

Before serving any food, always check with caregivers for kids who have food allergies. Provide an alternative if necessary.

## Age-Level Overview

	Open the Bible	Activate Faith
<p><b>Lower Elementary</b></p> <p><b>WORKSHOP FOCUS:</b> We can be disciples of Jesus.</p> <p><b>STOP, DROP, AND ROLL CHEESY CRESCENT ROLLS:</b> Kids make today's snack by dropping cheese sauce onto tasty crescent rolls.</p>	<p><b>SPARK RESOURCES:</b> Spark Story Bibles</p> <p><b>SUPPLIES:</b> Basket</p>	<p><b>SPARK RESOURCES:</b> Spark Story Bibles</p> <p><b>SUPPLIES:</b> Cookie sheets, spatula, spoons, serving plate, plates, napkins, cups, pitchers, cleanup sponges, crescent roll dough, cheese sauce, fruit juice</p>
<p><b>Upper Elementary</b></p> <p><b>WORKSHOP FOCUS:</b> We can change our lives and follow Jesus.</p> <p><b>DISCIPLE DIP DROP:</b> Kids make a yummy dip and drop it on crackers.</p>	<p><b>SPARK RESOURCES:</b> Spark Bibles</p> <p><b>SUPPLIES:</b> Basket</p>	<p><b>SPARK RESOURCES:</b> Spark Bibles</p> <p><b>SUPPLIES:</b> Mixing bowl, mixing spoon, dip bowl, chip bowl, spoons, cups, napkins, small plates, ranch dip mix, sour cream, scoop chips, cranberry juice</p>
<p><b>All Kids</b></p> <p><b>WORKSHOP FOCUS:</b> We can stop what we are doing and follow Jesus.</p> <p><b>DISCIPLE DROP ICE CREAM SUNDAES:</b> Kids drop delicious toppings onto ice cream to remember the fishermen in today's story who dropped their nets.</p>	<p><b>SPARK RESOURCES:</b> Spark Story Bibles, Spark Bibles, Spark Bible Stickers</p> <p><b>SUPPLIES:</b> Baskets, green construction paper, yellow construction paper, red construction paper</p>	<p><b>SPARK RESOURCES:</b> None</p> <p><b>SUPPLIES:</b> Ice cream scoops, serving bowls, serving spoons, spoons, bowls, napkins, cleanup sponges, vanilla ice cream, chocolate sprinkles, fudge sauce, frozen strawberries, whipped cream</p>



Visit [www.sparksundayschool.org](http://www.sparksundayschool.org) for more Spark content. Watch a short Lesson Prep Video that will prepare you and give you confidence to explore this Bible story with the kids you are leading. You will also find a downloadable Family Page for this rotation's story filled with ideas for families to use to explore this story and live out their faith at home.



**Workshop Focus:** We can be disciples of Jesus.

Keep these tips in mind as you welcome kids to the workshop and explore the story together.

- Each week, remember to welcome kids to the rotation. Keep in mind that for some kids it may be the first time they are visiting your workshop!
- If kids have heard the story several times during previous weeks, read it again! Kids learn through repetition, and every workshop will explore the Bible story in a slightly different way.
- Remember that the Shepherds are there to support you as they accompany kids each week.
- Be sure to visit [www.sparksondayschool.org](http://www.sparksondayschool.org) to download the Family Page for this story. Make copies of it and ask Shepherds to distribute it during the Wrap Up.

## Open the Bible (10 minutes)

### The Disciples Storytelling

**Set Up:** Place Spark Story Bibles in the basket. Place the basket near the entrance or your storytelling area. Mark your Spark Story Bible at today's story, found on page 258. Make sure there is room to move.

#### Activity Instructions

**Welcome, kids and Shepherds!** Ask everyone to gather in the storytelling area. **I wonder if anyone here has ever had a firefighter visit his or her school.** Allow kids time to answer. **Firefighters teach us lots of important things about fire safety. Does anyone remember something called the Stop, Drop, and . . . (roll) Yes! Stop, Drop, and Roll. Let's all stand up and practice Stop, Drop, and Roll. Pretend to be doing your everyday stuff like playing, or reading, or eating.** Pause to let everyone begin moving. **Listen for my voice to say the three commands. You don't know when it will come, so keep doing your everyday stuff.** At your discretion say, **Stop!** When everyone has stopped say, **Drop!** When everyone is on the floor say, **Roll!** Repeat this game using different voices such as a whisper voice or a singing voice. At the last "Roll!" ask kids to roll up to a sitting position.

#### Spark Resources

Spark Story Bibles

#### Supplies

Basket large enough to hold all Spark Story Bibles

**We are really good at Stop, Drop, and Roll. Today we have a story about some people who stopped what they were doing to follow Jesus. Let's pass out our Spark Story Bibles now. When you get your Spark Story Bible, open to page 258. Page 258 looks like this.** Hold up page 258, then read today's story. **Tell me about our story.** (*These fishermen dropped their nets to follow Jesus. The tax man dropped his money to follow Jesus. Some women followed Jesus, too.*) **The people in the story stopped and dropped what they were doing to follow Jesus. These people became disciples. We can be disciples of Jesus, too!**

## Activate Faith (25 minutes)

### Stop, Drop, and Roll Cheesy Crescent Rolls

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**Ingredients:** (serves 16)

- Crescent roll dough, two 8 ounce (226 grams) rolls
- Cheese sauce, 15 ounce (425 grams) jar
- Fruit juice, 4 quarts (3.78 liters), 100% juice

**Set Up:** Set up today's work area with needed supplies and ingredients. Open the jar of cheese sauce and place two spoons in it. Open up one roll of crescent dough to help explain today's activity.

#### Activity Instructions

1. Send kids and Shepherds to wash hands. When they return, gather around today's work area.
2. Introduce today's activity. **In our story the disciples dropped what they were doing to go and follow Jesus. I'm going to make my hand into a fist and then pretend to drop something.** Clench your fist and then open it as if dropping something. **I can drop watching a movie to go and follow Jesus by visiting someone who is lonely. What are you going to drop?** (*I'm going to drop playing with my friends so I can do what my mom asks me to do. I'm going to drop playing a video game so I can play with the kid next door who doesn't have any friends. I'm going to drop complaining and clean the kitchen when my dad asks me to.*)
3. Unroll the crescent dough and tear off one serrated triangle piece of dough. **This is a piece of crescent roll dough. It's shaped in a triangle. I'm going to take a spoonful of cheese sauce and drop the cheese sauce into the middle of this triangle.** Model dropping a spoonful of cheese sauce while saying, **I'll drop everything to follow Jesus.** If the sauce sticks to the spoon, scrape it off with another spoon. **Now I'm going to gently roll up the dough so the cheese sauce is inside, and place my roll on the cookie sheet for baking. Now it's**

#### Spark Resources

Spark Story Bibles

#### Supplies

Cookie sheets, 2  
Spatula  
Spoons, 2  
Serving plate  
Plates, 1 per kid  
Napkins, 1 per kid  
Cups, 1 per kid  
Pitchers, 2  
Clean-up sponges

**time for all of you to drop your cheese onto the triangle and say, "I'll drop everything to follow Jesus."**

1. Bake at 375 degrees Fahrenheit (190.5 degrees Celsius) for 8 to 10 minutes or until the tops of the rolls are lightly brown. Place rolls on a serving plate.
2. While rolls are baking, ask kids to clean up the work space and set the table for snack.
3. Gather together for snack. Pass around the juice and rolls. Before eating, pray, **Lord Jesus, bless our time together today. Bless our food. Bless our hearts. Bless our minds. May we be able to drop everything to follow you. Amen.**
4. Play a game while you eat. **Who remembers the names of the disciples?** Try to name as many as you can as a group. When you get stuck, refer to today's story in the Spark Story Bible, page 258.

## Send (5 minutes)

### Wrap Up

Remind the Shepherds to distribute the Family Page for this story if the kids haven't already received it, and come together for Wrap Up.

As kids gather after eating, play more Stop, Drop, and Roll. When everyone has gathered, review today's story. **Today we read a story called The Disciples. What can you tell me about disciples?** (*disciples drop everything to follow Jesus, disciples were fishermen and tax men and women, etc.*) **Disciples were just people who stopped their lives and dropped their work to follow Jesus. We can be disciples of Jesus, too!**

### Prayer Time

**Let's use open hands to pray today. Point your palms toward the sky and lift the air up with your palms. Let's pray. Repeat after me, please.**

**Dear God,**

**Show us how to be disciples.** (*echo*)

**Show us how to stop.** (*echo*)

**Show us how to listen.** (*echo*)

**Show us how to drop what we are doing.** (*echo*)

**Show us how to walk toward you.** (*echo*)

**Show us how to be disciples, Lord.** (*echo*)

**Amen.** (*echo*)

Spark Resources  
Family Pages



Supplies  
None



**Workshop Focus:** We can change our lives and follow Jesus.

Keep these tips in mind as you welcome kids to the workshop and explore the story together.

- Each week, remember to welcome kids to the rotation. Keep in mind that for some kids it may be the first time they are visiting your workshop!
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## Open the Bible (10 minutes)

### The Disciples Storytelling

**Set Up:** Fill up the basket with Bibles and set it near the entrance or storytelling area. Mark your Spark Bible at page 1135 (Luke 5: 1-11). Make sure there is room to move.

#### Activity Instructions

**Welcome, kids and Shepherds!** Gather everyone in the storytelling area. **Let's all stand. Now let's turn around.** Turn around. **Turn around to the left. Turn around to the right. Sit down. Stand up again. Sit down. Whew! Let's relax a moment.** Pause. **What was that all about? (no clue) Our reading today may give us a clue.**

**Open your Spark Bibles to page 1135. This passage is in the Gospel of Luke, chapter 5.** Read this passage aloud and ask kids to follow along in their Spark Bibles. **The disciples dropped what they were doing. They dramatically changed their lives to follow Jesus. They changed their careers! One minute these disciples were fishermen, and the next they were followers of Jesus. For us it may not be as quick or dramatic as it sounds in our Bibles. However, we, too, can change our lives and follow Jesus. Take a few minutes to use your stickers. There are other passages in our Spark Bibles that tell about Jesus calling the disciples. We'll read some of those passages later.** Give kids a few minutes to use their stickers.

**Spark Resources**  
Spark Bibles  
Spark Bible Stickers

**Supplies**  
Basket

# Activate Faith (25 minutes)

## Disciple Dip Drop

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Before serving any food, always check with caregivers for kids who have food allergies. Provide an alternative if necessary.

### Ingredients (serves 12)

- Ranch dip mix, 0.7 ounce (19.8 gram) package
- Sour cream, 16 ounce (454 gram) container
- Scoop chips, 12 ounce (340 gram) bag
- Cranberry juice, 4 quarts (3.78 liters)

**Set Up:** Set all ingredients and supplies in the work area.

### Activity Instructions

1. Send kids and Shepherds to wash hands.
2. Gather kids in the work area and read Matthew 9:9-13 aloud. **Before we get started, I will read how another disciple was called to follow Jesus. This is the story of Matthew, the tax collector.** Read the story. **What did Matthew drop to follow Jesus? (money, job, etc.) Matthew dropped his job—his way of life—to begin a new life with Jesus.**
3. Explain today's activity. **Today we are practicing dropping food.** Hold up the dip mix and the sour cream container. **We are making Disciple Dip Drop, and the first thing we need to do is mix the dip.** Hold up some chips. **Once the dip is mixed, we will all take a handful of chips and practice dropping dip into the scooped chip. The tricky part will be when we start dropping dip from higher and higher levels!** Pretend to drop dip from chin level, then eye level, then from over your head. **Let's get started.**
4. Coach kids in mixing up the dip, dividing it into two bowls, opening up the chip bag, and pouring the chips in a bowl. Have the small plates ready.
5. When everything is ready to go, start dropping dip. Model again what the kids will do. **Everyone take four chips, and put them on a small plate. The first time you get a spoonful of dip, drop it from about six inches (15 cm) above the chip. Did you hit the chip? The next time, drop the dip from about chin level. Did you hit the chip? Now drop from eye level. Did that hit the chip? Last, drop dip from the top of your head level. Lean over the table so you don't splatter any dip onto your clothes. Did you hit the chip?**
6. As kids finish dropping dip, have them set up the table with napkins, cups, and juice and clean up any messes their droppings created.

### Spark Resources

Spark Bible

### Supplies

Mixing bowl  
Mixing spoon  
Dip bowl  
Chip bowl  
Spoons, 4  
Cups, 1 per kid  
Napkins, 1 per kid  
Small plates, 1 per kid

7. Gather together at the table. Have everyone hold hands, raise them up high, and drop them down. Repeat these actions while saying grace: **God is great! God is good. Let us thank him for our food! Amen.**
8. **Dig in!** While kids are eating, read another of today's Bible texts. Luke 8:1-3 tells of the women who accompanied Jesus and the disciples. **Matthew 10:1-4 names all 12 disciples and states their call.** Wonder aloud what the women's role might have been in fishing for people. What might "providing for them out of their resources" mean? **Who can name all 12 disciples?**

## Send (5 minutes)

### Wrap Up

Remind the Shepherds to distribute the Family Page for this story if the kids haven't already received it, and come together for Wrap Up.

**We are full of dip drop and chips. Today we read a variety of verses from the Spark Bible. All the verses have one thing in common. Think about what all our verses have in common, and when you know, shout it out.** *(following Jesus)* **All our verses today tell us about people who changed something about their lives and followed Jesus. We, too, can change our lives and follow Jesus.**

Spark Resources  
Family Pages



Supplies  
None

### Prayer Time

**Let's drop to our knees and drop our hands to the floor.** Spread your palms face down on the floor. **Spread your fingers wide and quiet yourself inside and out.**  
**Let's pray. Please repeat after me.**

**Dear God,** *(echo)*

**Following you, Lord, can be sudden.** *(echo)*

**Following you, Lord, can take time.** *(echo)*

**Following you, Lord, changes us.** *(echo)*

**May we come to understand, dear God,** *(echo)*

**How to drop our lives and follow you.** *(echo)*

**Amen.** *(echo)*



**Workshop Focus:** We can stop what we are doing and follow Jesus.

Keep these tips in mind as you welcome kids to the workshop and explore the story together.

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## Open the Bible (10 minutes)

### The Disciples Storytelling

**Set Up:** Place Spark Bibles in one basket and Spark Story Bibles in another basket. Place the baskets near the storytelling area. Mark your Bibles for today's readings. The Disciples is found on page 258 in the Spark Story Bible. Mark your Spark Bible at Matthew 10:1-4, found on page 1069. Place your Bibles and the construction paper near where you sit during storytelling. Make sure there is space to move around.

#### Activity Instructions

**Welcome, kids and Shepherds! Gather everyone in the storytelling area.**

**Welcome, everyone! Before you get comfy, I want everyone to stand up.** Hold up your construction paper. **These pieces of paper tell us something. They communicate to us some actions we should do or not do with our bodies. What do these three colors remind you of? (a stoplight) These are the three colors we see in a stoplight. Green means what? (Go!) Yellow means what? (Caution, or get ready to slow down.) And red means what? (Stop!)**

**Today we are going to play a game with these colors. The game is similar to Red**

#### Spark Resources

Spark Story Bibles  
Spark Bibles

#### Supplies

Baskets, 2, large enough to hold Bibles  
Green construction paper, 1 piece  
Yellow construction paper, 1 piece  
Red construction paper, 1 piece

**Light, Green Light, only I'm not going to shout out the color. I'm going to signal you by holding up either a red, green, or yellow piece of paper.**

Ask kids to move as far away from you and the storytelling area as possible in the space. When they are ready, count to three and begin the game. Play the game for just a few minutes, making sure you get all three colors at least twice. Before you play the last time, say, **This time your goal is to move toward our storytelling area. You want to get back here, pick up your Bible, and sit down as quickly and quietly as you can. Ready, set, go!**

When everyone is settled, open your Spark Story Bible to The Disciples. Hold up the page. Help younger kids find the right page. **Listen as I read the story of The Disciples.** Read the story. Then read Matthew 10:1-4 from the Spark Bible. **This is the story of Jesus inviting the people to follow him as disciples. What did the disciples in the story "stop" doing?** (*their work, fishing, collecting taxes*) **So just like our game, these first disciples stopped what they were doing and then followed Jesus! What do you think about that?** Listen to kids' comments.

## Activate Faith (25 minutes)

### Disciple Drop Ice Cream Sundaes

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*Before serving any food, always check with caregivers for kids who have food allergies. Provide an alternative if necessary.*

#### **Ingredients** (serves 12)

- Vanilla ice cream, 1.5 quarts (1.42 liters)
- Chocolate sprinkles, two 1.75 (49.6 grams) ounce containers
- Fudge sauce, two 12.25 ounce (347 gram) jars
- Frozen strawberries, 16 ounce (454 gram) bag
- Whipped cream, 7 ounce (198 grams) spray canister

**Set Up:** Thaw the strawberries overnight in the refrigerator. Set up the work area so that kids are able to create their own sundaes. Pour the sprinkles into a serving bowl and add two serving spoons. Open the fudge sauce and add two serving spoons. Pour the strawberries into a serving bowl and add two serving spoons. Set bowls and spoons out for easy access. Ask a Shepherd to set out the whipped cream and ice cream near the end of storytelling.

#### **Spark Resources**

None

#### **Supplies**

Ice cream scoops, 2  
Serving bowls, 2  
Serving spoons, 6  
Spoons, 1 per kid + 6  
Bowls, 1 per kid + 2  
Napkins, 1 per kid  
Clean-up sponges

## Activity Instructions

1. Send kids and Shepherds to wash their hands.
2. Gather everyone around the sundae-making table. **Today we are making ice cream sundaes! What does ice cream have to do with today's story? (I don't know.) Do you remember when Simon and Andrew caught lots of fish and then just dropped their nets to follow Jesus? (yes) Well, when you are dropping fudge sauce onto your ice cream, think about the fishermen dropping their nets. Think about it again when you drop sprinkles and strawberries onto your ice cream, too. In fact, you can say out loud, "I'm dropping chocolate sprinkles to go and follow Jesus." Everyone say it with me.** Practice the saying together. **In fact, you can also say, "I'm spraying whipped cream to go and follow Jesus." What else can we say while we are making our sundaes? (I'm scooping ice cream to go and follow Jesus. I'm dropping some strawberries on my ice cream to go and follow Jesus.) I want to hear all these sayings as you make your sundaes.**
3. Take a minute to pray before you begin making the sundaes. **Before we get started making our "drop" sundaes, let's give thanks. Dear God, some of the disciples dropped fish to follow you. One disciple dropped money to follow you. As we drop fudge sauce and sprinkles today, help us remember to follow you, too. Amen.**
4. **Let's get started!** Assist kids in scooping ice cream if necessary. Some kids may not know how to hold the whipped cream canister bottom up to get a good spray. As kids finish making their sundaes, send them to the snack table to eat.
5. As kids finish eating, ask them to wash their hands and then begin to clean up the work area and the snack table.

## Send (5 minutes)

### Wrap Up

Remind the Shepherds to distribute the Family Page for this story if the kids haven't already received it, and come together for Wrap Up.

Ask kids to sit in a circle. Bring along the piece of green construction paper. **Today we learned that Jesus asked some people to stop what they were doing and follow him. We also learned that we can stop what we are doing and follow Jesus. Sometimes it's hard to stop immediately. Sometimes we have some questions, or we find it hard to believe that Jesus is really asking us to do something. However, just like the disciples, we can put down our nets and "Go!"**

Spark Resources  
Family Pages



Supplies  
None

## Prayer Time

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**Let's stop a minute. Let's stop our talking mouths and our wiggling bodies. Let's stop and do a passing, silent prayer.** Hold up the green piece of construction paper. **What does this piece of paper tell us to do? (Go!)** **Let's pass this piece of paper around our circle as quietly as we can. When it gets back to me, pray with me.** Send the paper around the circle quietly. When it comes back to you say:

**Repeat this prayer after me.**

**Dear God,** *(echo)*

**Thank you for telling us to "Go."** *(echo)*

**May we have the courage** *(echo)*

**To do as you ask.** *(echo)*

**Amen.** *(echo)*