

# *Make Disciples– Youth Lessons*

## **Lesson #1 – Who Is This Jesus? What Has He Done For Me?**

### **Life Need – Purpose statement**

In this lesson, we will review what has happened after a student has made a commitment at a Jesus Film showing. When you are finished, they should understand clearly that man in sin is separated from God. And that God loves us and sent His Son Jesus Christ who died on a cross for us in our sin condition. Jesus' death has opened the bridge to God once again.

### **Biblical references – Scriptural background**

Study Genesis and the fall of man into sin before you share this lesson. Also, study Lesson #1 from *Following Jesus - Standard C: What Does It Mean To Be A Part of the People of God?* as background material about God's Story for you to share with students. It would be good to help students understand that in God's Story there is a timeline of man in the Bible that describes how God created man and wants to interact with man even today. Use these Scripture passages to explain how God brings us back into a right relationship with Him for salvation and fellowship.

Romans 3:23, John 3:16 – Man's separation from God.

I Peter 2:24, 3:18 – Jesus took our sins on the Cross.

John 14:6 – Only way to God is through Jesus Christ.

### **Teacher Preparation – Information to know**

For the best effectiveness of this lesson, it should be taught in an intimate setting of one to eight students. In this kind of setting, the students are then looked at as human beings – not just a “class” to move on after getting the correct answers. They each have a value all their own. This even brings them together to become an enabling community – to help each other develop spiritually with his own special gifts and resources.

How does the learner perceive truth in these lessons? First of all, as a teacher/instructor/mentor, I must be prepared to accept the fact that my students and discipleship partners may not always understand the truth as I do. If my student is a Christian who is resisting the Holy Spirit in his life, there will be problems in accepting the truth I am trying to get across. Also, students who have just accepted Jesus Christ into their lives will still be feeding on the milk, not the meat, of the Word of Truth. We must consider, too, the possibility that my explanation may be less than clear to my students and discipleship partners. Knowing where the individual learners are spiritually is invaluable information for me as a teacher who desires to see spiritual growth. I can then take the Truth to their perspective more accurately.

To draw a learner to examine God's point of view is an exciting part of teaching, instructing and discipling. It is then that we have a chance to see God at work in their lives. When we see God's truth and values becoming a part of the learner's inner character, we can rejoice with God Himself over a student conforming to the image of His Son Jesus Christ.

As you prepare to use the **BibleStoryCards**\* of Jesus' life and the **EvangeCube**\*, make yourself very familiar with these tools to share God's salvation plan. Never just read word for word, unless you are narrating the story. Make sure that all the students can see the BibleStoryCards or the EvangeCube and can hear clearly.

While you teach these lessons, make eye contact with your students to show them your excitement about the story of Jesus. This will also help you notice if they are grasping the truth's you are sharing. Feel free to interact with students through questions and discussion during the lesson at any time.

\* **BibleStoryCards**<sup>™</sup> are trading-size cards that help you learn Bible stories easily and apply them to your lives! Each card is colorfully illustrated on the front with the Bible story and review questions written on the back. There are 50 Old Testament BibleStoryCards and 50 New Testament cards. Go to <http://www.wesleyan.org/wph/childrensresources/biblestorycards/biblestorycards.htm> to purchase them.

\*The **EvangeCube**<sup>®</sup> is a seven-panel cube that tells the story of the Gospel of Christ in pictures. Go to [www.jfhp.org](http://www.jfhp.org) for more information and to purchase them.

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## **Teaching Life – Basic Lifestyle Understanding**

After prayer, begin this lesson by using the following BibleStoryCards to show Jesus' early life and the start of His ministry. Use the background materials you have acquainted yourself with from the Teacher Preparation above to lay the foundation of Jesus' Story.

#51 The Annunciation – Luke 1:26-38

#52 Jesus' Birth – Luke 2:1-20

#53 The Magi – Matthew 2:1-12

#54 Jesus at the Temple – Luke 2:41-52

#55 Jesus Baptism – Matthew 3:13-17

These BibleStoryCards will help students understand more of the beginning of Jesus' life and ministry and His affirming call from God to go out to the world.

After you use the BibleStoryCards, use the large EvangeCube to refresh the decisions students made at the Jesus Film showing. Remind the students that we all need Jesus to bring us to God. Have each student share about their decision for Jesus Christ to reaffirm their commitment to God.

## **Teaching Truth – Basic Biblical Truth**

Read the following Scripture passages out loud. After each passage, have individual students describe briefly what has happened to them according to that verse. Take your time with this section so that each student fully understands, from a Scriptural point of view, what has taken place in their individual lives.

II Corinthians 5:17 – we are a new creation

Revelation 3:20 – Jesus knocking at our spirit's door

John 5:24 – we move from eternal death to eternal life

John 1:12 – we become a child of God

Ephesians 2:8-10 – we are saved from eternal death by God's grace through our faith in Jesus Christ

I John 1:9 – as we confess our sins, He is faithful and will forgive our sins

## **Teaching Application – Basic Life Application**

Students may ask questions, such as “How can I really know something happened to me when I accepted Jesus into my life? What if I don't feel the same tomorrow about my decision?” Taking the truths from today's lesson, interact with students about how feelings sometimes take over in our lives. But we can rest assured that our salvation is based on faith and facts, not feelings.

**Fact:** John 3:16 – The historical facts are that God did send His Son, Jesus Christ, to earth. Jesus lived, died, rose again, and lives today to call men to faith in Him. These are the facts on which students can build their faith and lives.

**Faith:** Romans 1:17 – Faith does not rest in emotion. Faith, itself a gift of God, is founded entirely on the fact of God's love and Jesus' victory over sin. At the moment we confess our sins and trust Jesus to forgive us, we are born into God's family and have eternal life.

**Feeling:** Luke 18:35-43 – Here's a man who believed – had faith – that Jesus could heal him. And his response, based on fact and faith, was the feeling of excitement after being healed. He praised God and caused others to praise God, also. That's feeling, or emotion. So, are we saved through our feelings or emotions? No, we are saved by faith in Jesus, who died on the Cross so that we might have forgiveness. He did for us what we could never do for ourselves.

Now, tie in the application of living this next week by fact and faith – that Jesus came, died, rose again and lives in us – not just by feeling. Ask the students what are some practical ways we can live this new life in Jesus Christ?

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## Closing Scripture:

*And now, just as you trusted Christ to save you, trust Him, too, for each day's problems; live in vital union with Him. Let your roots grow down into Him and draw up nourishment from Him. See that you go on growing in the Lord, and become strong and vigorous in the truth you were taught. Let your lives overflow with joy and thanksgiving for all He has done. Colossians 2:6-7, TLB.*

Close in prayer.