

*Nurturing Faith...  
Every Day in Every Way*



January 21, 2018

**Third Sunday After Epiphany**

*Jonah 3:1-5, 10*

*Psalms 62:5-12 (6)*

*1 Corinthians 7:29-31*

*Mark 1:14-20*



**Following Jesus. Object: None.**

Have you ever played "Follow the Leader?" Of course, you have! The rules are very simple. You choose a leader and you follow that leader wherever they go and do whatever they do.

Following the Leader is a great game, but in our daily lives we also "follow the leader". Every day we are faced with making a choice of which leader we will follow.

One day, Jesus was walking along the seashore. He saw two fishermen, Peter and Andrew. Jesus called out to them, "Come, follow me, and I will send you out to fish for people." The Bible tells us that they laid down their nets and followed Jesus.

Jesus went a little farther and he saw two more men, James and John sitting in their boat mending their nets. Jesus called out to them and the Bible tells us that they left their boat and followed Jesus. (vs. 19-20)

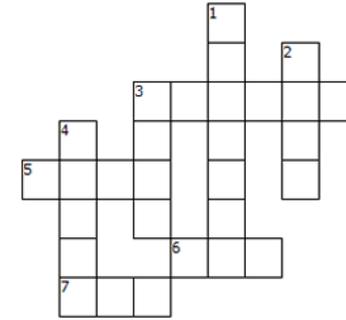
Jesus is still calling people to follow him today. He has called you and me to follow him. Now it's up to us to decide if we will follow the leader.

Dear Jesus, you have called us to follow you. May we, say "Yes, Lord, I'll follow you—wherever you may lead." Amen.

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**Gospel Acclamation:** Alleluia. The time is fulfilled and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news. Alleluia. (Mark 1:15)

*Crossword Puzzle*



**ACROSS**

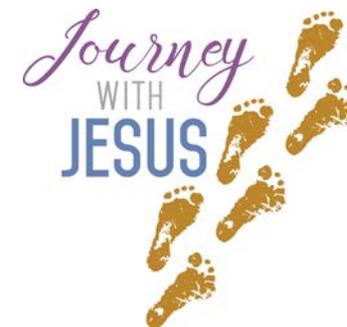
- 3. To get behind someone and go where they go
- 5. A report of recent occurrences
- 6. An openwork fabric of cords used to catch fish
- 7. A large area of salty water, smaller than an ocean

**DOWN**

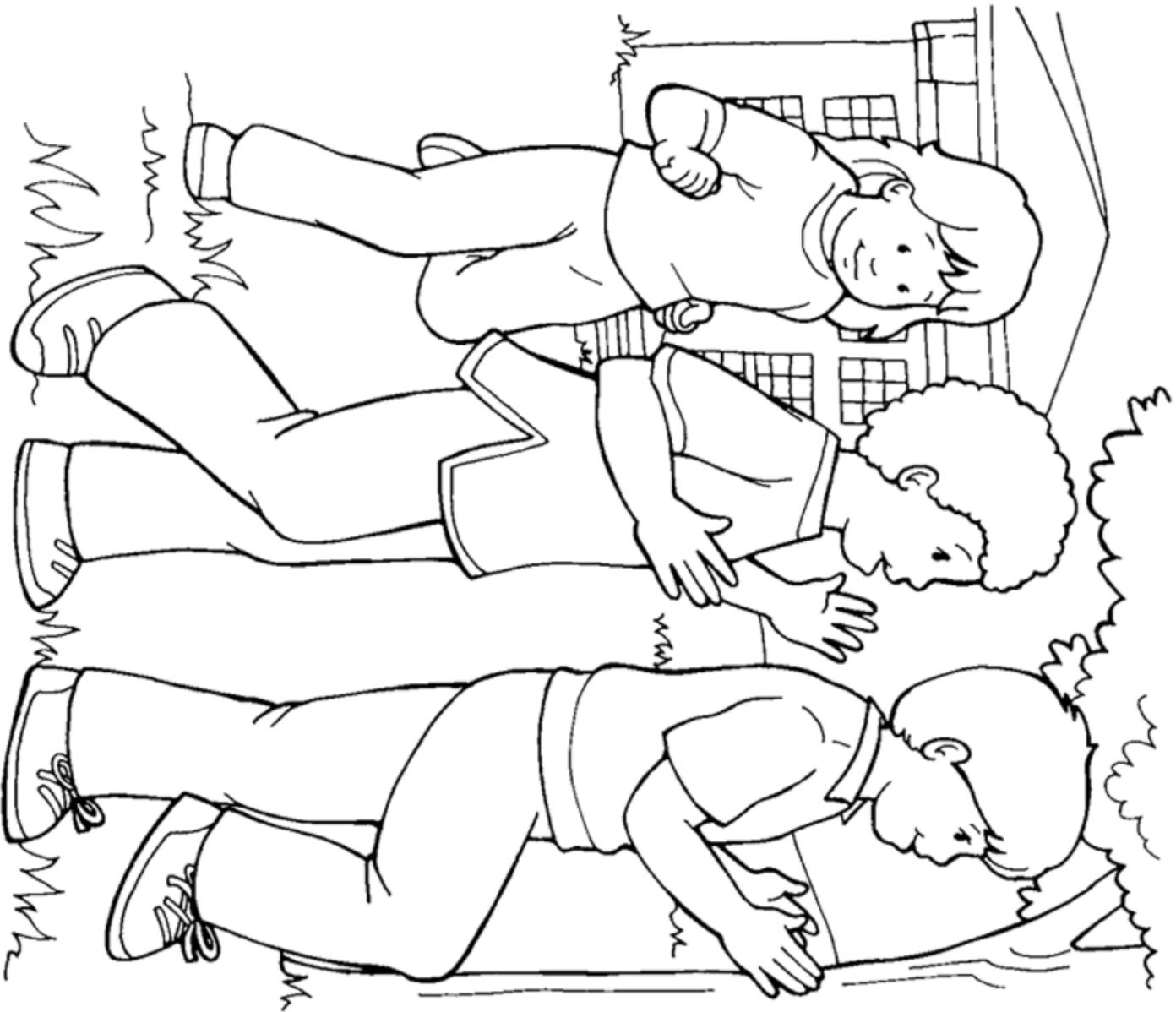
- 1. An area of Israel; the place of Jesus' ministry
- 2. A small vehicle for travelling on water
- 3. An animal which lives in water and is covered with scales
- 4. The Son of God

GALILEE	NEWS	JESUS	FISH
FOLLOW	SEA	BOAT	NET

**FOOT PRAYER:** Help the child to trace their own foot onto a piece of paper and to write "Jesus, you have called me, I will follow you" on the "foot". Let the child decorate their paper foot around the border with glitter glue. The foot can remind the child of today's lesson.



# FOLLOWING THE LEADER



**I will follow Jesus, our leader.**