

HANDS-ON FAITH

LESSON SNAPSHOT

BOTTOM LINE:

God wants us to follow Jesus and trust His Word.

BIBLE STORY:

Matthew 4:18-22, Jesus Calls the First Disciples

SUMMARY:

Jesus called four fishermen to be his first disciples. They had no idea they had taken their first steps on an amazing life adventure. The life of faith begins when we make the decision to believe that what Jesus says and did was true.

SIMPLE PRAYER:

Dear God,

Thank you for calling us to be your disciples.

*In Jesus' name,
Amen*

HANDS-ON FAITH



HANDS-ON FAITH

SKIT

SCREWBALL SCIENCE: GET IN THE BOAT

ITEMS NEEDED:

Lab coats, a tub of water, a styrofoam boat (from today's experiment), a toothpick, and dish soap, a live preserver

CHARACTER BREAKDOWN:

2M

CHARACTERS:

Dr. Hairball and Dr. Lipschtick

The science experiment is set up on the table. Hairball and Lipschtick enter. Lipschtick is wearing the life preserver.

HAIRBALL: Hello, everyone and welcome to Screwball Science. I am Dr. Hairball, and with me as always is my partner, Dr. Lipschtick.

LIPSCHTICK: Yo ho ho, Dr. Hairball!

HAIRBALL: Dr. Lipschtick, why are you wearing that life preserver?

LIPSCHTICK: Why aren't you wearing a life preserver?

HAIRBALL: Well for one thing, I'm not on a boat. I'm also indoors, and no where near a body of water.

LIPSCHTICK: But I thought today's experiment was about a boat!

HAIRBALL: It is about a boat. A little tiny boat. See?

LIPSCHTICK: Wow, that is a little tiny boat.

HAIRBALL: What do you say we take this little tiny boat for a ride?

LIPSCHTICK: I don't know, Dr. Hairball, I don't think there's room for us on the boat.

SKIT

HAIRBALL: We're not going to get in the boat. But we are going to send it sailing across the little tiny tub of water here.

LIPSCHTICK: Cool!

HAIRBALL: Do you want to tell the children how we will propel our little tiny boat?

LIPSCHTICK: A little tiny motor?

HAIRBALL: Do you see a little tiny motor on this table?

LIPSCHTICK: No, I don't! It must be really tiny.

HAIRBALL: Dr. Lipschtick, what if I were to tell you that we can propel our boat with a little dab of liquid soap?

LIPSCHTICK: I don't know. Is that something you are likely to say?

HAIRBALL: I already said it!

LIPSCHTICK: Then the answer is yes.

HAIRBALL: Believe it or not, a little bit of soap applied to the back of the boat is all we need to send him on his way.

LIPSCHTICK: Him? What if the boat is a girl?

HAIRBALL: Then we can send her on her way!

LIPSCHTICK: How exciting! But Dr. Hairball, why do we want to send that boat on a journey? What's the point?

HAIRBALL: What if I was to tell you that Jesus wants us to set out on a journey with him?

LIPSCHTICK: I don't know. Is that something Jesus is likely to do?

HAIRBALL: He already has! Just as Jesus said to four fishermen, "Follow me," Jesus is calling all of us to follow him and be his disciples.

LIPSCHTICK: Cool!

SKIT

HAIRBALL: When we trust in Jesus, we will be like the little boat. We will set out on a journey that will last a lifetime, learning about Jesus and serving others in his name.

LIPSCHTICK: Amazing!

HAIRBALL: Well, Dr. Lipschtick, how about you? Are you ready to take a journey with Jesus?

LIPSCHTICK: I think so.

HAIRBALL: Great!

LIPSCHTICK: As long as the fishermen take showers before they come. I don't wanna be smelling dead fish the rest of my life.

HAIRBALL: That's all for Screwball Science today, kids. We'll have another hands-on experiment next week. See you then!

LIPSCHTICK: And don't forget to wash your hands! Especially if you're a fisherman!

HANDS-ON FAITH

OBJECT LESSON OR KIDS SERMON

ITEMS NEEDED:

A piece of flat styrofoam (from a take out box) or non-corrugated cardboard

A toothpick

A large tray or tub with water

Dish soap

Instructions:

Cut the styrofoam or cardboard into a boat-like shape, with a triangular notch cut in the back. Make the boat about 2 inches long.

Using the toothpick, apply dish soap to the notch in back of the boat, covering all sides of the triangle.

Set the boat in the water, and watch the boat take off!

Note: to re-create the experiment with a new boat, you will need to dump the now soapy water and start again with fresh water.

To see a video of this experiment, you can visit this website:

<https://sciencebob.com/build-a-soap-powered-model-boat/>

Application:

Soap is a surfactant - that's a science word that means a substance that breaks down the surface tension of the water. The reaction of the soap and the water causes just enough disturbance to propel the boat on a journey through the tub.

God wants all of us to take a journey with Jesus. That journey begins when we make the choice to believe and follow Jesus. Just as Peter, James, John, and Andrew left everything behind to follow Jesus, God wants us to give Jesus our heart.

A life-long adventure awaits anyone who is willing to trust in Jesus. Are you ready to begin your journey today?

HANDS-ON FAITH

LARGE GROUP GAME

PAPER REGATTA

ITEMS NEEDED:

Two paper sail boats or toy boats
A tub of water, or a kiddie pool

INSTRUCTIONS:

Choose two players for this game. Give each player a paper sailboat. On your signal, the two players will set their boats down on one side of the tub or pool and blow on their boat. The first person to propel their boat with air to the other side of the tub wins.

VARIATION:

Kids can use fans (pre-made or kid-made) and wave the fans at their boats, propelling them with wind power in this fashion instead of using their breath.

WHAT'S THE POINT?

Just as wind, and soap, can set a boat on its journey, Jesus wants to set us on a life-long journey following him.

HANDS-ON FAITH

LARGE GROUP LESSON

BOTTOM LINE:

God wants us to follow Jesus and trust His Word.

BIBLE STORY:

Matthew 4:18-22, Jesus Calls the First Disciples

INTRO:

How many science lovers do we have in here today? How many of you think science is the best subject in school? How many of you love science so much, you would study it even if you weren't in school?

Those of you who are science lovers, let me ask you another question. What was it about science that made you love it?

Science is different from other subjects in school because more than any other subject, science is studied outside of books. Sure you can read books on biology, chemistry, physics, astronomy, geology, zoology, botany, microbiology, and dozens of other sciences, but the best way to do science is to DO science!

If you want to study animals, don't just read a book. Go see the animals! Watch the animals in a zoo. Or observe them in nature. Study how they look, how they move, how they eat, and how they interact with other animals. That's the way to learn about animals.

The same can be said for any other science. Why read about physics when you can conduct experiments that show you physics in motion? Why only read about chemistry when you can take two different substances in a lab, combine them, and observe for yourself what they do.

(Optional: Have a small glass with a few scoops of baking soda inside sitting on a table. When you read the last sentence above, pour some vinegar into the glass to illustrate your point! This can make a mess so be sure to test before hand and have a cookie sheet beneath the glass to catch the excess.)

Science is hands-on. And guess what? So is faith.

LARGE GROUP LESSON

God loves when we get our hands dirty studying science and the world around us, but more importantly, God is calling us to get our hands dirty doing the work of Jesus.

READ MATTHEW 4:18-22

MAIN POINT:

Before Jesus began his ministry, he called twelve men to be his disciples, his closest followers and his number one students. These twelve men, starting with the four fishermen John, Peter, Andrew, and James, came from all walks of life. They would observe every miracle. They would hear every parable. They would witness his arrest, and they would witness his resurrection and ascent into Heaven.

These twelve disciples trusted Jesus was who he said he was. They trusted him enough to give up their former lives and follow him. They were the first to go out and make other disciples when the time came to form Christ's church here on Earth. Because of these twelve men, we are here today, worshipping God and learning how Jesus is calling all of us to follow him. God called all of us adults to serve him, which is why we are here today. He is calling you to be hands-on with your faith, to believe in Him and follow Him every day.

DRIVE IT HOME:

Many Christians miss out on the joy of being hands-on in their faith because they don't realize God wants them to be hands-on. They think that teaching and serving and sharing the good news is only for people called to full-time ministry. They don't trust that Jesus can use anyone to make a difference in this world.

Science lovers, let me ask you another question. Are scientists the **ONLY** people who can do an experiment in gravity, like dropping different size balls off a balcony to see which one falls fastest? Are scientists the **ONLY** ones who can study nature, observing the wildlife and plants in your backyard? Are scientists the **ONLY** ones who can build machines and do experiments and study volcanoes? Are scientists the **ONLY** ones who can watch the stars through a telescope?

Jesus didn't call twelve religious leaders to be his disciples. He started with four fishermen. He picked men that would never have been chosen to teach or preach in the church at that time. Yet these men trusted Jesus so much, they took the gospel around the world.

Everyone who believes in Jesus can have a hands-on faith. Everyone can love and serve and teach in the name of Jesus. All we need is a heart willing to trust Jesus and do what he has called us to do.

LARGE GROUP LESSON

Are you ready to get your hands dirty? Are you ready to learn how to be a hands-on Christian? It all starts when we put our trust in Jesus and say, “Yes, Lord, I will follow you!”

CLOSE WITH A SIMPLE PRAYER:

Dear God,

Thank you for calling us to be your disciples.

In Jesus’ name,

Amen

HANDS-ON FAITH

SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION (K-2ND)

ICEBREAKER:

What's your favorite thing about science?

SMALL GROUP GAME/ACTIVITY:

Play a game of Simon Says. Do you trust your "Simon" enough to follow what he tells you to do?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

Read Matthew 4:18-22

What job did Peter, Andrew, James, and John have?

What did Jesus tell them he would do for them?

What did these four fishermen do when Jesus called them?

Can anyone who believes in Jesus serve him in a hands-on way?

What is one thing you think Jesus would want us to do this week to serve him?

SIMPLE PRAYER:

Dear God,

Help us to trust you and obey your Word.

In Jesus' name,

Amen

HANDS-ON FAITH

SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION (3-5TH)

ICEBREAKER:

What's your favorite thing about science?

SMALL GROUP GAME/ACTIVITY:

Play a game of Simon Says. Do you trust your "Simon" enough to follow what he tells you to do?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

Read Matthew 4:18-22

What did Jesus tell the fishermen he would do for them?

Why do you think Jesus called people who were not religious leaders to be his disciples?

What did the disciples do after Jesus returned to Heaven?

Can anyone who believes in Jesus serve him in a hands-on way?

What is one thing you think Jesus would want us to do this week to serve him?

SIMPLE PRAYER:

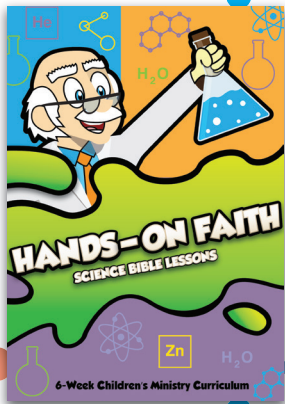
Dear God,

Help us to trust you and obey your Word.

*In Jesus' name,
Amen*

HANDS-ON FAITH





MAKE IT STICK

5 Simple Ways You Can Make This Lesson Stick With your Kids

Hands-On Faith Lesson 1

THIS WEEK'S LESSON: FAITH BEGINS WHEN WE BELIEVE IN JESUS



IN THE CAR:

Ask your child what they learned about today on the drive home: Jesus called four fishermen to be his first disciples. They had no idea they had taken their first steps on an amazing life adventure. The life of faith begins when we make the decision to trust that what Jesus says is true. Matthew 4:18-22, Jesus Calls the First Disciples



HANGING OUT:

Make today's lesson real: Do this week's experiment at home with the kids, and then ask them what this experiment has to do with what we learned about the disciples following Jesus.



AT DINNER:

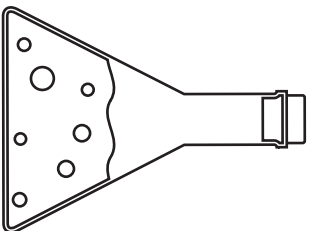
Here are some great discussion starters:

- What kind of people did Jesus choose to be his disciples?
- What does it mean to be "fishers of men?"
- What are some ways you can be "hands-on" about serving God?

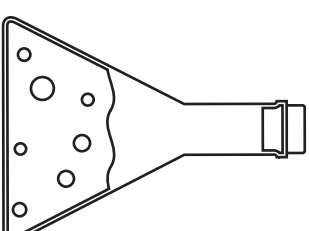


PARENT TIME:

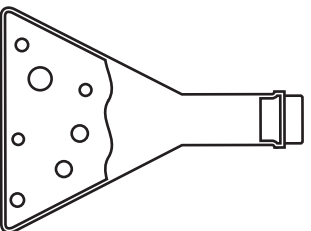
What you need to know: God wants us to trust Jesus enough to follow him and do the work he commanded. Pray that you and your kids will have a heart for serving others so that God can use your family to lead others to Jesus.



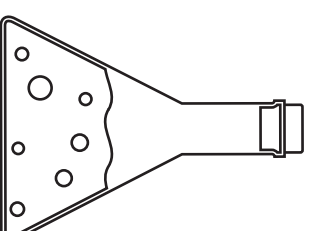
"Faith is being sure of what we hope for. It is being
sure of what we do not see."
- Hebrews 11:1 (NIV)



"Faith is being sure of what we hope for. It is being
sure of what we do not see."
- Hebrews 11:1 (NIV)



"Faith is being sure of what we hope for. It is being
sure of what we do not see."
- Hebrews 11:1 (NIV)



"Faith is being sure of what we hope for. It is being
sure of what we do not see."
- Hebrews 11:1 (NIV)

CRAFT ACTIVITY

Items needed:

A piece of flat styrofoam (from a take out box) or non-corrugated cardboard
A toothpick
A large tray or tub with water
Dish soap

Instructions:

Cut the styrofoam or cardboard into a boat-like shape, with a triangular notch cut in the back. Make the boat about 2 inches long.

Using the toothpick, apply dish soap to the notch in back of the boat, covering all sides of the triangle.

Set the boat in the water, and watch the boat take off!

Note: to re-create the experiment with a new boat, you will need to dump the now soapy water and start again with fresh water.

To see a video of this experiment, you can visit this website:

<https://sciencebob.com/build-a-soap-powered-model-boat/>

What does it mean?

Just as the soap launches the boat on its journey, Jesus wants us to invite him into our hearts and take us on a journey that will last for eternity!