

Teen Scene



2nd Quarter Online Activities

Lesson 1 – Amazing Encounters

What can you do to show you value the work Jesus did on the cross?
(Taken from page 7)

During today's story, we discuss the resurrection of Jesus. Mary Magdalene, and other women, went to the tomb three days after Jesus had been crucified and buried. They brought spices they had prepared to dress His body. They found the large stone rolled away from the entrance when they arrived at the tomb. Upon approaching the entrance, they discovered that Jesus' body was gone. People who may struggle to believe in His crucifixion, death, and resurrection should be told boldly about the miracles he experienced.

Think about this: Initially, we may find ourselves afraid or shocked by what we see, hear, and learn when we encounter the numerous miracles and blessings of the Lord. Nevertheless, it's important to recognize and understand our Lord's power. We can then share the Good News and gift of salvation with others once we know and accept Christ's power. Our relationship with Him is the only one that truly matters. We should boldly share the miraculous events of His crucifixion, death, and life with those who may struggle to believe.

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Lesson 2 – Struggling to Accept

In what ways can you lean on God and trust in Him? (Taken from page 10)

As the disciples traveled down the road to Emmaus, Jesus appeared to them. Even after the women began to spread the Good News of Jesus' resurrection, some followers were not convinced that He had truly risen. In today's Scripture, two disciples walked together while discussing what happened during their time in Jerusalem. Jesus approached these disciples, and they could not recognize Him by His face or form.

Think about this: The moment the disciples recognized Him as Jesus, He disappeared from their sight. Many Christians who believe do so without having seen the risen Christ with their own eyes. The value of spiritual sight over physical sight is made clear in this moment. We have to lean on God through our faith and believe that Jesus is who He says He is. That is truly what faith is about. Romans 10:17 says, "So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God."

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Lesson 3 – Friends, Food, Fellowship

Do you trust God to see your needs and answer your prayers? (Taken from page 15)

As Christians, we are called to pray. And when we pray our prayers may go unanswered sometimes. It may seem as if God doesn't hear us, or He has forgotten about us. Rest assured, He has not. In today's lesson, Jesus appeared to the disciples a third time after His resurrection. This time He provided spiritual nourishment by encouraging their faith and spent time in fellowship and communion with them. This caring relationship is extended to all of Jesus' followers.

Think about this: We can engage in great conversations with Jesus, just as the disciples did, when we approach Him in prayer. We can have communion with Him, as He is always present. In strengthening our bond, we can reap the rewards of abundance in our obedience to Him. In times where we face great hardship or loss, we can give thanks for the presence of Jesus.

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Lesson 4 – Restored Friendship

Do you truly desire to have a meaningful relationship with Jesus Christ?
(Taken from page 19)

What does it mean to have a relationship with someone? Do you have a strong relationship with your parents, friends, siblings, etc.? What about your relationship with the Lord? When our feelings get hurt in a relationship, we usually ask that person for forgiveness, and we move on. What if the only time your friends talked to you was when they needed something. Would you forgive them and keep being there for them? It might get old, right? That's how we treat the Lord sometimes. We only call Him when we need something from Him or when we've messed up and we want back into His good graces. But ask yourself, is that how a good friend should act?

Think about this: There are so many ways we can build our relationship with Jesus. Spending time in His word, is a big part of getting to know Him for yourself. Prayer is always a great way to communicate with Him. We talk to our friends about our day, we can do the same thing with the Lord. He loves to listen to us and not just when we've done wrong. He wants to hear the good stuff too.

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Lesson 5 – Hope and Power

Do you share your faith with others to help expand God’s Kingdom? (Taken from page 23)

How often do you spread the Good News? If you don’t, ask yourself why you don’t. Is the reluctance from not wanting to offend anyone? Sharing your faith should not be something to be ashamed of. God has been too good for you to keep all the things He’s done to yourself. You never know who you could help by sharing Jesus with others.

Think about this: We all watch movies and television and discuss it with others. Is there is a popular reality TV show you and friends always watch and discuss with vigor every day? If we can share something trivial with others such as a reality TV show, why can’t we share the Savior of the world with others and build God’s Kingdom? Try sharing your favorite Scripture with your friends and see if they know it too. Maybe even go as far as inviting them with you to Sunday school or Bible study. Discussing the Lord is a conversation, unlike TV, that will never get old.

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Lesson 6 – Fear and Trust

Have you ever questioned a theological truth and searched for your own answers? (Taken from page 27)

Have you ever questioned your faith? We all have at some point. Have you gone searching for answers? If so, what did you find? There is nothing wrong with trying to find answers for yourself, which is why it is best to know the Bible for yourself, so when you go searching, you have the word hidden in your heart and can use discernment to guide you.

Think about this: Do you have friends with different religious beliefs? Do you treat them differently just because they believe something different? We should love and treat everyone with love regardless of what they may or may not believe. Jesus loves everyone and we should too. While others may be on their own path for theological truth, you can be of help and share what you know with others. As stated in a previous activity, you never know who you may help.

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Lesson 7 – Healing a Man Who Cannot

How often do you pray and have faith for people to be healed? (Taken from page 30)

In today's story a lame man is healed at the gate called Beautiful. This man had been lame since birth and most people would simply walk by him. In the Scripture he gets more than what he asked for, he gets healed. Peter and John saw him, and when the lame man asked for money, Peter told him "I have no silver or gold, but what I have I give you; in the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, stand up and walk." And he took him by the right hand and raised him up; and immediately his feet and ankles were made strong. This was an unexpected blessing, but who knows who had been praying for this man! The man went away praising the Lord, and rightfully so!

Think about this: If you've ever known someone with an illness, you've probably prayed for their healing. Maybe it came, maybe it didn't. In this story the lame man got way more than he even asked for. He got the gift of walking. Have you ever seen someone be healed of their affliction? Even if they weren't healed on earth, do you believe they are no longer suffering in heaven? As hard as that may be when people pass, we should always keep that in mind. We may suffer down here, but there will be no more pain, sickness or death in heaven.

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Lesson 8 – Breaking Down Barriers

How can you tell the voice of God from your inner dialogue? (Taken from page 34)

Have you ever heard of the word discernment? Do you know what it means? Discernment is the ability to obtain sharp perceptions or to judge well. If you have a thought and you have to question if it's from God, it's probably not. The point of discernment is to look into your heart and know that it is the right decision. Any path that God leads you on is never the wrong decision.

Think about this: In today's lesson, God told Philip to go help the Ethiopian man interpret the Scripture. Having learned about Jesus, the Ethiopian man wanted to be baptized. These days we don't have angels to come to us and give us messages from the Lord, however, He has given us the Holy Spirit and wisdom. We should use the wisdom God gave us to know when it is Him speaking and when it is our inner voice telling us what we're about to do is a good idea.

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Lesson 9 – The Challenges of Change

Do you think you could extend forgiveness and grace toward an enemy or hater? (Taken from page 39)

Today's lesson talks about Saul. Saul was a well-known Christian hater, and in previous chapters, he had been stricken blind by the Lord. In the lesson Ananias is told to go heal Saul. Ananias is reluctant but goes anyway. God already had a plan in store for Saul. He was going to use Saul as His instrument to spread the Gospel. You may know people in your life who have changed for the better, and you may know some others who have changed for the worst. The point of today's lesson is, God can call and can use anyone for His will.

Think about this: After all the things Saul had done, would you be so willing to forgive? If your friends betrayed you, would you easily forgive that person, or would it take you a while? We should thank God that He is such a forgiving God. We as humans barely want to forgive our friends for little things, let alone show forgiveness toward an enemy. While forgiving may not be the easiest task, we must keep in mind that God forgives us daily. We should show others the same grace that God shows us.

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Lesson 10 – We Can Trust God

What helps you realize that God will always welcome you no matter what you face? (Taken from page 42)

In today's lesson Scripture, the Israelites were exiled because of their unfaithfulness to God. But even in their exile, God didn't abandon His people. God sent them a prophet, Isaiah, to give a message of hope and redemption. We have hope and redemption, and His name is Jesus. Even though the Israelites sinned and were unfaithful time and time again, God always welcomed them back with open arms.

Think about this: God will never leave or nor forsake us – Deuteronomy 31:8. We are the ones who leave Him. Like in today's lesson, the Israelites were once again being disobedient to God. Even still, God never left them. The same as He will never leave us. No matter what we may have done in the past, no matter if we think, "God is never going to forgive me" ask yourself if you think that's true. There is absolutely nothing that will ever make God stop loving us. He will always welcome us back with open arms.

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Lesson 11 – A Life of Hope and Peace

How do you handle the constant conflict and turmoil of the world? (Taken from page 46)

When we turn on the news, read the newspaper, or watch news clips on YouTube it seems that the world is full of hurt, pain, and disorder. We can always turn off those things or not read it, but it will still show up somehow. So how do we as Christians keep the faith? One way is by trying to do all we can to make this life here on earth livable and loveable.

Think about this: We can improve our current world by living in the way Jesus instructed. If we all work to do our part, we can create our own little corner of God's paradise here on earth. While we are here, God wants us to work toward making this world better. Everyone has a role and hand in improving the current world as we wait for the paradise God is creating. Volunteer at your local church, Habitat for Humanity, Big Brothers/Big Sisters, etc. If you don't like pollution, get involved with groups or programs that can help. You may be one person, but we can make the world a better place until we get to heaven.

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Lesson 12 – God with Us

Have you ever struggled with a strained relationship? (Taken from page 50)

Today's story is about a covenant with the Lord. The prophet Ezekiel proclaims restoration of broken relationships under God's covenant. Jesus Christ fulfilled not only the covenant God made with David, but the promise of deliverance and salvation God made to the people of Israel in Isaiah. God appointed Jesus as the ruler of the united Israel described in today's lesson.

Think about this: Do you have any strained or estranged relationship with anyone? In other words, do you keep certain people at a distance because you've been hurt by them before? You probably have. How did you fix that broken relationship? Overall, this lesson of Ezekiel's primary message is one of restoration and salvation for a people that have faced great difficulty and struggle. If you have a broken relationship with someone and you think it can be mended, try to find it in your heart to forgive.

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Lesson 13 – God Sings Over You

How is God similar to a parent when dealing with disobedient children?
(Taken from page 54)

When you get into trouble with your parents, do your parents still love you? Of course, they do. Sometimes that love comes with disciplinary action. Parents only want what's best for their children. The same with God. He only wants the best for His children. Even though the Israelites disappointed God time and time again, He still forgave them. There is nothing we could ever do that will make God stop loving us.

Think about this: When we do something that our parents would not approve of, but we get away with, we have not actually gotten away with anything. We must remember, God sees all, and God knows all. That is not to scare you, but it is to remind you that "For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord." – Romans 6:23.