



Series Overview

For a relationship that's supposed to trump all others, teenagers' relationship with Jesus can sometime be hit or miss. This doesn't make them wrong or bad. It simply makes them human. Part of learning to follow Jesus is learning what the faith that forms the foundation of this relationship looks like. The good news? Jesus had a lot to say about this faith.

Lesson 1: The Answer

In this lesson, we helped students learn that our faith in Jesus is the means by which we find forgiveness and eternal relationship with Christ. We challenged them to really consider the significance of life through faith in Christ and death in separation from Him.

Passages: John 3:12-18, John 5:24

Questions to Ask:

- Are you 100% sure about your standing with God? Do you ever doubt if you are saved or not?
- Why is it hard to really visualize the thought of spending eternity separated from God?
- Who are the three or four people who mean the most to you whom don't know Jesus?
- What can I do to help you have the confidence to reach out to them and have some meaningful faith discussions?

Lesson 2: Be Good Soil

In this lesson, we helped students learn that a pure faith in Christ is the key to a life of meaning and purpose. We challenge them to evaluate their attitudes toward knowing and living out God's Word.

Passages: Luke 8:4-15

Questions to Ask:

- Do you ever feel intimidated about reading the Bible? How about feelings of boredom? Why?
- Why do you think it's so hard to actually live out the things we learn in the Bible?
- What was the last decision you made that was significantly impacted by your faith?

Lesson 3: Do You Believe?

In this lessons, we helped students learn that true faith in God can be a powerful, transformational force in our lives and in the lives of others. We challenged them to take a look at the nature of their faith in God, to honestly assess any hesitancy or doubt, and to go to God in prayer with their thoughts.

Passages: Matthew 9:18-31, Matthew 21:17-22

Questions to Ask:

- You guys talked about faith and prayer this week. Do you remember what was said about how our faith impacts God's plans to meet our needs?
- What areas of faith are hard for you? In other words, what doubts do you have?
- What is the difference in your mind in having questions for God, or doubts, and having a weak faith? Do you think it's possible to have a strong faith but still have questions?

Lesson 4: Rock Solid

In this lesson, we helped students learn that our faith is designed to be an active faith that guides our everyday lives. We challenged them to think about how their faith really impacts their day-to-day decisions, thoughts, and attitude.

Passages: Matthew 7:24-27

Questions to Ask:

- In your mind, what does it mean to build your life on the foundation of faith in God's Word?
- How does your faith factor in your decision making process?
- How can our family move toward having a stronger faith foundation on God's Word?

JESUS AND CULTURE

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Series Overview

Today's Christian teenagers find themselves living in a culture that is antagonistic to much of what they believe. Against this backdrop, how do they know how to engage with culture in a way that keeps their influence intact, but keeps them from being negatively impacted by the world? The good news is that Jesus had lots to say about this.

Lesson 1: Alike But Not Alike

In this lesson, we helped students learn that they are called by Jesus to be in the world, but to live as if they were separated. We challenged them to honestly evaluate their relationship with culture, and who their actions say they more strongly identify with: Christ or the world.

Passages: John 15:18-21, 1 John 2:15-17

Questions to Ask:

- Ask if your student can summarize what they learned this week.
- Take turns coming up with practical examples of how Christ-followers set themselves apart from culture.
- Think of areas in your life where you may be too cozy with culture. Share these with your student and ask them to do the same.

Lesson 2: Different Than The Rest

In this lesson, we helped students learn that Jesus wants his followers to be counter-cultural in their humility, living in the world as servants of others. We challenged them to identify areas in their life that represent cultures definition of success, and commit to embracing Jesus' idea of success.

Passages: Mark 10:35-45, Ephesians 4:2

Questions to Ask:

- Ask your student to summarize what they learned this week. Try to focus on application as much as knowledge
- What has your attitude been about success related to things you are passionate about? Have there been times you valued success over others well being?
- What are some ways you can serve people and show humility with others this week?

Lesson 3: Making An Impact

In this lesson, we helped students learn that as Christ-followers committed to the gospel, they must be willing to bravely impact culture, especially those who the world has cast aside as having little or not value. We challenged students to identify the "outcasts" in their world who are most in need of Christ, and engage them with the purpose of sharing the gospel.

Passages: Matthew 9:9-13, James 1:27

Questions to Ask:

- This week you had a very specific challenge to identify people who the world cast-aside, falsely labeling them as "not valuable." Ask them who some of those people may be in their life.
- How can you reach out to these individuals, even in a small way, to show them the love of Christ?
- Later this week follow up and see how it went, continue to encourage them in these efforts.

Lesson 4: The Call to Holiness

In this lesson, we helped students learn that Jesus wants His followers to interact with culture through lives that are Christ-like: holy and set apart for God's purpose. We challenged them to understand the purpose Jesus calls the to, and to seek to embrace this purpose as they engage and interact with their culture.

Passages: John 17:13-19, Psalm 119:105

Questions to Ask:

- Summarize what you learned this week, how does this apply to your life?
- What are your thoughts on being used by God to impact the world for his name.
- What are some challenges you may face while trying to do this?