

Reading: Luke Chapter 6 verses 13-16

Farther north up the river Jordan from where John baptised, the river widened out into a lovely lake, the sea of Galilee. There was a little fishing village of Bethsaida at the northern end of the lake. One day, four of the fisherman who lived in the little village decided to leave their ships and their nets and go to hear John the Baptist preach lower down the river Jordan. They happened to be there on the day when Christ was baptised, and two of them heard John call Jesus "The Lamb of God" and they followed him. They went with him to the house where he was lodging and as it was late, they stayed with him until the next day, and that was the beginning of a very special friendship.

The next day Andrew, who was one of those who had spent the night with Jesus, fetched his brother Peter to be introduced to Jesus.

Jesus then made himself known to Philip, another fisherman from Galilee who went and fetched Nathaniel, he is known as Bartholomew. Nathaniel was surprised that Jesus seemed to know him before he had even spoken to him, while he was a good way off under the fig tree.

Jesus saw two other men mending their nets, they were called James and John, and Jesus called to them and they immediately left the ship and their father and followed him.

They were all very willing to leave their boats and their families and follow Jesus.

Jesus chose six more disciples and they were Simon, Matthew, Thomas, James, Judas and Judas Iscariot.

Jesus chose these 12 men, called disciples, special followers to help him in his work.