Session 6

THEME: WHAT CAN WE DO?

Looking Back

- Follow up on anything from the last session, e.g., things they were encouraged to do.
- What was the most important thing you did or heard at the last session?

CONNECT

Serving Jesus Now

Resources

Bible, photos or teddy bears, gospel tracts (like the wordless book)

Icebreaker activity

⇒ What would you do with it if I gave you 100 coins (or notes) in your currency? As you talk together, decide who you think has the best idea.

Discussion

⇒ God has given us time on earth before He returns. So what should we be doing with it? Answers here will be very varied and will provide a great insight into where each group member is at and link into the Bible story below.

Read (act out or tell in your own words) the story in Matthew 25:14-30.

Some of the servants used what they had to make more to give to the King. One servant sat and did nothing because of fear.

⇒ What has Jesus given you that you can share with others? Time, talents, love, and the GOSPEL.

TRUTH TO KNOW

Focus for our faith: We should share our faith.

Introduction

We want to help you know the Truth, and we are going to do our best to tell you what is true, but you don't just need to take our word. You need to read it in the Bible for yourself. So, each time we meet, we will open the Bible and read the Truth. This week's "Truth to Know" is found in Matthew 28:16-20.

IN: Tribe Connect

Remember that being in IN is like the Issachar Tribe: we are to know the times. We're also to know what to do.

We know Jesus is coming back.

We know when He returns, He will be a Warrior and King.

• He will rescue His people from bad things happening to them.

We know Jesus said there would be signs that would tell us His return is soon.

- o We should watch for the signs and stand firm when times are tough.
- We should be ready for Jesus to come back.

Did you know the Bible tells us that God wants us to make disciples of all the nations, so we should share our faith?

Background to this Bible passage

Jesus has died on the cross and come back to life. He is about to go to Heaven, and this will be the last time His disciples see Him before He comes back again. His final instructions at this moment are the last things He wants us to do.

The unfolding Story (your interactive "teaching")

Read Matthew 28:16-20.

Discuss

- ⇒ Jesus wants us to make disciples. What does that mean? Tell people about Jesus and help them to become like Jesus by being their friends and letting them be part of our lives.
- ⇒ How can we do that? There are many answers to this. Some are given in the remainder of the passage. The importance of prayer, reading the Bible, and receiving the Holy Spirit friendship should be highlighted, among other things.
- ⇒ What do you think Jesus means by "the end of the age?" When Jesus comes back.

Activity suggestion

Aim: To show that if we are all active in sharing Jesus with others, it won't be long before the good news has spread around the whole world, ready for Jesus' return.

If we were to share Jesus with people around us, let's see how quickly the good news of Jesus can spread.

One person can grab someone else's hand and bring them to a part of the room that represents bringing them to Jesus. Then both those people can bring someone to that part of the room. Then all four people, then 8, and so on.

If there are only a few of you, you could use Teddy Bears or photographs of other people to represent more people coming to Jesus.

How long would it be before the whole world has been reached with the good news of Jesus if we all do our part and teach others to do the same?

READY TO GO

Thinking about how this affects our lives and how to respond to the signs we see.

- ⇒ In our Bible passage, Jesus said He would be with us how is He with us, and how is He helping us? By His Holy Spirit more on this next time. We have access to Father God through Jesus to pray all the time.
- ⇒ Is there anyone who cannot receive Jesus as their Lord and Savior? Anyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved. (Romans 10:13)
- ⇒ How old do you have to be before you can share about Jesus? There is no age limit.

Activity suggestion

Do some role-plays to share the Gospel with each other. This may include the ABC Gospel: (Admit you are a sinner. Believe Jesus died on the cross for your sins. Choose to follow Him. Declaring His kingdom and watching for His return.) Another simple Gospel aid is the wordless book – you can find details about this resource online.

TIME FOR ACTION

1. "Stop and think" action point.

Between now and Jesus' return, do you want to drift through life or use your life to help other people to know and get ready for His return?

2. "Pause to pray" action point.

Think of three friends, family members, or people you regularly meet who do not know Jesus. Pray for them and pray for an opportunity to share the Good News of Jesus with them.

3. "Go and do" action point.

Look for an opportunity to share the Gospel with the three people. Don't forget to keep praying for them, too.

FOR DEEPER STUDY

For those who would like to study further about themes raised in the session.

For Study, read:

- 1. John 16:8 and Acts 2:1-13 (you can read the whole chapter if you would like). What is the role of the Holy Spirit in helping people come to Jesus?
- 2. Acts 17:22-34. Why did Paul start by talking about an unknown God before telling them about Jesus?
- 3. 1 Corinthians 9:19-23. What does Paul mean when he says he "becomes all things to all people?" How can we do this with the people we meet?

For Memorizing:

- 1. Matthew 28:19-20: "Again, truly I tell you that if two of you on earth agree about anything they ask for, it will be done for them by my Father in heaven. For where two or three gather in my name, there I am with them."
- 2. 1 Corinthians 9:22: "To the weak I became weak, to win the weak. I have become all things to all people so that by all possible means I might save some."

For Observation:

- 1. When people don't know God, what do they live for?
- 2. What do you think stops people from following God in today's world?

For Action:

1. Choose a country (or a tribe) in the world and learn as much as you can about missions there. How many people already know Jesus? What is the biggest challenge facing the church there? Which organizations are sending missionaries to that nation? What can you do to help the Gospel be shared there?

Before the next IN: Tribe:

1. Do some additional studying to learn more about the Truth of the Bible (some people call this study apologetics). Many good books show how the Bible is not just a random collection of books but true. An excellent place to start for children is Cold-Case Christianity for Kids by J. Warner Wallace. www.casemakersacademy.com

For teens, look at Christianity for Skeptics: https://creation.com/Christianity-For-Skeptics. Find out more here: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MML9Y0y166I

Ask your parents or leaders for more suggestions.

Find out how many more people need to hear the Gospel before every tribe, language, and nation will be represented in Heaven.