



Lesson 6: A New Perspective Online Plan

<u>Key Teaching Point</u>	God loves all people and so should we.
<u>Bible Verse</u>	“And he died for all, that those who live should no longer live for themselves but for him who died for them and was raised again. So we have stopped evaluating others from a human point of view.” (2 Corinthians 5:15-16a, NLT).
<u>Scripture Passage</u>	“Peter sees from God’s perspective.” (Acts 11:1-18, NLT).
<u>Mystery Bag (Optional)</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Six pipe cleaners per student



Relate (10 minutes)

Welcome students with a snack.

Greet crew members as they sign on.

Icebreaker Options (choose one):

- Ask students to share their highs and lows (the best and worst things that happened to them either today or from the past week.)
- Rosebud: Ask students to share a highlight or success from the week (a rose), a challenge or disappointment from the week (a thorn) and something they are looking forward to doing or experiencing in the week ahead (a bud).
- Open a discussion with a question, “What stands out to you about God’s love?”

Play a game.

Mystery Animal Game.

Choose a student and in the chat, assign them an animal. They should provide two to three clues about their animal to the entire group. Let students raise their hands to make guesses. The first person to guess correctly wins the round.

Or, choose another game from the [Zoom Playbook](#).



Receive (10 minutes)

Read God's Word.

In today's story, we are going to hear about two different dreams that God gave to two very different people. I want you to close your eyes and follow along by creating a picture inside your head using your imagination.

Shortly after Jesus went to heaven, Peter and other disciples of Jesus thought that only the people who were called Jews could be saved by Jesus and welcomed into God's family. They didn't think that other people could be saved or be a part of God's family.

God had a plan for all people, for people who were Jews and people who were not Jews; God wants to save everyone! God wanted to show Peter this new plan, so God gave Peter a dream. This is what he saw!

He saw a large sheet being let down from heaven, and it came down to where he was. When he peered into the sheet, he saw two different kinds of animals. Then God said to Peter: "Get up and take all of the animals, both kinds!"

This shocked Peter. "But God, some of these animals are unclean, and you said not to associate with anything unclean or unholy?"

So God said to Peter: "Do not call something unclean if I have made it clean. Both kinds of animals are okay to eat now."

Peter woke up and wondered, "What does this dream mean?" Peter was about to find out...

God had given a dream to a man named Cornelius as well. It's important to know that Cornelius was not a Jewish man like Peter.

In Cornelius's dream, an angel appeared to tell him to send some men to find a man named Simon Peter in a nearby city. Cornelius was a man that feared God, prayed often and gave generously to the poor. The angel even told him so! Even though he'd done all of these good things, Cornelius' sins were not yet forgiven because he had not heard about the good news of Jesus yet. God sent this dream to Cornelius because God wanted Cornelius to know Jesus, and he needed Peter to do it! God listens to our prayers!

When the men that Cornelius sent arrived and told Peter what happened, Peter wasn't sure what to do. He knew that Cornelius was not a Jewish man...and he was told not to associate with such people.

But then Peter remembered the dream God gave him, so he went to

Cornelius's home and told him all about Jesus. Cornelius and his entire household believed in Jesus and were baptized that very day. They were made clean, their sins were forgiven and washed white as snow and they were welcomed into God's family.

Close in a discussion:

- **What new thing was Peter learning about his old ways?** (Jesus died to clean everyone of their sin not just one group of people. God accepts those who have faith and trust in Jesus in their hearts.)
- **How did Peter respond when God showed him this new thing?** (He shared Jesus with Cornelius and his household and invited them into God's family by making them clean through baptism.)



Respond (10 minutes)

Apply God's truth.

Mystery Bag Activity: Pipe cleaner God-ggles¹

Show students how to make two crosses using two pipe cleaners. If students do not have scissors at home, show them how to fold the pipe cleaner so that it makes the shape of a cross without needing any cuts. Then ask students to set them aside for later.



Then ask students to grab the remaining four pipe-cleaners. Pass out at least four pipe cleaners to each student. Show students how to form the frame of the glasses with two pipe cleaners. (Tip: The pipe cleaners can be folded together to make one long piece.) Then, show students how to attach the final two pipe cleaners on both eyepieces to form the earpieces.

¹ If you are not using the mystery bag activity for this lesson, substitute the goggles activity with a game of I Spy™ over Zoom.



When students are finished, instruct students to put on their glasses. Ask students to look at other students on the Zoom call and share the first thing that they see.

This is how we tend to live our lives, looking at other people or other things from our own point of view. God asks us to look at other people from his point of view instead of from our own point of view.

Review the Bible verse.

“And he died for all, that those who live should no longer live for themselves but for him who died for them and was raised again. So we have stopped evaluating others from a human point of view.” (2 Corinthians 5:15-16a, NLT).

What do you think it means to look at people from God’s perspective?

Take student responses.

Pass out two crosses to each student. Show students how to attach the crosses to each of the lenses. When students are finished, instruct them to put their glasses back on again and look around the room. Ask students to share what they see now.



This is how God looks at people. He looks at people based on what Jesus has done. All who believe and trust in Jesus are forgiven, their sins are washed white as snow. God sees Jesus in other people, and he calls us to do the same.

We can:

- **ask God to see people as he sees them.**
- **forgive those who sin against us.**
- **accept and love others who are different from us.**

What action step will you take this week?

Take student responses.

Close in prayer together.

Praying for others

Instruct your students to think of one or two people who have been difficult for them to love recently. Invite students to take a moment to pray for these people. Encourage them to ask for help to love and to forgive; to ask for help to understand this person in a new way and to see them from God's point of view.

Then take prayer requests and close in prayer together.