

Kids' Chronicle

Jesus sends his disciples to preach

BY JOE SARNICOLA

Jesus sent word to the 12 men he had selected to be his first disciples that he wanted to meet with them in private. As they received the message from Jesus, the men stopped what they were doing and went to see him. They knew it must be very important.

Jesus greeted each one of them by name and said he was giving them a special authority. "Go to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. Proclaim that the kingdom of God is at hand. Cure the sick, raise the dead, cleanse lepers, drive out demons. I am sending you like sheep in the midst of wolves, so be shrewd as serpents and simple as doves."

The disciples looked around at each other and back at Jesus. Jesus was telling them they could use his authority to do some of the same wonderful things he did. The men were excited, yet they were a bit nervous, too.

They wondered what he meant by "sheep in the midst of wolves."

As always, Jesus knew what his friends were thinking. He held up one hand to indicate he would answer all of their questions. He continued speaking. "You will be led before governors and

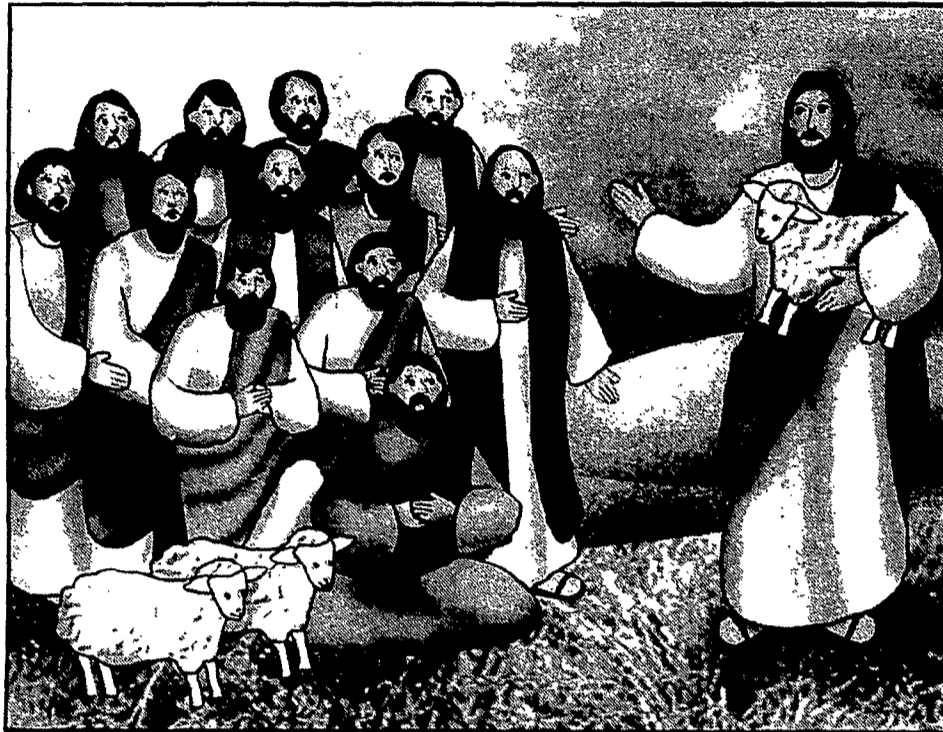


Illustration by Linda Jeanne Rivers

kings for my sake as a witness before them. Do not worry about how you are to speak or what you are to say. You will be given at that moment what you are to

say. For it will not be you who speak, but the Spirit of your Father speaking through you."

The disciples sighed with relief when Jesus reminded them that wherever they went to preach in his name, his Father would be watching over them.

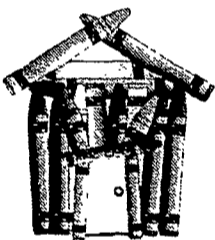
He would guide them through any difficult situation. There was no need to be afraid of people or the leaders of the world. "Do not be afraid of them. What I say to you in the darkness, speak in the light; what you hear whispered, proclaim on the housetops. Do not be afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; rather, be afraid of the one who can destroy both soul and body."

Jesus wanted his friends to know how much he loved them, how much his Father loved them. "Not a sparrow falls to the ground without your Father's knowledge. Even all the hairs of your head are counted. So do not be afraid; you are worth more than many sparrows."

READ MORE ABOUT IT:
Matthew 10

Q&A

1. Why did Jesus call his disciples together?
2. Who did Jesus say would speak through the disciples?



Kids' Club

You can win a \$50 savings bond by writing an essay (100 or fewer words) answering this question: **Jesus told us not to be afraid. How can fear affect the way we act?**

Send your essay — including name, home address, telephone number, school and grade — to *Catholic Courier*, P.O.

Box 24379, Rochester, NY 14624. Deadline for entries is June 20, 2002. The winner will be notified by phone and receive the savings bond by mail. In addition, the winner's essay will be published in an upcoming issue of *Kids' Chronicle*.

Last month's winner was Christian Brandon, a fourth-grader at Our Mother of Sorrows School in Greece. In response to **Who is someone who has been helpful in your Christian growth, and what has that person shown you?**, he wrote "Someone who helps me in my Christian growth is our priest, Father Alex Bradshaw. He is much like Paul because he preaches to Christians at church. In fourth grade, he gave me the sacrament of reconciliation. Father Bradshaw is a great priest because he is funny and nice to everyone. On Friday mornings, when we go to Mass, he explains the feast day of one Apostle or saint very well. He is very smart when it comes to knowledge of our religion. I have learned many things from his homilies at church. Father Bradshaw is definitely someone who has helped me in my growth and understanding of the Christian religion."

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Puzzle

How many books of the Bible can you find in the phrase,

"PROCLAIM ON THE HOUSETOPS,"

using the letters only as often as they appear in the phrase? *Answer on page 9.*



St. Paula Frassinetti

St. Paula Frassinetti was born in 1837 in Cuneo, Italy. She had health problems, so when she was 21, her father sent her to live with her uncle in Turin. Paula stayed in Turin for several years, but she became especially interested in helping the children of poor families receive an education. She discussed her ideas with her brother and other members of the clergy in the area. They agreed that a solution might be to open a school. On March 4, 1858, Paula and some other women received their religious habits and the order that was established became known as the Sisters of St. Dorothy. Before long, the sisters had established several small schools. Paula went to Rome with her brother and gained an audience with Pope Gregory XVI, who supported the idea. Later, Pope Pius IX was also in favor of it. The Sisters earned a wide reputation as skilled educators. Paula worked tirelessly all her life. She died in 1882. We honor her on June 12.


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