

YEAR C

23rd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

BE MY FRIENDS

VISUAL AIDS

- > Pictures of climbers, builders, soldiers.
- > Cross shape cut-outs.

WELCOME AND PROCLAIM THE GOSPEL

Say/sing together:

Alleluia, alleluia!
**Lord, teach us to do
what you want us to do.**
Alleluia!

A reading from the Good News
given to us by Luke.
Glory to you, Lord.

Jesus turned to the great crowd that
was following him and said
'Following me is not easy. You must
know what it will involve.

Suppose you want to build a big
tower. You must first sit down and

DISCUSSION

Jesus gives two examples of people
working hard to make preparations.
What were they?
- building a tower
- going to war.

Why did Jesus tell these stories?
- so that those who want to follow
him know what is expected of them.

Jesus says it will not always be easy.

When/what do the children find
hard?

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SHARING

Show the children the pictures and encourage them to identify the activity in each picture.

Divide the children into three groups, one for each picture, and have them pretend they have to do what their picture shows: they have to decide what preparations they need to make. Time permitting, gather everyone

back together and share what preparations they each think they need.

Often we want to do something,
- but cannot be bothered to make the necessary preparations
- or start out and get bored
- or we cannot be bothered trying any more.

God made us and loves us. He never gets bored of loving and looking after us.

work out what you will need, and how much it will cost. Otherwise, you might be half way through, and run out of money. Then people would think you very silly.

Or suppose you were a king marching to war. You must first find out if the other king is much stronger, has a much bigger army than yours. No one goes to battle if they know they will be defeated.

That would be very silly.

So too if you want to follow me, you must know what it will mean. You must be prepared to follow me all the way to the end.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

ACTIVITIES

- > Give out the cross shape cut-outs.
- > On them have the children write or draw the way in which they will help Jesus in the week ahead.

