



Week of **May 28 - a**

Scripture: Mt 8:18-21

Main Idea: Jesus now encounters a scribe who says he's willing to follow him. Jesus tells him it will not always be easy, and that following God will require sacrifice.

Questions

Preschool: Jesus tells us to follow him with full faith. Would it be hard to leave friends and family if God asked you to?

Grade school: In order to follow Jesus and be faithful, what will you sacrifice in your future? Do you think being a Christian will cost you any friends? Probably. It's hard to stay on the right road with people who want to go a different way in life. Jesus wants us to decide ahead of time, that we will be faithful to him and our beliefs, even when it gets hard.

Teen: What kind of sacrifices have you made to follow God? Are there other sacrifices you need to make? Do you think this earthly life was difficult for Jesus?

Adult: Jesus's reply to the disciple who wanted to bury his father seems harsh, especially given they buried quickly in Bible times. Some scholars believe that in verse 21, the disciple's father had not yet died, meaning the man wanted to wait till a future time to follow Jesus. Does this shed a different light on the interchange? Have you ever wanted to postpone following Jesus, or doing something you were called to do, until you had gotten your life in order? Did it become an excuse to do your own will rather than the Lord's?

PRAYER REQUESTS

PRAY:

For God to help us be ready and willing to sacrifice for him when it is needed.

May Memory Verse:

Philippians 4:13 (ESV)

I can do all things through him who strengthens me.



Week of **May 28 - b**

Scripture: Mt 8:23-27

Main Idea: Jesus' faith is contrasted with the disciples' doubting. We can surely relate to the disciples since we have times when our fear overcomes our faith. But our goal is to have the kind of trust in God that would allow us to sleep peacefully during a storm.

Questions

Preschool: Do you ever worry about things or have things that scare you? Do you stop to pray when you are worried or scared? Why do you think God wants us to do this?

Grade school: Can you sleep through a big storm? The kind with thunder and lightning? It's hard sometimes to have peace and be calm when there are worrisome things going on in our lives. What is something that you sometimes worry about? Do you think that Jesus wants you to trust him and have peace?

Teen: When the disciples were afraid they turned to Jesus (the Word). When you are fearful do you remember, or think to turn to the Word (Jesus)? If your faith (and trust) in God increases, would your fear decrease? How so?

Adult: Do you think Jesus went to sleep when the storm was raging? Or did he go to sleep before the storm rose? Some people are able to let go and not try to control the outcome once the storm has arrived. Others worry before it comes, and all the way till bright skies return. Are you more able to trust in God when a storm is on the horizon or when it has broken over you? Why? Are you one of the people who has learned to trust that God will take care of you no matter what? If so, how did you learn to firmly plant faith in God? Was it going through a trial yourself or maybe watching another?

PRAYER REQUESTS

PRAY:

For God to help us have peace and trust in him when we are in the middle of hard times.

May Memory Verse:

Philippians 4:13 (ESV)

I can do all things through him who strengthens me.