**TEACHING SET UP**

Jesus In His Own Words – Week B

MAIN POINT GOAL OF SMALL GROUP

**Through Jesus we can see what God is like.**

To help students grow their understanding of who God is

MAIN SCRIPTURES

*Jesus gave them this answer: “Very truly I tell you, the Son can do nothing by himself; he can do only what he sees his Father doing, because whatever the Father does the Son also does.*

*(John 5:9 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

* What is your favorite mystery movie, show, or game?
  + Scobby Doo?
  + Clue?
  + Maybe play a round of One Minute Mini Mysteries from DYM?
* God is so beyond us He can really be a mystery.
* What are some things about God that seem like a mystery to you? *(Possibly share a personal story here)*

TENSION

* So many people have different opinions about God – how can we know what God is like?
* **Through Jesus we can see what God is like.**

TRUTH

* In this series we are going to look at the words Jesus said about Himself.
* Today, we are going to look at a statement Jesus made about God and Himself
* **HSM+:** Before we read it, a little context:
  + In the beginning of John 5, Jesus heals a man and religious leaders get all bothered over it because it was the Sabbath (thus breaking one of their laws of “no work on the Sabbath”). (John 5:1-17)
  + But Jesus knew their heart, they didn’t care about the law, they felt upset that Jesus was saying He was equal with God (John 5:18)
  + So this is Jesus’ response to them, confirming He is equal with God.
  + Get in groups of 2-3 and discuss – WHY do you think it’s important to know that Jesus is equal with God?
  + Have a few students share their thoughts.
* **Read John 5:19**
  + Everything He Does
    - Everything Jesus does, God does. Everything God does, Jesus does.
    - It’s like they are tied together in a two-legged race, they are on the same team taking the same steps. Or in other words – they do everything together.
* **So if God is a mystery, we can look at Jesus to find clues to see what God is like.** 
  + Let’s take the book of Matthew, a book about Jesus’ life, and make 5 observations about Jesus: (Speakers: feel free to make your own observation list of Jesus)
    - Jesus enjoyed spending time with self-confessed sinners
    - Jesus was quick to forgive those who were repentant and quick to condemn those who weren’t
    - Jesus healed people of incurable diseases and permanent disabilities
    - Jesus loved celebrations and enjoyed himself so much that the religious rule-keepers accused him of public drunkenness
    - **Cross Connection:** **Jesus makes an incredible sacrifice to restore our relationship with Him.**
  + It’s true, all these observations are about Jesus – but they are also about God. Jesus is God. Jesus and God are inseparable.
    - God enjoys spending time with self-confessed sinners
    - God is quick to forgive
    - God heals
    - God makes an incredible sacrifice to restore our relationship with Him
* **Looking at Jesus is like looking at a mirror image of God.** 
  + In other words, looking at a selfie of God.

APPLICATION

* INTERACTIVE: Ok, right now we are going to “look in the mirror” at God by taking a whirlwind tour through the book of Matthew:
  + Give everyone a Bible, notecard, and pen.
  + Have them flip to the book of Matthew (or the Gospel of your choice) and make as many observations about Jesus as you can – write them down.
  + MSM: Give them 3 minutes (HSM – 5 Minutes), then ask:
    - What did you observe about Jesus? *(Let a few students answer).*
    - What does that tell us about God? *(Let a few students answer).*
  + Look at all we observed in 3-5 minutes together! How much more could you learn if you kept reading the Gospels – even for 3-5 minutes a day!

LANDING

* **Through Jesus we can see what God is like.**
* There are great mysteries in the world, and who God is, that is a big mystery.
* But we are given tons of clues to who God is through Jesus.
  + Spend time reading and hearing about Jesus – and began to solve one of the world’s greatest mysteries.
  + Spend time reading and hearing about Jesus – and see God.