

Day 1

Jesus Chose Matthew (Matthew 9:9-13)

Jesus saw a man named Matthew sitting at a tax booth. Matthew was a tax collector. Many people did not like tax collectors because sometimes they would steal money. But Jesus loved Matthew anyway. He said to Matthew, "Follow Me." So, Matthew got up and followed Him.

While Jesus and His disciples (helpers) were eating at Matthew's house, many tax collectors, and other people who did wrong things, came to eat with them. When some teachers saw this, they asked Jesus' disciples, "Why does Jesus eat with tax collectors and these other people?" When Jesus heard this, He let them know that He came to show God's love for everyone.



Paul Listened and Obeyed (Acts 26:1-29)

One day Paul was traveling to a city named Damascus. He was going there because he did not like the people who loved Jesus. Paul wanted to hurt them and put them in jail. But on his way, something amazing happened! Paul saw a light even brighter than the sun! It was so bright, it hurt his eyes and Paul could not see. He fell to the ground.

Paul heard a voice ask why he was hurting people. This scared Paul because he couldn't see anyone talking. Paul asked who the voice was. The voice answered, "I am Jesus." Jesus told Paul to go and tell people that God loves them. When Paul could see again, Paul obeyed Jesus, changed the way he lived, and didn't hurt people anymore. He told people about what happened to him and that God loves them no matter what they have done.



Jesus Prayed in the Garden (Matthew 26:36-46)

Jesus and His disciples (helpers) walked to a place called Gethsemane. It was a garden near the bottom of a mountain. Jesus said to the men, "Sit here while I go pray." Then Jesus told Peter ant the two other disciples, James and John, to go with Him. Jesus became quiet. He began to think about the plan God had for Him and the things that would happen soon. Jesus told His disciples He was sad and wanted them to stay near Him. While Peter, James, and John waited, Jesus walked a little farther away. He fell down to the ground and prayed. Jesus asked God to help Him.

"Whatever You want, God, I will do," Jesus said. Jesus walked back to the disciples. He found them sleeping. "Stay awake and pray." Jesus said to the men. Jesus walked away again to pray some more. When He finished, He went back to the disciples. They were still sleeping! So, Jesus went to pray again. He asked God to help Him be ready to do God's plan. When Jesus finished praying, He returned to his disciples. He told them to get up and leave the garden with Him.



Jesus Made a Promise (Matthew 28:1-10,16-20)

After Jesus died and was place in a tomb, a stone was rolled in front of the tomb to seal it. His friends Mary Magdalene and another woman named Mary went to visit the place where Jesus' body had been taken. There was an earthquake and an angel of the Lord came down from heave. The angel, who was dressed in white, rolled back the stone that had been placed in front of the tomb and sat on it. The angel told them Jesus is alive! Jesus was going to Galilee to see His disciples (helpers). This was wonderful news. The women were so happy. They hurried to find Jesus' disciples to tell them the good news.

Then Jesus met the women and said, "Good morning! Go tell My disciples to leave for Galilee. They will see Me there." The women looked for the disciples and told them the news. When the disciples heard the women's message, they traveled to the mountain in Galilee where Jesus told them to go. When thee disciples saw Jesus, they worshiped Him.

Then Jesus spoke to the men. He said "Go and tell everyone about me. Teach people to do everything I have told you." Jesus told the disciples that they should tell people everywhere that Jesus is alive. "And remember, I am with you always." Jesus said.



The House on the ROCK (Matthew 7:24-29)

One day, crowds of people gathered to hear Jesus teach. When He saw the people, He went up on the mountain and sat down. His disciples (helpers) cam near and Jesus taught them. Jesus taught a lesson. "People who hear what I say, believe, and obey will be like the wise man who built his house on the rock. The rain came, the rivers rose, and the winds blew hard against the house. But the house didn't fall because it was built on the solid foundation."

"But people who hear My words and don't pay attention to them are like the foolish man who built his house on the sand. The rain came, the rivers rose, and the winds blew hard against the house. Then the house fell down with a big crash." Jesus taught this lesson to help us understand that God will help us know how to live.

