



2011

Go And Make Disciples

The Cross and Beyond

Lesson 36: Peter's Confession

Scripture

Matthew 16:5-20
 Mark 8:14-21, 27-30
 Luke 9:18-27
 John 6:25-71

Memory Verse

“Jesus answered, ‘God’s work is to believe in the One He has sent.’”
 John 6:29 (NLT)

Lesson Goals

Understand that Jesus is the Bread of Life.

Understand that Jesus has words of eternal life.

Understand that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the Living God.

The following is a summary of the Bible story to help supplement your preparation. In your personal study time, use this summary as a guide, and make notes to help you remember your plans for the lesson. Please do **NOT** read to the children.

After a lot of traveling back and forth on the Sea of Galilee, the crowds found Jesus again. They were looking for Him not because they had seen amazing miracles, but because they wanted more bread to fill their stomachs! The crowds couldn’t see their spiritual need because they were so focused on meeting the needs of their physical hunger that would return in a couple of hours. Jesus encouraged them by saying, “Do not work for food that spoils. Work for food that lasts forever.” (John 6:27a NIV)

When the people asked Jesus what God wants from us, “Jesus answered, ‘God’s work is to believe in the One He has sent.’” (John 6:29 NIV) And instead of believing in Jesus then and there, the people wanted more miracles. Jesus described Himself as the “Bread of Life.” He was what they needed, and what we need. Jesus continued explaining this, but in ways that have sometimes been confusing. The people thought Jesus wanted them to somehow eat His flesh and drink His blood. Jesus wanted them to realize that to experience eternal life, we must take Him as our own. The crowd was not willing to do this, so many of them decided not to follow Him anymore.

Jesus asked His twelve disciples if they wanted to leave as well. “Simon Peter answered, ‘Lord, there is no one else that we can go to! Your words give eternal life. We have faith in You, and we are sure that You are God's Holy One.’” (John 6:68 CEV) In Jesus, they had found what satisfies.

Jesus warned His disciples about the teachings of the religious leaders. The disciples would need to remember Jesus’ words and base their lives on them. Then, when they heard other teachers, they would know what was true and what wasn’t.

After that, Jesus and His disciples were in the villages around Caesarea Philippi. “One day Jesus was praying alone. Only His disciples were with Him. He asked them, ‘Who do the crowds say I am?’” (Luke 9:18 NIV)

They told Jesus that some people were saying that He was John the Baptist. Others thought He was the prophet Elijah, or Jeremiah or one of the other prophets come back to life. The crowds thought this because the things Jesus did reminded them of the great and mighty things these men of God had done.

“‘But what about you?’ He asked. ‘Who do you say I am?’” (Mark 8:29 NIV)

Application

Our memory verse says,
“Jesus answered, ‘God’s work is to believe in the One He has sent.’”
(John 6:29 NLT)

Do you believe in the One God sent?
Who is Jesus to you?

Peter realized that Jesus is the One God promised long ago, that He is from God, the Son of the Living God.

Do you know that? Has He made a difference in your life? Have you given your life up to Him or are you still trying to hang on and be in control?

Will you surrender your life to Him today? Romans 10:9 says, “if you confess with your mouth, ‘Jesus is Lord,’ and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved.” (HCSB) If you are interested, let’s talk.

“Simon Peter answered, ‘You are the Christ. You are the Son of the Living God.’” (Matthew 16:16 NIV)

Simon Peter got it right! Jesus blessed Simon Peter because he couldn’t have figured that out on his own. Only God could reveal that truth to Simon Peter and only God can reveal that truth to us. But Jesus didn’t want His disciples to tell this to anyone. Maybe He remembered when the crowd of 5,000, plus some, had wanted to take Him and make Him king. Or maybe He just wanted to see who actually got it through the Holy Spirit’s working in their lives.

After that, Jesus told His disciples that He would suffer and die. He also told them that He would rise from the dead on the third day. “Then He said to all of them, ‘If anyone wants to follow me, He must say no to himself. He must pick up his cross every day and follow me.’” (Luke 9:23 NIV) Jesus explained that those of us who are so concerned about hanging on to our lives end up losing them, but those of us who give our lives up to Him, really find life.

Have you found life? Have you surrendered what you thought your life would be to God? If you have, you have seen Him do some pretty amazing things, things you might never have tried on your own. In fact, you wouldn’t have been able to do them on your own.

If you haven’t, what are you working for? Can you see past the food that spoils and the things that need to be paid for every month? Will you trust God and work for that understanding of how things work spiritually? If you’ll turn your life over to Him, He will begin to give you that understanding in the gift of the Holy Spirit. And He will never leave you or forsake you.

Preparing for the Next Lesson

Jesus is Changed



Preschool Lesson

Teachers:

Bring a loaf of bread and your Bible.

After a lot of traveling back and forth on the Sea of Galilee, the crowds found Jesus again. They were not looking for Jesus because they had seen amazing miracles. They wanted more bread to fill their stomachs! (Hold up the loaf of bread.) All the crowds could think about was their physical hunger that would return in a couple of hours. Jesus told them to “Work for food that lasts forever.” (John 6:27a NIV) He was talking about a friendship with Him.

Jesus warned His disciples about the teachings of the religious leaders. The disciples would need to remember Jesus’ words. Then, when they heard other teachers, they would know what was true and what wasn’t. Jesus’ words are true. (Hold up the Bible.)

After that, Jesus and His disciples were in the villages around the city of Caesarea Philippi. “One day Jesus was praying alone. Only His disciples were with Him. He asked them, ‘Who do the crowds say I am?’” (Luke 9:18 NIV)

They told Jesus that some people were saying that He was John the Baptist. Others thought He was the prophet Elijah, or Jeremiah or one of the other prophets come back to life. The crowds thought this because the things Jesus did reminded them of the great and mighty things these men of God had done.

“‘But what about you?’ He asked. ‘Who do you say I am?’” (Mark 8:29 NIV)

“Simon Peter answered, ‘You are the Christ. You are the Son of the Living God.’” (Matthew 16:16 NIV)

Simon Peter got it right! But he couldn’t have figured that out on his own. Only God could show him that. And only God can show you that. Do you know that Jesus is God’s Son?



Activities

- Memory Verse Activity - Write the memory verse on a large piece of poster board. Cut the poster board in to puzzle pieces. Encourage your students to put the memory verse puzzle together. Review the memory verse as they are working.
- Encourage your students to fill out the journal/note page found on page 8. This can be used during the story to help focus your students or after the story as a review.
- Bring crackers for a snack today.
- Reenact the lesson.
- Sing or listen to Chris Tomlin's "I Will Follow." Sing "I Will," "Trust and Obey," or another song related to the lesson.
- Find the Sea of Galilee and Caesarea Philippi on a map of Israel. Find a topographical map, if possible.
- Dig Deeper: Jesus asked His disciples, "Who do the crowds say I am?" (Luke 9:18 NIV) They told Jesus that some people were saying that He was John the Baptist. Others thought He was the prophet Elijah, or Jeremiah or one of the other prophets come back to life. Talk about the lives of these prophets of God and why people might have thought Jesus was one of them.
- Jesus described Himself as the "Bread of Life." Bread is a basic food in most cultures. It sustains life. Discuss the importance of bread in your culture. Talk about the importance of Jesus in our lives.
- Dig Deeper: Read Luke 9:23-25 in the Message. Discuss these verses in light of this lesson.

Jesus answered,

“God’s work

is to believe in

THE ONE

He has sent.”

John 6:29

Trace the letters.

SAY NO

TO

SELF

Focus on the Story

○
Story Title:

Scripture References:

Main Characters:

Story Summary:

When?

○
Where?

What?

How?

○



Word Search

K Y O D R W O S U L W N R F M
C H J E N G O D S W O R K O Y
E E E I O H E E N E N I R R T
V W S F L I I R S A D K V E N
G T O B E L I E V E I N T K Y
E I S R C O G W T E A S R A L
S T V U S O R S M N S I Y M P
R S T P I K Y N L A U L D E I
U O I E T U C A V N O V A H T
O D T V P P R S R D H E Y T L
Y P S A L M A U F E T R E S U
L S I H K R E S M A H F L I M
T N E S S A H E H E N O E H T
O G S O L I H J H T I A D H W
M L O Y V E P L E H Y M S H F

Find the underlined words from the memory verse in the puzzle above.

“Jesus answered,
‘God’s work is to believe in the One He has sent.’”
John 6:29



Word Search

K	Y	O	D	R	W	O	S	U	L	W	N	R	F	M
C	H	J	E	N	<u>G</u>	<u>O</u>	<u>D</u>	<u>S</u>	<u>W</u>	<u>O</u>	<u>R</u>	<u>K</u>	O	Y
E	E	E	I	O	H	E	<u>E</u>	N	E	N	I	R	R	T
V	W	S	F	L	I	I	<u>R</u>	S	A	D	K	V	E	N
G	<u>T</u>	<u>O</u>	<u>B</u>	<u>E</u>	<u>L</u>	<u>I</u>	<u>E</u>	<u>V</u>	<u>E</u>	<u>I</u>	<u>N</u>	T	K	Y
E	I	S	R	C	O	G	<u>W</u>	T	E	A	S	R	A	L
S	T	V	U	S	O	R	<u>S</u>	M	N	S	I	Y	M	P
R	S	T	P	I	K	Y	<u>N</u>	L	A	U	L	D	E	I
U	O	I	E	T	U	C	<u>A</u>	V	N	O	V	A	H	T
O	D	T	V	P	P	R	<u>S</u>	R	D	H	E	Y	T	L
Y	P	S	A	L	M	A	<u>U</u>	F	E	T	R	E	S	U
L	S	I	H	K	R	E	<u>S</u>	M	A	H	F	L	I	M
<u>T</u>	<u>N</u>	<u>E</u>	<u>S</u>	<u>S</u>	<u>A</u>	<u>H</u>	<u>E</u>	<u>H</u>	<u>E</u>	<u>N</u>	<u>O</u>	<u>E</u>	<u>H</u>	<u>T</u>
O	G	S	O	L	I	H	<u>J</u>	H	T	I	A	D	H	W
M	L	O	Y	V	E	P	L	E	H	Y	M	S	H	F

Find the underlined words from the memory verse in the puzzle above.

“Jesus answered,
‘God’s work is to believe in the One He has sent.’”
John 6:29



Preschool Word Search

R H U N G R Y A G A I N
E I V A T S O Y S C N D
H A P E M J E S U S W S
B I G C R O W D E S U S
J A W O M H E A S Y L S
E V D I S C I P L E S S
S T R U L T I F L Y R E
D W A L B C H R I S T D
M D I L T W E T E R T S
D S E R E G T E R R B N
L C A E L R E N E R S J
H S O N O F G O D E S T

JESUS

DISCIPLES

BIG CROWD

HUNGRY AGAIN

CHRIST

SON OF GOD



Preschool Word Search

R H U N G R Y A G A I N
E I V A T S O Y S C N D
H A P E M J E S U S W S
B I G C R O W D E S U S
J A W O M H E A S Y L S
E V D I S C I P L E S S
S T R U L T I F L Y R E
D W A L B C H R I S T D
M D I L T W E T E R T S
D S E R E G T E R R B N
L C A E L R E N E R S J
H S O N O F G O D E S T

JESUS

DISCIPLES

BIG CROWD

HUNGRY AGAIN

CHRIST

SON OF GOD