HIGH SCHOOL MINISTRY

FLIPPED
TEACHING GUIDE
WEEK 2

MAIN SCRIPTURES:
Mark 5:24-34

MAIN POINT:
God's labels beat all other labels.

JESUS CONNECTION:
Whatever the world tries to label you, Jesus labels you as KNOWN, WORTHY, and LOVED.

THE WHAT

WHAT are we talking about and WHY does it matter to me? (2-4 min)

ME

- Today we are talking about labels. Not labeling cans of soup. Labeling people.
- For years, it's has been common for some people to have labels associated with their names: Alexander the _____? Jabba the _____? John the _____?
- *Speaker Note: Either share a personal story of a lighthearted label you've been labeled, or share in depth Buzz's label crisis from Toy Story below (maybe show a clip).*
- BUZZ'S LABEL: In Toy Story, we open with Andy and his favorite toy Woody. Not too long into it, a new toy, Buzz, shows up on the scene. Buzz fully believes he is an actual space ranger and rejects the label the other toys try to put on him as a toy. This leads to Buzz attempting and failing to fly – which leads to an identity crisis for Buzz.

WE

- We can all relate to Buzz in that moment – maybe we've never been told we are toys, but maybe you've tried out for the team and didn't make it, or you bombed an exam, or you told a joke and no one laughed.
- We label ourselves and then are devastated when we don't meet that label's definition.
- Or other times others give us labels we don't want. We try but can't get rid of labels we wish would disappear.

TRANSITION

- Like I said, the idea of people labeling other people has been around a while – so long in fact that we even see this in the Bible. Today we will be looking at a woman in the Bible who was given a pretty awful label, how Jesus treated her, and what we can learn from this.

NOTES

SO WHAT

So WHAT does this mean for my faith and life with God? (6-8 min)

GOD

- Before we get started, let's get some background to the Scripture to help us understand: In Jesus' day people were either labeled as "clean" or "unclean." Those labels where HUGE.
- People were labeled unclean for a variety of reasons: getting a rash, discharging bodily fluids like blood, eating the wrong thing or being around the wrong people. To be labeled unclean was the absolute worst label; it meant the person was seen as a dangerous threat to the clean.
- There were steps an unclean person had to take in order to remove this label and be seen as clean. But if a person was unsuccessful to remove this label, they would be outcast from society. "Clean" people avoided "unclean" people, and they especially avoided touching them.
- In this story we will read, the woman was marked unclean in one of the worst ways – from bleeding for over 12 years. We will see that she did everything she could to remove this label, but she couldn't get rid of it. As you see how Jesus interacts with her, read this remembering that everyone else around would see this woman as a horrible outcast to be avoided at all costs.
- READ MARK 5:24-34.
- Look what Jesus did. This woman was at the end of her hope, grasping on the last end of hope that maybe she could touch Jesus without being noticed and find healing. Imagine how her heart probably pounded in her chest and her world froze when Jesus called out, "Who touched me?"
- She stood before Him and, if Jesus was like everyone else, He would shun her and shoo her away. The world labeled her unclean, outcast, worthless.
- But Jesus flipped the script, and He loved her, He saw her, He valued her, and He healed her!
- **God's label beats all other labels.**
- I don't know what labels you walked into the room with today that the world has placed on you – but I know several labels God has placed on you.
- **Whatever the world tries to label you, Jesus labels you as KNOWN, WORTHY, and LOVED.**
- God knows you: everything you've ever said, done, or thought – the things you thought were secret. He knows all the good and the bad. He looks at you and loves you as His own precious creation.

JESUS CONNECTION

- *Speaker Note: The gospel is the foundation of our faith. Take at least a moment every week to connect your message to the gospel of Jesus.*
- God created you to be in relationship with Him, but sin broke that relationship before we were ever born.
- God sent Jesus to die on the cross to rescue us from our sin and death; we are not saved by doing good things but by having faith in Jesus Christ.

TRANSITION

- Jesus loves you. Those are more than just words in a kid's song. They are words that define who you really are in your core and that should always remind you that you matter to God.

NOTES

NOW WHAT

NOW that I know, HOW can I live this out? (2-4 min)

YOU

- You see, too often, we allow our pasts to label us, our mistakes to label us, others to label us with unkind labels.
- Think back with me to Toy Story and how Buzz was struggling with his label as a toy. Then Woody tells him he isn't JUST a toy: he is ANDY'S Toy. This gives Buzz an important label with a higher purpose – to be the best toy he can be for Andy.
- I love how this illustration directly relates to us. You are GOD's creation. His sons and daughters. And He has a higher purpose for all of us in this world.

WE

- And just a reminder – let's not label others with negative labels. We constantly label others, sometimes we don't even realize it.
- But here's the deal – sometimes the labels others give you aren't true – so don't do that to others.
- If you are going to label someone else – give them God's label of being loved and worthy. See them as His wonderful creation.
- If we all see each other that way – that will change the world.

PRAY

- Close your time together in prayer.
- *Pray for your students to lay down old/false labels at Jesus' feet and to really embrace the labels that God has given them.*

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