

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen**

OPENING PRAYER:

O Lord, bless our home so that, in working together and playing together, we may learn to serve you and to serve one another.

Keep us safe and happy.

Amen

Before we begin today, I'd like you to have a little think about what Jesus was like when he was out there making friends:

Why do you think people wanted to be with him?

I bet they thought he was really nice!

What kind of a person do **you** think he was?

Today's story tells about people who dropped everything to be with Jesus.

I wonder why – do you?

When you read, have a good think:

Why was Jesus so special that the people in the story would change their whole life just to be his friend?

A reading from the Gospel of St Matthew (Mt 4:18 - 22



Jesus left
Nazareth and
went to live in
Capernaum
on the shore
of Lake
Galilee.

As Jesus was walking beside the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon (later called Peter) and his brother Andrew.





They both worked as fishermen and were casting a net into the lake.

"Come, follow me," Jesus said, "and I will send you out to fish for people."





Immediately
they left
their nets and
followed
him.

Going further along the shore Jesus saw two other brothers, James and John.

They too were fishermen, working in their boat.





James and
John were
with their father
Zebedee,
preparing their
nets.

Jesus called them leave their jobs to follow him.

Immediately they both left the boat and their father to be with Jesus.

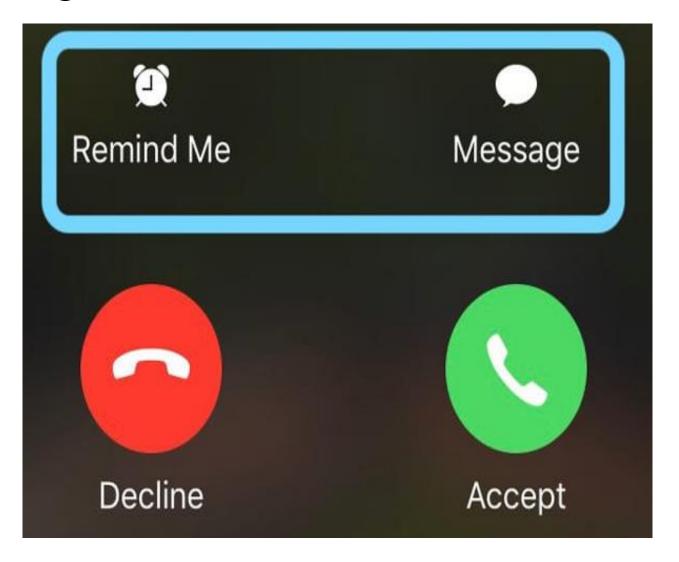




The four fishermen followed Jesus as he set off to tour Galilee, teaching in synagogues, proclaiming the good news of the kingdom of God, and healing people of every disease and sickness.

The fishermen in the story answered a call.

When we get a 'call', we are used to these four options.



These days, Jesus doesn't use a phone to call us, but we still get options.

The option we choose depends on how we know Jesus, sort of like how we know a person calling us on our phone.

It can depend on:

- whether we like them or not,
- whether we 'get' them or not,
- whether we understand them or not
- or whether we want a bit more information to decide at a later date.

Sit quietly for a minute, and try to think about the kind of guy Jesus was.

Do you want to go travelling with him, or do you want to wait for a bit?

Do you want to get to know him more, or do you know what kind of person he is already?

Do you need help to decide how he might change your life?

CLOSING PRAYER:

Dear Lord,

You know it can be hard work to accept your call, especially when we don't quite 'get it'.

Help us to know you, to see what you are like and to understand how your way can bring heaven to Earth.

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen

How do you think Jesus wants you to live and your friends)	your life? (Think ab	out home, school	