

WEEK 2

TEACHING GUIDE



BIG IDEA

Jesus sends us to bring healing.

BIBLE

Matthew 9:1-13, 28:19-20; Romans 12:9-18;
1 Peter 2:24

WHAT? What are we talking about today?

STORY | Talk about a time you went on a mission to fix something that was broken.

- Welcome back to *Sent Together*, where we're talking about a mission we're all invited to take part in. Most of the time, the word "mission" makes us think about something epic like saving the world. But most of the time, we find ourselves on "missions" to problems that are a lot more practical than that.
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Tell a story from your own life (or ask a volunteer or student to tell a story) about a time you went on a mission to fix something that was broken. Maybe you creatively stuck a pair of broken glasses back together, attempted to reassemble a friend's LEGO set that you destroyed, or spent weeks trying not to move your face while your broken jaw healed. Share what was broken, how you tried to fix it, and what the repair process was like.*

QUESTION | "Have you ever had to fix something that was broken?"

- Have you ever been in a situation like that? And *maybe* it was even kind of your fault? **Have you ever had to fix something that was broken? What happened?**
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Give a few students a chance to respond.*

DISCUSSION

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *If you have more than 15 students, skip this discussion time and save it for small groups!*
 - What's the most valuable thing you've ever broken?
 - When you break something, or see something that's broken, are you more likely to try and fix it, ask someone else to fix it, or ignore it? Give us an example!

OBJECT LESSON | Rubik's Cube

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Before your teaching time, purchase one [Rubik's cube](#) and ask around to see if there are any students in your ministry who are great at solving one. If you find someone, ask them if they'd like to solve it in front of your group. If you can't find anyone who would be comfortable doing this live, don't worry — as a*

teaching tool, show a short clip from [this video](#) of someone solving a Rubik's cube. For more information on how to legally use copyrighted material for educational purposes, [read this!](#)

- This Rubik's cube is meant to be a fun puzzle to solve. But for many people (like me) it feels completely impossible. With this cube all jumbled up:
 - I can recognize it's currently unresolved.
 - I know what it should look like when it's done.
 - But no matter how much I want it to be solved, the best I can do is fix one of the six sides.
- To me, this is a hopeless puzzle. I could mess with it all day and never get it right. But watch what happens when this puzzle is in the hands of someone who knows what to do with it . . .

QUESTION | "Who would you call if . . . ?"

- When you realize something is broken, your instinct may be to run and hide, or fix it yourself, or see what Google has to say about it. But sometimes the brokenness is beyond your ability to solve. Sometimes an expert is needed to provide some healing to the broken item or situation. **So who (and why) would you call if . . .**
 - Your engine overheats in your car?
 - You shatter the screen on your phone?
 - Your friend rolls their ankle while you're on a hike?
 - Your crush just told you they're not interested?
 - You rip a huge hole in your favorite pair of pants?
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Give a few students a chance to respond.
- We all need help dealing with broken things sometimes. But what about when the broken thing you notice that's so much bigger than a jumbled puzzle, shattered glass, rolled ankle, or bruised ego?
- When the broken thing you're dealing with is a damaged relationship with someone you love, a severe injury or illness, a community shattered by a devastating event, or another problem that seems unfixable, what can we do?

SO WHAT? Why does it matter to God and to us?

STORY | Talk about a time you experienced brokenness.

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Talk about a time you or someone you know experienced brokenness relationally, emotionally, spiritually, or on a broader scale. You might talk about a damaged relationship, a harmful habit, or a devastated community. Focus on what was broken and why the brokenness seems so difficult to fix.
- When we're in the middle of our own pain or seeing the suffering of others, it's easy to feel hopeless. It's easy to wonder if the broken thing we're seeing could ever possibly be fixed.

DISCUSSION

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** If you have more than 15 students, skip this discussion time and save it for small groups! If you have fewer than 15 students, the starred questions are designed for high schoolers, so you may want to skip them for middle schoolers.
 - * What are some reasons a person might say the world feels broken? Do any of those reasons resonate with you?
 - What are some reasons a person might say they feel broken? Can you relate to any of those reasons?

SCRIPTURE | Matthew 9:1-13

- In the Bible, we see so many examples of Jesus stepping into broken lives, relationships, systems, and situations in order to heal them. In many of these situations, Jesus healed multiple damaged things at once.
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Read Matthew 9:1-13.*
- It's easy for us now, living in the future and knowing Jesus as the hero of this story, to see how flawed the religious teachers' logic was. But the truth is, they would have thought of themselves as "the good guys" in this story.
 - The religious leaders thought they were the ones who knew how to identify and fix what was broken in the world. They had a system and a strategy! They were convinced their system would bring healing to their nation over time if everyone would just do what they said was best.
 - So when Jesus showed up, these religious leaders found it impossible to believe Jesus' way could be right. They spent their lives studying and trying to understand God, so they knew best . . . right?
- But Jesus was trying to show these religious leaders (and the whole world) what he had come to earth to do: heal.
 - **JESUS CAME TO HEAL PHYSICALLY.** When Jesus healed this man's seemingly un-healable injury, he was showing he had the ability to heal anyone and anything. That kind of healing is something only God could do. But Jesus didn't stop there.
 - **JESUS CAME TO HEAL SPIRITUALLY.** He also said to the man, "your sins are forgiven." See, it wasn't just his body Jesus wanted to heal. Jesus wanted to heal him spiritually too.
 - **JESUS CAME TO HEAL EMOTIONALLY.** We don't know all the details of this man's story, but we can make some guesses. In that time, we know people who were ill or injured were often excluded from society. They were sometimes even called sinners because people assumed their ailments were punishments for their sins. So when Jesus healed this man, he was giving him a chance at a new life, restored relationships, and hope for his future. But there was an even bigger picture here.
 - **JESUS CAME TO HEAL EVERYTHING.** Jesus had a goal in mind when he healed this man. It was a goal that went beyond just this one person and extended toward his whole community and the whole religious system that he was a part of. Jesus came to heal the brokenness in the world that's more difficult to see at first glance.
- Jesus saw brokenness in the world the religious leaders couldn't see. For so long, the religious system they helped build had categorized people.
 - Some people were considered good, righteous, and worthy of God's love. Others were considered sinners, bad influences, and unworthy.
 - But Jesus made something very clear with this interaction: he didn't agree with their categories, and neither did God. Jesus didn't see anyone as hopeless or unfixable — and he didn't see anyone as perfectly righteous either. Instead, he saw all of us in a different way: people in need of healing.
 - Yes, people like the man in this story needed healing — but so did the religious leaders. They needed to be healed of their pride and lack of compassion and mercy.

SCRIPTURE | Matthew 28:19-20

- Jesus came to heal everyone and everything that is broken. So when Jesus tells us to continue the mission he started, we know healing must be part of it.
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Read Matthew 28:19-20.*
- But if we're meant to do what Jesus did, does this mean you and I have to heal injured people? Should we go around forgiving people's sins? We can't possibly do the kind of healing Jesus did, right?

SCRIPTURE | Romans 12:9-18

- Actually, we can, in some ways. The apostle Paul once shared some insights on how Jesus-followers can help heal some of the brokenness in the world by loving others with Jesus' love.
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Read Romans 12:9-18.*
- Paul didn't say only certain people were qualified to bring healing to our world. Instead, he mentioned a list of things any of us can do. We can all love by . . .
 - Being sincere.
 - Honoring one another above yourself.
 - Being joyful.
 - Being generous with those in need.
 - Showing up for people in their best and worst moments.
 - Being humble.
 - Doing everything in our power to live at peace with others.
- Your friends, your family, this church, and this world need more people like you who can love like this. We need people who will live in a way that turns love into action. That's how **Jesus sends us to bring healing** – by reflecting Jesus' love, together.

NOW WHAT? What does God want us to do about it?

GOSPEL | THE GOSPEL 'Good News,' instructing how to talk about it and have easy language to use

- **Jesus Sends us on a mission. Jesus sends us to bring healing.**
- We started this last week, we want to help you KNOW how to talk about the Gospel. Let's walk through HOW to share the gospel. Along the way, we will get asked what we believe or why we serve/ love people the way that we do.
 - Each week for this series, we will walk through 'How to Share the Gospel.'
 - The gospel simply means to share the Good News. The good news about JESUS!
 - Let's jump in together.
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Show slide with 'The Gospel – 2-Missing 2 words'*
 - God wants us to be in relationship with Him. Jesus gives us the opportunity to be in relationship with God because of Jesus' sacrifice.
 - Look there are 2 Missing Words... Let's start at the beginning and read this all together...
- *Speaker Note: Clearly present the Gospel (this is one example of one way to share the gospel)*
 - **GOD** - All of us were created to be in a relationship with Him. Genesis 1:27
 - **What's the Missing word? SIN** - Because of sin, that relationship was broken. Romans 3:23
 - **JESUS** - Jesus Christ died on the cross and rose from the grave to pay the penalty for our sins and fix what has been broken. John 3:16
 - **GIFT** - Jesus offers forgiveness and eternity in heaven as a free gift. Ephesians 2:8-9
 - **What's the Missing word? CHOICE** - God loves us completely, so he allows us to choose whether to receive or reject this gift. Romans 10:9-10
- **RESPONSE TIME** – When sharing the gospel with others, ask them to respond. It could look like this...
 - **You can make this choice today.**
 - If you haven't made this choice yet, what is holding you back? (listen to their response)
 - If they want to make a decision, take time to pray with them...
- Pray with me something like this: (*show as slide on the screen – 'The Gospel with prayer'*)

- **Dear God**, I know I have disobeyed You and I need you. My sin separates me from you. I am sorry I have disobeyed you, but today I turn back to You. I believe that Jesus died on the cross and that my sins can be forgiven. I believe that Jesus rose from the dead and is alive. I trust Jesus to save me. God thank you for your forgiveness and help me to obey you and live for you the rest of my life.
Amen
- If someone prays that prayer with you! That's amazing! Get them connected to a church that can walk alongside them to help them grow in their relationship with you Jesus.

DISCUSSION

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *If you have more than 15 students, skip this discussion time and save it for small groups! If you have fewer than 15 students, the starred questions are designed for high schoolers, so you may want to skip them for middle schoolers.*
 - **Read 1 Peter 2:24.** How does Jesus heal brokenness in our lives? What about in the world?
 - * Why do you think Jesus chose to involve us in his mission to bring healing?

STORY | 1-Minute Stories of Healing

- Often, when we think about the mission Jesus gave us, we think about sharing information about Jesus. But sharing the healing love of Jesus in tangible ways is a part of our mission we can't miss!
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Before your teaching time, identify at least four people (including yourself, if you'd like) to share one-minute stories about how they experienced Jesus' love, either by being healed or helping heal someone else. Try to identify at least four diverse stories that each display different kinds of healing, like:*
 - **PHYSICAL:** *Maybe someone shares God's love by caring for the sick. Maybe they experienced God's love when someone cared for them when they or a family member were sick.*
 - **SPIRITUAL:** *Maybe someone helps people find spiritual healing by pastoring, counseling, or discipling. Maybe they experienced spiritual healing when someone did that for them.*
 - **EMOTIONAL:** *Maybe someone helps people find emotional healing by mentoring, encouraging, supporting, or giving gifts or care packages to others. Maybe they experienced emotional healing when someone did that for them.*
 - **EVERYTHING:** *Maybe someone is trying to help heal big picture hurts in the world like poverty, injustice, abuse, hunger, or bullying.*
- So what about us? How can we partner with Jesus to bring healing into the world? How can we help bring healing . . .
 - To someone's physical needs?
 - To someone's spiritual needs?
 - To someone's emotional needs?
 - To the big picture needs in the world around us?

OBJECT LESSON | First-Aid Kit

- The mission to bring see God heal us, others, and the world can feel impossibly large. So where can we even begin?
 - The good news is, as Jesus sends us out into the world to heal, he doesn't send us out empty-handed.
 - Just like any doctor, nurse, or EMT needs a set of tools to help them heal the wounds they encounter, there is a set of tools we need to help bring healing into the world too.

- Jesus has given us everything we need to join him on his mission to bring people healing. **What are some of the things you think he's given us?**
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Before your teaching time, locate a [first-aid kit](#). Unpack it as you teach, taking out a new item each time a student responds with a new suggestion. When they've run out of ideas, add your own, like . . .
 - The Holy Spirit.
 - Scripture.
 - Jesus' example.
 - God's promises.
 - Prayer.
 - Compassion.
 - Empathy.
 - Humility.
 - Each other.
- When you understand the tools you have available to you, joining Jesus on his mission to bring healing becomes a lot simpler. To be a person who brings healing . . .
 - **GATHER YOUR TOOLS.** If you're missing any of the "tools" we just mentioned (or you're not sure you know how to use them), how can you change that? What do you need to learn, develop, or practice in order to access the tools you'll need for your mission?
 - **DON'T GO ALONE.** Remember, Jesus gave *us* this mission — not just you or me alone. We can't do this without each other. Who can you talk, plan, set goals, and work with to bring God's healing into the world?
 - **LOOK FOR WHO NEEDS HELP.** It's easy to keep to ourselves, care about only a few people, and avoid everyone else's pain or problems. But if we want to be people who bring God's healing, we need to practice looking outside ourselves and our group of friends to see who might need to experience Jesus' healing love.
 - **OFFER HELP.** Just like Jesus did something to meet the needs of the people he encountered, he calls us to do the same. You have skills, passions, gifts, and talents to offer the world that can bring healing to the brokenness around you.

DISCUSSION

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** If you have more than 15 students, skip this discussion time and save it for small groups! If you have fewer than 15 students, the starred questions are designed for high schoolers, so you may want to skip them for middle schoolers.
 - What's something you've noticed that's broken in the world or in the life of someone you know? Why does it matter to you?
 - * What are some of the tools you think God has given you to help bring healing? What are some ways you think you could use those tools?
 - * What do you think the limitations are to our ability to bring healing? What might some solutions be to our limitations?
 - This week, what's one way you could bring healing to a person or to the world? How could we do that together?

REFLECTION | Band-Aid Reminders

- So what will you do? What step will you take? How will you join Jesus on his mission to bring healing to people and situations that are broken?
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Before your teaching time, collect a variety of bandages in different colors and patterns and place them in a bowl. Pass the bowl around and encourage students to take a bandage, write "sent to heal" on

the bandage, and stick it somewhere they'll see it during the week. Play the song "Heal Our Land" (Maverick City Music), but make sure you have purchased any licenses required to do so. For more information, [read this!](#) [Here's a link](#) to preview the song for your personal use.

- Jesus may not be literally walking around on earth anymore, but his followers are! And his Spirit is still healing people every single day. This week, you and I are invited to make the love of Jesus real to the people he loves. In a world that is so broken, and with people who are so often hurting, **Jesus sends us to bring healing** – together.

RESPONSE | Sent to Heal Challenge

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *If you haven't already, this is a great opportunity to introduce (or re-introduce) the Summer discipleship activity, the Sent to Heal Challenge! This challenge is designed to help students grow together by thinking about the needs in their own community, researching the leaders who are meeting those needs, and finding a way to get involved.*