

"JOHN 8:31-32"

Zoe Christian Fellowship of Whittier
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INTRODUCTION TO LESSON

Life Group Lesson Objective: To go deeper in God’s Word and walk in it!

Life Group Leader preparation:

John 8:31-32: “Then Jesus said to those Jews who believed Him, “If you abide in my word, you are my disciples indeed. “And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.” – NKJV

Teaching and discussion sub-topics

- Who is Jesus speaking to?
- What does it mean to believe on Him?
- What ONE THING should those who believe on Jesus should be doing?
- How long are we to continue doing that one thing?
- What is a disciple indeed?
- What does knowing the truth do for you?
- What is the result of knowing the truth?
- Is truth made known to everyone?
- What is freedom? What is the opposite of freedom?
- Discuss various areas of life we can be set free from.
- Did Jesus put limits on what we can be set free from?
- Why is it necessary to be free?

LG Leaders: See Week #4 – to help prepare/invite attendees to Share a scripture that supports this month’s topic.

Week #1: In what ways have you experienced knowing the truth of God’s Word?

Group Discussion: Have each person share from his/her own experience....

John 8:29 – Jesus said – “The Father has not left me alone, for I always do those things that please Him.

Ps 119: Blessed are the undefiled in the way, who walk in the way of the LORD. Blessed are they that keep his testimonies, and that seek him with the whole heart.

- *Ps 19:7 – the law of the Lord is perfect...*

Seeking God - Not Man

2 Chronicles 15:15 – the people sought God – the Lord gave them rest

2 Chronicles 16:12 – Diseased 2 years in his feet: King Asa (an Israelite) – He sought Physicians; did not seek God; he died within two years.

Mark 5:25-34 – A certain woman with an issue of blood 12 years, spent all that she had, but rather grew worse.... when she HEARD of Jesus.... said “if I but touch his clothes I shall be whole”

- Matt 6:33 – Always seek God first, He may direct you to seek a doctor

Let’s be honest – Discussion? What ONE THING should those who believe on Jesus be doing?

Week #2: The Truth Shall Make You Free

Group Discussion Question: What is the opposite of freedom?

Sometimes we operate from sickness, fear, shame, guilt, poverty, insecurity....low self esteem

WHAT IS THE RESULT OF KNOWING THE TRUTH?

God’s word says: (Amplified) - Proverbs 4:1 – Hear, my sons the instruction of a father, and give attention to gain and to know intelligent discernment, comprehension and interpretation [of spiritual matters].

- vs 13 – take fast hold of instruction do not let go; guard her, for she is your life
- vs 20 – My son attend (pay attention) to my words; consent and submit to my sayings

TRANSFORMATION – Romans 12:2 – “be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind”

How many times have you said, “if only I had known?”

- What is my identity?
- What is my purpose & significance?
 - Becoming a disciple for Christ - John 8:31-32 he said to those who believed on Him.... if you continue in my word, then you are my disciples indeed; and you shall know the truth and the truth shall set you free...

- **What am empowering statement – are you a disciple indeed??**

Luke 11:9-10 – **Ask** for his truth and freedom from:

- guilt & condemnation
- fear
- unforgiveness
- holding grudges

Do you want change in your life? What areas? Seeking God takes time, discipline and commitment and faith!

Let's be honest – Discussion: What is a disciple indeed?

Week #3: Use God's Word to Get to the Root of Your Issues

Group Discussion: Discuss various areas of life we can be set Free from?

Example: FEAR, SIN

- 2Tim 1:6-7 – Paul said to Timothy = “Stir up the gift that is within you”; and “God has not given us a spirit of fear; but a spirit of power, and of love and a sound mind.”
 - 2 Peter 1:12-13 – Peter said even though you know these things and are firm in the truth, “I think it’s right to stir you up by way of remembrance”
 - Remind yourself or stir up yourselves of the things that you have learned...you don’t want to forget

Likewise reckon ye also yourselves to be dead indeed unto sin, but alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord – Rom 6:11

- SIN – no longer has dominion over me – Rom 6:14
 - I am no longer dead, but alive unto God...death hath no more dominion over me – Rom 6:9

Nehemiah 8:8-10 – So they read from the book of the law of God distinctly, faithfully amplifying and giving the sense, so that the people understood the reading. Then the Levites helped the people to understand the law. For the joy of the Lord is your strength.

- Now – we have the Holy Spirit – to HELP, TEACH and COMFORT us as individuals. God set ministry gifts in the body of Christ – His intention was the perfecting and the full equipping of the saints that they should do the work of the ministry – Eph. 4:12
 - John 14:26

Did JESUS put limits on what we can be set free from?

- Freedom comes by focusing on God’s word – where he reveals his ways
- Read Joshua 1:8 – meditate day and night.... then you will have.... **good success**
 - 2 Timothy 2:15 – Study to show thyself “**approved unto God**”
 - I Cor. 9:24 – Know ye not that they which run in a race run all....so run that you may **obtain the prize**

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- Phil. 3:14 – I press toward the mark for the **prize** of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus
- 2 Tim. 2:21 – Purge yourself.... you shall be a vessel of honor, sanctified and meet for the master’s use, and prepared for every good work...
 - Everyone can be prepared for good works!
- Acts 10:34 – then Peter opened his mouth and said, of a truth I perceive that God is no respecter of persons: KJV
 - AMP – And Peter opened his mouth and said: Most certainly and thoroughly I now perceive and understand that God shows no partiality and is no respecter of persons.

Jesus said – You shall know the truth and the truth shall set you free!

Free from sickness & disease – lay hands on the sick and they shall recover – Mark 16:18

- These signs shall follow those who believe...

Group Discussion Question:

Let’s be honest – Discussion: What does knowing the truth do for you?

The Word of God is personal.....

- Jesus came to set the captives free, to preach the gospel to the poor, to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised, to reach the acceptable year of the Lord. Luke 4:18
- That means we will not only believe and accept the WORD, but we will also obey His teachings. Our action is proof of our faith. We become doers of the Word not hearers only – James 1:22
- Having your conversation honest among the gentiles: that, whereas they speak against you as evildoers, which may by your good works, which they shall behold, glorify God in the day of visitation. – 1 Peter 2:12

Deuteronomy 8:11-14 (ESV)

“Take care lest you forget the LORD your God by not keeping his commandments and his rules and his statutes, which I command you today, lest, when you have eaten and are full and have built good houses and live in them, and when your herds and flocks multiply and your silver and gold is multiplied and all that you have is multiplied, then your heart be lifted up, and you forget the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery.

Week #4: Sharing Insights That You Have Received From This Lesson

Discussion Question: If you had to teach this lesson, what scripture insight would you share?

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You may have received a different insight – this is just an example:

PREPARING FOR THE HARVEST

“[Pray] also for yourself, that words may be given to you in opening your mouth boldly to proclaim the mystery of the gospel...” (Ephesians 6:19).

What is the result of knowing the truth? - Luke 4:18-19

Hebrews 11:1 – Now faith is..... (believing God is and that He is a rewarder of them that diligently seek Him.

- Knowing that when anyone comes to Christ – they have been delivered from the powers of darkness and translated into the Kingdom of His dear son. – Col 1:13 KJV

Knowing in your heart that God wants us to bring others to Him...

Are you preparing to share John 8:31-32 with others? “That they shall know the truth and that the truth shall make them free”.

Jesus said the harvest is great, but the laborers are few...

Parable of the Sower – Matthew 13:3-9

- Matt 13:19 – the seed is the Word of the Kingdom
 - He that does not understand – the enemy takes away the word that was sown in his heart. Received by the way side – **No Understanding**
 - Vs 20-21 – He heard the word also, but when tribulation/persecution comes because of the Word – **He is offended**
 - Vs 22 – He heard the word also, but the cares of the world, the deceitfulness of riches - **Choked the word**
 - Vs 23 – He heard the word also – but he understood the word and brought forth much fruit

Remember: When you sow the Word, the soil will be different. All soil is not the same. Continue to pray for those who are lost, that they might understand the gospel.

Matthew 9:37-38

**Problem:*

Then saith he unto his disciples, the harvest truly is plenteous, but the laborers are few.

**Solution:*

Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest that he will send forth laborers into his harvest. – Go ye therefore...

Let's be honest – Discussion: How has this month's lesson helped you to go deeper in God's Word?