

Go & Tell (15-20 minutes)

6. Practice

Retell the story to model for them.

- *Let everyone retell or summarise the story.*
- *What is the main point of the story?*



Equip

7. Cast Vision

[Use the idea below or use your own idea: a Bible verse or a personal illustration to help participants see God's great love for them and how they can pass that love on to everyone!]



Vision

It was told of Governor Stewart, that on one occasion he was examining a convict with a view to pardoning him. He recognized in the man a former mate of a river steamboat on which he had served as a cabin boy. The man had been notorious for his cruelty to those at work under him on the boat. In handing him his pardon, the governor said: "I want you to promise that you will never again take a stick of wood and drive a sick boy out of his berth on a stormy night, because some day that boy may be governor and you may want him to pardon you for another crime. I was that boy! Here is your pardon!"—*William Chalmers Covert*

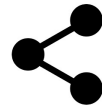
God offers to forgive us the debt we cannot afford to pay. Share this good news with others!

8. Plan - With whom can I **SHARE**?

- *With whom can you share this story?*
- *Is there anyone you can invite to join us?*



Plan



Reproduce

9. Pray

Model a simple prayer for participants, asking God to give them understanding and a desire to share what they've heard with others.



Pray

Extra Challenge (verse to memorize or Bible passages to read)

Discover Jesus



Please copy freely. Do not modify.

Hope in a Broken world

3/3 Bible Discovery Session

The Compassionate Jesus (5 of 6) "Hope in God's Mercy"

Report & Celebrate (15-20 minutes)

1. Share & Care

- *What is the high point of your week? Low point?*



Care

2. Accountability

Following

- *What do you remember from our last session?*
- *How has it impacted your life?*



Report

Fishing

- *With whom did you share last week's story?*
How did it go? Were there challenges or questions?



Sow

3. Worship

Close this section with a simple prayer thanking God for what He has done this week!



Worship

Notes:

- Always read from the Bible. **Use it as your only resource!**
- Always remember that you are modelling how they will do this in the future, so don't get too creative!

"For I know the plans I have for you," says the Lord. "They are plans for good and not for disaster, to give you a future and a hope. In those days when you pray, I will listen. If you look for Me wholeheartedly, you will find Me." Jeremiah 29:11-13

Hear & Obey (15-20 minutes)

4. New Lesson - What does the story **SAY**?

Let participants read the story 2 times in two different translations.

- *Is there anything that surprises or shocks you?*
- *What do you learn about people in this story?*
- *What do you learn about God in this story?*
- *Does your view of God change? How?*
- *Where do you see yourself in this story? Why?*



Learn

5. Application - What must I **OBEY**?

- *Is there anything you think you should do as a result of hearing this story?*



Correct

Notes:

- Before you read the story, explain that Jesus had 12 disciples. **Disciples** are people who spend a lot of time with a leader; being influenced by his teachings and trying to follow his example by modelling their lives after him! Peter was one of Jesus' disciples!
- At some point in this session, ask the participants "What are some things I have been **modelling** for you?" Help them think through each part of the "3/3rds pattern."



Guide

Do's and Do Not's

- **Do** let the Holy Spirit be the teacher.
- **Do** remember to study for obedience rather than for knowledge!
- **Don't** dominate the conversation; encourage everyone to participate. Facilitator = 30%, Participants = 70%
- **Don't** demand correct answers.
- **Don't** get distracted, stay on topic.
- **Don't** be afraid to say "I don't know the answer, I'll get back to you."

How Big is My Debt?

Matthew 18:21-35 (NLT)

21 Then Peter came to Him and asked, "Lord, how often should I forgive someone who sins against me? Seven times?"

22 "No, not seven times," Jesus replied, "but seventy times seven!"

23 "Therefore, the Kingdom of Heaven can be compared to a king who decided to bring his accounts up to date with servants who had borrowed money from him. 24 In the process, one of his debtors was brought in who owed him millions of dollars. 25 He couldn't pay, so his master ordered that he be sold—along with his wife, his children, and everything he owned—to pay the debt.

26 "But the man fell down before his master and begged him, 'Please, be patient with me, and I will pay it all.' 27 Then his master was filled with pity for him, and he released him and forgave his debt.

28 "But when the man left the king, he went to a fellow servant who owed him a few thousand dollars. He grabbed him by the throat and demanded instant payment.

29 "His fellow servant fell down before him and begged for a little more time. 'Be patient with me, and I will pay it,' he pleaded. 30 But his creditor wouldn't wait. He had the man arrested and put in prison until the debt could be paid in full.

31 "When some of the other servants saw this, they were very upset. They went to the king and told him everything that had happened. 32 Then the king called in the man he had forgiven and said, 'You evil servant! I forgave you that tremendous debt because you pleaded with me. 33 Shouldn't you have mercy on your fellow servant, just as I had mercy on you?' 34 Then the angry king sent the man to prison to be tortured until he had paid his entire debt.

35 "That's what my heavenly Father will do to you if you refuse to forgive your brothers and sisters from your heart."