

Discovering God's Treasure: Who i am in Christ

Lesson 12

Small Group Lesson Plan | Intermediate (Grades 3-6)

LESSON 12: Sin Is Buried

Bible Story

"God In A Tomb" *Matthew 27:57-66, Mark* 15:42-47, *Luke 23:50-56, John 19:38-42*

Bible Verse

"For we died and were buried with Christ by baptism. And just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glorious power of the Father, now we also may live new lives."

Romans 6:4, NLT

Identity | Who God Says I Am

My old sinful self was buried with Christ.

Materials

- A Bible
- Five plastic cups
- One pom pom*
- 1 healthy green plant
- Bowl of dry brown leaves
- A bunch of grapes attached to the vine
- Bowl of raisins

*Materials marked with an asterisk are in the CKC Games Bag.







Small Group Session 1 15 Minutes

Opening Icebreaker

Distribute name tags and snacks. Choose one of the following icebreaker activities to do together while students eat their snack:

- Ask the students to share one new thing they learned this week.
- Let students take turns sharing how they're feeling today using the "How Are You Feeling?" emoji chart (from the CKC Games Bag).
- As students are eating their snack, ask, "If you could remove one object from planet earth, what would that be? Why?"

Pray Together

Collect prayer requests from the students.

The small group leader or a child who volunteers may pray for the entire group.

Small Group Game: Where Is It?

Materials needed: Five plastic cups and one pom pom

Instructions: Place all five cups face down on a table or on the floor. Place the pom pom underneath one of the five cups. Each child will have the opportunity to guess which cup is covering the pom pom as you slide the cups around for 30 to 45 seconds.





Small Group Session 2 35 Minutes

Identity Exploration

Show the children the following items, or, find a picture of each.

- 1 healthy green plant
- Bowl of dry brown leaves
- A bunch of grapes attached to the vine
- Bowl of raisins

Show the difference between an item that has "life" and one that does not by asking the following questions:

- How is the vine similar to the brown leaves? (they're both plant material)
- How is the plant different from the dry leaves (the plant is alive and fresh; it has "life" flowing though it).
- How are the raisins different from the grapes? (the raisins are dried up; they have no life source in them.)

What do you think it means to be dead to sin? In other words, what does it mean for our old sinful selves to be dead and buried with Jesus?

When we believe that the sin once living inside of us has died and been buried with Jesus, it does not mean we are physically dead, but it means that there is no life source keeping sin alive in our lives anymore, just like this raisin is no longer receiving any water or nutrients for life from the grapevine. It withers and dies.

The same is true for us when we believe that our old sinful selves have been buried with Jesus. Sin begins to wither and die. And it doesn't happen immediately. When I pick a grape off the vine (demonstrate) it will remain a grape for a little while until it sits out on my counter for a longer period of time.



Identity | Agreeing with who God says we are in his word and living accordingly.

Consider this: What does a doctor put on to go to work?

Take student responses.

That's right. They put on scrubs!

How about this: What does a firefighter put on to go to work?





Take student responses.

A firefighter has to put on a lot of gear. A firefighter wears a thick and heavy uniform to be protected from heat and smoke. I have one more question. Would a firefighter wear a doctor's scrubs? Would a doctor wear a firefighter's gear?

Take student responses.

No! Who we are determines what we put on. If we were a doctor, we would wear scrubs, not a firefighter's uniform.

If our old sinful self is buried with Jesus, then we must put off certain things. What might those things be?

Take student responses.

If we have now put on the new self, then we must also put on love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness and self-control.

Read Ephesians 4:22-24, "Throw off your old sinful nature and your former way of life, which is corrupted by lust and deception. 23 Instead, let the Spirit renew your thoughts and attitudes. 24 Put on your new nature, created to be like God—truly righteous and holy." (NLT)

Bible Verse Game

Review the Bible verse with a Bible verse game.

"For we died and were buried with Christ by baptism. And just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glorious power of the Father, now we also may live new lives." *Romans 6:4, NLT*

Treasure Chest Handout

Give each student a treasure chest handout and some colored markers or crayons. Invite the students to write something they discovered about Jesus and something they discovered about themselves inside their treasure chest. Students should also circle the tool that they used in small group to help them discover those truths. As the students are completing the handout, ask students to think about how they can use that tool during the week.







Name: Story:



