

# JESUS CHANGES EVERYTHING

LEADER BOOKLET

Name:





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# Week 1: Jesus—The Life-Giving God-Man

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## Main Idea

Have you been given a new life through Christ?

## Passage

John 1:1-14

## Teaching

Turn to the Scripture for today: John 1:1-14

- Sin entered the world and now it exists everywhere
- Two questions we can ask:
  - » What did God do to lift the curse of sin?
  - » How do we respond?
- Why would Jesus create this world perfect and then enter into the brokenness?
  - » To give us life
  - » To save us from this sinful world
- John 1:12 says: To give us the right to become children of God.
- Our new spiritual life begins when we put our trust and hope in Jesus.

## Principles for Leaders:

1. Jesus' physical birth made it possible for us to have a new life in Christ. He entered into this broken world to give us life, to save us from this sinful world, and so we have access to become children of God
2. Without new life in Christ, we cannot experience spiritual blessings from a spiritual being.
3. Our new spiritual life begins when we put our trust and hope in Jesus.

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## **Optional Small Group Activity**

### *Paper Airplane Analogy*

Students will make a paper airplane. Communicate how this plane represents our bodies before sin entered the world. Then, they will add holes to represent the impact of sin. Point out the difference between how the two airplanes fly.

#### Supplies:

- One paper per student in group
- Hole punch

#### Instructions:

1. Students make a paper airplane. Students put holes in their plane and add tears.
2. Have students try to fly their airplane across the room.
3. Have students create a second airplane that does not have holes to represent restoration found through Jesus.

## **Small Group Discussion:**

1. What is one teaching blank that stood out to you? Why?
2. Garrison talks about this idea of a brand new life in Christ; what is he talking about when he says “new life in Christ”?
3. How does new life in Christ happen?
4. Do you think you need to have a new life in Christ? Why?
5. For those of you who are living a new life in Christ, how does it impact your life? For those of you who do not have new life in Christ, what is holding you back?

## **Mosaic Questions:**

1. How long has Jesus been alive? (John 1:1)
2. How did people react to Jesus? (verses 10-11) Have you ever had someone reject or be mean to you?
3. Garrison talked about how sin ruined the perfect world that God created. How would you feel if your perfect world was ruined?
4. Has Jesus ever sinned? Is it possible for you to never sin?
5. How has Jesus changed your life?

### **Action Step**

How can you show that Jesus has changed your life this week?

## Week 2: Jesus—Power

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### Main Idea

Do you believe Jesus is more powerful than anything else?

### Passage

John 11: 1-7, 17, 21-26, 40-44

### Teaching

Turn to the Scripture for today: John 11

- Power = brings us security, helps us feel safe, can cover our weaknesses.
- No one else on earth has ever reversed death; Jesus commands life and death.



- » He can provide us comfort when we face the scariest things in this life.
- » Let's cling to someone who can help our biggest problems!



## Principles for Leaders:

1. Jesus is the most powerful being in the universe. He commands life and death (verses 38-44).
2. God is not in a hurry. The things that concern and worry us are not threatening or too difficult for him (verses 5-6, 17-22).
3. Jesus is more concerned about God's glory than about what people think (verses 4, 40).

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## **Optional Small Group Activity**

### *Tearing Paper*

The goal of the illustration is to emphasize our weakness (by not being able to tear the paper) and Jesus' power through the Holy Spirit to give us new life (the scissors).

Supplies:

- one piece of paper per student
- one pair of scissors for leaders

Instructions:

1. Give each student a piece of paper.
2. Students will rip the paper in half, stack the paper, and continue to rip the paper until they begin to feel resistance and can no longer rip the paper.
3. The leader will use a pair of scissors to cut through the paper, symbolizing the strength of Jesus.

### **Small Group Discussion:**

1. What is one teaching blank that is confusing to you or you don't completely understand?
2. How powerful is death? Why is it so powerful? Can anyone avoid death?
3. Let's look at how Jesus is more powerful than life or death.
  - Hebrews 1:3—what does this verse say about Jesus' power?
  - Colossians 1:16—what does this verse say about Jesus' power?

4. Just because Jesus is all powerful, does that mean that he will always make things better or that we will never have pain/scary situations happen? Why?
5. What are some things in your life that are challenging, difficult, or scary?
6. Do you think God can help you with those and that he is powerful enough to handle all of that?

### **Mosaic Questions:**

1. Jesus waited two days before going to see Lazarus. Have you ever felt like God was taking a long time to help you? What was that like?
2. Why did Jesus cry when he heard that Lazarus was dead?
3. Jesus raised his friend Lazarus from the dead. What does this show that Jesus has power over?
4. Do you believe that Jesus is more powerful than anyone else? Why or why not?
5. What is something that you can ask for Jesus's help with this week?

### **Action Step**

Based on the answers above, have students create one "Action Step" they can take this week to invite God into these situations. (Leaders: please follow up with parents on what students wrote about in order to help equip parents to help their students take action in their faith)

## Week 3: Jesus—Truth and Judgment

### Main Idea

How are you responding to Jesus' truth?

### Passage

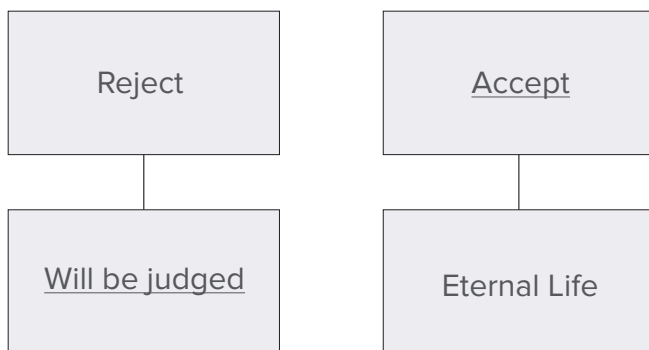
John 12:37, 46-48

### Teaching

Turn to the Scripture for today: John 12

- Every single one of us has sin, and we deserve the punishment that sin brings.

### Results of Rejecting / Accepting God's Truth



- » If we are following Jesus, our lives should look different.
- Ending Question: How are you responding to Jesus' truth?

## Principles for Leaders:

1. Jesus says that the truth he has spoken is the standard of judgment (verse 48) because he has God the Father's authority and God told him what to say and how to say it (verse 49).
2. Jesus offers truth and life, and our response to him determines our life here and our fate in eternity (verses 46, 48, 50).
3. Jesus is the judge of the universe, but he has suspended judgment until the end of time (verses 47-48).

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## Optional Small Group Activity

### *Candy*

The goal is to emphasize that Christ gives us better things (mystery package of large candy) than the world (tiny candy in hand) if we step out in faith and trust him.

#### Supplies:

- one mystery package per student—each mystery package should be a candy bar or sturdy box of candy wrapped in gift wrap
- one small piece of individually wrapped fun size candy per student

#### Instructions:

1. Give each student a single small candy to hold in their hand.
2. Set a mystery package in front of each of them.
3. Tell them that they can either eat the candy in their hand right now, or give up what is in their hand and have whatever is in the mystery package. Let them choose between the two before going on to the next step.
4. Explain: Keeping the small candy symbolizes choosing temporary small treasures. Giving up the small candy for the large mystery package symbolizes giving up the things of this world for the things of Christ. The large candy inside of the mystery package shows that what Jesus offers may take longer to fully experience, but it will ultimately lead to better things.

Small Group Discussion:

- 1. What are some times in your life where you thought that people weren't being fair to you? How did you respond?
- 2. Have you ever been tempted to think God won't judge sin because there were no immediate consequences? When does Jesus say that people will be judged?
- 3. What does he say is the basis for how people will be judged? (Look at verse. 48—the truth he has spoken.)
- 4. Jesus speaks the truth and we will be judged based on this truth. Do you feel like you know enough about who Jesus is and what he has said? Why or why not?

Mosaic Questions:

- 5. Have you ever felt like things were not fair? What happened, and how did it feel?
- 6. What would happen to us if Jesus did not take the punishment for our sin? (v.46-47)
- 7. What happens to people who do not allow Jesus to take their punishment? (v.48)
- 8. How is your life different because you follow Jesus?
- 9. Have you ever trusted Jesus to take the punishment for your sin? (v.50)? Why or why not.

Action Step	
Ways my life is different because of what I know about Jesus	Ways I think my life needs to change

## Week 4: Jesus—Grace and Humility

### *Washing Disciples' Feet*

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#### Main Idea

Are you humble enough to receive God's grace?

#### Passage

John 13:1-8

#### Teaching

Turn to the Scripture for today: John 13

- **Pride** is a moment when we elevate ourselves over what we really are; it's easy to spot in everyone else but very difficult to spot in yourself.
- How does Jesus give us an example of humility and cause us to repent?
- He chooses one of the worst and lowly jobs.
- Jesus spends his time and energy making himself less big and serving other people.
- He rejects the people that think they have it all figured out.



## Principles for Leaders:

1. Jesus loved his disciples and demonstrated ultimate grace and humility by serving them.
2. It is not our sin that keeps us from receiving God's grace; it is our own pride.
3. Sometimes our pride makes us think God should serve us. Other times, our pride makes us think we don't need God to serve us. The reality is that we need to accept what Jesus offers us and realize that we in no way deserve it.

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## Optional Small Group Activity

This activity symbolizes Jesus being servant-hearted and washing the feet of his disciples.

Supplies:

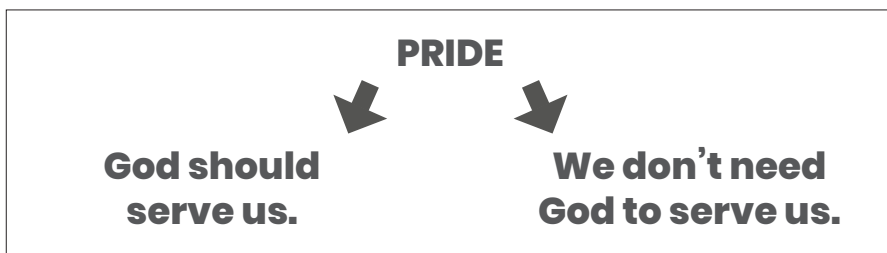
- Baby wipes
- Baggie of mud or chocolate syrup (campus discretion)

Instructions:

1. The small group leader will choose one student to get their hands dirty
2. The small group leader will take a baby wipe to wash their hands clean.
3. Explain how Jesus was humble to take the role of a servant to serve his disciples by cleaning their feet. Jesus also cleans us spiritually to be able to have a new life where we can be in relationship with him and the Father.

## Small Group Discussion:

1. When Jesus washed the disciple's feet, how did that model humility?
2. Let's talk about the opposite of humility, which is pride. What did Holden define pride as?
3. Sometimes our pride makes us think God should serve us. Other times, our pride makes us think we don't need God to serve us. (refer to chart below)



- Which of these two ways of thinking are you tempted to believe most?
4. Allowing God to be gracious to us means admitting we need grace and we can't earn it, which is a humble posture.
- What is an area of your life where you want to pretend everything is good and you don't need God's help?
  - Why is it difficult for you to admit you need help in this area?

### **Mosaic Questions:**

1. What does humility mean?
2. How did Jesus show humility in John 13:4-5?
3. Why didn't Peter want Jesus to wash his feet?
4. Have you ever felt prideful - like you didn't need anyone's help?
5. What is one way you can show humility by serving others this week?

### **Prayer**

Based on this week's lesson, what are two ways you can ask God to help you become less prideful and more humble? *Guided Prayer: Leaders—help students think through helpful/wise language around this prayer prompt*

## Week 5: Jesus—Loving Service

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### Main Idea

Are you humble enough to serve others?

### Passage

John 13:12-17

### Teaching

Turn to the Scripture for today: John 13

- In John 13, we see Jesus washing the disciples' feet, which was normally a servant's job.
- **Serving Others:** Doing the things that we don't want to do.
- Some of us have an imaginary line (or limit) on how long we are willing to serve.
- Jesus commands all of us to serve at all times.
- If you aren't willing to serve, then what does that say about you?

## Principles for Leaders:

1. Jesus modeled humility and service by washing the disciples' dirty feet. The room was prepared, but there was no servant there to wash everyone's feet. Jesus did for all of them what none of them were willing to do for each other.
2. Jesus commands us as his followers to serve others. To refuse to serve others shows that we believe we are better than Jesus (verse 16).
3. God blesses those who do what Jesus commands.

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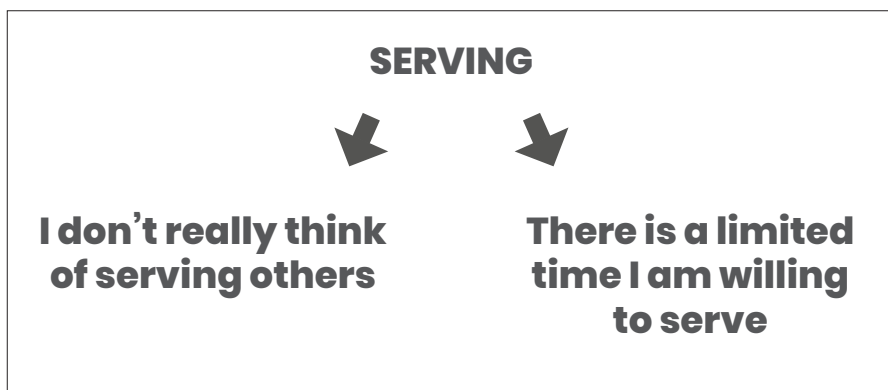
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## Small Group Discussion:

1. Which of these options do you relate to? Why do you think that is?



2. Have you ever noticed something that needed to be done, but you chose to ignore it? Why?
3. What is one way we can change our attitude and mindset on serving others moving forward? Why is this important?

## Mosaic Questions:

1. Why were the disciples' feet so dirty?
2. Usually, a servant would wash people's feet, so why did Jesus wash the disciples' feet?
3. What does Jesus' example show us that we should do for others?
4. Do you do chores, homework, or other hard things without being asked? Why or why not?
5. How can you have a servant-heart like Jesus by doing things for others this week?

## **Action Step**

Take a moment and write down three ways you can serve others in humility this week.  
(at home, at school, sports/activities, etc.)

## **Optional Small Group Activity**

### *Serving Others*

Supplies:

- one piece of white paper per student
- assorted markers/colored pencils

Instructions:

1. Pass out supplies to students.
2. Have them write out their thank you cards to someone who has helped them in their lives.

Take some time to write a card of thanks to someone who has helped you in your life—a parent, teacher, grandparent, babysitter, ect. Include something that you will do for them this week—i.e. help clean up after class or do an extra chore. (Leaders, make sure to follow up with students on whether they did what they said they would do.)

3. Make sure the cards include that the student has written out which task they will do that week to help out (a free coupon that the parent, teacher, grandparent, babysitter, ect. can use).

## Week 6: Jesus—The Only Way

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### Main Idea

Do you believe following Jesus is the only way to obtain eternal life?

### Passage

John 14:1-6

### Teaching

Turn to the Scripture for today: John 14

- Jesus is the only way to eternal life.
- Jesus is the only one to have lived a perfect life.
- Jesus makes us clean and whole.
- Why is eternal life so great? Because we will be there with Jesus.



## Principles for Leaders:

1. Because of the fall in Genesis 3, we are all born sinners deserving of death.
2. Jesus is the only one without sin and through his sacrifice, we may have access to eternal life.
3. Eternal life is so great because we will have access to God and Jesus forever.

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## Optional Small Group Activity

### *One Way Out*

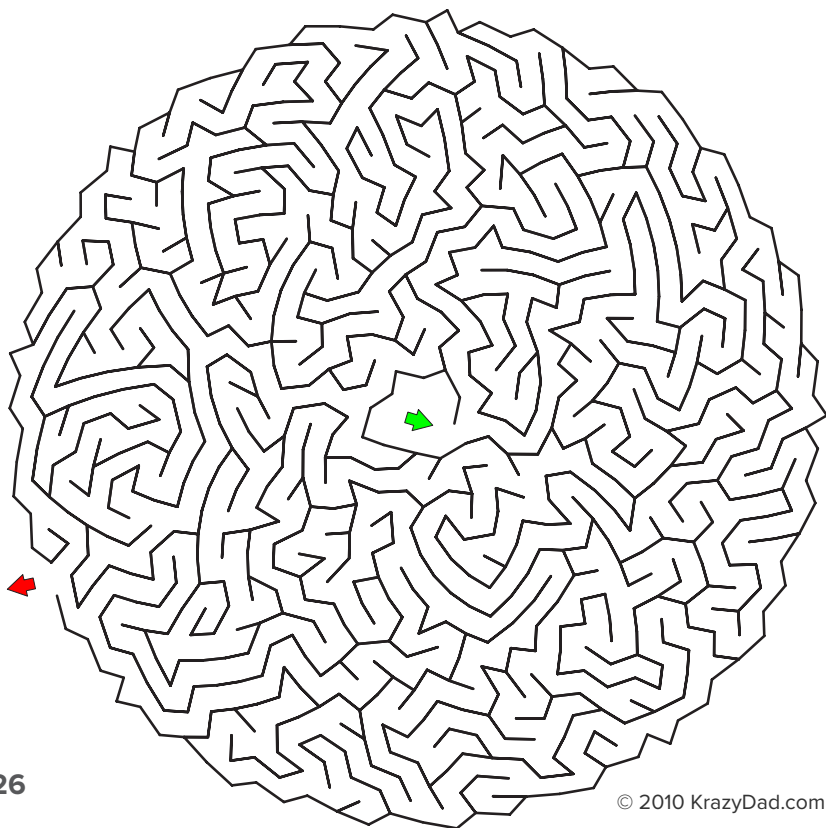
Jesus is the one way to the Father. Mazes have many different paths; however, there is only one correct path to get to the end. Following Jesus is how we are able to have access to God and can have a relationship with him.

Supplies:

- Maze - used to show how there is only one way to Christ

Instructions:

1. Have students complete maze



## **Small Group Discussion:**

1. What is one bullet point from teaching that is challenging to understand or believe, or that stood out to you?
2. Why can we not receive eternal life by being a “good” person? Why is Jesus the only way we can receive eternal life?
3. How does Jesus’ sacrifice affect our relationship with God?
4. Do you believe that Jesus has given you eternal life? Why or why not?
5. When you think about Heaven, what are you most excited about? Why is that?

## **Mosaic Questions:**

1. How does Jesus say we get to God the Father? (verse 6)
2. Is there any way to God other than Jesus?
3. What did Jesus do for us that no one else could do?
4. When we accept Christ, does God see us as sinful or perfect? Why?
5. Do you believe that Jesus is the only way to eternal life? Why or why not?

### **Action Step**

Who is someone in your life that you could share the truth about Jesus and eternal life with? Write their name below and when you will share with them.

## Week 7: Jesus' Death

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### Main Idea

Have your sins been put on Jesus or are they still on you?

### Passage

Luke 23:33-43

### Teaching

Turn to today's Scripture: Luke 23

- Have your sins been put on Jesus or are they still on you?
- Jesus had to come to earth and sacrifice himself for us.
- We have all disobeyed and sinned.
- We are just as guilty as the people that nailed Jesus to the cross.



**Principles for Leaders:**

- 1. People did not understand that Jesus’ sacrifice is what created life and hope for them. They did not understand that he was taking the punishment for their sins.
- 2. Our sin is so bad and so destructive that it required Jesus to die. If he chose not to suffer and die, you would be left without hope and without God—subject to bear eternal punishment for your sin.
- 3. The thief on the cross asked Jesus for grace. It is not your sin that will keep you from experiencing God’s grace—it is your own sense of self-righteousness.

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## **Optional Small Group Activity**

### *Leave Our Sins at the Cross*

Have students understand that when we give our sins over to Jesus, we no longer have to bear their weight or punishment.

Supplies:

- One piece of blank paper or notecard per student

Instructions:

1. Have students draw a cross on the paper provided.
2. Next, ask them to write any sins, mistakes, or guilt they have from the past week on the paper.
3. After a few minutes, have students crumple up their paper and throw it away. This symbolizes how when we give our sins to Jesus, they stay on the cross with him, and that we don't have to carry the weight of them anymore.

## Small Group Discussion:

1. What are some ways you feel like you have tried to earn God's love? Why can we not earn God's love?
2. How has Jesus bridged the gap for us to be restored to a right relationship with God?
3. Why did Jesus promise that the thief would be with him in paradise?
4. Brandon ended with the question—do you realize that you need to be saved? Share with your group why you answered the way you did.

## Mosaic Questions:

1. What separates us from God?
2. Who bridged the gap between us and God?
3. What happens if you reject the gift of Jesus bridging the gap?
4. What happens if you accept Jesus' sacrifice for your sin?
5. Do you think you need to be saved from your sin? Why or why not?

### Prayer

Based on this week's lesson,  
what do you need to thank God for?

*Guided Prayer: Leaders—help students think through helpful/wise language around this prayer prompt.*

## Week 8: Jesus' Resurrection

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### Main Idea

Do you believe that Jesus rose from the dead and is ruling?

### Passage

1 Corinthians 15:2-4, 13-25

### Teaching

Turn to today's Scripture: 1 Corinthians 15

- Jesus overcomes death!
- The fact that Jesus returned from the dead and the fact that Jesus is now alive is the foundation on which all of Christianity is built.
- Without the resurrection of Jesus, Christianity is pointless.
- Do you believe that the resurrection happened?



## Principles for Leaders:

1. The most important thing about our lives is that Jesus died and was resurrected for us (verses 3-4).
2. The Bible is honest: If Jesus did not rise from the dead, then Christianity is a complete waste of time and a foolish way to live.
3. Your relationship with Jesus is what determines if we will experience eternal death or eternal life when he returns (verses 22-23).

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## **Small Group Discussion:**

1. What are some things that are difficult for you to believe about God? Share with your group.
2. Death is a part of living in a fallen world. How does Jesus' resurrection offer you hope?
3. If the past week of your life was played back on video for everyone to see, would people watching think you had a relationship with Jesus? What do your actions say about what you believe?

## **Mosaic Questions:**

1. If Jesus didn't die for our sins, could we go to Heaven? Why or why not?
2. What are some qualities or characteristics of Jesus that made his sacrifice perfect?
3. Do you believe that the resurrection truly happened—that Jesus died, was buried, and came back to life? Why or why not?
4. Do you have any questions about Jesus' death and resurrection?
5. What is one way that Jesus' sacrifice changes our lives?

### **Action Step**

Have a conversation with someone this week about what the gospel means to you. Write their name below:

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