1st Grade TUESDAY

jesus & me
choose kind

The Point: CHOOSE TO FOLLOW

Bible Story: Calling of Matthew (Matthew 9:9-13)

Memory Verse: For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works. **Ephesians 2:10**

Precept: Do all the good you can, by all the means you can.

12:30 – 1:10 In classroom	Welcome and opening
1:15 – 2:00 In Sanctuary	Drama/Missions/Music $ Don't forget missions money $
2:05 – 2:30 Various spots	Rotation Check the schedule this will change every day
2:35 – 2:55 In classroom	Bible Story Exploration
3:00-3:30 In Classroom	Classroom Wrap Up **Daily Precept** **Kindness Video**

Provided Materials

- Sticky notes
- Something to write with
- VBC Journals
- 4 cups
- 4 baggies of 25 pennies
- Butcher paper
- Printout of the Precept
- Word search

You Supply

Welcome ...

Welcome & Opening Game
Supplies Needed: sticky notes, something to write with, Journals,

Greeting
Welcome and greet your kids as they enter the room for the first time. Use the acronym W.A.R.M. to guide your welcoming time. As leaders be "W.A.R.M." toward your kids.

W-Welcome and greet each child by name every day!
A-Actively Participate-Kids notice when the leaders are sitting on the edge. Join in and participate in all the experiences of camp even when you are not leading them.
R-Relationship Building-Kids will open up if they know you care for them. Ask questions, get to know them this week.
M-Model Jesus- For some kids, you may be the only person to show them how to follow Jesus.

Early Arrival Activity
As kids arrive, have sticky notes and markers available. Ask kids to think of something kind they saw someone do lately. Invite kids to write or draw the kind things on the sticky notes and place them on a section of wall. Pull out VBC journals for the kids to work on after they finish with sticky notes.

Gather everyone together.

Say: Welcome back to Day #2 of VBC! I've been so excited to see you again! In case you forgot, my name is _____ and we're hanging out together this whole week. Our theme is "Jesus & Me: Choose Kind". Before we do anything else, let's make sure we know everyone in our group.

Say name
Say what you ate for breakfast that morning

Say: Yum! Breakfast food is some of my favorite food! Well, yesterday we talked about the kindness Jesus showed Zacchaeus. Who can tell me one thing they remember about Zacchaeus? *Allow time for answers.* You all were really paying attention yesterday! Great job! Yes, Zacchaeus was a short little tax collector that no one really liked. But Jesus chose to eat dinner with Zacchaeus. We also learned that Jesus chose you; you and I are important and valuable to God. God showed us the greatest kindness by sending His Son, Jesus, to this earth. Jesus hasn't just chosen Zacchaeus, but Jesus has also chosen you and me!

Let's review our Camp Guidelines.
- **Participate**– take part in everything.
- **Pay Attention**- Listen to those giving instructions or teaching you. Camp will be more fun if you are paying attention.
- **Respect Others**- Everyone in this room is important to God and important to us, the teachers. We need to be respectful of everyone in this room. That means we include everyone in our activities; we say nice things; we let others go first; etc.
- **Have Fun!** This could be the best week of your summer, so let's have fun!
- **Choose Kindness -** Treat everyone the way you want to be treated!

Welcome …

Walk to sticky note wall. You've all made some wonderful kind pictures and words over here. Mention a few specifically. Your amazing kindness wall tells me something. There are big ways to show kindness and small ways to show kindness, (offer examples from the wall) and they are ALL important! Even though as kids you may be smaller than grown ups, the kindness you can show others is a super bid deal.

Game - Pirates Orders
Say: Today our story is about someone who chose to follow Jesus. He followed Jesus' instructions. Now let's see if you can follow the instructions of our first mate!

Directions:
First Mate yells out a command and students must follow the command exactly. The commands are:

Crow's Nest: Get in groups of 2 and begin rowing a "boat"
Hook: Hold up your pointer finger and yell "ARGHH"
Fire in the hole: Everyone gets on their knees crouches down and covers their head
Land Ho: Get in groups of 4 and use air binoculars to look in the distance
Yo Ho Ho: Everyone yells back…."A pirate's life for me."

Play for fun for a few minutes then then line up to head to the Sanctuary.

1:10-Depart for The Sanctuary
$ Don't forget missions money $
1:15-2:00-Drama in Sanctuary

Immediately following your time in the Sanctuary you will rotate to a station.

2:05-2:30 ROTATION
(See full schedule in binder)

Tuesday rotation schedule for 1st Grade:
Blue, green, orange & purple go to Recess
Red, teal and yellow go to Recreation

Bible Story Exploration…

Quick Game to Start:
Penny Stacking Challenge…
Supplies: 4 cups/baggies of 25 pennies

Say: Today our story is about Matthew choosing to follow Jesus. Before Jesus, I kind of imagine Matthew sitting all by himself at his kiosk stacking and counting money so let's have a little penny stacking challenge. We will give 4 of you 25 pennies and you will have 30 seconds to see how many of these you can stack using only ONE hand. We'll let everyone play 1 time and then we will take the top 2 scores and let them face off in a championship round. (If campers are able to stack all 25 pennies in 30 seconds then winners are determine by speed and who did it the quickest.) After your group has declared a winner **ask:**

- Why didn't people like tax collectors in Bible Times? After a few answers mention these suggestions:
    - Even today no one likes having money taken from them and given to the government
    - Tax collectors worked for the Roman Empire and the Roman Empire treated the Israelites badly
    - Tax collectors often cheated people

Story Review
Supplies: Bible Story printout on next page

Opening Prayer
Before each Bible story review, invite kids to sit comfortably. Invite a camper to open the time in prayer, then read the story printout (Adapted from Egermeier's Bible Story Book)

After reading,
Say: Like Zacchaeus, Matthew was another outsider that Jesus showed kindness to, but that's not all Jesus did. Jesus called Matthew to stop living a life of cheating and UNkindness and then told Matthew to follow Him. Following Jesus was so important, and still is today, that Matthew left his money table right then and there, just to follow Jesus.

Have you ever been called to do something? Maybe it was by an adult or a friend, maybe it was someone asking you to do something kind for another person and put that person first. I would like to hear some of your thoughts.

- Have you ever been chosen for something cool? What was it?
- Why do you think Jesus chose Matthew?
- What is Jesus calling us to do?
- Are you being called to show kindness to anyone?

Day 2- Choose to Follow
Story: Calling of Matthew from Matthew 9:9-13
Story adapted from Egermeier's Bible Story Book

Jesus Calls Matthew

In the land where Jesus lived, there was one group of Jews who were hated and despised. They were the tax collectors who worked for the Roman government. Because they had to give taxes to the Roman government, they were not really free. The Jews wanted to be a free nation with their own ruler. They did not like the Romans or anyone who worked with the Roman government.

The tax collector's job was to collect tax money from the Jews for the Roman government. Often the tax collectors secretly took more money than the Romans charged. In this way they stole from the people and became rich themselves.

Not all tax collectors robbed the people by taking too much tax money. Because some did, the people thought all tax collectors were dishonest. For that reason the people called them sinners.

One day Jesus walked along the street in the city of Capernaum. There he saw Matthew sitting at a tax collector's table, collecting tax money from the people. Even though many Jews hated Matthew, Jesus knew that Matthew had a good heart, that he would make a good disciple. To Matthew he said, "Follow me."

Gladly Matthew left his money table and followed Jesus! As Matthew walked away, he thought about his many friends who would like to see Jesus. How much Matthew wanted them to hear Jesus' words!

At his home Matthew gave a great banquet. He invited many friends who were also tax collectors. Jesus and his disciples were the guests of honor.

Even though they had not been invited, the proud scribes and Pharisees gathered in the courtyard of Matthew's house. They watched the dinner party and talked to each other about what they saw. They criticized Jesus for being with these tax collectors and sinners. They felt no good person would do such a thing.

Finally the scribes and Pharisees called Jesus' disciples aside and asked, "Why does your master eat and drink with tax collectors and sinners?"

Jesus heard what the proud Jews had said. He answered, "Those who are well do not need a doctor, but the people who are sick do need help. I have not come to call the righteous people, but I have come to call sinners to repent."

The scribes and Pharisees thought they were too good to need to forgiveness. The tax collectors and sinners, however, admitted they had done wrong. Many of them listened to Jesus' words and repented of their sins.

Matthew, the tax collector, became a true disciple. One of the books in the New Testament is called the Gospel according to Matthew. It records more of Jesus's words than any of the other Gospels.

Bible Story Exploration...

Lunch with Jesus!

Say: Imagine Jesus is going to eat lunch with us and we get to decide what food to serve! Should we pick foods that we like? Or foods that Jesus might like? Should it be healthy or just delicious? Let's take a few minutes to make a list of the foods we would serve Jesus for luch. (you can write the answers on butcher paper if you'd like)

Say: Delicious meal ideas! I think Jesus would enjoy having lunch with us! In our Bible story today there were some people that were so upset that Jesus was showing kindness to Matthew and his friends and sharing a meal with them. But Jesus continued his mission and soon he and Matthew were on their way to change the world. Jesus didn't just call Matthew and the other disciples to follow him. He also called all of us. In Ephesians 2:10 it says that **"We are God's handiwork created in Christ Jesus to do good works."** Jesus is calling us to show kindness. Will we be like Matthew and follow Jesus?

Classroom Wrap-Up

Precepts
Say: Each day at VBC we are going to have a precept for you to think about. Who remembers what a precept is? Does anyone remember the precept we learned yesterday? ….I am fearfully and wonderfully made (point to sign)

Our precept for the day is…. Do all the good you can, by all the means you can. (hold up sign)

Say: This precept is the beginning of a longer quote by John Wesley the founder of the Methodist church. (BTW-you are in a Methodist church right now) This precept is calling you to choose to follow Jesus by doing good; by showing kindness.

What exactly might Jesus be calling us to do? I'm going to read a statement to you. If you find the statement to be true, I want you to do the action that goes along with it. Are you ready?

Clap your hands 3 times…if you think Jesus is calling you to show more kindness to your family.

Stand up…if you think Jesus is calling you to show more kindness to your neighbors.

Fall on the ground…if you think Jesus is calling you to be more kind at school this fall.

Move in slow motion…if you think Jesus is calling you to show kindness to those you don't even know.

Whistle if you think Jesus is calling you to show kindness to those you play sports against or those you compete against in club competitions.

Say: Jesus is calling you to show kindness in all these ways and more. Being kind is choice we make, much like Matthew made the choice to follow Jesus. Sure we will mess up but Jesus loves us and will help us to become stronger in showing kindness. Let start right now to be more kind. When we leave VBC in a few moments let's commit to being as kind as Jesus is calling us to be.

Pray together. You can pray, ask a camper to pray, or read the prayer below.

Dear Jesus, you have chosen us for something great!! You have called us just like Matthew to go and share your love to everyone, we can start by being kind. Help us to choose kind this week and every week. May we remember our precept to do all the good we can, by all the means we can. In Jesus Name! Amen.

Extra Time – Journal Time! Pull out your VBC journals and work in the day 2 section!

Classroom Wrap-Up

Daily Kindness Video

Supplies Needed : word search, something to write with, Kindness Video

Say: Each day we will wrap up our time together with an example of people showing kindness in our world. As you watch these videos hopefully it will inspire you to show kindness like these cool people. Our 2nd video is about a group of boys who showed kindness at school. Let's watch it together!

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xdeuivQYnas

Ask: Whether these kids knew it or not there were following the example of Jesus by inviting this kid with special needs to be a part of their group. Kind of reminds me of our Bible story in a way when Jesus called Matthew to be part of his group. Jesus is calling you to follow him and lead with kindness.

Say: What might Jesus be calling you to do? Maybe Jesus will use something you are already good at, Jesus can take your talents and things you are good at and use them to make a difference in the worlds.

Hand out a word search. Campers will be searching for words that all have to do with things they might be good at. They might find music, art, sports, kindness, helping others, etc. Give them 3-4 minutes to find as many as they can. After 3-4 minutes call time and have campers do 1 jumping jack for every word they found

Say: Jesus has chosen you to do great things with the talents you have been given. All of us have been chosen by Jesus to show kindness to those around us.

Dismissal

Say: It's been another great of camp with all of you! Let's choose to follow Jesus by doing good and showing kindness. See you back tomorrow!

- Be sure the kids take home their mission collection cans.