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# Matthew Chapter 5

## ☐ 1. Warm-up (5-10 min)

Choose one:

- a. Why do you think people need friends? Is it more important to be a good friend or to have a good friend? Why?

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- b. How do you choose your friends? Tell your group about one of your friends and why you choose to spend time with him/her.

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## ☐ 2. Engaging the Chapter (15-20 min)

At the end of the last chapter Jesus started choosing His disciples. His disciples were His closest friends while He was on planet earth. Jesus chose His friends based on His mission in life. When He asked them to follow Him He told them, "I will show you how to fish for people!" As soon as Jesus chose His closest friends they dropped their jobs as fishermen and followed Jesus around listening to Him teach and watching Him heal people. They were His helpers in His mission to save the people of planet earth.

When you are choosing new friends is it more important to you that they are popular or that they are good Christians? Why?

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Have you ever seen one of your friends influenced negatively by one of their other friends? What happened? How did that impact you?

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Not long after Jesus chose His disciples He preached the longest sermon recorded in the Bible and it is called the Sermon on the Mount. In this sermon there is a lot of practical advice for helping people to make wise choices and decisions in life.

Do you like listening to long or short sermons? Why? Does it matter what the sermon is about? Why/why not?

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Do you feel like most sermons and other Christian teachings you hear are practical and easy to apply to your life? Why?

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**3. Applying the Chapter to Your Life (5-10 min)**

Have a discussion with your friends and a Christian adult about how to make Christianity more practical and relevant in your life. Talk with either your pathfinder leader, Sabbath school teacher or pastor about ways to live out your faith in your home, church and community

**4. Prayer Time (3-5 min)**

Pray for Jesus to help you to understand the connection between belief and action. Pray for Jesus to help you see opportunities to help others that you meet on a daily basis.

**5. Outreach Idea**

Ask your pathfinder leader, Sabbath school teacher or pastor to help you plan a humanitarian outreach project in your community that will help you to put your faith into action. Ask them about homeless ministries, VBS ministries and ways to help out with tutoring younger students who need help. Look at some of the outreach ideas found on the Living it website ([livingiths.org](http://livingiths.org)).