

Jesus Christ Gives Us the Church

2

WE GATHER

✝ **Leader:** Let us take a quiet moment to listen carefully to a story about Jesus.


 **Matthew 4:18–22**

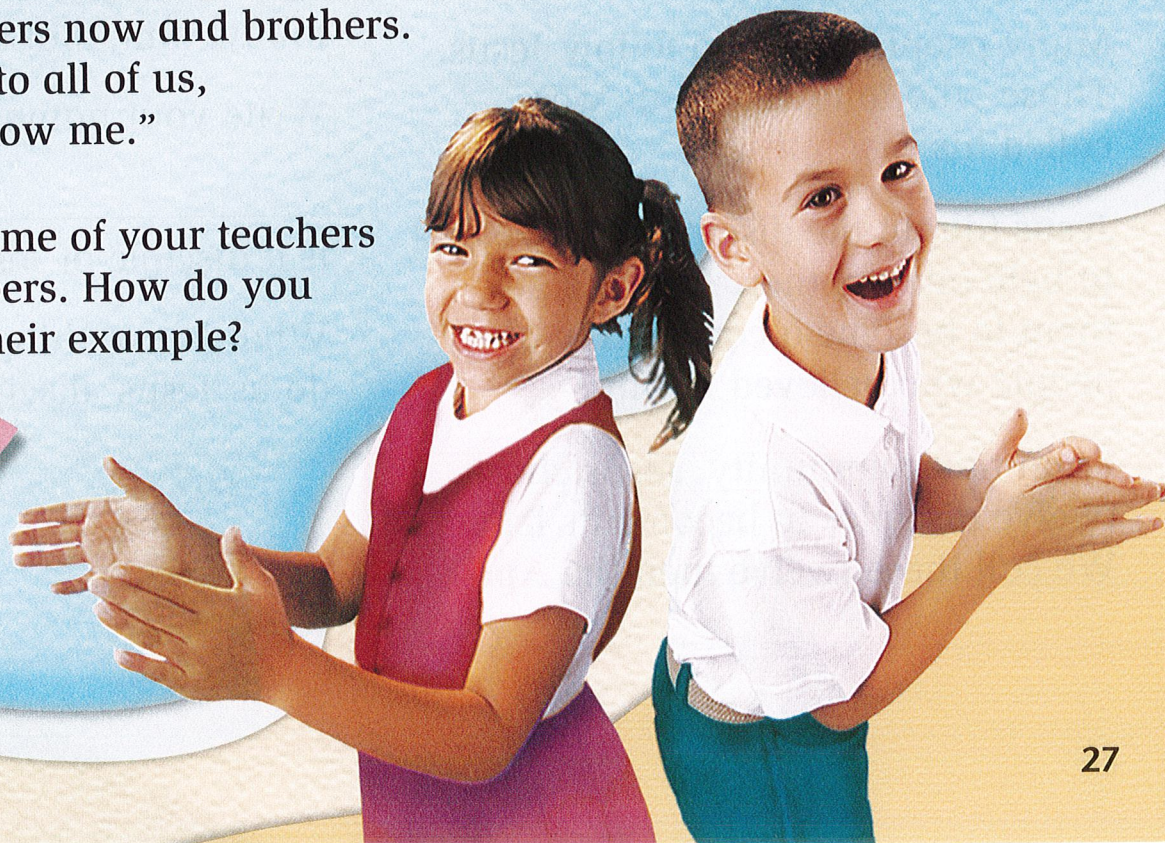
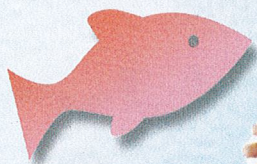
One day Jesus was walking by the sea. He saw Peter and Andrew catching fish with a net. Jesus called them, and asked them to come follow him. “At once they left their nets and followed him.”

(Matthew 4:20)

All: (Clap twice after each line of this response.)

Jesus says to all of us, “Come, follow me.”
Come and learn how very happy you can be.
Loving God and loving others
We are sisters now and brothers.
Jesus says to all of us,
“Come, follow me.”

 Name some of your teachers and helpers. How do you follow their example?





WE BELIEVE


Jesus gathered many followers to be his disciples.

Jesus taught people about God the Father's love. He cared for those who were sick and poor.

Many people began to follow Jesus. Those who followed Jesus were called his **disciples**.

Jesus taught the disciples to love and to help one another. Jesus helped them to become a community of people who believed in him.

From this community, Jesus chose twelve disciples to become its leaders. We call these twelve men the **Apostles**.

 Jesus invites you to follow him, too!

Write your name on the line.

_____ is a disciple of Jesus.

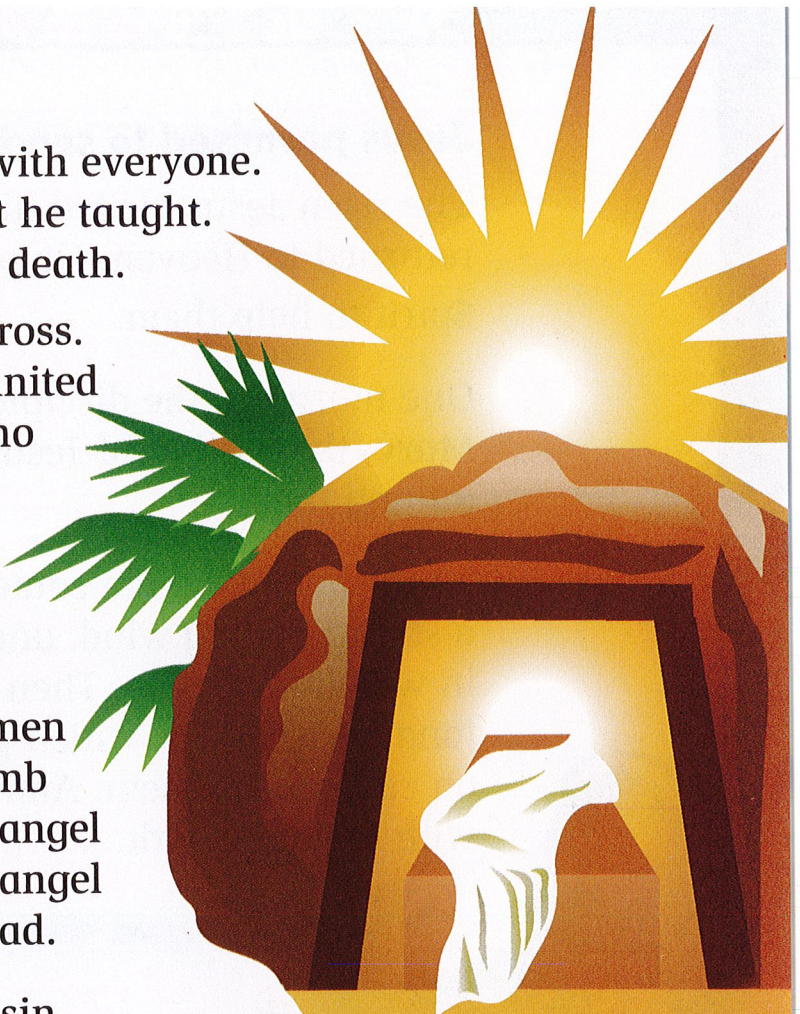
What is one thing you can do as Jesus' disciple?



Jesus died and rose to new life.

Jesus tried to share his Good News with everyone. Some people were angry about what he taught. These people wanted to put Jesus to death.


Jesus Christ was put to death on a cross. When he died, Jesus' human soul, united to his divine person, joined those who had died. Christ opened the gates of Heaven for those who had followed God's will.



 **Matthew 28:1-5**

Early on Sunday morning, some women disciples of Jesus went to visit the tomb where his body had been placed. An angel was sitting in front of the tomb. The angel said that Jesus had risen from the dead.

Jesus died and rose to save us from sin. Jesus' rising from the dead is called the **Resurrection**. We celebrate Jesus' Resurrection on Easter.

 Let us sing Alleluia to show our joy in Jesus' Resurrection.



As Catholics...

We celebrate the Resurrection of Jesus Christ at Easter and on every Sunday of the year. At every Mass we remember that Jesus died and rose to new life. Remember this at Mass this week.

Key Words

disciples those who follow Jesus

Apostles the twelve men chosen by Jesus to be the leaders of his disciples

Resurrection Jesus' rising from the dead



Jesus promised to send the Holy Spirit.

The risen Jesus visited his disciples before he returned to Heaven. He promised to send the Holy Spirit to help them.

One morning, the disciples were all together. Mary, the mother of Jesus, and some women were among them.

“And suddenly there came from the sky a noise like a strong driving wind, and it filled the entire house in which they were. Then there appeared to them tongues as of fire, which parted and came to rest on each one of them. And they were all filled with the holy Spirit . . .” (Acts of the Apostles 2:2-4)



Use this code to find out what we call the day on which the Holy Spirit came to the disciples.

E P T C O S N
1 2 3 4 5 6 7

2 1 7 3 1 4 5 6 3

On Pentecost, a large crowd had gathered. The disciples wanted to tell the people about Jesus.

Peter spoke to the crowd. He asked them to be baptized and receive the Gift of the Holy Spirit. Many people were baptized that day.

The Holy Spirit helps the Church to grow.

On Pentecost, the Church began. The **Church** is all the people who are baptized in Jesus Christ and follow his teachings.

The first members of the Church were helped by the Holy Spirit to

- believe in Jesus and pray
- be brave in following Jesus
- love one another and be a community
- teach and help people as Jesus did.


The Holy Spirit helps us in these ways, too.

The Holy Spirit helps us to live as Jesus wants us to live. The Holy Spirit helps us to tell others about Jesus Christ.

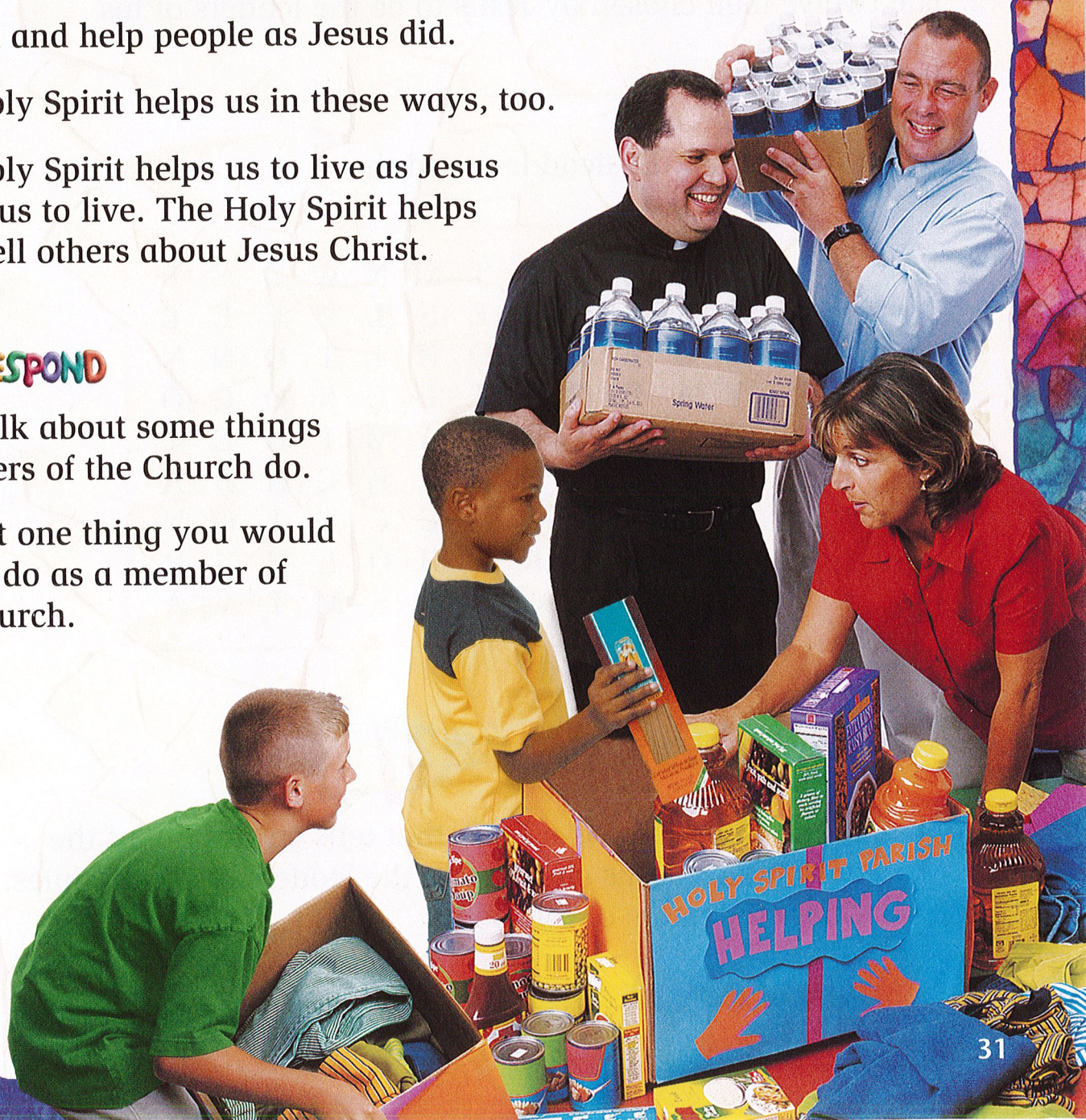
Key Word

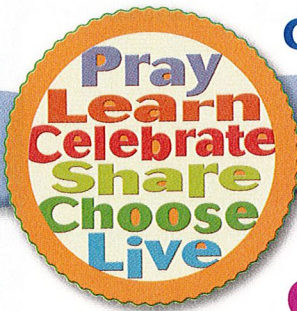
Church all the people who are baptized in Jesus Christ and follow his teachings

WE RESPOND

 Talk about some things members of the Church do.

Act out one thing you would like to do as a member of the Church.





PROJECT

Show What *you* Know

Solve the clues below. Then find the **Key Words** hidden in the word search.

1. Those who follow Jesus are _____.
2. The twelve men chosen by Jesus to be the leaders of his disciples are the _____.
3. Jesus' rising from the dead is called the _____.

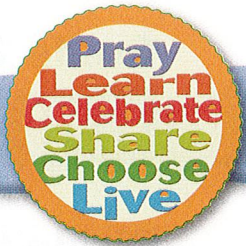
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N	I	I	I	R	T	H	Q	L	H	V	R
V	L	D	N	C	H	I	S	M	T	Y	A

What's *the* Word?

In the Bible there is a book that tells stories about the twelve men Jesus chose to be the leaders of his disciples. Guess the name of this book.

Acts of the A o e

DISCIPLE



Make it Happen Finish this disciple pledge.

I will be a disciple of Jesus.

I will be kind to _____.

I will pray for _____.

I will teach _____ how I follow Jesus.

I will show _____ how I love God and others.

What Would *you* do?

At recess, you see your friend Jen fall down and hurt her hand. She is crying. Draw or write what you could do as a disciple of Jesus.



Take Home

Talk as a family about ways Apostles and disciples are alike and different.

↳ **DISCIPLE CHALLENGE** Quiz your family members. Do they know how many Apostles Jesus chose?

CHAPTER TEST

Circle the correct answer.

1. Do we celebrate Jesus' Resurrection on Easter? **Yes** **No**
2. Were Peter, Andrew, Mary, and Martha the only disciples of Jesus? **Yes** **No**
3. Did the Church end on Pentecost? **Yes** **No**
4. Did Jesus die and rise to new life to save us? **Yes** **No**

Use the words in the box to complete the sentences.

5. The twelve men Jesus chose to be the leaders of his disciples are the _____.
6. The _____ is all the people who are baptized in Jesus Christ and follow his teachings.
7. Jesus' rising from the dead is called the _____.
8. The day the Holy Spirit came to help the disciples is _____.

Church
Apostles
Pentecost
Resurrection

9–10. Write two ways that the Holy Spirit helps the Church.
