

▲ Presenting Jesus ▲

Objectives: LEAD participants will be able to explain the Gospel in a clear, concise, convincing manner, tailored to their audience.

To this end, they will understand and be able to explain the Big Picture:

1. God created the world Good.
2. In the end, God will win and renew the world. It will once again become Good.
3. Now, in the time between those times, there is a grand war between Good and Evil, God and Satan. We are the battlefield; the battle is for US.
4. In Jesus, God has already defeated Satan, sin and death, opening the door for us to step onto His side, the side of Good. But we must choose - and stay the course.

Plan ahead:

- Time required: 70 min

Supplies:

- A collection of 3+ fairytales, either a book or a list of those everyone would know
- Posterboard or newsprint and markers
- Blank paper / pens - one per LEAD

Accompanying documents:

- John 3:16 powerpoint printout
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❖ Get Started (hook, 5 min)

Break into 3 or 4 groups. Have each group come up with a couple Fairytales - stories where Good battles Evil, tales where characters fall in love and live happily ever after, epic journeys that stretch our hearts and touch our yearning for the great and wonderful.

Discussion:

- Why do we like these stories?
- Who do you want to be like, in these stories?
- Is it possible that these stories each reflect just a little bit of reality, that there is a grand battle between Good and Evil, that Good will win? That there is a real Love Story where they do live happily ever after?
- What would you give for that to be true? And for you to be a part of it?!

❖ Learn / observe (book / look, 45 min)

We like fairytales because they touch something in us that we long to be true. We long to be pursued by the Prince. We long to see Good win. We long to see Justice done. We want love to continue, happily ever after. But in all honesty, there's not a lot of that in real life...or is there?

LEARNING TASK (10 min):

Let's start at the beginning. On your paper are some verses. Look these up and draw a picture on your poster paper of what these verses say. Pictures don't have to be beautiful. When you are done, we'll put the pictures in order.

Regroup and order the pictures in the following order:

1. Genesis 1: God created the world Good.
2. Revelation 21: In the end, God will win and renew the world. It will once again become Good.
3. Revelation 12 / Ezekiel 28: Now, in the time between those times, there is a grand war between Good and Evil, God and Satan. We are the battlefield; the battle is for US.
4. Romans 3: In Jesus, God has already defeated Satan, sin and death, opening the door for us to step onto His side, the side of Good. But we must choose - and stay the course.

Summary:

- So all creation was made Good.
- In the end, it will be Good again.
- But right now, we are in the middle of the war. Satan rose up against God - and more verses than just these talk about this. So God cast him out of heaven. Now he wars against God. His first victory was Eve. Thus, sin entered the world.
- BUT Jesus has already defeated Evil, Satan, sin and death. That war is already won...but (as happens in most wars) the last battles are still to be fought.
- That is the Epic Story in four (or five) pictures.

ONE VERSE METHOD (30 min): Now let's focus in the part that surrounds Jesus and has to do with US. Let's look at OUR part of this story. (See the pages of pictures on how to draw the One Verse Method, Romans 6:23. Draw out the One Verse Method - on the board or wherever they can all see. They can follow along in their notebooks.

Discuss the questions on the bottom of the pages.)

This is not THE method of sharing the Gospel. There are other ways; some are listed along with the One Verse Method. But it is a simple, clear way, that you can do anywhere as long as you can find something to write on and something to write with: a napkin in a restaurant & the cashier's pen, a stick in the dirt (it's been done in real life!), etc.

And you don't have to memorize a bunch of verses - just Romans 6:23. In fact, I'd bet you have already memorized it, just from going through it so many times today. (Try saying it together.)

❖ **Get Practical (took, 20 min)**

Now it's your turn. Break into pairs (the instructor can fill in as half a pair, or have another staff member stand in). Practice drawing and talking through the One Verse Method. You don't have to hit all the tiny details, but do present the big picture to your partner. Encourage each other on what you did well.

❖ **Homework (follow up assignment)**

If you do not have time to practice now, finish during dinner. This would be great practice as well, since the One Verse Method is designed to be do-able in such a format. A paper towel, pen and the other person's interest are all you need!

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Learning task verses

Group 1: Genesis 1:1 and 1:31

Group 2: Revelation 21:1-5

Group 3: Revelation 12:7-9 (read 12:10 but don't draw it)
Ezekiel 28:11-17

Group 4: Romans 3:21-16

Gen 1:1, 31 In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth...
31 And God saw everything that he had made, and behold, it was very good...

Rev 21:1-5 Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. 2 And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. 3 And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God. 4 He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away." 5 And he who was seated on the throne said, "Behold, I am making all things new." Also he said, "Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true."

Rev 12:7-9 (10) Now war arose in heaven, Michael and his angels fighting against the dragon. And the dragon and his angels fought back, 8 but he was defeated, and there was no longer any place for them in heaven. 9 And the great dragon was thrown down, that ancient serpent, who is called the devil and Satan, the deceiver of the whole world—he was thrown down to the earth, and his angels were thrown down with him. (10 And I heard a loud voice in heaven, saying, "Now the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ have come, for the accuser of our brothers has been thrown down, who accuses them day and night before our God.)

Ezekiel 28:11-17 Moreover, the word of the LORD came to me: 12 "Son of man, raise a lamentation over the king of Tyre, and say to him, Thus says the Lord GOD: "You were the signet of perfection, full of wisdom and perfect in beauty. 13 You were in Eden, the garden of God; every precious stone was your covering, sardius, topaz, and diamond, beryl, onyx, and jasper, sapphire, emerald, and carbuncle; and crafted in gold were your settings and your engravings. On the day that you were created they were prepared. 14 You were an anointed guardian cherub. I placed you; you were on the holy mountain of God; in the midst of the stones of fire you walked. 15 You were blameless in your ways from the day you were created, till unrighteousness was found in you. 16 In the abundance of your trade you were filled with violence in your midst, and you sinned; so I cast you as a profane thing from the mountain of God, and I destroyed you, O guardian cherub, from the midst of the stones of fire. 17 Your heart was proud because of your beauty; you corrupted your wisdom for the sake of your splendor. I cast you to the ground; I exposed you before kings, to feast their eyes on you.

Romans 3:21-17 But now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law, although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it—22 the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction: 23 for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, 24 and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, 25 whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith. This was to show God's righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over former sins. 26 It was to show his righteousness at the present time, so that he might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.