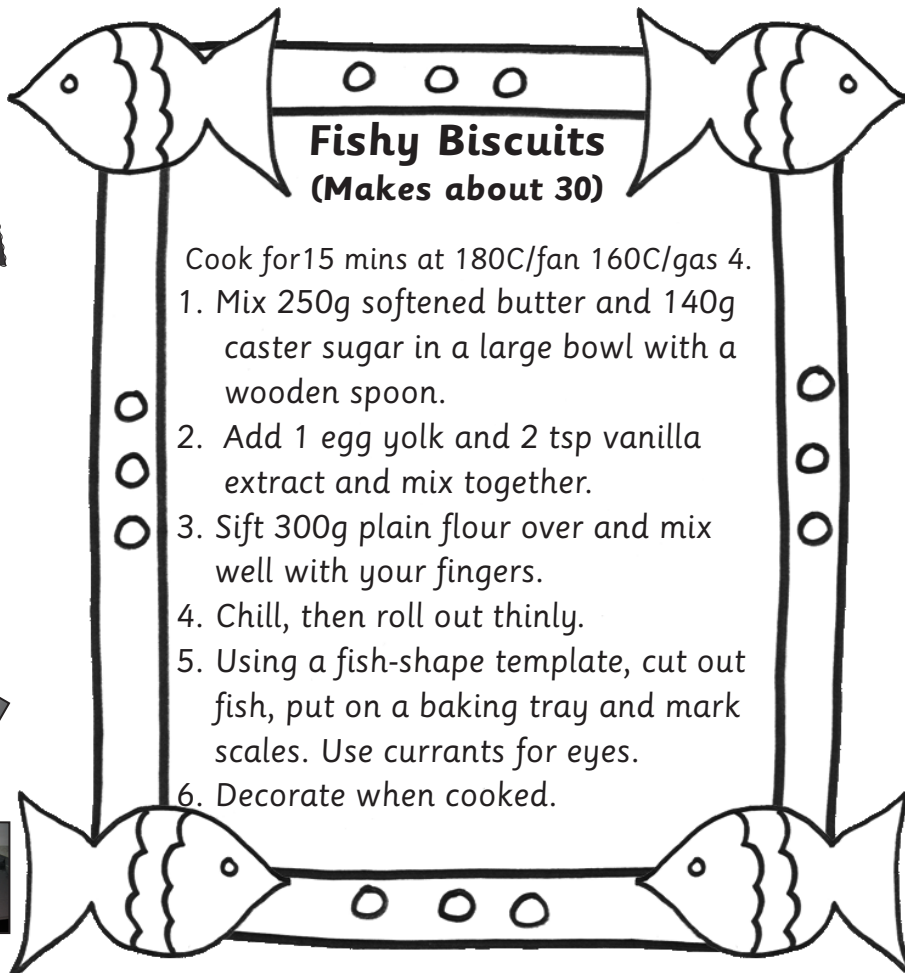
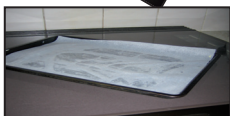
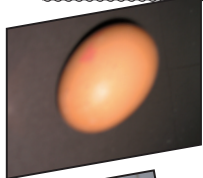
Make a Magnetic Fishing Game

You can go fishing for men in this game!



What to do:

1. Take off and keep any flaps from the box. Paint box inside and out to look like sea.
2. Make the fishing rods - Tape length of cord to each stick. Use glue gun to attach a magnet to the other end of the cord.
3. Draw, colour and cut out as many people as you want from the flaps. Attach a paper clip to the top of each head.
4. Time to play! - Put the people in the sea box and cast your line. How many can you catch?



Fishy Biscuits (Makes about 30)

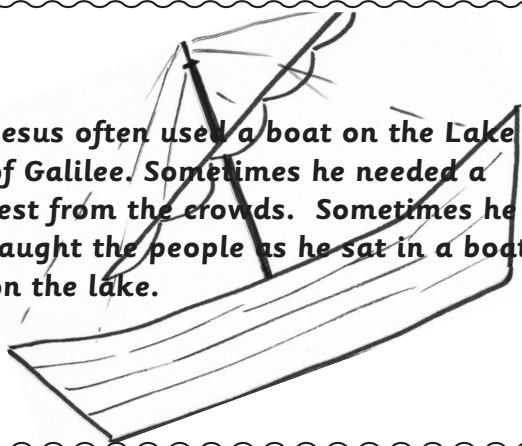
Cook for 15 mins at 180C/fan 160C/gas 4.

1. Mix 250g softened butter and 140g caster sugar in a large bowl with a wooden spoon.
2. Add 1 egg yolk and 2 tsp vanilla extract and mix together.
3. Sift 300g plain flour over and mix well with your fingers.
4. Chill, then roll out thinly.
5. Using a fish-shape template, cut out fish, put on a baking tray and mark scales. Use currants for eyes.
6. Decorate when cooked.



Unit 3 - Disciples and Miracles

Jesus often used a boat on the Lake of Galilee. Sometimes he needed a rest from the crowds. Sometimes he taught the people as he sat in a boat on the lake.



Read the story of when the disciples were caught in a storm on the Lake of Galilee in Matthew 14:22-33.

Then tell your teacher which disciple showed most faith in Jesus and what Jesus did when that disciple became scared.

How would you like to make boats you can eat?! This is how

To make Orange Boats you will need:



large oranges (half per person)
a packet of orange jelly
cocktail sticks, sellotape and coloured paper or sticky paper for sails
jelly babies for sailors

What to do



1. Make up an orange jelly following the instructions on the packet and leave to cool but not set.

2. Cut the large oranges in half.

3. Slice off the base to make it flat.

4. Scoop out the flesh (and either eat (!) or add to the jelly)

5. Carefully pour the cooled runny jelly into the orange halves.



6. Cut out the paper to make small sails and then tape them to a cocktail stick. When the jelly is nearly set, stick the sails into the jellies.



7. Add jelliy babies for sailors and cocktail sticks for oars.



8. ENJOY

If you want to make a whole edible scene, you could make the lake out of set green jelly that you have whisked up a bit with a fork, the beach out of grated yellow fondant icing. Make a crowd of people from more fondant icing, any colour and put them on the beach. You could add shrimp sweets or make chocolate or icing ones. Could you even think of a way of making nets?

Perhaps other classes would like to see your scene. I'm sure they'd like to help you eat it!!

Unit 3 - Disciples and Miracles

Jesus showed Peter, James and John a very special miracle. A little girl was very ill. Sadly she died. Jesus made her alive again. Read her story in Luke 8: 41-42 and 49-56. Draw pictures of the people under their names and then draw lines to join up the right people with what they might have said.

Jairus

“Don’t be afraid. Just believe.”

Jesus

“Your daughter is dead. Don’t bother Jesus any more.”

Peter, James, John

“My daughter is very ill and she is only 12 years old. Please help.”

Family friend

“ Stop crying. She is not dead. She is just asleep.”

Jesus

“Jesus just told her to get up and she did.”

Unit 3 - Disciples and Miracles

John, the disciple, wrote about a special day when Jesus fed 5000 men as well as women and children. You can read the story in John 6: 5-13. When you've read the story, try this puzzle:

Answer the questions to find out what the missing letters are. Then read the letters in the boxes to give you the name of another disciple who was there that day.

What was his name? _____
 What did he do? _____

Clues:

1. _ _ _ _
2. _ _ _ _ _ _ _
3. _ _ _ _
4. _ _ _ _ _
5. _ _ _ _ _
6. _ _

1. Jesus told the people to sit on the _____.
2. Jesus said _____ to God before they ate.
3. 5000 men ate _____ that day.
4. The loaves were made from _____.
5. _____ baskets were collected afterwards.
6. The boy brought _____ fish.

How to make Microwavable Meringues. Almost a miraculous transformation!

You will need to



Beat one egg white lightly in a bowl.

Sift 300g icing sugar onto the egg.
 Mix together until it is thick and pliable.



Mould into 24 balls and put them, 3 at a time on a microwavable plate, covered with parchment paper.



Cook each batch on high for 50 secs.

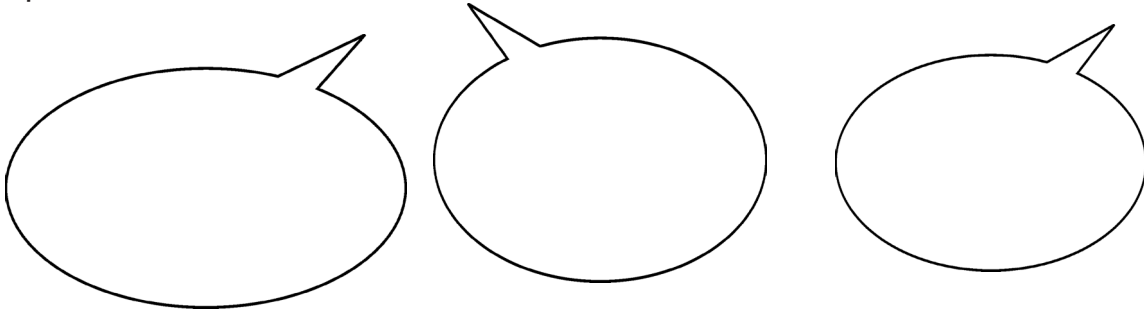
Serve with fruit and cream or chocolate-flavoured cream cheese (such as Philadelphia)

Unit 4 - Jesus needs Help from his Disciples

Sometimes Jesus especially needed his friends:-

Often the people did not believe Jesus was God's son but Jesus really wanted his own disciples to believe him. Did they?

Read Mark 8:27-30 and write in the first two speech bubbles what some people said about Jesus:
BUT Peter said:



NOW..... Read Luke 22: 39-41 What did Jesus want his disciples to do with him?

AND..... Read Mark 14:29-31 to see what Peter said.

Even if I have to die with you, Jesus, I will never say I don't know you.

Draw what they did. (verse 45)

A large empty rectangular box with a double-line border, intended for drawing the actions of the disciples from Luke 22:39-41.

What did he do? (verse 71)

A large empty rectangular box with a double-line border, intended for writing about Peter's actions from Mark 14:29-31.

The disciples would have been sorry when they let Jesus down.

What about you? How can you help Jesus?

A large empty rectangular box with a double-line border, intended for writing a personal response to the question about helping Jesus.

Unit 4 - Jesus needs Help from his Disciples

Teacher's Page - GAMES TO HELP US THINK ABOUT HELPING JESUS

Frog-in-the-Bog

Equipment needed: None

To play: One player is chosen as 'It'. The rest are frogs. Any player who is tagged must crouch down, frog fashion and go 'Ribbit! Ribbit!' loudly to show he's 'stuck in the bog' and needs help. A free frog may release stuck frogs by leap-frogging over them. The game ends when the bog is full and all the frogs are 'Ribbiting' with no-one left to release them. The last frog left hopping free could become 'It' for the next round.

Teaching Point: We should all be working together to help each other out of tricky situations so we can serve God together to the best of our ability.

Get Out of This!

Equipment needed: None

To play: This can be played in two teams as a race, or just by one group of children with up to about 6 members. Players should stand shoulder to shoulder in a circle facing inwards. (or two circles for the race version) Everyone must then shut their eyes and put both hands forward into the centre of the circle and grasp two other hands at random. They then open their eyes and then try to untangle themselves without letting go of each others' hands.

Teaching Point: Did those children freed first advise the others to help them? Do we try to help others who have problems. Helping people with problems sometimes means we literally have to 'bend over backwards' to help. Jesus did even more than that for us so we should do our best for others and in so doing will be doing it for him.

Blindfold Breakfast

Equipment needed: You need a bar of chocolate on a plate or chopping board, a knife and fork, and for each team a dice, a blindfold and a pair of gloves. (If the children are very young, you may prefer to have the chocolate broken into pieces and a spoon and fork used instead)

To play: Put the chocolate on its plate or board, together with the knife and fork, on the opposite side of the room to the players. Give each team a dice, blindfold and gloves. To begin, teams pass the dice round trying to throw a six. As soon as one player does, he has to put on the gloves and get someone to blindfold him. The team turn him round 3 times and then direct him to the chocolate, knife and fork and where to cut. He has to try to eat a square of chocolate before someone from the other team throws a six and takes over the cutting! End the game when all have had a go or the chocolate has gone. Share any left over chocolate!

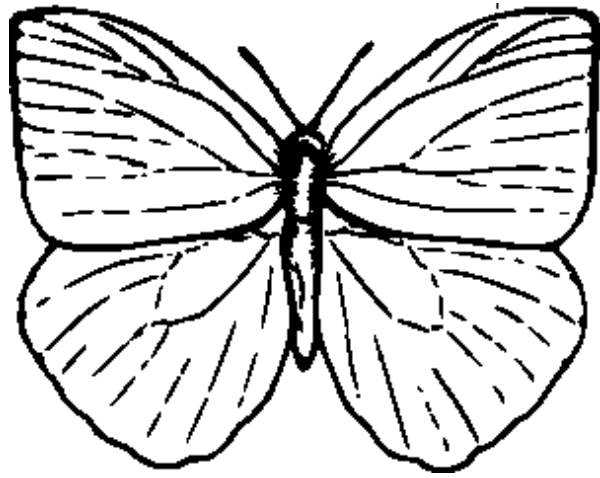
Teaching Point: How well did the team give directions? How helpful were they? Could we trust what they said? We can always trust Jesus to help us but can he trust us to help others to the best of our ability?

Unit 5 - The disciples find Jesus is alive again!

In nature, many creatures change their bodies as they grow. So snakes shed their skin, tadpoles change to frogs and caterpillars change to butterflies.



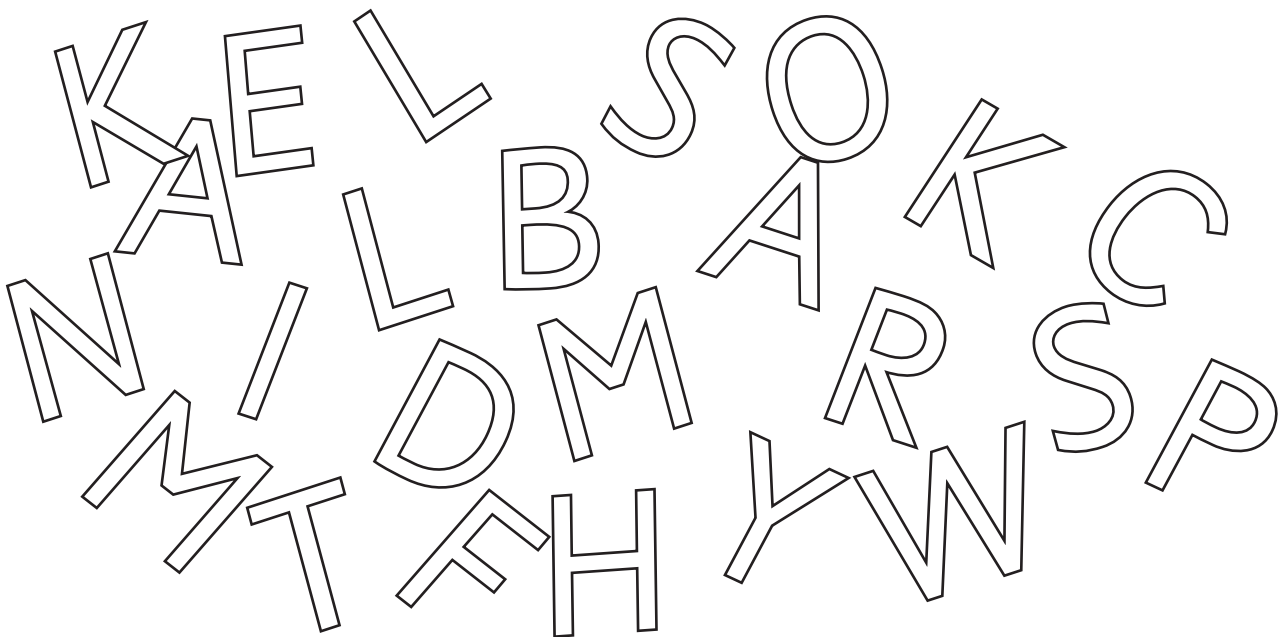
**New Life from
the Old**



You and me, Jesus and his disciples and everyone who has ever lived have bodies that sometimes feel poorly and sad and sometimes well and happy. When God raised Jesus from the dead, his body had changed. He could still enjoy a good meal, still enjoy his friends BUT no longer could he feel poorly or sad. His body would no longer grow old. He was going to be with God for ever. The disciples found this hard to understand especially Thomas. Read his story in John 20: 24-31.

Thomas said he would not believe Jesus had risen until he saw what?

Colour in the correct letters to say what Jesus showed Thomas.



Unit 5 - The disciples find Jesus is alive again!

Let's celebrate!

Make a miniature garden scene to show the empty tomb.



You need:

- A large lid, like an old biscuit tin lid
- Black, brown and white poster paint and brush
- PVA glue and brush
- Stones and pebbles, different sizes and colours
- Gravel or sand
- Bits of bark and twigs
- Small fresh flowers, leaves and moss
- photo or picture of hillside (optional)

What to do:

1. Glue small pieces of kitchen towel to cover the lid.
2. Paint brown and white so it looks dappled.
3. If you are using a photo or picture fix it as background.
4. Paint a circle shape on the side of the largest pebble so it looks like the entrance to the tomb.
5. Position this pebble at the back of the tin lid and put another pebble in front to be the stone that was rolled away.

6. Glue these stones in place.
7. Arrange and glue other stones around the edge.
8. Put glue over the rest of the painted surface and sprinkle the gravel or sand onto it.
9. Arrange the pieces of bark and twigs to make trees or bushes.
10. Add moss and flowers and leaves on stalks to make your garden look good.



Unit 5 - The disciples find Jesus is alive again!

Breakfast on the Beach - Jesus eats with his Disciples

Read the story with your
teacher

John 21:1-14



Make a wall hanging to remind you of this story.

You will need a piece of blue felt or similar material large enough for the hanging, some scraps of coloured felt and netting, buttons, beads and trimmings for decoration. You will also need wooden dowelling from which to hang your picture.

What to do: Make waves from green and blue felt scraps and netting, arrange in overlapping layers and glue them onto the large blue felt piece.

Cut out fish shapes, decorate with circles of fabric and glue fish to waves. Use buttons or beads for eyes.

Cut out 4 strips of fabric to make loops along the top edge of the hanging and glue in place. Thread the wooden dowelling through the loops.

Do you like your finished wall hanging?



Jesus shared bread and fish with his friends for that special breakfast. **Unscramble these words** to find out what you could share with your friends:

W S T E E S

E I T M

N R D I K














M L S S I E































S Y T O

R A T S E T

Unit 6 - The Disciples tell the World about Jesus.

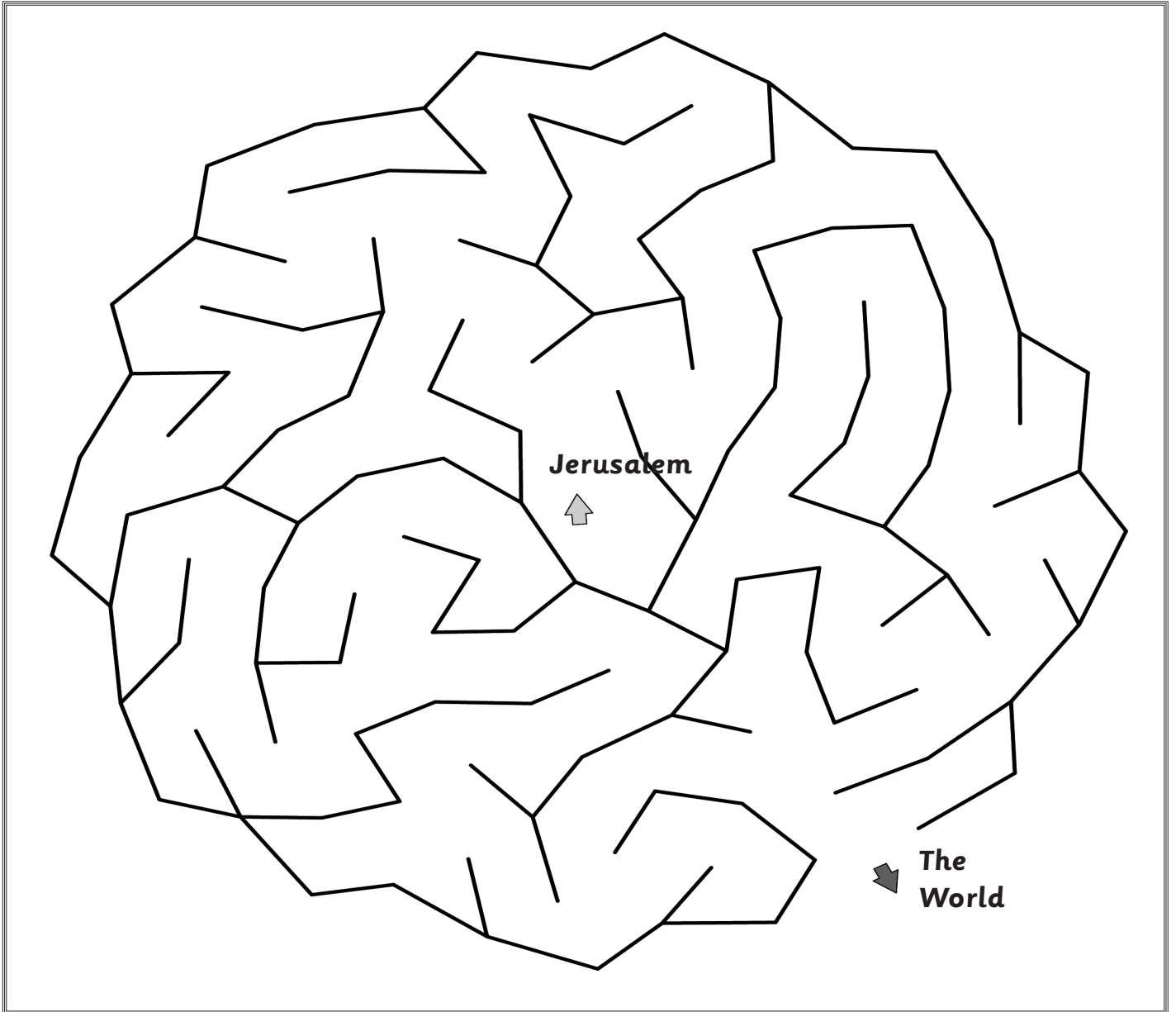
Before he went to heaven, Jesus told his disciples to do some special work.
Use the code to work out what this was.

												
a	c	e	h	i	l	n	o	p	r	s	t	w

Unit 6 - The Disciples tell the World about Jesus.

Can you help the disciples to get out of Jerusalem so they can preach to the whole world?



Can you unscramble the names of some of the places where the gospel was preached?

SSENONITHCA LTAMA RSSUAT PEHSEUS THCORNI THENSA MEOR

E _____ C _____ A _____ R _____

TH _____ T _____ M _____

Can you and your teacher find any of these places on the map on the next two pages?

Unit 6 - The Disciples tell the World about Jesus.



Unit 6 - The Disciples tell the World about Jesus.



Unit 6 - The Disciples tell the World about Jesus.

At **Pentecost**, the disciples were given special powers so they could teach people about Jesus. Everyone understood them even though they came from many different countries. What a miracle!

Do you know what these languages are?



Teachers - answers on introductory page

God wants **us** to grow the fruit of the holy spirit in our lives.
 Can you find the fruit hidden in these letters.
 Remember to look across and down.
 (If you're stuck, have a look at Galatians 5:22)

f	a	i	t	h	f	u	l	n	e	s	s
a	g	b	c	d	e	f	o	g	h	i	h
j	o	k	l	m	n	o	v	p	q	r	u
j	o	y	s	t	u	p	e	a	c	e	m
v	d	p	a	t	i	e	n	c	e	w	i
x	n	k	i	n	d	n	e	s	s	y	l
s	e	l	f	c	o	n	t	r	o	l	i
z	s	a	b	c	d	e	f	g	h	i	t
j	s	k	l	m	n	o	p	q	r	s	y

F _____ P _____

H _____ K _____

G _____ S _____ - _____

L _____ P _____ J _____

Unit 6 - The Disciples tell the World about Jesus.

The disciples preached all around the Mediterranean Sea. Have you ever been there on your holiday? There is lots of lovely fruit to refresh you when it gets very hot. How about making a Fruit Smoothie so you can enjoy the Mediterranean without even catching a plane!?

How to Make a Mediterranean Fruit Smoothie

You need:

- 1 Cup black seedless grapes
- 1 Cup green seedless grapes
- 1 Cup strawberries
- 1 Medium ripe banana
- ½ Cup plain yogurt
- 1 Tablespoon of honey
- ½ Cup ice (Optional)



What to do:

Rinse your fruit thoroughly. Place the fruit in a blender and mix on high until all of the fruits are well blended. Add the yogurt and honey. Blend again and enjoy.

Sometimes being a disciple was quite dangerous:



Read Acts 12:v3 to find out which disciple was put in prison.

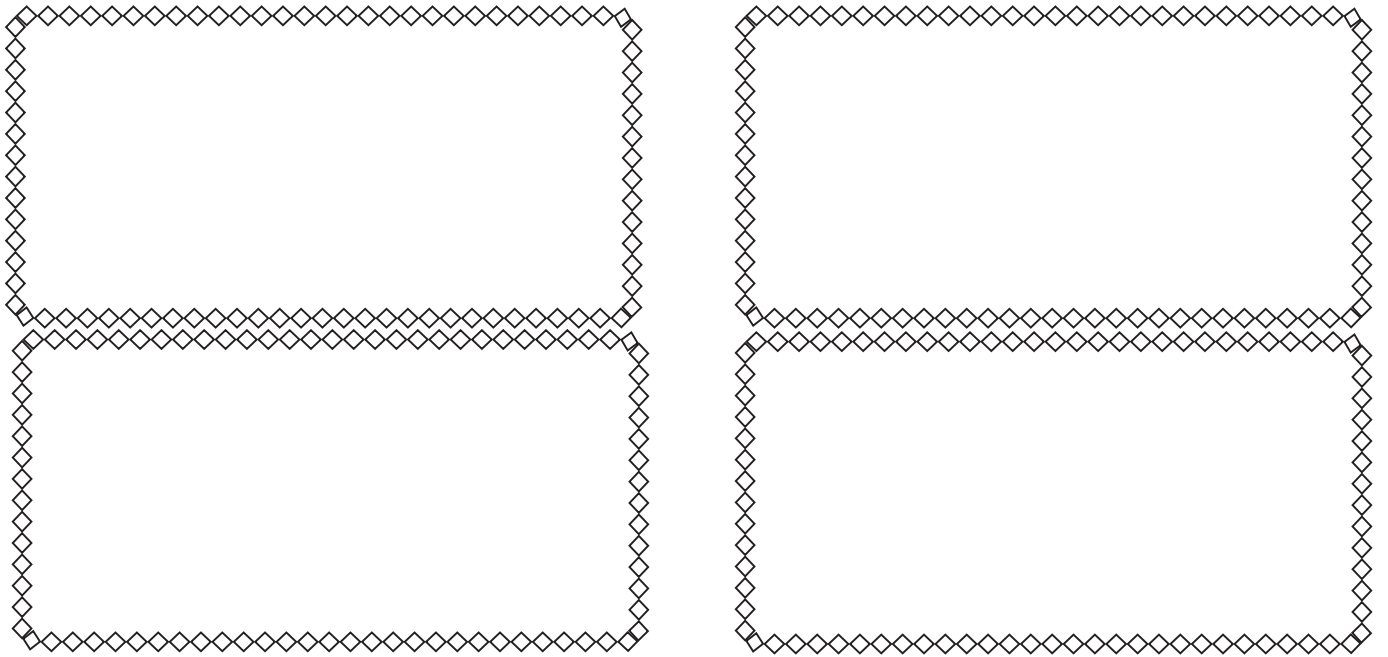
It was _____

King _____ put him in prison.
Who brought him out?
Draw a picture in the box to show what happened.



Unit 6 - The Disciples tell the World about Jesus.

Can you think of ways you can tell your friends about Jesus and his wonderful kingdom to come? Write or draw your ideas here:



Let's finish with a game to remind us to be good disciples

of Jesus -

Conductor

Equipment needed: blindfold

To play: Children sit in a circle. You are going to pretend to be an orchestra. One child is chosen to be the leader. He will have to select a pretend instrument to play and the other children will copy him.

He repeats this, changing instrument every so often.

The game is that a volunteer is blindfolded before the leader is chosen and then has to guess who the leader is by watching the children carefully to see who leads

the new choice of instrument. If he guesses correctly, another child volunteers to be blindfolded and so on.

Teaching Point: The game centred around the leader - but without letting on who everyone was following. Is that how we should be following Jesus?

Surely not!! We should be making it obvious who we are following and why.

Can the children think of ways in which we could be 'giving ourselves away' as followers of Jesus?

