

1

RECEIVE NEW LIFE IN CHRIST!

New Life in Christ

3/3 Session for New Believers

Topic: Repent and Believe the Good News

Question: *How do our lives change when we choose Jesus?*

Report & Celebrate (20-40 minutes)

1. Share & Care

Share life's journey by spending time together and communicating during the week. Talk about your joys and your struggles, and support one another in prayer.



Care

2. Accountability

Following Jesus

- *What have you learned since deciding to follow Jesus?*
- *What have you read from the Bible?*



Report

Fishing for Jesus

- *With whom have you shared your story?*



Sow

3. Worship

Praise God for what has just been shared. Use a song, read a Psalm, or share a testimony of answered prayer!



Worship

Notes:

- Distribute these materials to individuals you are discipling **AFTER** each session, not before. You want your disciples to focus on the Word of God and not the next question or section! It **IS** important, however, to supply them with these materials so that they in turn can disciple someone else!
- **Model** mutual accountability by answering these questions yourself.
- Encourage participants to start a journal. They can write their "obedience" goals, their stated plans in Section 7, and the things they are learning as they study God's Word.

"Anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person.
The old life is gone; a new life has begun!" 2 Corinthians 5:17

Hear & Obey (20-40 minutes)

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

After helping participants find the passage in Luke, have someone read the story aloud.

- *What do you learn about Jesus (God) in this story?*
- *What do you learn about people in this story?*
- *How does Zacchaeus' life change in this story?*



Learn

Help participants find Acts 2:38 and 1 John 5:12-13.

Ask them to read the verses.

- *What do these verses say to you?*

Wrap this section up with a summary of these verses!

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

- *Has there been a time where you turned from your sin and trusted in Jesus? If so when? If not, what is stopping you?*
- *How will your life change based on what you are learning?*



Correct

Notes:

- Before beginning this section, explain to your new believer/s that the Bible is God's word which is divided into two main sections: Old Testament (stories before Jesus was born) and New Testament (stories after Jesus was born). Explain that each testament has smaller books, 66 in all. Explain the books are further divided into chapters and verses to help us find things in the Bible. Then help them find our story in Luke 19:1-10.
- It is ALWAYS best to read directly from a Bible, rather than from a sheet of paper!



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.

Zacchaeus Makes a U-Turn

Luke 19:1-10

1 Jesus entered Jericho and made His way through the town. 2 There was a man there named Zacchaeus. He was the chief tax collector in the region, and he had become very rich. 3 He tried to get a look at Jesus, but he was too short to see over the crowd. 4 So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore-fig tree beside the road, for Jesus was going to pass that way.

5 When Jesus came by, He looked up at Zacchaeus and called him by name. *“Zacchaeus!”* He said, *“Quick, come down! I must be a guest in your home today.”*

6 Zacchaeus quickly climbed down and took Jesus to his house in great excitement and joy. 7 But the people were displeased. “He has gone to be the guest of a notorious sinner,” they grumbled.

8 Meanwhile, Zacchaeus stood before the Lord and said, “I will give half my wealth to the poor, Lord, and if I have cheated people on their taxes, I will give them back four times as much!”

9 Jesus responded, *“Salvation has come to this home today, for this man has shown himself to be a true son of Abraham. 10 For the Son of Man came to seek and save those who are lost.”*

Can I Be Sure I Belong to God?

Acts 2:38

Peter said: “Each of you must repent of your sins and turn to God, and be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. Then you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.”

1 John 5:12-13

12 Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have God's Son does not have life. 13 I have written this to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, so that you may know you have eternal life.

Go & Tell (20-40 minutes)

6. Practice

Explain that a testimony shows how God has impacted your life since meeting Jesus!

- *Tell your own story to model for them first.*
- *Pair up and let them practice sharing their 2-minute story.*



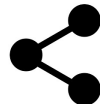
Equip

7. Plan - With whom will I **SHARE**?

- *With whom will you share your story?*
- *With whom will you share this new lesson?*



Plan



Reproduce

8. Cast Vision

In Luke 15.1-7 we read the story of a shepherd with 100 sheep. When one runs away, the shepherd leaves the 99 to go find that lost sheep. When he returns with the lost one, there is great rejoicing!

Now imagine the same flock of 100 sheep, but this time 95 of the sheep have become lost and only 5 sheep remain. How much more will the shepherd be compelled to go and find those which are lost? The task will take much more time and will require the help of many people. This is the scenario in many nations today, where over 95 percent of all people do not have a living, vibrant relationship with Jesus.

What will YOU do to tell others about Jesus?



Vision

9. Commissioning Prayer

Pray for one another for boldness to share!



Pray

Extra Challenge:

- Memorize ***“If we confess our sins to Him, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all wickedness.” 1 John 1:9***
- If you truly believe in Jesus and what he has done for you, and you want to commit to following him the rest of your life, go home and ask God to reveal the sins in your life, both past and present. Confess these sins both to God and to anyone whom you have wronged. Ask God to help you turn from these sins and change your ways.



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