**TEACHING SET UP**

CHAOS – Week B

MAIN POINT GOAL OF SMALL GROUP

**God values your presence over your performance.**

To remind students a full life isn’t about what we do, it’s all about what He has already done.

MAIN SCRIPTURES

***28****Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.****29****Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.****30****For my yoke is easy and my burden is light. (Matthew 11:28-30 NIV)*

HOPE: MULTIPLE CAMPUSES, 1 CHURCH.

At Hope we have multiple campuses so each week there are different speakers delivering the message to different sets of students. We want to balance giving each speaker and each campus freedom to tailor the message to fit them while uniting as one church in the same direction we teach our students.

**We ask that all speakers teach the provided main point and main Scripture**. We have provided a detailed message outline, but there is freedom in how much of that you use and how much you’d like to tailor to either fit you or your campus better. Talk to your campus staff about how to best go about this for your specific week.

**We also want to unite in pointing to Jesus’ saving grace each message** – a Cross Connection segment is written in the message outline.

TEACHING OUTLINE

INTRODUCTION

* The introduction is intended to connect you, the speaker, to the audience usually through a personal story or observation.
* You know what fascinates me – jugglers! Flipping so many things through the air, behind their backs, etc.
* Visual Option: [Play a juggling clip – maybe like this one](https://www.google.com/search?q=jugglers&rlz=1C1GCEA_enUS906US906&sxsrf=ALiCzsZqSHDGRIzka2Q2Prq7Owr-JwcMnw:1670443878975&source=lnms&tbm=vid&sa=X&ved=2ahUKEwiCu5ewqOj7AhUYq3IEHRz7ADQQ_AUoAnoECAEQBA#fpstate=ive&vld=cid:6a185c5a,vid:YP52Mpl4HKQ)
* Did you see the girl juggling with fire! Super impressive!
* I’m no good at juggling (do a funny juggling fail on stage?). I can’t juggle tennis balls, but even more importantly it’s hard for me to juggle all the different things life throws at me:
  + All my responsibilities, limited time, work, friends, family, etc.

TENSION

* Life as a teenager is chaotic. You may feel the same – how can you balance all the things you have to do in a day?
* Do all these things going on make your life feel chaotic?
* Like we talked about last week:
  + School, chores, homework, practice, family drama, friend drama, work, bullying, your boyfriend or girlfriend say “We need to talk”…your lives can get super busy, super stressful, super chaotic
  + **We can’t always control or juggle the chaos well, but we can respond well: we can trust God in our chaos.**
* **The thing is, what if trying to “figure out this God thing” and “the pressure of being a good Christian” is actually just another source of chaos and stress in your life?** What then?
* Just like you are trying to cram in all the things with sports, school, family life, etc – now you feel the pressure to add Bible study, small group, prayer every day, serving project – etc.
* But aren’t these good things? God wants us to pursue so we can grow closer to Him and reflect His light in our world? YES! So where is the pressure, the chaos, coming from?
* It’s from trying to earn a “good enough” standing and feeling like we just need to “do enough” to be good Christians.
* And that pressure isn’t from God.
* Today if you hear nothing else, I want you to hear that **God values your presence over your performance.**
* We always hear, even here in MSM/HSM, a list of things we should do:
  + Read the Bible
  + Go to Church
  + Serve
  + Invite our friends
  + Pray for big things
* It’s natural to get to a point where we just feel like we have a long spiritual to-do list and we get overwhelmed or discouraged and then growing in our relationship with Jesus feels chaotic just like everything else.
* But here is the beautiful truth: we don’t have to fight for or earn God’s love.
* **Cross Connection: His love is freely already given to us not by our works but by what Jesus already did for us on the cross.**
* Even though I want you to do everything on this list – it should all come from a place of peace and love. Not a place of stress or shame.

TRUTH

* ***28****Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.****29****Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.****30****For my yoke is easy and my burden is light. (Matthew 11:28-30 NIV)*
  + Feel weary? Feel burdened? Jesus has got you.
  + What’s a yoke? No, not like in the best brunch food ever (the omelet).
  + A yoke is a wooden frame put over the shoulders of two animals so that they can work together in the farmer’s field. ([Great yoke image and blog](https://theidolbabbler.com/2015/07/25/yoke-and-purpose/))
* Imagine being “yoked” with Jesus. This means several things:
  + 1) Jesus is sharing the load with you.
  + 2) The yoke connects us with Jesus, providing direction and purpose (see blog above for more).
  + Or in other words, the yoke actually focuses us to be doing the right things for the right reasons and ensures we aren’t alone but Jesus is carrying the load with us.
* The yoke of Jesus is an easy one. And we aren’t talking those delicious eggs over easy from Waffle House. A yoke does imply work – not laziness – but there is a togetherness in the yoke. Direction in the yoke. And Jesus describes His yoke as easy and light. Perhaps because His yoke is the way of a full life, a life that is marked by peace, hope, and love.
* **God values your presence over your performance.**

APPLICATION

* Now is the point in the message where we talk about HOW we can live this out.
* And this may be the craziest part of the message.
* You know that spiritual to-do list from earlier? What if I told you to do those things?
  + Read the Bible
  + Go to Church
  + Serve
  + Invite our friends
  + Pray for big things
* But instead of doing them out of a place of burden – or feeling shame when you missed something on the list – what if you did them out of a peaceful place? A place of knowing and trusting God’s love for you and then genuinely WANTING to do these things to hang out with God? At this point, the message moves to a “you” mentality in order to teach the application. The “you” is the student. Take God’s truth and unpack how it relates to each student so that he or she can apply it to everyday life.
* God is inviting you to be set free from the burden of DO and to sit in the freedom of what He has DONE.
* You know how excited parents are when their babies take their first steps? How they cheer and clap and share with everyone how their baby took a few wobbly steps?
  + They aren’t disappointed when the baby eventually falls down. They are delighted in the steps their baby was able to take.
  + What if you saw your yoke with Jesus like that? What if you imagined up in heaven Father God is cheering and clapping and joyfully telling all the angels about the steps you are taking.
  + It’s the joy of a loving relationship. It’s the joy of being together. It’s the joy of your Heavenly Father watching you grow in your calling and purpose. (You are a joy to God.)

LANDING

* Our world is chaotic enough – our relationship with God doesn’t have to feel chaotic because the pressure to perform is off**: God values your presence over your performance.**
* We don’t perform (aka do things) for God in order to receive His love and grace**.**
* **We live for God because we have already received His love and grace.**
* If you aren’t sure if you have already received His love and grace, come talk to me after about what that means – or talk to your small group leader. Because it’s the best decision you’ll ever make, but you should understand what it means.
* Close in prayer.