

Matthew follows Jesus

This session can be done with an adult family member or independently. Answers to questions can be written in the spaces provided.

How would you feel if you were treated unfairly by someone?

How would you feel if you had been unfair to someone, but then they were kind to you?

Bible story

The following story is from Mark 2:13-14.

One day Jesus was out and about teaching people about following God. Lots of people were listening to him and coming to see what he had to say. As he was walking along, he saw a man called Matthew. Matthew was from Israel, but he was also a tax collector. That meant he collected money from other people from Israel to give to their enemies, the Romans. What was worse, tax collectors were also known to collect more money than they were told to by the Romans and keep the extra bits for themselves.

As Jesus came close to where Matthew was he spoke to him. He said, "Follow me." Why on earth would Jesus want Matthew to be one of his friends? He knew exactly who Matthew was and what he did. Straight away, Matthew left his job as a tax collector and followed Jesus. Later on Matthew would write the Gospel of Matthew which is a book in the Bible that tells us all about Jesus.

Why do you think Jesus asked Matthew to follow him?

How do you think Jesus' friends felt about him asking Matthew to follow him?

What does this story teach us about what Jesus is like?

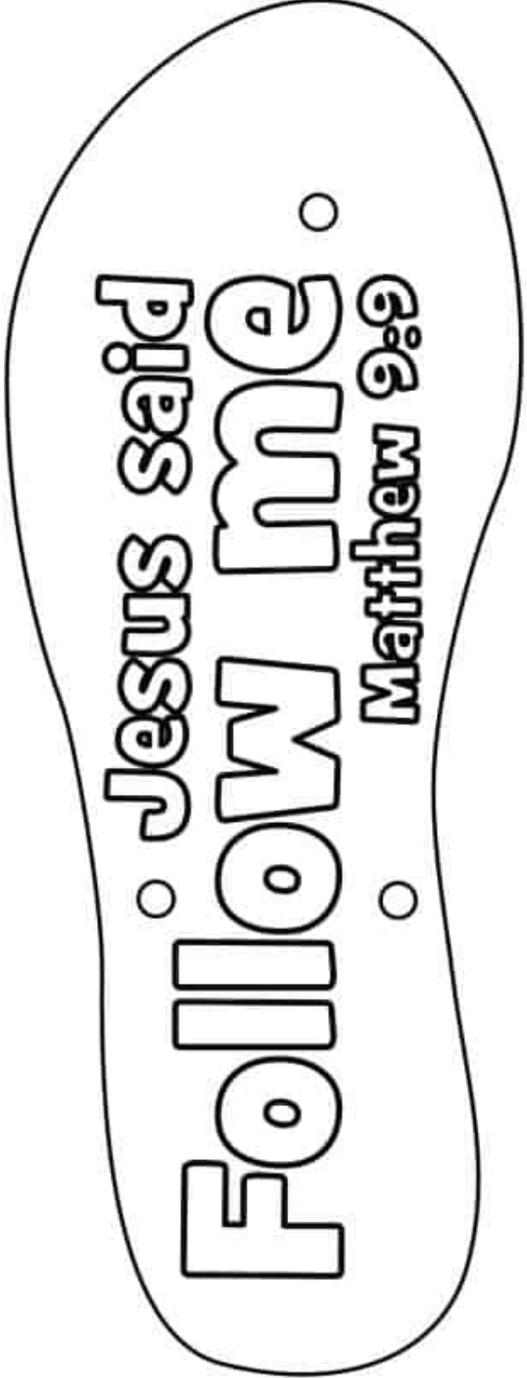
Jesus knew all about Matthew and he knows all about us as well. He knew all the things Matthew had done, but he still loved him and he loves all of us too. Anyone can be a follower of Jesus.

Prayer time

Thank Jesus that he loves you no matter what. Ask him to help you remember this and to show you how to follow him this week.



Jesus said to Matthew, "Follow me" and Matthew got up and followed him.



Jesus said
Follow me.
Matthew 9:9