

Activities:



Ask children if they know what their names mean. Share what your name means. Do a quick search online for meanings of children's names if they don't know. (If you can't find it, they can ask at home later). Parents think hard about the names they want for their children. When God changes someone's name, He does it for a special reason. Jesus would later use Peter's new name, which means rock, to teach a lesson about His church.

What did Jesus do before choosing which of His disciples would be the 12 apostles? (pray) These people weren't just Jesus' followers, they were His closest friends while on earth. Why do you think Jesus prayed about this decision? What does it mean you should do? (pray when choosing friends)

Disciples were students. They followed a rabbi (teacher of God's Word) and learned from him. Think about things your teacher at school expects you to do to be a good student (listen, follow instructions, treat classmates with respect, pay attention, study, work hard at your tasks). How do you think Jesus wants you to behave as His student?

Make nametags for children that say "Disciple (Name)."

*Upper
Elementary*

Jesus Calls the Twelve



Name: _____

J	D	Q	S	I	M	O	N	P	E	T	E	R
O	I	W	N	E	M	R	E	H	S	I	F	K
H	S	E	S	Z	X	C	V	I	B	N	M	L
N	C	B	A	R	T	H	O	L	O	M	E	W
H	I	T	M	N	T	Y	U	I	I	A	O	P
J	P	Y	O	R	D	F	G	P	H	T	J	K
K	L	U	H	E	D	R	C	V	B	T	N	M
L	E	I	T	N	S	C	E	A	S	H	D	E
P	S	O	Q	W	O	X	Z	W	H	E	F	D
J	A	M	E	S	A	M	W	J	G	W	G	U
T	O	I	R	A	C	S	I	S	A	D	U	J
S	U	E	A	H	P	L	A	S	E	M	A	J
A	X	N	A	T	H	A	N	A	E	L	C	V

DISCIPLES

SIMON PETER

JAMES

JOHN

PHILIP

NATHANAEAL

ANDREW

MATTHEW

THOMAS

JAMES ALPHAEUS

SIMON

JUDE

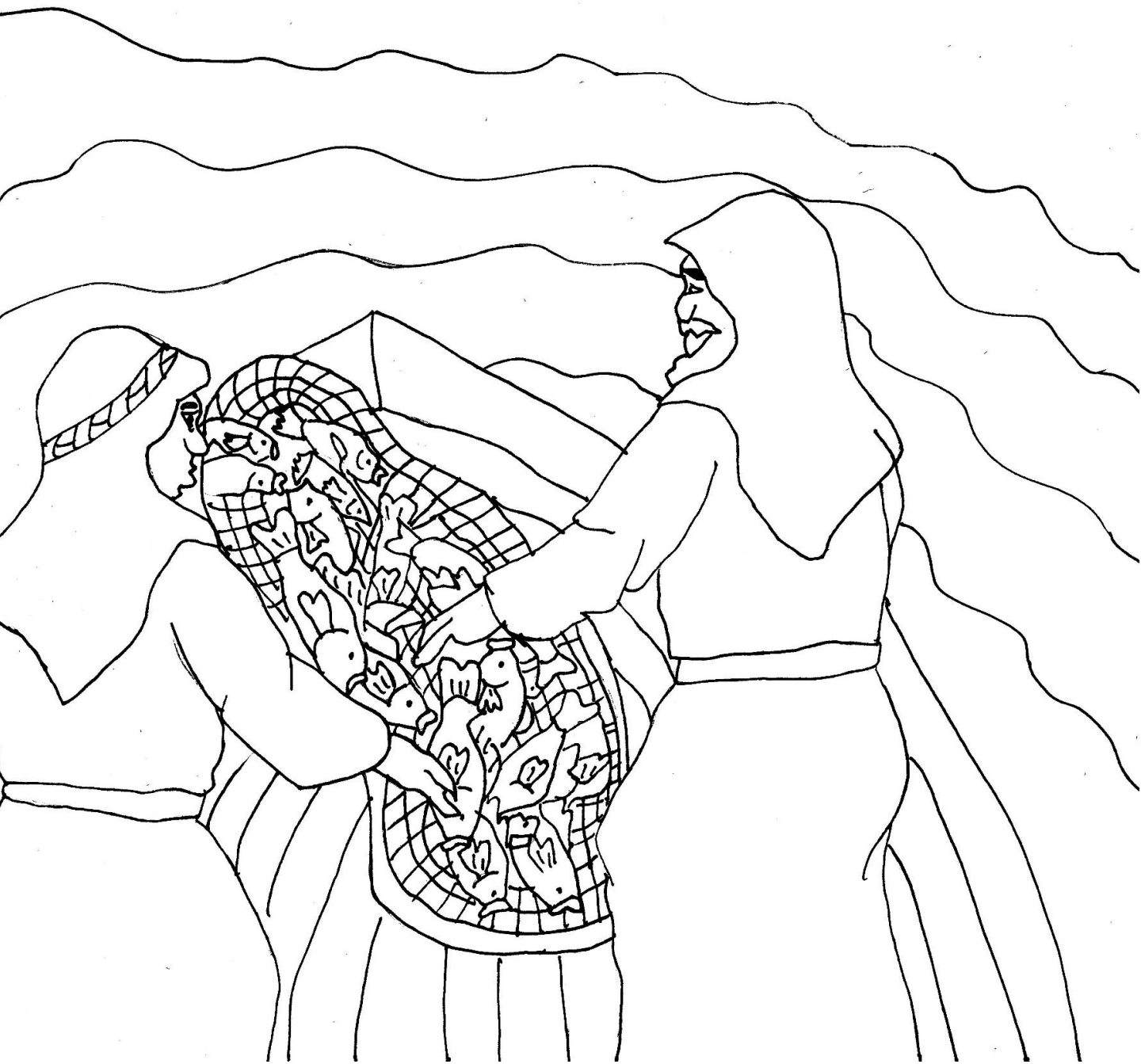
JUDAS ISCARIOT

Lower Elementary

Jesus Calls the Twelve



Name: _____

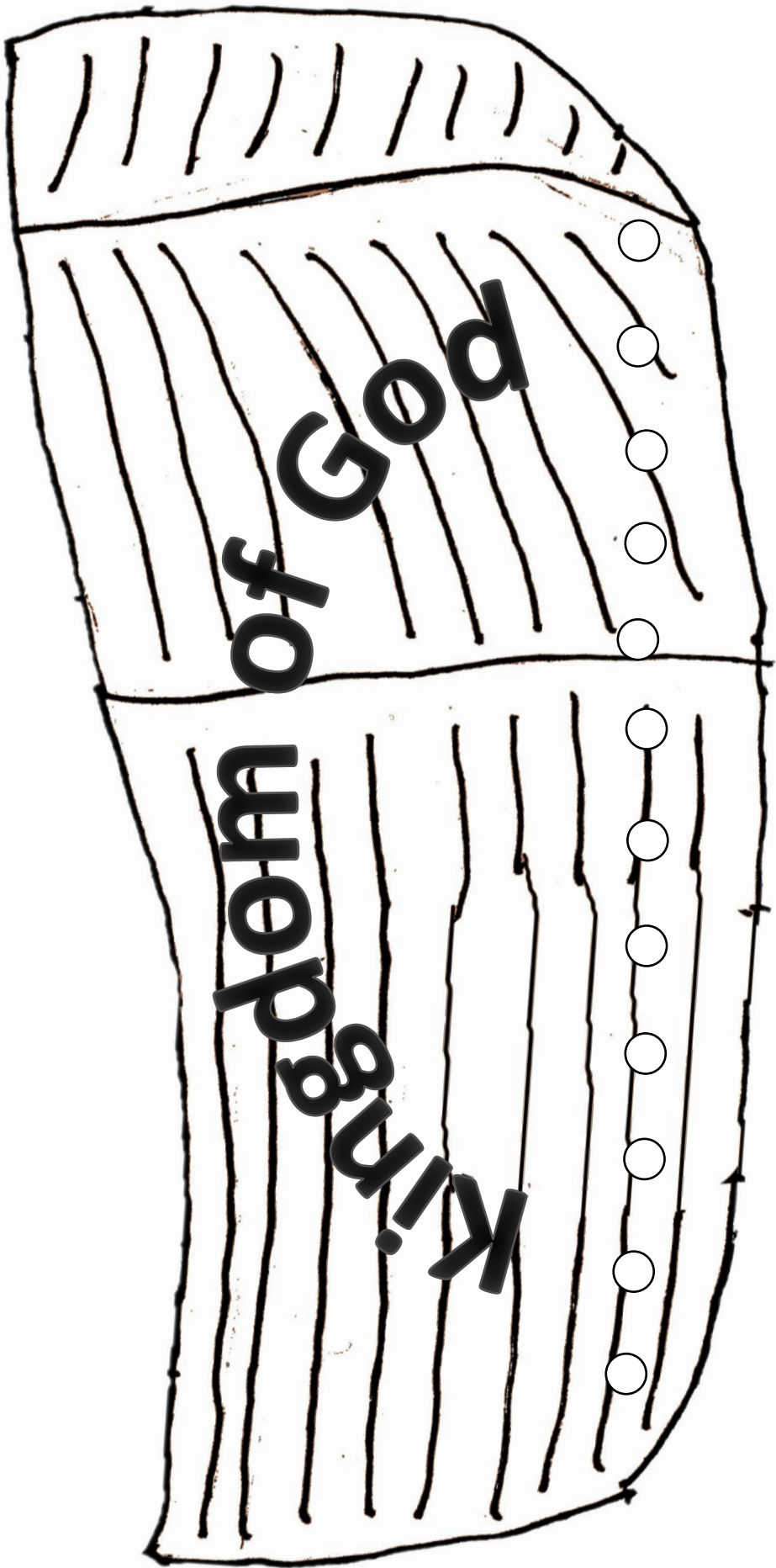


He said to them, “Come after me, and I will make you fishers for men.”

Matthew 4:19

- ❖ Print boat and fish onto white or color cardstock.
- ❖ Children color (if on white) boat and fish and cut out.
- ❖ Use string to tie fish to boat.
- ❖ OR gently pull open small paper clips to attach fish to boat.





of God

Kingsdom



Simon Peter



Matthew



James



Thomas



John



James Alphaeus



Phillip



Simon



Nathanael



Jude



Andrew



Judas Iscariot

Preschool

Encourage children to draw a picture of themselves following Jesus.

Modeling Dough:

Encourage children to make a boat and fish. Talk about ways to share God's love. For each thing mentioned, put a fish on the boat and say, "Your kind words helped another person find Jesus," or, "That action can help a person find Jesus," etc.

Game:

Have children play with a toy fishing rod. Talk about how God wants us to follow Him and help Him "catch" more followers.

Jesus Calls the Twelve

Name: _____



Jesus wants me to follow Him.