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## 29. Jesus Choose the Twelve Apostles

**T**HE time came when Jesus had to begin His ministry of preaching. He left home and people flocked to Him.

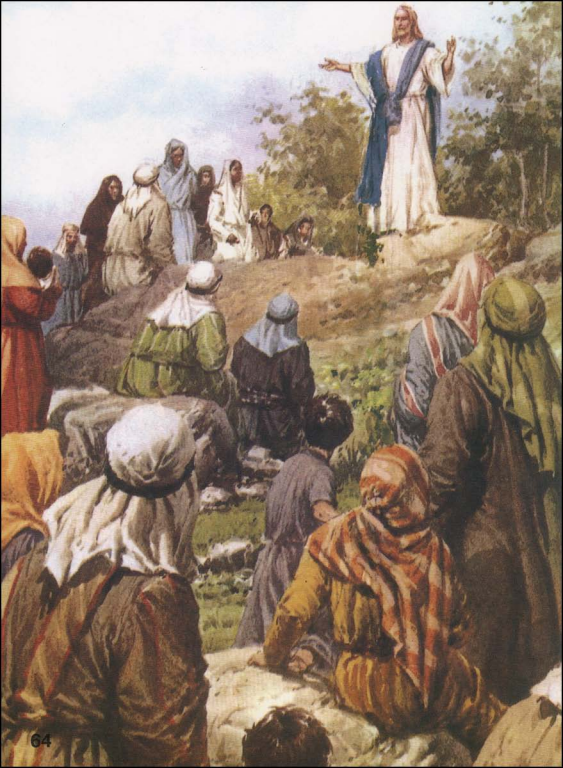
Jesus went up a mountain and remained in prayer all night with His Father. At day-break He came down and selected twelve men. These were to share His life. They were to be called Apostles.

They were: Simon Peter and Andrew, James and John, Philip and Bartholomew (or Nathaniel), Matthew and Thomas, James and Simon, Jude Thaddeus and Judas (who betrayed Him).

Jesus chose these men to be the foundation of His Kingdom and His Church, because He was to give them the powers of the priesthood: to offer the sacrifice of the Mass, to forgive sins, and to teach in His name. They would take His place on earth and give their powers to other priests.



*Jesus chooses twelve men to be His Apostles.*



## 30. Jesus Gives the Sermon on the Mount

**O**NE day Jesus went up the side of a hill where all could see Him, and He began to teach the large crowd of people who had come to hear Him.

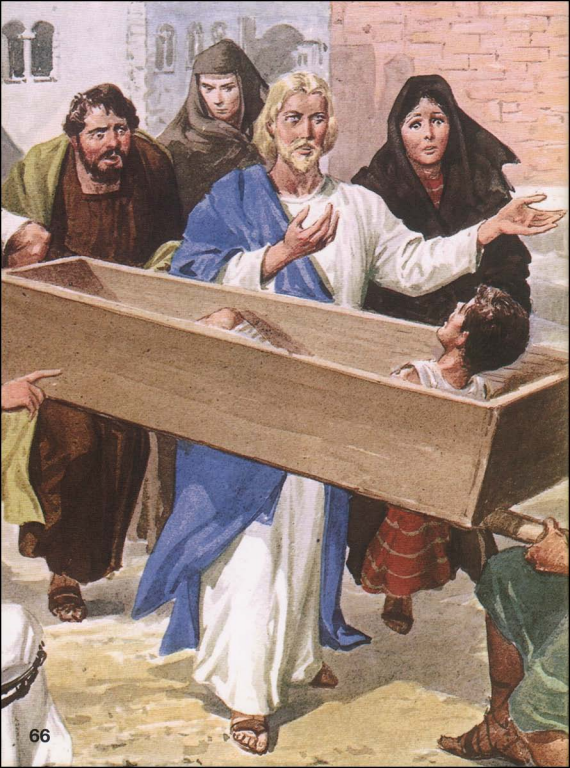
He said that God made us to know, love, and serve Him in this world, so that we can be happy forever with Him in heaven.

To be happy we must be poor in spirit; we must be meek; we must be sorry for our sins; we must be holy; we must be merciful; we must be pure; we must be peaceful, and willing to suffer for God.

Jesus said: "Be glad and happy, because a great reward is kept for you in heaven."

In this sermon Jesus also taught the people to trust in God in prayer, and to forgive their enemies; to seek the kingdom of God and to strive to be holy that they may be children of the heavenly Father.





## 31. Jesus Raises a Widow's Son

**W**HEN Jesus came to the town of Naim with His disciples, they met a funeral procession. It was the funeral of the only son of a widow.

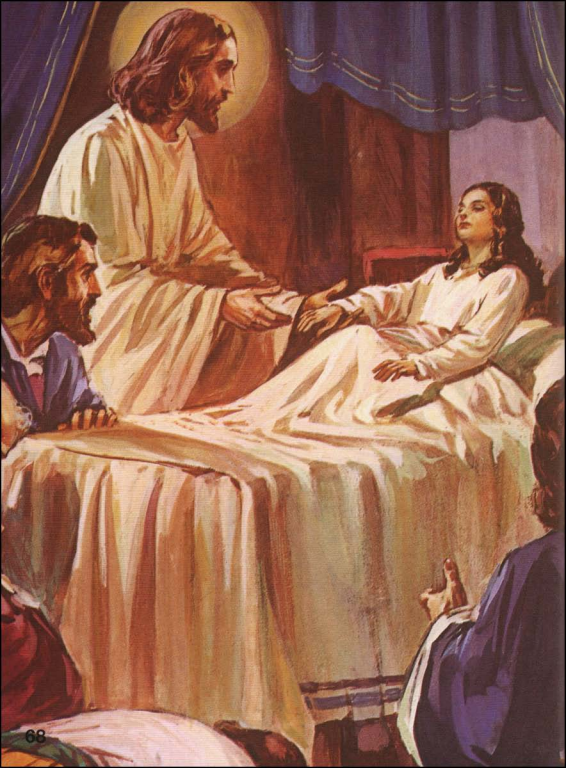
Seeing the mother's sorrow, Jesus was moved with pity. He told her not to cry. Then He said to the dead young man: "I say to you, arise."

The young man who was dead sat up and began to speak, and Jesus gave him to his mother. Everyone in Naim rejoiced and praised God.

They said: "A great Prophet has risen among us! God has visited His people."

Jesus showed the people that He was true God and Man, because only God can raise a dead person to life. Since He is God, His teaching is true and people must believe.





## 32. Jesus Raises the Daughter of Jairus

**A** MAN named Jairus fell down at the feet of Jesus and said: "Master, come to my house at once! My little daughter is dying; but if You will come and lay Your hands upon her, she will live."

While he was yet speaking, someone came to him and said: "Your daughter is dead." But Jesus said to Jairus: "Do not be afraid; only believe, and she will yet be saved to you."

Jesus took with Him three of His disciples, Peter, James, and John, and the father and mother of the child. On the couch was lying the dead body of a girl, twelve years old. Our Lord took her by the hand and spoke to her: "Little girl, rise up!"

And life returned to the little girl. She opened her eyes and sat up.

### 33. Jesus Feeds Five Thousand People

**A** GREAT crowd of people listened to Jesus preaching most of the day. They were hungry and there was no place to buy food.

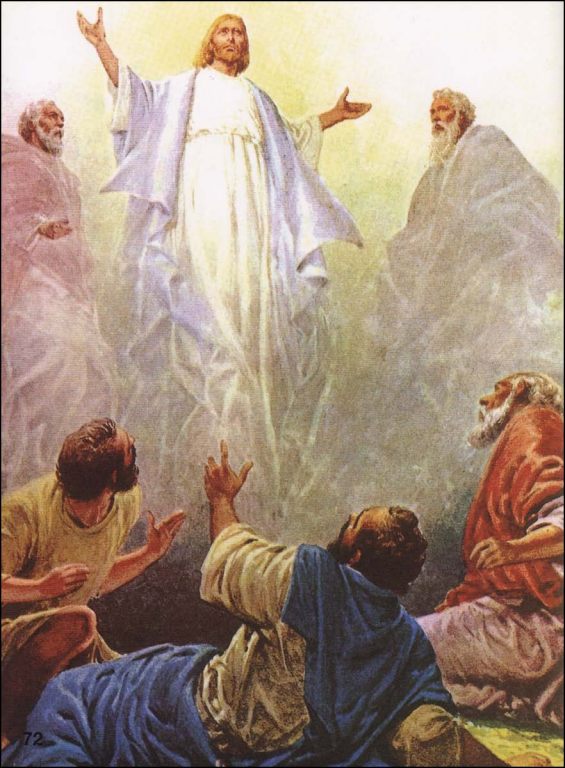
Jesus took into His hands five loaves and two fish which a boy had brought. He blessed them and told His Apostles to give them to the people.

The Apostles passed the bread and fish to everyone, as much as needed. Twelve baskets of food were left.

The people said: "Surely this is the Prophet Who was to come to the world!" They wanted to make Him King, but Jesus went off into the hills by Himself.

After this miracle Jesus promised to give Himself to us as the Bread of Life. He said if we would receive Him in Holy Communion we would live forever. At the Last Supper He gave us the Eucharist.





## 34. Jesus Shows His Glory

**P**ETER, James, and John climbed a tall mountain with Jesus. There they saw Him as they had never seen Him before. His face shone as the sun. His clothes were white as snow.

Then the three disciples saw Moses and Elijah talking with Jesus. Peter said: "Lord, it is a good thing that we are here."

A voice from heaven said: "This is My beloved Son, listen to Him." Jesus told the Apostles not to fear.

When they climbed down the mountain, Jesus told them not to tell anyone what they had seen until after He had risen from the dead.

Jesus let the three Apostles see some of His Divinity shine through His Body, so that they would remember that He is God even though He would suffer on the Cross.



## 35. Jesus Blesses Children

**J**ESUS loved little children. One day while He was teaching the people, some mothers were bringing their little children to Him that He might touch them.

The Apostles tried to keep the children away, because Jesus was tired.

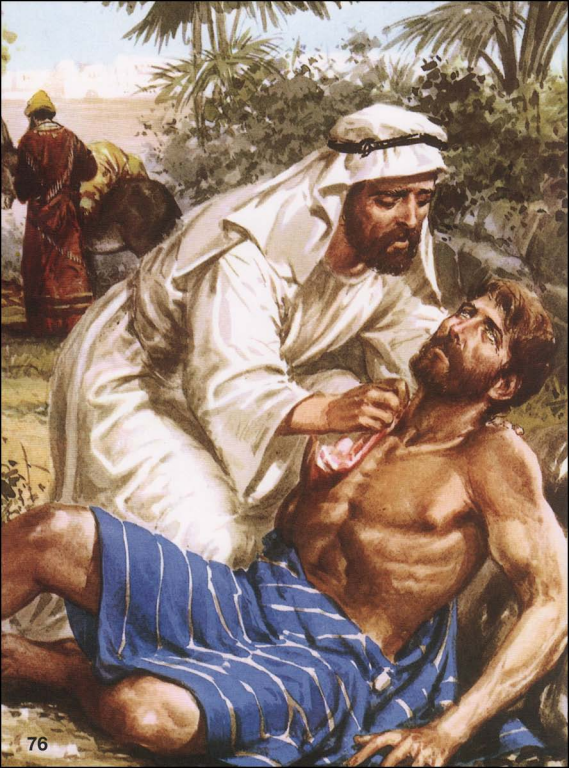
But Jesus said: "Let the children come to Me. Do not hinder them. The Kingdom of God belongs to such as these. Unless you change and become like little children you will never enter the Kingdom of Heaven."

And He laid His hands on their heads and blessed them.

Jesus taught the people that they must be humble, obedient, sincere, and free from sin, like children, if they want to come to heaven.



***Jesus says: "Let the children come to Me."***



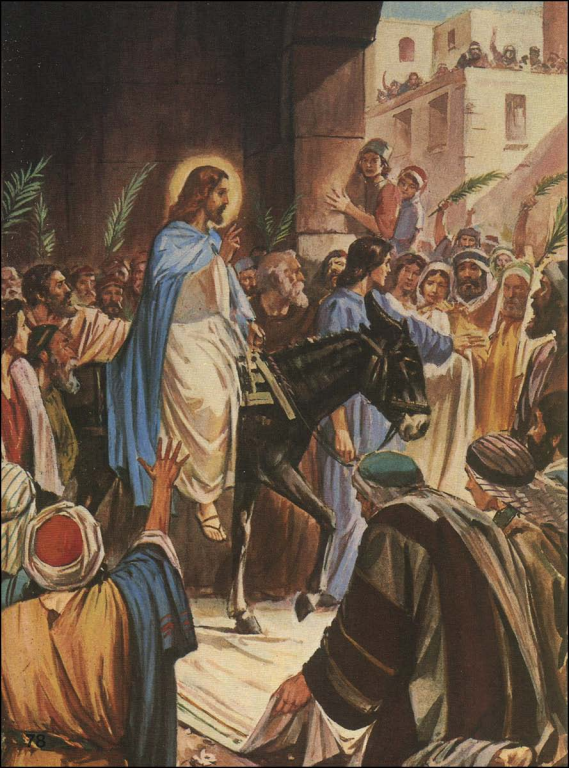
## 36. Jesus Teaches Love for Neighbor

**J**ESUS had just told a Teacher of the Law that the first commandment was love of God and neighbor. Then with a parable (or story) He taught us who is a neighbor.

A certain man went from Jerusalem to Jericho. Robbers took away all his money and left him halfdead.

Three men came along that road: a priest, a Levite, and a Samaritan. The first two men hurried past but the Samaritan stopped. He washed the man's wounds, took him to an inn, and left money there for his care.

Jesus asked the Teacher which of the three men had been a neighbor to the man. The Teacher said: "The man who took care of him." Jesus told him to go and do the same.



## 37. Jesus Enters Jerusalem in Triumph

**J**ESUS started for Jerusalem once more. On the way the Apostles brought a donkey. They put their cloaks over her back, and Jesus rode on the donkey into Jerusalem.

Great crowds of people went with Jesus. Some threw their cloaks on the road. Some cut branches from the trees and spread them in His path. All the people shouted: "Blessed is He who comes as King in the name of the Lord!"

This made the enemies of Jesus angry, and they decided to kill Him.

This entry into Jerusalem was a sign of Jesus's desire to rule over the souls of all people as King. He rules over our hearts by love.