**TEACHING SET UP**

Jesus In His Own Words – Week A

MAIN POINT GOAL OF SMALL GROUP

**Jesus is passionate about setting us free from what imprisons us.**

To help students explore Jesus’ “job description” and unlock its meaning for them

MAIN SCRIPTURES

*He went to Nazareth, where He had been brought up, and on the Sabbath day He went into the synagogue, as was His custom. He stood up to read, 17 and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was handed to Him. Unrolling it, He found the place where it is written:*

*18 “The Spirit of the Lord is on me,*

*because He has anointed me*

*to proclaim good news to the poor.*

*He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners*

*and recovery of sight for the blind,*

*to set the oppressed free,*

*19 to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.”*

*20 Then He rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant and sat down. The eyes of everyone in the synagogue were fastened on Him. 21 He began by saying to them, “Today this scripture is fulfilled in your hearing.” (Luke 4:16-21 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.

GOSPEL INVITATION + RESPONSE WEEK: Every 4-6 weeks we have a clear invitation and next step for students to accept the Gospel into their hearts for the first time. This is the week for that and we’ve provided an example is in the teaching example; Talk to your Student Campus Pastor about how your campus leads students into their direct follow up step.

TEACHING OUTLINE

INTRODUCTION

* When you grow up, what do you want to do?
* Jobs have job descriptions. A good job description includes an overview of the role, a list of the main responsibilities, and the qualifications for the role.
* Share some funny job descriptions:
  + Maybe 13 Funny Job Descriptions: <https://www.rd.com/list/13-funny-job-descriptions/>
  + Or Funny Pastor Description: <https://whenyouworkforthechurch.com/2016/07/28/the-most-hilarious-job-description-and-how-to-update-yours/>
* Jesus was sent to us with a clearly defined “job description” written hundreds of years before He was born by a prophet named Isaiah.

TENSION

* If we can slow down and explore Jesus’ job description, we will discover Jesus’ main mission here on earth and unlock the exciting news about what that means in our lives
* But what is Jesus’ job description?
* So many people have different opinions about who Jesus is – whose opinion should we take?

TRUTH

* In this series we are going to look at the words Jesus said about Himself.
* Today, we are going to look at an Old Testament prophecy Jesus read about Himself at the beginning of His ministry
* Read Luke 4:16-21.
* These words might not surprise us, or even make sense to us, but to the guys Jesus was reading to – these were FIGHTING words – they would’ve been super upset (hold my earring upset).
* So let’s look at each and what it means for us:
  + **1. Jesus proclaims good news to the poor**
    - Jesus isn’t talking about financially poor, he is talking about spiritually poor. All of us are born spiritually poor.
  + **2. Jesus proclaims freedom for the prisoners**
    - This goes with the last one.
    - To be released means you were imprisoned. Imagine being stuck in a cave and you never knew it. All of us are born like that – we can’t even imagine what it’s like outside the cave until someone comes, tells us, and invites us outside.
    - Ever been trapped somewhere? Stuck – unable to get out – it’s scary – you need a rescuer
    - *Get personal – take a few minutes talk about a sin that you felt was imprisoning you – that you couldn’t escape on your own - how did you find freedom from that in Jesus? (Try to relate to your audience)*
  + **3. Jesus proclaims recovery of sight for the blind**
    - Again, Jesus isn’t just talking the way you would think – though Jesus did literally heal the blind.
    - Imagine being blind your whole life – and then suddenly being able to see.
    - How excited would you be?
    - People can be blinded by sin.
  + **4. Jesus wants to set the oppressed free**
    - God brings HOPE to the hopeless.
    - Jesus has compassion for those who are forgotten, ignored, abused, hurting.
  + **5. Jesus is proclaiming the year of the Jubilee**
    - If you are following along in another translation, you may read this as “proclaiming the year of the Jubilee”
    - Most of us probably don’t know what the year of Jubilee is, but it was a radical cancelling of debts.
    - What “debts” do you think Jesus is intending to cancel?
* **Jesus is our Rescuer.**
* **Jesus is passionate about setting us free from what imprisons us.**

APPLICATION

* ALL these things are pointing us towards the GOSPEL
  + [**Gospel Invitation + Response (more details on link**](https://resources.gethope.net/2023/01/gospel-invitation/)**)**
* If you’ve already accepted the gospel and are a committed follower of Jesus, who are the blind, the downtrodden, the imprisoned around you that you can pray for and tell about God’s love?
* As you’ve heard this, has any sin in your life come to mind that is imprisoning you? How can you lay that down at the feet of Jesus.

LANDING

* **Jesus is passionate about setting us free from what imprisons us.**
* Don’t let sin blind or imprison you – live free.