

OVERVIEW OF LESSONS

LAUNCH LESSON: WHO IS JESUS?

Key Bible text

- Mark 1:1; 10:45

Big idea

Jesus is the Son of God.

Overview

The Launch Lesson introduces the idea that Jesus is the most famous person in the world. Students have the opportunity to share their knowledge of the events of Jesus' life. They are introduced to key vocabulary for the unit: Gospel, Messiah, kingdom of God, Son of God, Son of Man, repent and believe.

Sensitivity triggers: None identified.

STILLA 1: GLIMPSES OF THE KINGDOM

Key Bible text

- Mark 1:21–28, 40–45; 4:35–41; 5:21–24, 35–43

Big idea

Jesus' actions show that he is the King of God's kingdom.

Overview

Students are introduced to the idea that Jesus' miracles act as signs that point to who Jesus is and what God's kingdom is like. Students work in small groups to explore and creatively recreate a miracle story from Mark's Gospel. They explore a number of stories in Mark's Gospel to see how he points to what God's kingdom is like. Students begin work on their crown poster to illustrate God's kingdom.

Sensitivity triggers: Issues about death and healing.

STILLA 2: ENTERING GOD'S KINGDOM CLEAN AND UNBROKEN

Key Bible text

- Mark 2:1–12; 7:1–23

Big idea

Jesus has the power to forgive sins.

Overview

This Stilla uses the analogies of broken and unclean to illustrate what sin is. Students consider how things are broken by sin and think about what is needed to fix these things. Students are introduced to 'Ponder'. Ponder is the method of exploring a Bible passage that they will use throughout this Unit. The method is designed to help them slow down and discover the meaning of a Bible text.

Sensitivity trigger: Understanding what sin is.

STILLA 3: DESCRIPTIONS OF THE KINGDOM

Key Bible text

- Mark 4:1–34

Big idea

Jesus describes the growth of the kingdom of God.

Overview

This Stilla introduces the way that Jesus uses parables to teach us. Students explore the Parable of the Sower, the Parable of the Growing Seed, and the Parable of the Mustard Seed. They continue to develop their skills in using Ponder as they explore Mark's Gospel.

Sensitivity triggers: None identified.

STILLA 4: THE KING OF THE KINGDOM

Key Bible text

- Mark 8:22–37

Big idea

Jesus reveals the purpose of the Messiah.

Overview

We are in the middle of Mark’s Gospel. In the first half of the book, people are seeing Jesus heal and do amazing things. This leads them to ask the question, ‘Who is this man?’ Now the disciples know for certain Jesus is the promised Messiah. Yet, while they have the correct title for Jesus and know he is God’s King, the disciples don’t understand the role this King must play in God’s plan to save people. The rest of Mark is now focusing on Jesus helping his disciples understand this unexpected role and the actual event itself.

Sensitivity triggers: None identified.

STILLA 5: KINGDOM LIVING

Key Bible text

- Mark 8:34—9:1; 10:13–16; 12:28–34, 41–44

Big idea

Jesus teaches us how to live as a citizen of God’s kingdom.

Overview

In this Stilla, students compare and contrast what the media and other influencers tell us about what is important in life, with what Jesus teaches about what is important. Students explore what Jesus teaches about living as a citizen of God’s kingdom and consider how this challenges their thinking. Students are also reminded that the way Christians live is in response to God’s saving love and not in order to attain God’s love.

Sensitivity triggers: None identified.

STILLA 6: THE POWERFUL KING

Key Bible text

- Mark 14:32—16:8

Big idea

Jesus has the power to set people free from sin and death.

Overview

Students explore and engage with the Easter narrative in Mark’s Gospel. They explore the notion of power and how it is used. Students compare Jesus’ power with that of other people and identify how his power is unique. Students are given the opportunity to listen to Mark 14:32—16:8 and then work in groups to further explore one section of the narrative.

Sensitivity triggers: Jesus’ death.

LANDING LESSON: WHO IS JESUS?

Key Bible text

- Various

Big idea

Jesus is the powerful Son of God.

Overview

This lesson closes the unit and seeks to reinforce the learning of the unit. Students engage in a number of activities to recall learning, key themes and conclusions.

Sensitivity triggers: None identified.