Impact Kids Fall 2026
Younger IK Leader Guide

next steps
IN DISCIPLESHIP

November 11, 2026- Disciples are chosen for a purpose.
Bible-Matthew 9: 9-13, Jesus Calls Matthew
Disciples make Jesus part of every day.

Leader QR Codes-

ASK Leader

Leader Devos

Like It Counts

Group Schedule

Leaders Arrive: 6:00 PM (Prayer)
Family Dinner: 6:30 PM – 7:00 PM
K-3rd Outside Play: 6:50 PM- 7:20 PM
4th & 5th Small Group: 6:50 PM- 7:30 PM
K-3rd Small Group: 7:25 PM- 8:00 PM
4th & 5th Outside Play: 7:30 PM- 8:00 PM
Dismiss: 8:00 PM- 8:05 PM
** PL and LT groups will follow 4th & 5th schedule
*** PreK groups outside play is decided at campus

Family Table

What to Do:

As you gather everyone to eat, discuss these questions together. If one question takes the whole time, that is great. Your group has a great dynamic and feels comfortable talking to you and the group. Serve pizza, put names on water bottles, collect trash and clean up/wipe down tables and wash hands.

TALK ABOUT IT:

- Introduce yourself and welcome kids by name.
- Ask kids to share what happened during their day at school, home, etc.
- Ask kids to share new things or old things they are learning.
- Ask kids to share how they have seen God working this week.
- **For fun:** Would you rather be friends with a bear or a snake? Why?
- **This week:** Who in your life has been a friend like Jesus?

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Social Game

Today we'll find out that Jesus calls Matthew. This story helps us know that each of us is chosen for a purpose.. We'll hear how Jesus spent time with Matthew at his house. Let's start by talking about our friends.

Share

- Share about your best friend and what you like to do together.
- Read Matthew 9:9. Say: Jesus wants to be friends with everyone! And when he asked Matthew to be his friend and spend time with him, Matthew got right up and went with Jesus. Let's play a game to help us think about that.
- Have all the children sit in the center of your room. Have an adult or teen helper stand on one end of the room and approach the group of kids. He or she will say, "Follow me and be my friend. Clap with me!" Have the kids stand up and clap as they walk with the adult or teen helper around the room once.
- Have the kids sit, and choose an older child to be the new leader. That child will say, "Follow me and be my friend" and add a new motion for kids to do, such as hop, take big steps, tiptoe, or even crawl. Then everyone will stand up, walk with the leader, and do the motion. Repeat this process, having several kids take turns being the leader. Help kids think of motions, if needed.

Say: We had lots of fun with our friends. Jesus is our friend, too, and he loves to spend time with us. Whether we're playing outside, just relaxing on the couch, or eating a meal—Jesus loves to be with us.

Video & Pray

Watch "Jesus Calls Matthew"

Say: Like Jesus helped Matthew and his friends, Jesus can help us be good friends who welcome others to play with us and are kind and loving. We can share Jesus with all our friends, becuase we know Jesus chooses each of us to love and follow Him. Jesus is such a good friend!

Pray: *Jesus, thank you for choosing me to love and follow You. Help me show others what you have done for me with my words and actions. I love you with everything I have Lord. Amen!*

Say: Let's play a game like bowling to practice including all our friends.

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Activity

Buddy Bumpers
Supplies: plastic beverage bottles or pool noodles cut to 6-inch lengths (6 per group), rubber playground balls (2 per group), upbeat music (optional), music player (optional)

Say: Today we heard about one of Jesus' friends, Matthew. Jesus was a really good friend to Matthew and showed us how we can be good friends, too.
Let's play a game where you'll all get to be good, helpful friends!

- Form teams of six. (If you have fewer than six kids, form only one team.)
- Give each team a ball and show teams their bowling pins.
- Each team member will roll the ball once to try to hit the pins and knock them down, resetting any pins between tries.
- Then everyone will try again, but this time team members will stand along the path to the bowling pins to act as helpful bumpers to guide the ball to the pins.
- Encourage team members to cheer each other on as they act as bumpers.
- If you'd like, play upbeat music while kids play.

Talk About It
Ask: • Why was it better to have your friends' help when you bowled?
Say: You were good friends to each other in the game. You helped each other and cheered for your friends. There are lots of ways we can be good friends.
Tell about something you've done in the past week to be a good friend, such as buying coffee for a friend or co-worker.
Ask: • What's something you've done to be a good friend?
Say: It's great to have friends, and Jesus is our friend, too. When we treat our friends the way Jesus treats his friends, we'll be good friends to others! We are good friends when we talk about what Jesus has done for us or why we love Him so much!

Color Page

What to Do: Distribute the coloring pages and crayons. **Say**: Disciples are chosen for a purpose. Allow time for kids to color.
Leader Tip: Encourage families to look at the kid's work as they show up to pick up their kids.