

A SERIES ABOUT FOLLOWING JESUS

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A SERIES ABOUT FOLLOWING JESUS WEEK 1

Goal of Small Groups: To create biblical disciples who follow Jesus, are being transformed by Jesus, and fish for men. (Matthew 4:19)

How to Use this Curriculum:

Step 1: Conversation Starters from the Book of Questions and/or Play a Game from the Group
Dynamix "Games We Play" Guide
Step 2: Give Expectations for the Students
Step 3: Introduce Topic Memory Verse and Read Scripture
Step 4: Discuss Scripture
Step 5: Discuss the Apologetic Defense
Step 6: Prayer Requests

Announcements:

Encourage students to text friends who have missed Group. Join us on Sunday Mornings for our _____ Sermon Series! Join our Text Group - Text "High School" or "Middle School" to 77978

Book of Questions:

What was the last concert you went to? How many foreign countries have you visited? Which one was your favorite?

Group Dynamix - "Games we play":

Download a copy from cottonwoodstudents.com

Expectations for the Night:

"This Bible Study is designed to be a discussion and not a lecture. So when we (the leaders) ask questions, we want you to answer! I realize that it is scary to answer questions out loud but it will help you and everyone else learn. We promise not to make fun of anyone for a wrong answer. Let's learn the Word and grow together! Also, please do not use your cell phones during group time - even for the bible app. Bring a paper Bible or I can get you one."



A SERIES ABOUT FOLLOWING JESUS WEEK 1

Topic: Refocus on Jesus

Goal of the Lesson: There are many things in this life that can distract us from following Jesus, school, sports, friends, social media. So let's refocus our thoughts and actions on chasing after Jesus and not after the things of this world.

Remember This - Memory Verse: John 8:12 (NIV)

When Jesus spoke again to the people, he said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."

Read: Luke 10:38-42

38 While they were traveling, he entered a village, and a woman named Martha welcomed him into her home. 39 She had a sister named Mary, who also sat at the Lord's feet and was listening to what he said. 40 But Martha was distracted by her many tasks, and she came up and asked, "Lord, don't you care that my sister has left me to serve alone? So tell her to give me a hand."

41 The Lord answered her, "Martha, Martha, you are worried and upset about many things, 42 but one thing is necessary. Mary has made the right choice, and it will not be taken away from her."

Discussion:

Using Bloom's Taxonomy Levels of Comprehension, let's try to help the students reach level 6 and Evaluate the Scripture for themselves. There are several questions for each level, but you do not need to use all of them. However, you do need to start with questions from level 1 and ask at least 1 question for each level.

Level 1: Knowledge Questions

- Can you identify the three characters in this story?
- What was Martha doing while Jesus was there and what was Mary doing?

Level 2: Comprehension Questions

- Explain why Mary made the right choice. What was it that she had done that will not be taken away from her?
- Was Martha completely wrong in doing her tasks around the house? Describe what she could have done better in this situation.



A SERIES ABOUT FOLLOWING JESUS WEEK 1

Level 3: Application Questions

- Are there people at your school who may be viewed as unpopular, weird, or are often made fun of? How can you apply Jesus' style of ministry to your ministry at your school?
- Andrew shows us that we can start sharing the gospel immediately after following Jesus by sharing Jesus with his brother, is there someone that you can share Jesus with as soon as possible?

Level 4: Analysis Questions

- Compare our culture to that of the culture in Jesus time, has much changed as far as social standings go? How does this possibly change our idea of how Christianity should operate now?
- The gospel is for ALL people of every tribe, tongue, and nation. Compare the diversity found in our church versus the diversity that will be in heaven. Should our church be more diverse?

Level 5: Synthesis Questions

- Have you ever been on a local or international mission trip? If so, what was your mindset like and how can you apply the "mission trip mindset" to your daily life?
- Jesus shows us in Luke 7:22 that his ministry was focused on the lowest in society, and Andrew shows us in John 1:40-42 that we need to start preaching the gospel to the lost as soon as possible. So, take a moment to develop a strategy for how you as a group can start following Jesus' and Andrew's examples.

Level 6: Evaluate and Create

• Peter was a fisherman who had no social standing in society, but because his brother Andrew shared Jesus with him he went on to be the leader of the early church! God chose regular people to carry his message to the ends of the earth. How can you use your spheres of influence to spread the gospel?

Apologetic Defense

• God chose man to carry His message to the ends of the earth. However, culture is intolerant of people sharing their faith. Explain why Christians shouldn't be silent about their faith even though culture is intolerant of our beliefs.

Closing Prayer

Ask for any prayer requests and challenge a new student every week to pray.



A SERIES ABOUT FOLLOWING JESUS WEEK 2

Goal of Small Groups: To create biblical disciples who follow Jesus, are being transformed by Jesus, and fish for men. (Matthew 4:19)

How to Use this Curriculum:

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Book of Questions:

What sound drives you crazy? What store could you spend the most money at?

Group Dynamix - "Games we play":

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A SERIES ABOUT FOLLOWING JESUS WEEK 2

Topic: Give it up

Goal of the Lesson: In life there are things that we must give up in order to follow Jesus, for Levi it was his job, in this lesson think about what you need to give up in order to truly follow Jesus.

Remember This - Memory Verse: John 8:12 (NIV)

When Jesus spoke again to the people, he said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."

Read: Luke 5:27-28

27 After this, Jesus went out and saw a tax collector named Levi sitting at the tax office, and he said to him, "Follow me." 28 So, leaving everything behind, he got up and began to follow him.

Discussion:

Using Bloom's Taxonomy Levels of Comprehension, let's try to help the students reach level 6 and Evaluate the Scripture for themselves. There are several questions for each level, but you do not need to use all of them. However, you do need to start with questions from level 1 and ask at least 1 question for each level.

Level 1: Knowledge Questions

- Can you identify the two characters in these verses?
- What was Levi's job?

Level 2: Comprehension Questions

- Why is it important to the story that Levi was a Tax Collector?
- What command does Jesus give his disciples when he first calls them?



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Level 3: Application Questions

- When Jesus calls Levi to follow him he immediately starts following him. Is Jesus calling you to follow him? How can you act like Levi?
- When Jesus called Levi he also left his entire livelihood; in being called by Jesus to follow him what in turn is he asking you to leave behind?

Level 4: Analysis Questions

- Read the rest of this passage, Luke 5:27-32, What does Levi's reaction to being called by Jesus tell us about his heart change?
- Compare the attitudes of Levi and the Rich Young Ruler in Matthew 19:16-22.

Level 5: Synthesis Questions

- Read Matthew 4:18-20, this is Jesus' invitation for discipleship but also his "lesson plan". What are the 3 objectives that Jesus wants to teach to his disciples in verse 19?
- The 3 qualities of a biblical disciple from Matthew 4:19 is someone who Follows Jesus, is being transformed by Jesus, and fishing for men. Explain how a person follows Jesus, is transformed by Jesus, and can fish for men.

Level 6: Evaluate and Create

• Can you appraise what Levi lost materially when he left his job to follow Jesus? Would our culture say it was worth it? Would most Christians say it was worth it? Would you say it was worth it?

Apologetic Defense

- The world teaches that we must be self made people. We need to do everything by our own strength. How would you convince someone that we need to be dependent upon Jesus and not on our own strength?
 - Matthew 16:24-27
 - 24 Then Jesus said to his disciples, "If anyone wants to follow after me, let him deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me. 25 For whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life because of me will find it. 26 For what will it benefit someone if he gains the whole world yet loses his life? Or what will anyone give in exchange for his life? 27 For the Son of Man is going to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will reward each according to what he has done.

Closing Prayer

Ask for any prayer requests and challenge a new student every week to pray.



A SERIES ABOUT FOLLOWING JESUS WEEK 3

Goal of Small Groups: Develop community and relationships that are built upon God and His Word.

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Book of Questions:

What movie can you quote the most? What is your comfort food?

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A SERIES ABOUT FOLLOWING JESUS WEEK 3

Topic: Following Jesus means Fishing for men

Goal of the Lesson: When we follow Jesus it doesn't just benefit ourselves. Our pursuit of Jesus should lead to us "fishing for men" and being a blessing to the rest of the world.

Remember This - Memory Verse:

John 8:12 (NIV) When Jesus spoke again to the people, he said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."

Read: Luke 7:22, John 1:40-42

Luke 7:22

22 He replied to them, "Go and report to John what you have seen and heard: The blind receive their sight, the lame walk, those with leprosy are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor are told the good news,

John 1:40-43

40 Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, was one of the two who heard John and followed him. 41 He first found his own brother Simon and told him, "We have found the Messiah" (which is translated "the Christ"), 42 and he brought Simon to Jesus. When Jesus saw him, he said, "You are Simon, son of John. You will be called Cephas" (which is translated "Peter").

Discussion:

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Level 1: Knowledge Questions

- Can you list the types of people Jesus listed in Luke 7:22?
- Identify how soon after following Jesus did Andrew find his brother Simon Peter?

Level 2: Comprehension Questions

- Can you explain how the people listed in Luke 7:22 were viewed in society at that time? What do you learn about Jesus if these are the people he is most ministering to?
- Can you summarize why it was so important for Christianity that Andrew brought his brother Peter to meet Jesus?



WEEK 3

Level 3: Application Questions

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