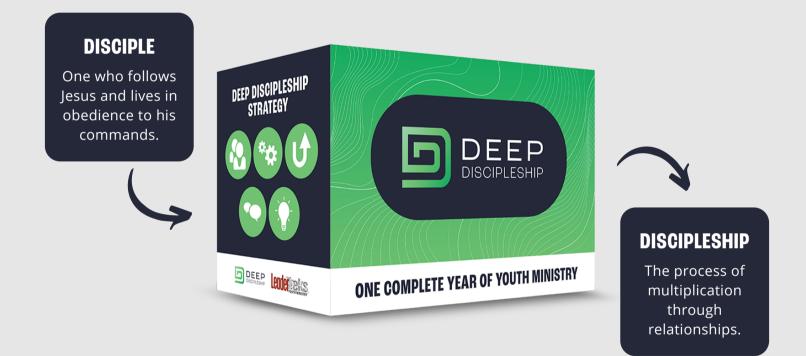
DEEP DISCIPLESHIP

A DISCIPLE-MAKING SYSTEM FOR YOUR ENTIRE YOUTH MINISTRY

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WHY DEEP DISCIPLESHIP?

Too Many Students Are Not Experiencing Spiritual Growth



We Need Deep Discipleship

Go make disciples. A simple statement. One of Christ's last commands is also one of his most straightforward. *Make disciples.* Just reading those two words probably stirs something up inside of you. They're part of that calling God placed in the hearts of all believers. But as a youth pastor, those words seem to ring a little louder in your ears. It's rooted deep in the core of who you are. You've given your life to that holy pursuit. *Making disciples.* It's more than your job. It's your mission. So...are you? Are you making disciples?

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DEEP DISCIPLESHIP STRATEGY

The new Deep Discipleship is so much more than a curriculum, it's an entire system designed to help you make and multiply disciples.

Deep Discipleship equips you with everything you need to run your entire ministry and make disciples. We've streamlined this process with a strategy that intentionally focuses on the 5 foundational elements of youth ministry.

5 Foundational Elements of Youth Ministry



Relational Volunteer Team

Relationships cultivate trust



Programs don't make *the* difference in your student ministry. People do.

Studies have shown that teenagers need around five adults investing in them to flourish spiritually, mentally, and emotionally. Just in case you struggle a bit with math (and who doesn't), that's you plus four more. We understand that if our volunteers can build these strong relationships, students will turn to them to learn the truth about Jesus Christ. And that is how disciples are made. Our goal for each volunteer is to reach a second-level relationship with students.

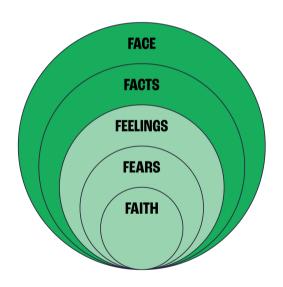
BUILDING MEANINGFUL RELATIONSHIPS

A first-level relationship is where a leader recognizes a student's face and knows some basic facts about their life.

EXAMPLE: That's Josh, and he plays soccer.

A second-level relationship is where a leader has some understanding of a student's feelings, fears, and faith.

EXAMPLE: Josh injured himself at practice and is worried about losing his starting position as a midfielder. This is also causing him some doubts about God's goodness.



Discipleship cannot take place outside the context of a meaningful relationship.

Students want to learn from people who care about them; they want to be discovered and known. For us to effectively make disciples, we must first effectively build relationships. A meaningful relationship is what lays the foundation for continued discipleship. To have a strong and growing ministry, your students need a second-level relationship with multiple adult leaders. This is one of the best strategies for multiplying disciples.

6 Volunteer Training Events

Kick-Off & Year-End Celebration Events 4 Discipleship Training Sessions to equip your Adult Volunteers



Discipleship Pathway Tool & Video Training

A step-by-step strategy that empowers your Adult Volunteers to make disciples



Volunteer Role Training Cards

Card to remind your Adult Volunteers about the importance of their role in your ministry



Leadership Pathway Tool & Video Training

A practical, easy-to-follow process to help Adult Volunteers develop student leaders



Volunteer Postcards & Encouragement Note Templates

Communication templates that help you stay connected with your volunteers throughout the year, by email or handwritten postcards.



Intentional Programming

Mission drives programming



Every event, meeting, and training revolves around the goal of making and multiplying disciples.

It's easy to fall into a rut of student ministry programming that lacks strategy. Maybe we're doing the same things we've always done even though it isn't really working as it has in the past. Maybe we're trying new thing, but they're not *our* things. We heard about the *cool* events and ideas at the church down the road or on social media, so we try to mimic what they are doing. Sometimes it works, sometimes it doesn't.

In either case, there's no intentionality behind our programming and both approaches can lead to burnout. While these ruts are easy to slip into, they don't have to be hard to climb out of. All processes, including ministry, function better when structure and strategies are in place. We want to help you simplify and improve your efforts toward making disciples. And we want you to have fun doing what you do.

THE REACH-GROW-GO STRATEGY

Every youth ministry event and meeting should fall into one of these categories:

REACH

These are outreach events designed to bring nonbelievers into a relationship with Christ. Your job is to invite students to an event where you present the Gospel of Jesus. Ideally, this occurs during special events like movie night, dodgeball tournament, Super Bowl party, etc.

GROW

These events are designed to help students grow deeper in their faith, helping them walk in obedience to what Christ has commanded. Small groups are usually the best setting for this, but large group meetings are helpful too.

GO

Students are in charge of these events. Your job is to get out of the way and let students use their spiritual gifts and talents to lead by giving them ownership, chances to make good/bad decisions, and helping them process and learn as they go. Ideal for specially designed outings like service projects, leadership retreats, etc.

When you simplify and focus each event or meeting on one of these categories—REACH, GROW, or GO—your work will become more streamlined, your adult volunteers will quickly grasp the purpose of each event, and your discipleship efforts will flourish.

DEEP DISCIPLESHIP INCLUDES THESE INTENTIONAL PROGRAMMING RESOURCES

REACH-GROW-GO Strategy & Youth Ministry Assessment

An assessment and guide for implementing the REACH-GROW-GO strategy in your ministry



Ministry Calendars

Customizable calendars to plan and communicate your entire year



REACH Events

Outreach events complete with plans, checklists, budgets, supply lists, games, and teaching.



GO Events

Easy-to-run events that give your student leaders opportunities to lead.



Game Library with 25 Screen Games

Ready-to-use Screen Games to help you add fun to your gatherings and make memories

8 Team-Building Games

Purposeful and interactive games to help you strengthen team unity





Mission Trip Resources

Everything you need to prepare your students for short-term mission trips



PRE-TRIP TRAINING 4 Teaching Sessions with activities & team-building



ON-TRIP DEVOTIONAL 6-Day Devotional, Prayer & Growth Journals, Team Evaluation Tool



POST-TRIP TRAINING 4 Teaching Sessions with activities & life application

BRING 2 FREE ADULTS ON A LEADERTREKS MISSION TRIP



STUDENT MISSION TRIP GREENHOUSE eBOOK A strategy to turn short-term trips into long-term growth

DNow Retreat

Deep Discipleship Premium comes with a free Disciple Now (DNow) Study.

Each downloadable DNow Study comes with everything you need for an impactful, discipleshipfocused weekend retreat (4 Small Group Lessons, 4 Large Group Talks, Media & Videos, Parent Resources, DNow Dashboard). Choose any of these DNow Study topics from <u>dnowstudies.com</u>.



BRAVE Courage in the Face of Fear.



FREQUENCY Tuning in to the Voice That Matters.



RENEW Heart. Mind. Soul. Strength.



THE PAUSE Learning to Seek God.



IRREPLACEABLE Accept No Substitutes.



PRODIGAL We've all been lost. Welcome home.



EVERLASTING Loved. Broken. Redeemed. Called.



FOLLOWER Living an Authentic Faith.



STAND Put on the Whole Armor of God.



NO FILTER Stop Hiding. Live Unhindered.



OUTCAST Finding Our Place In God's Kingdom.



ACT.LOVE.WALK Following God with All Your Heart.



EXCHANGE Gaining Through Giving Up.



COMMUNITY Beyond our Preference to Christ's Purpose.



PROJECT SERVE Spreading the Gospel by Lending a Hand.



IMITATOR Choosing to Follow God.

Transformational Discipleship

Discipleship prompts change.

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Without a strategic teaching plan, we may miss critical aspects of the Gospel.

As followers of Jesus, God has called us to make disciples. We are to take the knowledge and experiences we have gained as Christ-followers and pass them on to other believers. That's the process of discipleship. We also know that goal of discipleship more than passing on mere knowledge of God. True discipleship leads to transformation in the lives of believers. In Deep Discipleship, we have given you many tools to help you pass down knowledge and understanding of God through the teaching of his Word.

THE 8 ROOTS OF THE GOSPEL

To ensure the whole picture is presented, every teaching lesson in Deep Discipleship centers around the core **8 Roots of the Gospel**. Ultimately, only God knows and can transform the heart of a student. As we intentionally focus on **The 8 Roots of the Gospel**, we can reflect, uncover, and resemble the truth that saves lives and makes disciples.

RESCUE

helps students understand their need for a Savior (John 1:12).

KNOWLEDGE

helps students understand the basics of who God is (2 Timothy 3:16–17).

KINGDOM

helps students understand how to live in the Kingdom of God every day (Luke 17:20–21).

OUTREACH

helps students understand their God-given mission (Romans 10:14–15).

IDENTITY

helps students discover their unique identity in Christ (Genesis 1:27).

COMMUNITY

helps students understand the meaning of biblical fellowship (James 1:27).



WORSHIP

explores what it means to live a lifestyle of worship (Psalm 105:1).

APOLOGETICS

prepares students to explain the hope they have in Christ (1 Peter 3:15).

A Year of Bible-based Teaching

All teaching series and stand-alone lessons come with everything you need for large group and small group gatherings



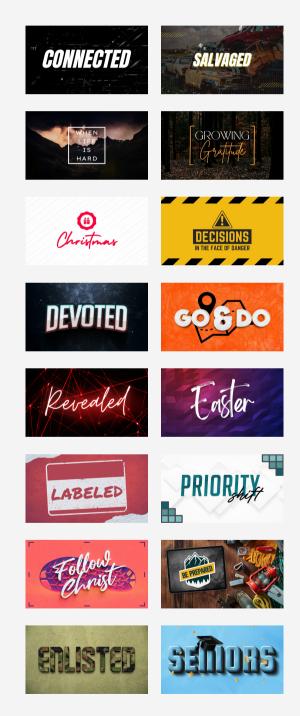
BIBLICAL TEACHING Sermon Outlines for Large Group Small Group Lessons w/Student Handouts Lesson User Guide



MEDIA, VIDEOS & PARENT COMMUNICATIONS Teaching Slides Intro & Bumper Videos Social Media Graphics Memory Verses Weekly Parent Communication

Scope and Sequence

We've arranged our series in the order that naturally flows well with the rhythm of the school year. Or teach these series in the order that best meets your students' needs.



Click here for a detailed Scope & Sequence.

Partnering with Parents

Parents foster consistency.



Parents play a vital role in making disciples. To make a lasting impact on your students, you have to partner with their parents.

You're a youth pastor and you love spending time with students. But you know that students only make up one-third of your youth ministry. You also have to focus your attention on adult volunteers and parents. Without the involvement of these key adults, the odds of having a lasting impact on your students goes way down. Partnering with parents is one of the most successful routes you can take in your goal of making disciples.

Parents are the primary faith influencers of their children.

Parents are meant to be the chief disciple-maker of their kids (Deut. 6:4–7, Prov. 22:6). Even if you have a student attend everything your youth ministry offers, that only adds up to 4–5 hours a week at the most. That is a fraction of the time they spend with their parents. Most parents want to disciple their kids but struggle to know how or where to begin. They need a partner. They need you.

Because parents are the primary faith influencers of their children, your youth ministry needs to be the critical third-party voice, advocating for and reinforcing parents' disciple-making efforts at home. When working in tandem, parents and youth pastors/volunteers strengthen the example for students of how to walk with Christ. Partnering with parents in youth ministry allows you to dig even deeper into a student's life and equip them to own their faith as they move out of your ministry.

Weekly Parent Communications

Quick updates to keep parents engaged with the teaching, plus questions they can ask



3 Parent Meeting Guides

Guides to help you plan effective, informative meetings that parents will want to attend

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_	TRAINING .		
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GAME			
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Parent Events

Resources that help you equip parents to be the primary faith-influencers in their students' lives



FAITH AT HOME Easy-to-do activities that help parents incorporate discipleship into daily life





FAMILY SERVICE PROJECTS Simple service projects that help parents and students serve together as a family

FAMILY NIGHTS Youth Group Nights for the whole family Includes Teaching, Slides, Games & Activities, and Small Group Discussion

Student Leadership

Leadership promotes ownership.



Providing leadership development for students through application and experiences equips young disciples.

If we are not intentional about making disciples, it's easy for youth ministry to become a spectator sport. Students come to church to watch us teach and lead, and then they go home. Week after week, they come in, watch, and leave. Rarely are they given opportunities to put into practice the lessons and godly principles that we teach. But true learning requires experience and application. And leadership development will call for a heavy dose of both.

Learning to lead is part of the discipleship process

As we read through the Gospels, we see Jesus teaching and equipping his disciples, then sending them off to do what they had seen him do. This was one of his methods for making disciples. He gave them authority (Matt. 10:1), provided opportunities to problem solve (Luke 9:12–13), allowed them to teach (Mark 3:14), and even sent them out in pairs to different towns to spread the message of Christ on their own (Luke 9:2–6).

As youth pastors, we can be great a the teaching and equipping parts of Jesus' example. But unlike Jesus, we can be a little reluctant to hand over ministry responsibilities to the students under our care. *Are they ready? Can they handle it?* But you are well aware that the disciple were far from prodigies. They were learning as they went. Still, Jesus allowed them to try and fail and try again.

The process of developing student leaders doesn't happen accidentally. You need a plan and tools to help you follow Christ's example of making and multiplying disciples by training students to lead in God's Kingdom.

Leadership Weekend Retreat

4-Session Retreat to develop student leaders Includes Teaching, Activities, Checklists, Devos



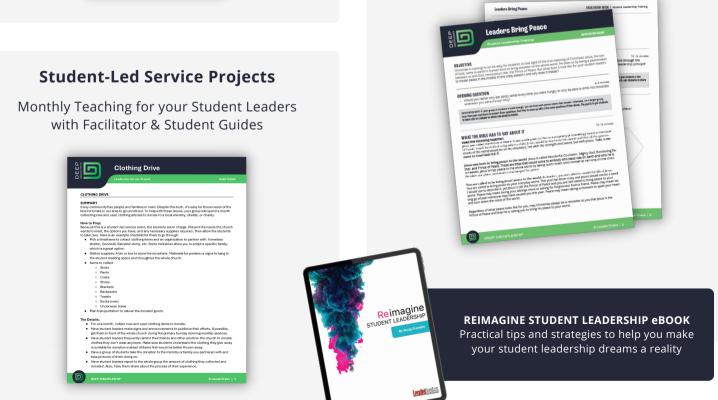
Leadership Pathway Tool & Video Training

A practical, easy-to-follow process to help Adult Volunteers develop student leaders



12 Leadership Teaching Lessons

Monthly Teaching for your Student Leaders with Facilitator & Student Guides



Frequently Asked Questions

Who is this curriculum for?

Deep Discipleship is designed for both junior high and senior high students. Also included are resources and tools for parents, adult volunteers, and youth pastors.

How do I access the content?

All Deep Discipleship content is in digital format and is downloadable through your account immediately after purchase. Go to your **Dashboard** and navigate to the **Curriculum Center** to access your content.

How long can I access the content?

Downloadable content is completely yours and you can keep it forever. New content will be available each year in May.

What "year" or "volume" of content will I get today?

Deep Discipleship Year 1 (DD1) is currently available. Deep Discipleship Year 2 (DD2) will be available in May 2023 with new teaching series, games, and resources.

When do I get the next year's content?

You'll have access to content based on your renewal date. Each time your subscription renews, you'll receive access to the newest content. For example: If you sign up in January 2023, you'll immediately have access to all of the content in DD1. When your subscription renews in January 2024, you'll receive access to DD2. If you sign up in June 2023, you'll immediately have access to DD2.

When does my subscription renew?

Your subscription will automatically renew every year on the anniversary of your original purchase date.

How do I get my free DNow?

A unique coupon will be sent to you via email and will also be automatically added to your leadertreks.org account. To redeem, shop for a **DNow Study** on our website. When you add a DNow Study to your **cart**, your coupon should automatically pop up—just click it to use. Your DNow coupon will expire 1 year from your purchase date.

Can I modify the content?

Some lessons and resources are provided in an editable format so you can modify individual lessons, add your own elements, and customize for your ministry needs.

Can I share the content?

The content is meant to be used solely within the church/organization that purchased it.

Do I have to follow the scope and sequence?

We have created an order based on what we think flows best, but you know your students better than anyone, so you can walk through the curriculum in whatever order you think is best.

Can I get printed copies of the Discipleship Pathway Tools instead of printing them myself?

Yes. We've provided you with a digital copy of the Discipleship Pathway tool that you are free to print and use to disciple your students. If you want to skip the printing process, you can purchase professionally printed copies of the Discipleship Pathway for each of your students <u>here</u>.

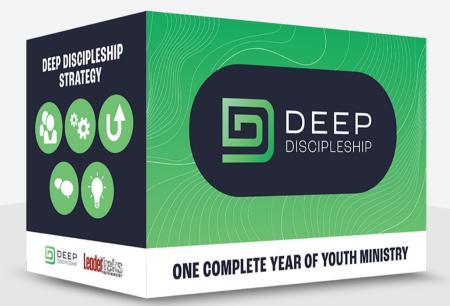
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WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR?

Deep Discipleship Premium comes with all of this and more!

NEW CONTENT RELEASES YEARLY

Every subscription includes ongoing access to our content library. Your ministry stays up-to-date with fresh resources and you can focus on discipling students and empowering volunteers.





Casey Deep Discipleship Specialist

Still on the fence?

We'd love to talk with you about how Deep Discipleship can help you be more intentional and effective in ministry.

Contact <u>**Casey</u>** for a personalized walk-through of everything Deep Discipleship has to offer.</u>

DON'T FORGET TO GET YOUR FREE SAMPLE

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deepdiscipleship.com

USER GUIDE

SCOPE AND SEQUENCE

We have provided the entire scope of the teaching series below and sequenced them in the order we think naturally flows well with the rhythm of the school year. But that doesn't mean it necessarily fits your ministry calendar or desired direction. Our list is a *suggestion*. You rearrange and teach these series in the way you feel best meets the needs of your students.

LIST ONE gives you a quick peek into each series for a point of reference. **LIST TWO** gives you an overview of each series, plus the takeaway and main passage from each individual lesson. This will give you a good idea of each series and lesson and help you decide when you will teach it in your calendar year.

LIST ONE

- CONNECTED—A 4-week series in September on the importance of community in the life of a Christ-follower.
- SALVAGED—A 4-week series in October focusing on the basics of how Jesus has rescued us.
- WHEN LIFE IS HARD—A 4-week series in November about the importance of how we can continue to follow Jesus during times when life is overwhelming and difficult.
- *CHRISTMAS*—A 2-week series in December that focuses on the Christmas story, including primary characters who make significant decisions.
- NEW YEAR'S—is a stand-alone lesson that stresses the importance of waiting on God's timing.
- DEVOTED—A 4-week series in January that takes a deeper look at worshiping God.
- o GO AND DO—A 4-week series in February that focuses on the practical application of God's Word.
- *REVEALED*—A 4-week series in March on how God has shown us many things about himself through Scripture and the Holy Spirit.
- *EASTER*—A 3-week series in April that examines Jesus' life and death, as well as others involved in his death and resurrection.
- *LABELED*—A 4-week series in May on the importance of finding our identity and who we are in Christ.
- PRIORITY SHIFT—A 4-week series in June that focuses on God's Kingdom.

- FOLLOW CHRIST—A 4-week series in July focusing on discipleship and following Jesus more closely.
- *BE PREPARED*—A 4-week series in August about being ready to defend our faith and explain the hope that we have in Christ.

BONUS SERIES

- *ENLISTED*—A 4-week series on the importance of how God has called us to share the Gospel with others.
- SENIOR GRADUATION—A 4-week series that looks at the unique position and decisions that graduating seniors encounter.

SEASONAL STAND-ALONE LESSONS

- THANKSGIVING—Thank God for his provision and good gifts.
- *GRADUATION*—Life is full of big and small moments that force us to choose whether we will continue to follow God or not.

LIST TWO

FALL



Connected

The theme "Connected" focuses on the importance of community in the life of a Christ-follower. Although it might be tempting for us to think that we can follow Jesus on our own, the truth is we need other Christ-followers, and they need us. Sometimes life in community can get messy, but we can follow Jesus' example and choose to act like he would in those particular moments. Walking with Jesus is better in community.

<u>Connected Lesson 1: United</u>

Main Passage: Ephesians 4:1–16

Takeaway: All Christ-followers are united as part of the body of Christ.

<u>Connected Lesson 2: Faithful Friends</u>

Main Passage: Mark 2:1–12

Takeaway: We need to help others follow Jesus, AND we need others' help to follow Jesus.

Connected Lesson 3: Radical Forgiveness

Main Passage: Genesis 45:1–15, 50:15–21

Takeaway: We cannot live in community without forgiving others when they sin against us.



<u>Connected Lesson 4: Making It Practical</u>

Main Passage: Ephesians 4:17-32

Takeaway: Since we are united in Christ, we build up other believers in love and kindness.



Salvaged

The theme for this lesson is "Salvaged" and focuses on the basics of how Jesus has rescued us. The Gospel is the foundation of our faith. It begins with the creation of the world and stretches on into eternity. These four lessons cover the basic Gospel structure of creation, fall, redemption, and final restoration. We should walk away from this series with a deeper understanding of our need for salvation and how Jesus Christ provides the way to be saved.

Salvaged Lesson 1: The Good Creator

Main Passage: <u>Genesis 1:1–2:3</u> Takeaway: God is the creator of the world.

Salvaged Lesson 2: Paradise Lost

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Main Passage: Genesis 3
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Takeaway: The world is tainted by sin, which affects every single one of us.

Salvaged Lesson 3: An Unearned Gift

Main Passage: <u>Romans 3:21–26</u> Takeaway: Through Christ's work on the cross, we can be made righteous through faith.

Salvaged Lesson 4: Final Restoration

Main Passage: <u>Revelation 21:1–8, 22–27</u> Takeaway: One day, Jesus will return and make everything new and right.



When Life is Hard

The theme for this lesson is "When Life is Hard" and focuses on how we can continue to follow Jesus during the times when life is overwhelming and difficult. Occasionally, the most painful times show us the most about who God is if we are willing to pay attention and trust him. These are times when there are plenty of moments and opportunities to choose to continue trusting and following Jesus or not. Each lesson in this series addresses a different aspect of when life is hard.

When Life is Hard Lesson 1: God's Grace Is Bigger

Main Passage: <u>2 Corinthians 12:7–10</u> Takeaway: God's grace is bigger than our pain or struggles.

When Life is Hard Lesson 2: What To Do With Worry

Main Passage: <u>Psalm 77</u> Takeaway: We can take our worries and troubles to God.



When Life is Hard Lesson 3: No Condemnation

Main Passage: <u>Romans 8:1–11</u> Takeaway: Guilt and shame don't control us if we are in Christ.

When Life is Hard Lesson 4: Hard Knocks

Main Passage: <u>Matthew 11:25–30, Hebrews 4:14–16, James 4:6–8</u> Takeaway: God is always with us, even when life is hard.

WINTER



Christmas

The theme for this lesson is "Christmas" and focuses on the Christmas story, including primary characters who make significant decisions. Christmas can easily become a familiar time with a familiar story, but there is so much truth and encouragement that can be found in the Christmas story. The goal is to understand how we can apply lessons from this story to our lives with complete trust in God and open hearts to what he has for us.

Christmas Lesson 1: Christmas Presence

Main Passage: Luke 1:26–38, Matthew 1:18–25

Takeaway: We can trust in God's plan and obey him even when following him doesn't make earthly sense.

<u>Christmas Lesson 2: A Right Response</u>

Main Passage: Matthew 2:1–12

Takeaway: Jesus inspires either worship or hostility. The response we choose depends on how open our hearts are to him.



New Year Lesson: Risky Decisions

Main Passage: Esther 4:5–5:3

Takeaway: Following God means being ready to act while waiting for his timing.



Devoted

The theme for this lesson is "Devoted" and focuses on worshiping God. We often think of worship only as singing praises to the Lord. While that is undoubtedly one aspect of worship, the truth is, we can worship God in everything we do. This series will teach us that true worship comes from the heart and is an outpouring of all we are.

Devoted Lesson 1: All of You

Main Passage: Luke 10:25-37 Takeaway: Christ-followers worship God with everything they have.

Devoted Lesson 2: Sacrifice

Main Passage: Genesis 22:1-14

Takeaway: True worship includes giving up what we want most for the sake of Christ and obeying God.

Devoted Lesson 3: Everything

Main Passage: <u>Colossians 3:1-17</u> Takeaway: We can worship God in everything we do, even in the small moments of life.

Devoted Lesson 4: Soft Hearts

Main Passage: <u>Hebrews 3:7-15</u>

Takeaway: To worship God, we must examine the state of our hearts.



Go and Do

The theme for this lesson is "Go and Do" and focuses on the practical application of God's Word. All too often, we read the Bible or nod along to the sermon only to forget what we have read or heard. Nothing in our life actually changes. This series will help us understand why God's Word should practically and tangibly change the way we live. It will also cover some biblical examples of ways we can practically live out our faith in obedience to Jesus. Choosing to apply the Bible in everyday moments is a necessary decision.

Go and Do Lesson 1: More Than a Word

Main Passage: 1 John 3:16-18, 4:19-5:5

Takeaway: Our love for God is shown through our love for other people.

Go and Do Lesson 2: Faith in Action

Main Passage: James 1:19-27

Takeaway: We deceive ourselves if we only hear the Word and don't do anything about it. Take action to live out your faith.

Go and Do Lesson 3: Living Upside-Down

Main Passage: Matthew 5:38-48

Takeaway: When others mistreat us, annoy us, or are mean to us, we are called to respond with God's love instead of retaliating.

Go and Do Lesson 4: Forgive As We Are Forgiven

Main Passage: Matthew 18:21-35

Takeaway: God has forgiven our immense sin, so there is no limit to how much we should forgive.

SPRING



Revealed

The theme for this lesson is "Revealed" and focuses on how God has shown us many things about himself through Scripture and the Holy Spirit. Following Christ includes continuing to grow in our knowledge of God and who he is. This happens by studying the Bible, listening to the Holy Spirit, and remaining steadfast in our faith regardless of our feelings or circumstances. Knowing God is pivotal to a life of true faith and walking with Jesus.

Revealed Lesson 1: The Power of God's Word

Main Passage: <u>2 Timothy 3:14–4:5</u>

Takeaway: Scripture is the primary way God reveals himself to us, and it should guide our lives and grow our faith.

Revealed Lesson 2: Tackling Temptation

Main Passage: <u>Matthew 4:1–11</u>

Takeaway: Scripture is a tool we can use to help fight temptation.

<u>Revealed Lesson 3: Taught by the Spirit</u>

Main Passage: 1 Corinthians 2

Takeaway: The Holy Spirit reveals God to us and helps us understand who he is and what he has said.

<u>Revealed Lesson 4: Dealing with Doubt</u>

Main Passage: John 20:24–31

Takeaway: True faith requires us to believe what God says is true, regardless of our feelings.



Easter

The theme for this lesson is "Easter" and examines Jesus' life and death, as well as others involved in his death and resurrection. In this series, we learn how to follow Jesus more closely in all the pivotal moments of our lives.

Easter Lesson 1: The Power of Prayer

Main Passage: Mark 14:32-42

Takeaway: Prayer helps us obey God and follow him.

Easter Lesson 2: God Above Others

Main Passage: Matthew 27:11–26

Takeaway: We can't make decisions based on what other people say or think. Our decisions should be based on what God and his Word say.

Easter Lesson 3: Up and Out

Main Passage: Matthew 28:1–10

Takeaway: God is glorified when we respond to transformational moments with Jesus by praising him and sharing about him.



Labeled

The theme for this lesson is "Labeled" and focuses on our identity and who we are in Christ. Many of us struggle with where to place our identity. We may look for it in countless things other than Jesus. Scripture makes it clear that our identity is found in Jesus Christ, and we find the best way to live in him. Looking at two contrasting stories from King David's life, we will see the power of identity in crucial moments and decisions. We should walk away with a greater understanding of who we are in Christ and be challenged to live up to this unique identity.

Labeled Lesson 1: Righteous and Free

Main Passage: Romans 6:1–14

Takeaway: We are united with Christ and set free from sin, making us dead to sin and alive to God.

Labeled Lesson 2: A Confident Identity

Main Passage: <u>1 Samuel 17:19–27, 31–50</u>

Takeaway: Finding our identity in God and his strength gives us courage.

Labeled Lesson 3: Recognize the Roots

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Main Passage: 2 Samuel 11
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Takeaway: Looking for your identity in anything other than God always leads to sin.

Labeled Lesson 4: Fruit-Bearing Branch

Passage: John 15:1–17

Takeaway: Abiding in Christ, the true vine, helps us remember that our identity is in him.

SUMMER



Priority Shift

The theme for this lesson is "Priority Shift" and focuses on God's Kingdom. It's so easy to live for ourselves and ignore or avoid what God has called us to be as citizens of his Kingdom. However, God's Kingdom priorities are far better than our earthly priorities. We have multiple decisions to make every day about whether we will prioritize God and his Kingdom or our own kingdom of self. We should walk away from this series with a greater understanding of God's Kingdom and why it is better than anything the world has to offer.

Priority Shift Lesson 1: Anxiety's Cure

Main Passage: <u>Matthew 6:25–34</u>

Takeaway: Seek the Kingdom of God first and trust that God will provide everything else.

Priority Shift Lesson 2: God Over Self

Main Passage: <u>Judges 13:2–14, 14:5–9, 16:15–22</u> Takeaway: The Kingdom of God means that we prioritize God over ourselves.

Priority Shift Lesson 3: No Matter What

Main Passage: Matthew 4:18–22, Luke 5:27–32

Takeaway: When Jesus calls us, our priority becomes following him, no matter what it might cost.

Priority Shift Lesson 4: A Valuable Kingdom

Main Passage: <u>Matthew 13:44–46</u> Takeaway: God's Kingdom is more valuable than anything else.



Follow Christ

The theme for this lesson is "Follow Christ" and focuses on discipleship and following Jesus more closely. Sometimes we think being a Christ-follower is all about just "asking Jesus into your heart," and that's it. But true faith is about following Jesus' example, continuing to pursue him, and fight sin throughout one's life. Thankfully, God doesn't leave us on our own but is with us and helps us become more like him. We should understand that although walking with Jesus isn't always easy, it's the best way to live.

Follow Christ Lesson 1: Packed for the Journey

Main Passage: <u>2 Peter 1:3–15</u>

Takeaway: Initially accepting Jesus isn't the only pivotal decision in our faith. We are called to continue growing more like Christ, and thankfully, God has given us everything we need to do so.

Follow Christ Lesson 2: Natural Results

Main Passage: Galatians 5:16–26

Takeaway: The Holy Spirit helps us fight sin and grow to be more like Christ.

Follow Christ Lesson 3: Counting the Cost

Main Passage: <u>Acts 6:8–15, 7:54–60</u> Takeaway: Following Christ is costly and will come with opposition.

Follow Christ Lesson 4: The Long Haul

Main Passage: <u>2 Timothy 1:3–14</u>

Takeaway: Discipleship is a lifelong journey of continuing to follow God and sharing about him with others.



Be Prepared

The theme for this lesson is "Be Prepared" and focuses on being ready to defend our faith and explain our hope in Christ. Students have many things or people where they place their hope: grades, friends, family, sports, popularity, college, being a "good Christian," etc. But hoping in any of those things will ultimately lead to disappointment because only hope in God and eternity with him will be able to truly fulfill and satisfy. When we find our hope in Jesus, we can confidently talk to others about him, knowing that Jesus alone is the way to salvation and that he is always with us, helping us share him with others.

Be Prepared Lesson 1: A Living Hope

Main Passage: <u>1 Peter 1:3–13</u>

Takeaway: God has promised an inheritance to his children. This future with him is where we put our hope.

<u>Be Prepared Lesson 2: Ambassadors</u>

Main Passage: Acts 17:16-34

Takeaway: Being an ambassador of Christ takes compassion, curiosity, and a willingness to challenge others.

Be Prepared Lesson 3: What Do You Worship

Main Passage: <u>1 Kings 18:20–40</u> Takeaway: God is the one true God, greater than any idol.

Be Prepared Lesson 4: Reflect Jesus

Main Passage: Acts 16:22-34

Takeaway: The way we live often sparks others' curiosity, which then opens the door to allow us to explain the hope we have in Christ.

BONUS



Enlisted

The theme for this lesson is "Enlisted" and focuses on how God has called us to share the Gospel with others. As Christ-followers, we have the privilege and command to join God's mission and tell others about him. We need to understand that we can be part of this mission by sharing the Gospel and our own stories of how God has changed our lives. Every opportunity we have to talk about God could change someone's life and eternal future.

Enlisted Lesson 1: Timing

Main Passage: <u>2 Peter 3:8–13</u>

Takeaway: We must use the time God has given us to share the Gospel with the world.

Enlisted Lesson 2: Praise His Name

Main Passage: <u>1 Chronicles 16:1–26</u>

Takeaway: Celebrating God's faithfulness and provision is one way we can tell the world about him.

Enlisted Lesson 3: Testimony of Change

Main Passage: <u>John 4:1–30, 39–42</u>

Takeaway: Tell others how Jesus has changed our life.

Enlisted Lesson 4: Courage to Share

Main Passage: Luke 22:54-62

Takeaway: Courageously take advantage of every opportunity to talk about Jesus Christ.



Senior Graduation

The theme for this lesson is "Seniors/Graduation," and looks at the unique position and decisions that graduating seniors encounter. They are in a time of big transition, which involves many vital moments and choices. Whether students pursue college or another path, they must choose if they will continue following Jesus beyond high school and in their own lives. The Bible offers encouragement and examples of staying steadfast in our faith no matter what.

• Seniors Lesson 1: Spiritual Habits

Main Passage: Colossians 1:9–23

Takeaway: Christ is the foundation of our faith and helps us continue steadfastly in it.

Seniors Lesson 2: The Right Source

Main Passage: Ecclesiastes 2:1–11 Takeaway: Self-indulgence and doing whatever we want can never truly satisfy—only God can.

Seniors Lesson 3: Trusting God

Main Passage: Proverbs 3:1–12 Takeaway: Trust God even when life doesn't go according to our plan.

• Seniors Lesson 4: One Size Does Not Fit All

Main Passage: <u>Acts 16:9-15, 18:1-4</u> Takeaway: We're all called to serve Christ and join in his mission, whether it's through a specific career or another part of our life.



Seasonal Stand-Alone Lessons

The theme for this lesson set will be "Seasonal" and focuses on specific seasonal/holiday themes to be used throughout the year. Holidays are special times when students can learn more about what it looks like to follow Jesus. These seasonal lessons include a critical character or passage from the Bible that encourages students to take advantage of every moment God gives them.

Thanksgiving: Growing Gratitude

Main Passage: <u>Philippians 4:4–20</u> Takeaway: Thank God for his provision and good gifts.

Graduation: No Matter the Cost

Main Passage: Joshua 24:14–28

Takeaway: Life is full of big and small moments that force us to choose whether we will continue to follow God or not.