

## HSM PRESENTS: FLIPPED SERIES OVERVIEW



## **SERIES AT A GLANCE**

## TEACHING THEME: JESUS

While everything we teach points back to Jesus, this series directly studies Jesus' life on earth. Things He said, things He did, and what we can learn from them.

## SERIES TAGLINE

One moment with Jesus can change everything.

## **SERIES OVERVIEW**

Often, we live by a script: what our days should be like and how they should go. We wake up, brush our teeth, put on clean clothes and head to school. At school we have to behave a certain way to not get in trouble with our teachers or not be seen as a weirdo by our peers.

To flip the script means to do something unexpected or revolutionary that reverses what is usually expected. In this series we are going to look at how Jesus met three very different people and how in one moment He flipped the script in their lives and changed everything. And we are going to look at how Jesus can flip the script and change our lives in revolutionary and amazing ways.

The world says it's all on you, tries to label you, and to convince you your life is all about running after your own fame. Jesus has freedom for us from all that. Jesus flips the script and says, "I got you," you matter to me, and I've given you a higher purpose of running after me.

## WEEK BY WEEK

## WEEK 1: WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 5, 2021

- MAIN POINT: When your ability runs out, Jesus' ability keeps going.
- MAIN SCRIPTURE: Matthew 8:5-10 (Jesus + The Centurion)
  SECONDARY SCRIPTURE: Proverbs 3:5-6
- JESUS CONNECTION: The world says it's all on you. Jesus says, "I got you."
- GOSPEL REPONSE WEEK Campuses have freedom on how to direct students into a clear next step if they accept Jesus for the first time or are interested in talking to someone more about that. Details and direction on this will come from your campus leadership.
- NOTES:
  - Small Group Leaders will need post-it notes and markers for the bonus activity.
  - Our main Scripture cuts right before some possibly confusing statements Jesus makes, but context for these statements is given in the Leader Bonus Resource for leaders to be empower to lead any groups to discuss those verses that may feel their group is mature enough in their faith to discuss.

## WEEK 2:

- MAIN POINT: God's label beats all other labels.
- MAIN SCRIPTURE: Mark 5:24-34 (Jesus + The Bleeding Woman)
- JESUS CONNECTION: Whatever the world tries to label you, Jesus labels you as known, worthy, and loved.
- SUPPLIES NEEDED:
  - "YOU MATTER TO GOD" Bible Verse handout
  - Index cards (or strips of paper) and pens

## **WEEK 3:**

- MAIN POINT: Jesus is the greatest thing we could ever run after.
- MAIN SCRIPTURE: Mark 10:17-22 (Jesus + The Rich Man)
- JESUS CONNECTION: The world tells you to run after your fame. Jesus says run after Him.



FLIPPED TEACHING GUIDE ------ WEEK 1 ------

> MAIN SCRIPTURE: Matthew 8:5-10 SECONDARY SCRIPTURE: Proverbs 3:5-6

MAIN POINT: When your ability runs out, Jesus' ability keeps going.

FLIP THE SCRIPT: The world says it's all on you. Jesus says, "I got you."

FLIPPED

ONE MOMENT WITH JESUS CAN

CHANGE EVERYTHING.

## THE WHAT

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

### ME

• Share a funny, personal story about a time you wanted to be in control but were not. (Ex: tried not to cry at movie theatre but lost it, tried to impress someone but tripped instead, etc.)

## WE

- It's nice to be in control, isn't it? Deep down most of us believe that we are the best person to be in charge of our lives.
- It's just easier to have control because we know things are going to go our way. And not having control can be scary and stressful and just not fun.
- But who's really in control anyway? We've all faced times in our lives where we wanted to be in control but then reality hit us and we realized we were not in control.
- But what if I told you that's ok?

## TRANSITION

- Who are some of the most powerful people you can think of? (Ex: the president, billionaires, celebrities, etc.) They have a lot of influence, but they can't control everything.
- Jesus met a man like that. This guy had assistants for his assistants. Everyone followed his orders. However, he understood something about authority that we could all learn from. He understood that when his ability had run out, Jesus' ability kept going.
- Why do we struggle so much to control things in our lives? And how can trusting Jesus with those things flip our lives in a good way? That is what we are talking about today!

#### SO WHAT

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

## GOD

- In the book of Matthew, we find Jesus coming up through a city called Capernaum. While He is there, He is approached by a centurion who asks Him to heal his servant who is very sick.
- A centurion was a commander in the Roman army in charge of 100 Roman soldiers who follow his every order. This guy has some serious authority. He has great power and control.

## SO WHAT CONTINUED

## **GOD CONTINUED**

- READ MATTHEW 8:5-10.
- Look at what the centurion said He said, "Jesus, just say the word..." Coming from the guy who commands soldiers to do things and usually they do it or die, this is a big deal!
- There's a moment when the centurion realized, "Even with as much authority or power as I have, I don't have any control over this situation. There's nothing I can do. My ability has run out." But then he surrenders control to Jesus: "Jesus, even though I can't in this situation, You can. Even though I don't have any control, You do!"
- As nice as it is to have control over our circumstances, there is something truly freeing when our "I can's" turn into "I cant's" when we have no choice but to relinquish control over to God.
- It's in those moments that we realize this truth: When our ability runs out, Jesus' ability keeps going.
- It's in those moments that we can embrace the fact that we have a strong God that is always with us and is always for us! The weight of the world isn't on our shoulders, it's on His, and He is more than capable of bearing it!
- The world says it's all on you. Jesus says, "I got you." In this one moment with Jesus, the centurion realized this, and it flipped the script for him. He found the freedom that can come when we surrender to Jesus.
- When we don't have control, CAN'T have control, Jesus still does.
- I truly believe that. But it was a journey to get me there. Share a quick recap (1-2 minutes) of how you came to surrender your life to Jesus.

### **GOSPEL + RESPONSE**

- The world says we are in control of our lives, but the truth is we aren't in control, and we can't save ourselves.
- You see, God created the whole world at the beginning of time and He 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.
- God loves us completely, so He allows us to CHOOSE whether we believe in Jesus or not. But when we choose to believe and give our hearts and lives to God, we receive eternal salvation, forgiveness of our sins, and a restored relationship with God. Some of you have made this choice already.
- Some of you have not. If you haven't CHOSEN to believe in Jesus, why not? What is holding you back? I promise you it's not as great as what you will receive if you choose to follow Jesus Christ with your heart and your life. I encourage you TODAY, RIGHT NOW, to make the choice to follow Jesus. I'm going to ask everyone to close their eyes so there is no pressure. I'm going to say a prayer. These words aren't magic, but believing and saying them in your heart has GREAT POWER. If you chose to follow Jesus, pray and repeat them in your heart RIGHT NOW:
- "Jesus, because of my sin I ask for your forgiveness. I believe You chose to suffer and die for my sins and rose from the dead. I trust and follow You as my Lord and Savior. Guide my life and help me to do Your will. In Your name, Amen."
- Now if you said this prayer in your heart for the first time, I want you to open your eyes so I can see you. AWESOME! I want you guys to come up after everyone is dismissed to small groups so we can talk.\*
- Now everyone open your eyes. The Bible says the angels PARTY in heaven every time someone believes in Jesus for the first time, so let's clap and cheer for those who just gave their life to Jesus for the first time!! YEAH!

\*Talk to your HSM Campus Pastor about whether to invite students into this or another direct follow up step.

## TRANSITION

• No matter where you are in your relationship with Jesus, whether you've been following Him over 10 years or just for 10 seconds or you aren't there yet, you have a next step you can take with Him.

#### **NOW WHAT**

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

## YOU

- Sometimes it is really hard to surrender control. Maybe it's because we know we have our best interest at heart.
- I'll tell you a secret that is not so secret Jesus loves you and has your best interest at heart. Surrendering control to Jesus is really the best thing we can do.
- One of the most freeing realizations in our lives may be: "I can't."
- Remember, When your ability runs out, Jesus' ability keeps going.
- What are some areas in your life that you may be holding too tightly or where your ability is running out?
- What would it look like if we gave control of those areas of our lives to our loving God?
- What if we trusted the words of Proverbs 3:5-6: *"Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to Him,* 
  - and He will make your paths straight."

## WE

- When we hold areas of our lives too tightly, it creates so much pressure on our shoulders that we weren't meant to carry.
  The world says it's all on you. Jesus says, "I got you."
- What would it look like for us to support each other as we run after Jesus?

#### **PRAY**

- Close your time together in prayer.
- Pray for students to realize what is holding them back from fully surrendering to Jesus and to let go and surrender to God.



> MAIN SCRIPTURE: Matthew 8:5-10 NIV SECONDARY SCRIPTURE: Proverbs 3:5-6 NIV

## MAIN POINT: When your ability runs out, Jesus' ability keeps going.

FLIPPED

ONE MOMENT WITH JESUS CAN

CHANGE EVERYTHING.

JESUS CONNECTION: The world says it's all on you. Jesus says, "I got you."

## **LEADER CORNER**

### **GOAL OF SMALL GROUP**

For students to realize that not being in control is a good thing and that surrendering to God brings them freedom.

## THINK ABOUT THIS

It's nice to be in control, isn't it? Deep down most of us believe that we are the best person to be in charge of our lives. But who's really in control anyway? Even the most powerful person in the world has things that are outside of their control. Jesus met a man like that. This guy had assistants for his assistants. Everyone followed his orders. However, he understood something about authority that we could all learn from. He understood that when his ability had run out, Jesus' ability kept going. Why do we struggle so much to control things in our lives? And how can trusting Jesus with those things flip our lives in a good way?

## **HOW TO USE THIS GUIDE**

This guide is a suggestion, not a formula. Adjust the questions and activities as needed, and don't feel like you need to do or ask, everything you see here. Let the students and the Holy Spirit guide the conversation, too.

## **CONVERSATION GUIDE**

## **GET THEM TALKING**

What are different stresses, worries, or pressures high school students have? \*Bonus idea part 1: Write these on post-it notes and place somewhere your students can see during your discussion.

## **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

- 1. What are things people try to control in their lives?
- 2. How does losing control make us feel?
- 3. Why do we try to control things?

#### **READ MATTHEW 8:5-10 and answer the following questions:**

- 4. What amazed Jesus?
- 5. Why is it surprising that the Roman officer approached Jesus for help?
- 6. Why do we typically think of asking for help as a bad thing?
- 7. What was the result of the officer asking Jesus for help?

## READ PROVERBS 3:5-6 and answer the following questions:

- 8. On a scale from 1-10, how much do you trust God wants the best for your life?
- 9. What are some areas in your life that you may be holding on too tightly or where your ability is running out?
- 10. \*Bonus idea part 2: Rearrange the post-it notes in the shape of a cross to symbolize how we can trust God with these weights. You could even go one step further and have all your students write their name on a post-it and at it to the cross to symbolize Jesus has got their back.
- 11. What would it look like if you gave control of those areas to our Loving God?

## **NEXT STEP**

Every single one of us has a decision to make: who is going to be in charge of our heart? We need to:

- 1) Realize that we're not in control & embrace it
- 2) Realize God cares for us more than we can understand
- 3) Surrender to God's control & authority

Surrender often starts with prayer. Take your fears, hopes, expectations, and disappointments and tell God about them. Set a time to talk to Him in prayer once a day this week.

## **PRAYER GUIDE**

Ask your students to share their prayer requests and close your time together in prayer. Give them some silent moments during the prayer to surrender control of their lives to God.

## MATTHEW 8:5-10 NIV

"When Jesus had entered Capernaum, a centurion came to him, asking for help. <sup>6</sup> "Lord," he said, "my servant lies at home paralyzed, suffering terribly." <sup>7</sup> Jesus said to him, "Shall I come and heal him?"

<sup>8</sup> The centurion replied, "Lord, I do not deserve to have you come under my roof. But just say the word, and my servant will be healed. <sup>9</sup> For I myself am a man under authority, with soldiers under me. I tell this one, 'Go,' and he goes; and that one, 'Come,' and he comes. I say to my servant, 'Do this,' and he does it."

<sup>10</sup> When Jesus heard this, he was amazed and said to those following him, "Truly I tell you, I have not found anyone in Israel with such great faith."

#### **PROVERBS 3:5-6 NIV**

 "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding;
 <sup>6</sup> in all your ways submit to Him, and He will make your paths straight."

## **BONUS LEADER RESOURCE**

## BACKGROUND TO MATTHEW 8:11-12

Our verse cuts today right before some confusing statements Jesus makes, but your students may ask questions about them or be in really mature places in their faith for you to talk about them. If so, here is some background context to Matthew 8:11-12.

READ Matthew 8:11-12.

What is Jesus talking about? Well let's look at the terms He used. The "subjects of the kingdom" are the Israelites. The "darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth" refers to hell. In Jesus' day, much like ours, many people thought the religion you were born into was your religion. Jesus repeatedly spoke on how faith isn't something you are born into but something you choose in your heart to live out. In these two verses Jesus is saying that many from outside the nation of Israelites, like this non-Jewish centurion, will be included in the kingdom of heaven because of their faith. He is also warning the Israelites that if they do not have faith then they will not be included in this kingdom.



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.

LIPPE

ONE MOMENT WITH JESUS CAN

CHANGE EVERYTHING.

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.

## **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.

## **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.



> MAIN SCRIPTURES: Mark 5:24-34 NIV

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

FLIPPED

ONE MOMENT WITH JESUS CAN

CHANGE EVERYTHING.

JESUS CONNECTION: Whatever the world tries to label you, Jesus labels you as known, worthy, and loved.

## **LEADER CORNER**

#### **GOAL OF SMALL GROUP**

For students to recognize where they've accepted false labels and embrace the labels God has for them.

### BACKGROUND TO SCRIPTURE

In Jesus' day people were labeled as either "clean" or "unclean." 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 and should be avoided at all costs. Often they would be outcasts from society. In this story you will read, the woman was marked unclean in one of the worst ways - from bleeding for over 12 years.

#### **HOW TO USE THIS GUIDE**

This guide is a suggestion, not a formula. Adjust the questions and activities as needed, and don't feel like you need to do or ask, everything you see here. Let the students and the Holy Spirit guide the conversation, too.

## **CONVERSATION GUIDE**

### **GET THEM TALKING**

What are different positive labels people give each other? What are different negative labels people give each other?

## **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

1. Why do you think labels can have so much power in our lives? **READ MARK 5:24-34 and answer the following questions:** 

- 2. In your own words, what is happening here?
- 3. What ways do you think the woman's label affected how others saw her? How do you think it affected how she saw herself?
- 4. For this unclean woman to touch Jesus would've been an insult in that culture, like spitting in someone's face. But Jesus doesn't shun her, He gives her a personal, loving label. What does Jesus call her?
- 5. What are different labels God gives us? Spend time together as a group to come up with 5-10 labels God gives us, such as forgiven, chosen, loved, son/daughter, etc.

## **ACTIVITY (DO THIS TOGETHER)**

First, give your students a notecard or strip of paper and the YOU MATT ER TO GOD Bible verse handout. On one ask the notecard ask them to write down anonymously one or more labels they are going to STOP believing about themselves. Then ask them to give you those slips of paper so that you can pray for them throughout the week to let these labels go.

On the back of the YOU MATTER TO GOD Bible verse handout, have students write down one or more labels that God gives them that they are going to HOLD ONTO about themselves. Encourage them to take the card with them to keep as a reminder.

#### **NEXT STEP**

Take home the list of YOU MATTER TO GOD Bible verses, pick a verse and memorize it this week. If you have already done this, pick another verse from this list to memorize.

### PRAYER GUIDE

Ask your students to share their prayer requests and close your time together in prayer.

## Mark 5:24-34 NIV

<sup>"24</sup> So Jesus went with him. A large crowd followed and pressed around him. <sup>25</sup> And a woman was there who had been subject to bleeding for twelve years. <sup>26</sup> She had suffered a great deal under the care of many doctors and had spent all she had, yet instead of getting better she grew worse. <sup>27</sup> When she heard about Jesus, she came up behind him in the crowd and touched his cloak, <sup>28</sup> because she thought, "If I just touch his clothes, I will be healed." <sup>29</sup> Immediately her bleeding stopped and she felt in her body that she was freed from her suffering.

<sup>30</sup> At once Jesus realized that power had gone out from him. He turned around in the crowd and asked, "Who touched my clothes?"

<sup>31</sup> "You see the people crowding against you," his disciples answered, "and yet you can ask, 'Who touched me?' "

<sup>32</sup> But Jesus kept looking around to see who had done it. <sup>33</sup> Then the woman, knowing what had happened to her, came and fell at his feet and, trembling with fear, told him the whole truth. <sup>34</sup> He said to her, "Daughter, your faith has healed you. Go in peace and be freed from your suffering."

## You MATTER TO GOD BIBLE VERSES

"For this is how God loved the world: He gave His one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in Him will not perish but have eternal life." - John 3:16

"The Lord himself will fight for you. Just stay calm." - Exodus 14:14

But God showed his great love for us by sending Christ to die for us while we were still sinners." - Romans 5:8

"For we are God's masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things He planned for us long ago." - Ephesians 2:10

"How precious are your thoughts about me, O God. They cannot be numbered!" - Psalm 139:17

## You MATTER TO GOD BIBLE VERSES

"For this is how God loved the world: He gave His one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in Him will not perish but have eternal life." - John 3:16

"The Lord himself will fight for you. Just stay calm." - Exodus 14:14

But God showed his great love for us by sending Christ to die for us while we were still sinners." - Romans 5:8

"For we are God's masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things He planned for us long ago." - Ephesians 2:10

"How precious are your thoughts about me, O God. They cannot be numbered!" - Psalm 139:17

## You MATTER TO GOD BIBLE VERSES

"For this is how God loved the world: He gave His one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in Him will not perish but have eternal life." - John 3:16

"The Lord himself will fight for you. Just stay calm." - Exodus 14:14

But God showed his great love for us by sending Christ to die for us while we were still sinners." - Romans 5:8

"For we are God's masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things He planned for us long ago." - Ephesians 2:10

"How precious are your thoughts about me, O God. They cannot be numbered!" - Psalm 139:17

## You MATTER TO GOD BIBLE VERSES

"For this is how God loved the world: He gave His one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in Him will not perish but have eternal life." - John 3:16

"The Lord himself will fight for you. Just stay calm." - Exodus 14:14

But God showed his great love for us by sending Christ to die for us while we were still sinners." - Romans 5:8

"For we are God's masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things He planned for us long ago." - Ephesians 2:10

"How precious are your thoughts about me, O God. They cannot be numbered!" - Psalm 139:17



FLIPPED TEACHING GUIDE ------ WEEK 3 ------

> MAIN SCRIPTURES: Mark 10:17-22 NIV

MAIN POINT: Jesus is the greatest thing we could ever run after.

## JESUS CONNECTION: The world tells you to run after your fame. Jesus says to run after Him.

LIPPED

ONE MOMENT WITH JESUS CAN CHANGE EVERYTHING.

THE WHAT

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

#### ME

- Anyone watch the Olympics lately? What's your favorite sport to watch?
- Speaker Note: Share a personal story about watching or being inspired by the Olympics.
- Whether you are big into sports and Olympics or not, you've seen glimpses of the dedication with which top athletes, like the Olympians, push themselves. Out of the 6.5 billion people in the world, there is nobody better at their sport than those who win gold medals.
- Even though they already have an incredible natural ability, they wake up and live and breathe training for their sport. They want to be the best in the world, and they pursue it with all they are until they become it.

#### WE

- Build an emotional common ground with your audience- build as many bridges emotionally as possible. Like me, you may not be an Olympic gold medal winner, but I bet you have your own dreams of pursuing something that matters, or finding the thing you are meant to pursue.
- You want to do something, or maybe become someone, important. You want to find something that makes a difference.
- And something I want to ask you is: What matters most to you? Fame? Wealth? Status? Riches? Power? Love?
- And ask yourself: why does it matter so much to me?

#### **TRANSITION**

- The world tells us to pursue our fame our branding our status.
- There was a guy in Jesus' day who thought he had it all. He was already rich, powerful and respected. He was important.
- On top of that, he was known for being a really good guy. He had everything most of us want to get. But he was missing something.

## **SO WHAT**

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

**NOTES** 

## GOD

## • READ MARK 10:17-22.

- Let's unpack something first that might be confusing. "Isn't Jesus God?" You might think after Jesus' comment, and I would say to that: AMAZING CATCH! You see, this guy saw Jesus as a teacher – but he had trouble seeing Jesus as good.
- If Jesus is a good teacher, then we can follow some of His sayings and feel good about it; we can ignore the ones we don't like.
- If Jesus is God that is a whole other level. if we claim Him as our God, that requires following Him, and all His ways, with our lives.

## JESUS CONNECTION

- God created you to be in relationship with Him, but sin broke that relationship before we were ever born.
- Sin is what drives us from not wanting to fully give our lives to God sometimes and holds back from following God 100%. But I promise you making that decision is 1000% worth it.
- 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.
- This is the foundation of our faith. You can make this decision today! Talk to your small group leader about it.

## **GOD CONTINUED**

- Back to the verse in Mark. This guy was pursuing his fame, his reputation, his desire to be a good guy, when he wanted to, the way he wanted too.
- You see the problem is pursuing fame, wealth, and worldly status and validation those things will eventually let us down.
- The world tells you to run after your fame. Jesus says run after Him.
- And Jesus laid it out like it is: let go of what is holding you back from fully following Me.
- Jesus is pointing us towards pursuing the greatest thing we could ever pursue that will never let us down: Himself.
- Jesus is the greatest thing we could ever run after.

## **TRANSITION**

• So what do you want to run after?

#### **NOW WHAT**

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

#### YOU

- The fact is we become like what we are pursuing. Pursue money and you become greedy. Pursue Jesus and you become more loving.
- Now I'm not saying you can't pursue sports, good grades, a good career, being a good person. Those are good things to go after – but what I'm saying is they shouldn't be your first priority. Your first priority should be running after Jesus.

#### WE

- Remember, we are here to be real with one another, encourage one another, and go after Jesus together.
- We don't have to run after Jesus alone we can do it together.
- And when we mess up? We can encourage one another to accept Jesus' forgivenesss, pick ourselves up, and go after Him again.

#### PRAY

Close your time together in prayer.



> MAIN SCRIPTURES: Mark 10:17-22 NIV

MAIN POINT: Jesus is the greatest thing we could ever run after.

# JESUS CONNECTION: The world tells you to run after your fame. Jesus

says to run after Him.

## **LEADER CORNER**

#### **GOAL OF SMALL GROUP**

For students to desire to run after Jesus' fame instead of their own.

#### BACKGROUND TO SCRIPTURE

In Mark 10:18, when Jesus asks the rich man, "Why do you call me good...No one is good except God alone." Is Jesus saying He isn't good? In fact, that is what Islamic scholars claim. Jesus isn't saying that, but understanding the context and mindset that each person brought to this conversation helps clear up why we can firmly claim that.

The rich man entered the conversation seeing Jesus as "teacher" not as "Lord." Jesus is confronting the rich man's mindset and inviting the man to see Jesus not just as "Good Teacher" but fully as "Lord." Or in other words, "If you already see me as a good teacher can you not take the next step of faith to see me as Lord?"

## HOW TO USE THIS GUIDE

This guide is a suggestion, not a formula. Adjust the questions and activities as needed, and don't feel like you need to do or ask, everything you see here. Let the students and the Holy Spirit guide the conversation, too.

## **CONVERSATION GUIDE**

FLIPPED

ONE MOMENT WITH JESUS CAN

CHANGE EVERYTHING.

## **GET THEM TALKING**

Who are some of your favorite celebrities and why are they your favs?

## **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

1. What are things the world tells us we should chase after?

## READ MARK 10:17-22 and answer the following questions:

- 2. In your own words, what is happening here?
- 3. Describe the man talking to Jesus. What are some things he had going for him?
- 4. How does Jesus feel about this man? (HINT: look at verse 21)
- 5. Why couldn't the man follow Jesus?
- 6. What are some things that hold us back from keeping God #1 in our lives?
- 7. How can we surrender those things to God?
- 8. What are ways we can keep God as #1 in our lives?

## **NEXT STEP**

Two tangible ways we can pursue God are:

- Spending time with God.
- Spending time with people who pursue God.

Let's brainstorm together:

- 1. What are different ways we can spend time with God this week?
- 2. What are different ways we can spend time with people who pursue God this week?

Pick one way to pursue God and set an action goal for yourself this week to pursue God. Share it with your group. (Or maybe have your students break into groups of 2-3 and share their goals with each other.)

## **PRAYER GUIDE**

Ask your students to share their prayer requests and close your time together in prayer.

#### Mark 10:17-22 NIV

"As Jesus started on His way, a man ran up to Him and fell on his knees before Him. "Good teacher," he asked, "what must I do to inherit eternal life?"

<sup>18</sup> "Why do you call me good?" Jesus answered. "No one is good—except God alone. <sup>19</sup> You know the commandments: 'You shall not murder, you shall not commit adultery, you shall not steal, you shall not give false testimony, you shall not defraud, honor your father and mother.""

<sup>20</sup> "Teacher," he declared, "all these I have kept since I was a boy."

<sup>21</sup> Jesus looked at him and loved him. "One thing you lack," He said. "Go, sell everything you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me."

<sup>22</sup> At this the man's face fell. He went away sad, because he had great wealth."



## Want to know how to read and understand God's Word on your own?

Awesome! HSM provides a monthly study guide that takes a main Bible scripture from one of our lessons and walks you step by step through how to study that Scripture on your own. The goal: read the Scripture then study it yourself by answering at least two questions in each column below.

**HSM'S MONTHLY BIBLE STUDY** FOR SEPTEMBER: Mark 10:17-22

PPF

CHANGE EVERYTHING.

Yessss! We are glad you are here because taking time on your own to study God's Word is an amazing 1. READ way to grow in your relationship with Him. Life with Jesus is the best life! Take a moment to pray and ask The Bible God to lead you as you study this Scripture; then read the Scripture (from your Bible or it's on the back).

<b>2. OBSERVE</b> The Straight Facts	<b>3. INTERPRET</b> What Does the Text Mean?	<b>4. APPLY</b> Getting Personal
Who:	Research answers using trusted sources like a Study Bible, BibleProject.com, BlueLetterBible.org, and/or Bible.org	How do you relate to any of the characters, events, or words in this Scripture?
What:	What is the historical and/or cultural context of this Scripture?	
Where:	What else do I know about the author, audience, or context of this passage?	What truth(s) from this Scripture
Why:		can you apply to your life right now?
 How:	What do key words mean in their original language?	
What is Repetitive?	What other Scripture might help me interpret this text?	What is God saying to you through this Scripture?
Highlight it		
What is Contrasting*? *Contrasting = different or dissimilar	What is this text's clearest meaning?	
Underline it		

## Mark 10:17-22 NIV

"As Jesus started on His way, a man ran up to Him and fell on his knees before Him. "Good teacher," he asked, "what must I do to inherit eternal life?"

<sup>18</sup> "Why do you call me good?" Jesus answered. "No one is good—except God alone. <sup>19</sup> You know the commandments: 'You shall not murder, you shall not commit adultery, you shall not steal, you shall not give false testimony, you shall not defraud, honor your father and mother.'"

<sup>20</sup> "Teacher," he declared, "all these I have kept since I was a boy."

<sup>21</sup> Jesus looked at him and loved him. "One thing you lack," He said. "Go, sell everything you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me."

<sup>22</sup> At this the man's face fell. He went away sad, because he had great wealth."

DOODLES