



JESUS PICKS HIS TEAM

IJ1-4

Theme/Value **Friendship**

Notes:

Intro

What teams do you know? Who chooses them?
What are they looking for?

Game
Appendix B

'Choose Your Team' - for a given scenario, select 6 team player cards. Is it a good team? Why?

Story

Ref: Mark 1:16-20; 2:14
Jesus Calls Some Disciples - Appendix A

- Disciples reactions/feelings to Jesus calling them
- Being chosen
- Disciples ready to take on new experiences
- First time you met your friend
- Friendship is a gift
- Jesus wants to be our friend

Reflection
Appendix B

It's Jesus, who is He to you?

Chooses everyone, has lots of friends, welcoming, my friend...?

Song suggestion

I am a friend of God

Prayer

Thank you for all our different friendships. Thank you for the fun, experiences and adventures we have with our friends. Thank you for the support and love they give us. Help us to be good friends and to be open to new friendships. Thank you that you love us and will always be friends with us.

Equipment

Team cards
Appendix D

Suggested Entry Music

I'll be there for you (Theme from Friends) - The Rembrandts





Appendix A: Story

Jesus Calls Some Disciples

It was a busy morning at the Sea of Galilee, fishing boats of all shapes and sizes were already bobbing up and down on the water and on the shore even more fishermen were preparing their nets to go fishing. Simon Peter and his brother Andrew were about to throw their nets into the water when somebody on the shore called out to them.

"Come follow me," the stranger shouted.

"Who is that man?" Andrew asked his brother.

"It's Jesus," Simon Peter replied, "the cousin of John the Baptist. I've heard that heaven opened when he was baptised, they're saying he is the son of God."

"Come and follow me," Jesus called again, "and I will send you out to fish for people."

"Fish for people?" Andrew turned to his brother, "what does that mean?"

"I don't know," Simon Peter replied, "but I want to find out, let's go!"

The two brothers hurried to row back to the shore and join Jesus.

Two more brothers, James and John were stood on the shore preparing their nets with their father Zebedee.

"Come with me," Jesus called to them.

"It's Jesus." John said to his brother.

"Let's go with him and see what he will do." James replied.

The four brothers followed Jesus along the road into the town. It was market day, stalls of all shapes and sizes were set up along the roadside.

"Where is he going?" Andrew whispered.

Jesus stopped by a small market stand; Levi was sat collecting taxes for the Romans.

"Eurgh, I hate tax collectors," James muttered to his brother, "why is Jesus stopping here?"

"Follow me" Jesus said to Levi.

"Why is Jesus calling him?" Simon Peter asked.

"What is he going to do with the money?" John wondered out loud.

Levi looked up at Jesus, he looked down at the money at his market stall, then he stood up, leaving all the money behind and followed Jesus as he walked along the road.

On Jesus went and everywhere he went he called people to follow him; people of all shapes and sizes, men and women, young and old. "Follow me," Jesus said, and wherever he went, people followed him.



Appendix B

Game: Choose your team

Choose 12 children to hold a team player card. Ask them to strike an appropriate pose. Ask for 2 more children to choose a team for a given scenario.

"You need to put together a team for each of these situations. Which 6 people would you choose for your team? Why?"

Scenarios: Find the missing hamster; Make the baby go to sleep; Save your school;

Team Players: Strong Sam; Friendly Fred; Fast Fiona; Quiet Kwasi; Kind Kemi; Listening Luke; Energetic Emma; Clever Cleo; Organised Ola; Helpful Hanna; Loud Lee; Calm Callum

I wonder what the reasons were for Jesus choosing his team? Do you think they were the same as yours?

Reflection

How did everyone react when Jesus asked them to join him?

Why do you think they did this?

How do you think they felt?

Why do you think Jesus chose them?

How do you feel when you're picked for a team?

The bible doesn't tell us why Jesus chose these people to be his followers, his friends. They had different jobs, different personalities and came from different situations. They didn't hesitate to give up what they were doing and go with him. They must have seen that he was someone very special and they wanted to be with him. They were excited by the thought of new experiences and adventures with him.

Think about when you first became friends with one of your friends. Where were you? What were you doing? You were probably playing together or talking together and you just clicked and knew you would be great friends. It wasn't that they were the best at something, it was because there was a good feeling between you. How did you feel? You were probably happy and excited about the fun you would have together and the adventures and experiences you would share. It's a great feeling.

It's good to be open to new friendships, like the disciples were with Jesus, and to take opportunities to make new friends: when someone joins your class, when you join a new activity group. Friendship isn't based on being the best or even being really good at something. A good friendship, like a good team, is not about skills, but about trust and love between you. Friendship is a wonderful gift to give or to be given.

Christians believe that Jesus wants to be our friend and calls us to him, just like he did the disciples. He wants us to know him, to be part of our lives and for us to have adventures and experiences together.

Notes:



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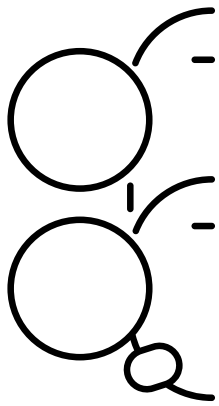
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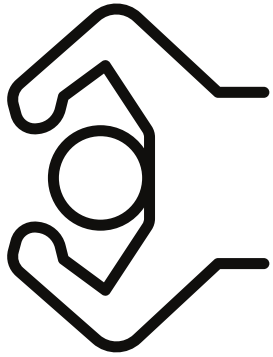
Friendly

Fred



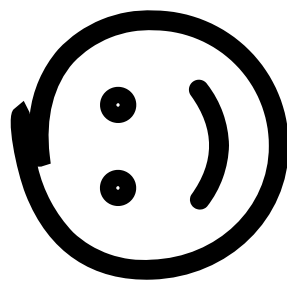
Strong

Sam



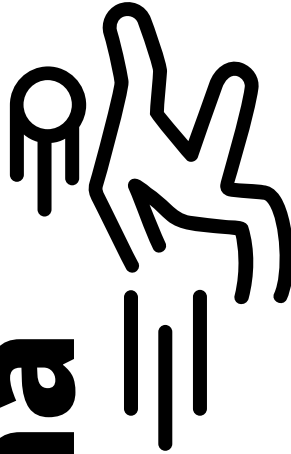
Quiet

Kwasi



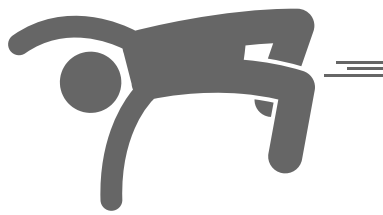
Fast

Fiona



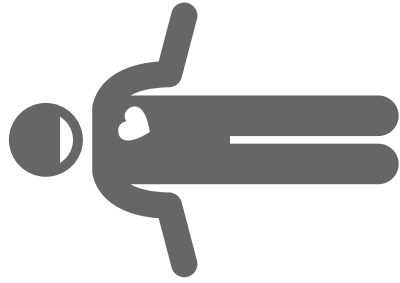


Energetic



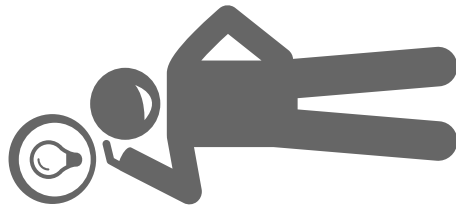
Emma

Kind



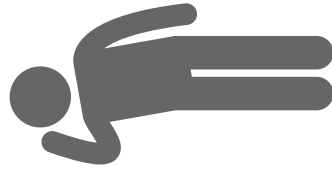
Kemi

Clever



Cleo

Listening



Luke



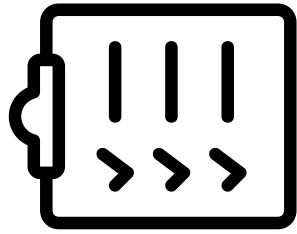
Loud

Lee



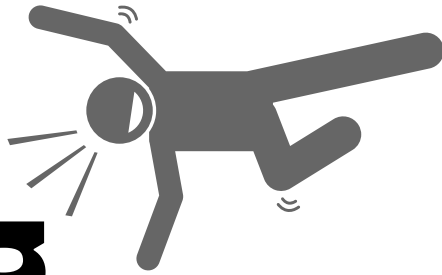
Organised

Ola



Excited

Esther



Helpful

Hanna

