

LEADER

Jesus of Nazareth

REVISED EDITION



To Know, To Live,
To Grow

Series Overview

To Know, To Live, To Grow

To Know, To Live, To Grow is a holistic approach to confirmation. With Christian education as a key component, this material

helps youth integrate their faith with their families and into their congregational lives.



This curriculum is designed for groups of up to 10 youth participants and one leader. The leader

engages youth in their personal faith searches—walking with them, staying in dialogue with them, and encouraging them to be open about their questions and concerns. Leadership can come from young adults, parents, lay leaders, or clergy.

In addition to serving as confirmation curriculum, this series can be adapted for use with retreats, camp experiences, service opportunities, and other small-group activities.

Foundations

1. Confirmation is a ministry rather than religious education. This ministry is a joint effort of confirmands, parents, lay leaders, and church staff.
2. Confirmation ministry is Christ-centered, a place for people who need a Savior.
3. Confirmation ministry is not only about gaining knowledge but also about creating experiences in Christian community and serving others.
4. Confirmands exist within a family community. The family bears the primary responsibility for the faith development of the confirmand.
5. It is essential to meet young people's needs for acceptance, self-worth, and community as they prepare for the adult world by testing boundaries and questioning values while learning the message of the gospel.

To Know

Confirmands:

- understand how to read and interpret the Bible.
- learn about important people and events in the Bible.
- learn the central teachings of the Lutheran church.
- discuss the Scriptures and faith-related topics in small groups.
- complete in-class and homework assignments.

To Live

Confirmands:

- see the relevance of biblical events in their lives today.
- understand the church as the body of Christ, which functions by helping people.
- discover appropriate service opportunities in the church and the community.
- accept responsibility for serving God.
- express a willingness to confess the Christian faith.

To Grow

Confirmands:

- discover that Christian growth is a lifelong process.
- understand that Christian growth takes place through worship, prayer, education, and service.
- integrate the Bible and the Christian traditions into their daily lives.
- see how faith affects personal decision-making and the way we treat others.

Jesus of Nazareth

REVISED EDITION

Contents

Session 1: Mary and Joseph	2
Session 2: Jesus' Birth and Boyhood	6
Session 3: Jesus' Ministry	11
Session 4: The Parables	15
Session 5: The Cost of Discipleship	18
Session 6: The Miracles of Jesus	21
Session 7: The Last Days of Jesus' Life	25
Session 8: Jesus' Death	29
Session 9: Jesus' Resurrection and Ascension	33
Description Cards for Session 4	37
Life-or-Death Cards for Session 5	38

To the Leader . . .

Format

The To Know, To Live, To Grow confirmation curriculum is designed for use with up to 10 participants and one adult leader. This material is intended for use over several 60-90 minute sessions. The flexible format allows you to make adjustments to fit your situation.

Many of the activities can work during your time together as a group or as homework assignments. The questions in each session often promote discussion rather than finding a specific answer. Some sessions may require more direction than others. Be prepared to spend extra time on topics of particular interest to your group.

Materials

Each participant should have a Participant book, writing materials, and a Bible. The Participant books follow the same format as this Leader guide—but with writing space instead of answers and without many of the margin notes that appear here. Some activities suggest additional items (maps, videos, outside reading materials). Review the sessions in advance to see what you will need.

May God bless you in your ministry!



Augsburg Fortress
MINNEAPOLIS

LEADER

Jesus of Nazareth

REVISED EDITION

Writer

Terri Martinson Elton

Editors

Jeffrey S. Nelson

James Satter

Connie Sletto

Graphic Designer

Marti Naughton

Copyright © 2004 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Except for brief quotations in critical articles or reviews, no part of this book may be reproduced without prior written permission from the publisher. Write to: Permissions, Augsburg Fortress, Box 1209, Minneapolis, MN 55440.

The original edition of this resource was published by Changing Church, Inc., Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, Burnsville, Minnesota.

Scripture quotations are from New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright © 1989 Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission.

ISBN 978-0-8066-4906-1

Manufactured in U.S.A.

Session 1

Mary and Joseph

Session Goal

To learn about Mary and Joseph's faithful response to God, in order that we might more faithfully respond to God as well.

Video Option

Many good dramatic films and documentaries are available on the life of Jesus Christ. You might consider watching and discussing video scenes as a group. The *Jesus of Nazareth* video series (directed by Franco Zeffirelli) works well with this curriculum.

Open with prayer.

Introduce yourself to the rest of the group and share your answer to one of the following:

- Share a time when you were very excited.
- Share a time you were nervous.

As a group, talk about the following situation.

Imagine that a 14-year-old girl at your school became pregnant.

- How would she be treated?
- What would people say about her?
- Would people believe her if she said she was a virgin? Why or why not?
- Do you know someone in your school who's been pregnant? How was she treated?
- What would you do if you were this girl? Her boyfriend?

Mary, the mother of Jesus, was about 14 when she became pregnant. At the time, she was betrothed to a man named Joseph. Getting married was different in Jesus' time. There were several formal stages to marriage.

1. First was the engagement, often made by parents when the couple were still children.
2. Perhaps years later, the couple would become betrothed. This included a celebration feast in the village, and an exchange of vows and rings. Betrothal was the time that the couple would call themselves husband and wife, for legally they were considered married. Breaking off a betrothal was as serious as breaking off a marriage.
3. After this celebration, the couple would return to their separate homes and live apart for about a year.
4. Following this period of separation, the two would consummate their marriage (have sexual intercourse), and the bride would move into the groom's home.

Read Luke 1:26-37.

Where did Mary live? Locate this city on a map.

She was from Nazareth, a city in Galilee.

Who came to visit her? **The angel Gabriel.**

What was her fiancé's name? From which family line was he descended?
Joseph. He was a descendant of King David.

What did the angel tell Mary?

The angel told Mary that she would give birth to a son who would lead the people forever.

In verses 31-33, what seven promises did the angel make to Mary?

Mary would conceive and give birth to a child.

The child's name would be Jesus.

He would be great.

He would be called the Son of the Most High.

He would be of the throne or lineage of David.

He would reign over the house of Jacob.

He would reign forever.

These seven promises fulfill the prophecies of the Old Testament.

See Exodus 4:22 and 2 Samuel 7:11-16.

What was Mary's first response? **She was troubled and afraid.**

Circle the words that describe how you might have felt:

Excited	Scared	Puzzled	Angry	Lonely
Anxious	Happy	Sad	Nervous	Accepting
Confused	Worried	Joyful	Self-Conscious	

- What do you think your response would have been?
- What pressures do you think Mary experienced?

What was the angel's response to Mary?

The angel said she should not be afraid and that God found favor with her.

The angel said Mary should rejoice because God promised to be with her.

Leader's Note

Bring a map of Palestine to class and locate Nazareth.

Read Luke 1:38-45, 56.

Mary had a very unique response. What did she say? (See verse 38.)

“Here I am, the servant of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word.”

What did Mary do next? **She went to visit her cousin, Elizabeth.**

What was Elizabeth’s response?

Elizabeth was excited for Mary. She told Mary that she was blessed.

Elizabeth knew that Mary was part of something important.

How long did Mary stay with Elizabeth? **Three months.**

Why might Mary have stayed so long with Elizabeth??

Mary may have waited for Elizabeth to have her own baby before leaving.

Who would you tell first if you had exciting news? **Individual answers.**

How Did Joseph Respond?

Joseph was a good man. He respected Mary and her reputation. However, he had thoughts of quietly breaking off the betrothal when he found out that Mary was pregnant. But one night an angel appeared to him in a dream and told him not to leave Mary alone. The angel advised him to take Mary as his wife and explained that Mary became pregnant through the Holy Spirit. The angel told Joseph that the child’s name would be Jesus and that he was coming to save people from their sin.

Read Matthew 1:18-25.

What was Joseph’s first response to Mary’s pregnancy?

He wanted to break their betrothal. He did not want either one of them to be disgraced.

What did he finally do?

Joseph married Mary and became Jesus’ earthly father.

Why did he change his mind?

An angel appeared to him, told him about the situation, and explained that he should go ahead with the marriage.

What would the child be called, and what would be his role?

His name was to be Jesus, meaning “the Lord saves,” and “Immanuel,” meaning “God with us.” Jesus’ role was to save the people from their sins.

What pressures do you think Joseph experienced?

Individual answers.

What possible consequences did Mary and Joseph face by following God’s plan?

Individual answers.

What about You?

Do you think Joseph believed Mary’s child was conceived by the Holy Spirit?

Why or why not?

Individual answers.

Would you still want to get married under these circumstances?

Individual answers.

If you heard a similar story on the news today, would it be believable?

Individual answers.

What are some pressures you feel when trusting God’s plans for your life?

Individual answers.

What can we learn from this story about being faithful to God’s plan?

Individual answers.

Close with prayer.

Session 2

Jesus' Birth and Boyhood

Session Goal

To discover Jesus' human side and his holy side—and learn about the traditions Jesus participated in while growing up.

Open with prayer.

Share your answer to one of the following:

- Describe a family tradition you enjoy.
- Describe a time when you felt welcomed into a group.
- Describe a time when you saw a newborn child.

Jesus' Birth

Jesus was born like all of us, but he was not conceived by two humans as we were. Instead, Jesus was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born through Mary. Mary and Joseph were his parents here on earth, but God was his parent in heaven. Jesus had two sides: his human side and his holy side. This is important to remember, because Jesus is a bridge between God and us.

Leader's Note

Bring a map that shows the location of Bethlehem and Jerusalem.

Read Luke 2:1-20.

In what city was Jesus born? Why were Mary and Joseph there?

Bethlehem, six miles from Jerusalem. They went to the town where Joseph's ancestors were from so they be counted for a census.

Where did Mary and Joseph stay? Why didn't they stay at an inn?

Jesus was laid in a manger, which suggests they were staying in a barn or stable for animals. There was no room at the inn.

Who visited Jesus immediately following his birth? **Nearby shepherds.**

How did they hear about the birth? **Angels appeared to them.**

Read Matthew 2:1-12.

Later, some visitors traveled a great distance to see Jesus. Who were they?

Magi or wise men.

Who did they talk to on their way to visit Jesus? **King Herod.**

How did these visitors know about Jesus' birth? **They followed a star.**

How were these visitors welcomed? **The magi were welcomed, even though they came from far away.**

God often uses the "ordinary" to become "extraordinary." Jesus did not live like most kings or other leaders of his time. His visitors were longing for the Messiah, someone to save them from their troubles.

When the Magi arrived to visit Jesus they also talked with King Herod. Herod was jealous when he heard from the Magi that a king had been born in his region. He feared the child would become a threat to his leadership.

Read Matthew 2:13-23.

How did Herod try to avoid the threat to his leadership? **He had all the boys killed who were up to 2 years old. This leads us to believe that the Magi may have visited Jesus two years after he was born.**

How did Mary and Joseph react to this threat? **They left in the middle of the night and escaped to Egypt where they stayed until Herod's death.**

How would you feel if one night you had to suddenly move away?
Individual answers.

Read Luke 2:21-40.

What traditions did Mary and Joseph practice after Jesus was born?
**Circumcised on the eighth day of Jesus' life (see Genesis 17:10-12). As the firstborn child, he was redeemed (see Exodus 13:2 and Numbers 18:16).
Purification of the mother following childbirth (see Leviticus 12).**

Where did they go? Why? **They went to Jerusalem to follow the law.**

Why is it important for us to know that Mary and Joseph participated in Jewish traditions? **Jesus was raised in a family that practiced the Jewish faith and traditions. These traditions were important to him, and they are important to us to understand.**

What similar tradition do Christians often celebrate after the birth of a child?
Baptism.

Who welcomed them to the temple? **Simeon and Anna; Simeon knew this was the Son of God and that he would save Israel. Anna told others about the child.**

What prediction did Simeon make? **Jesus would cause the fall and rise of many people, he would be spoken against, and he would help many people find honesty. Simeon also predicted that Mary would feel great sorrow in her lifetime.**

The law said that every adult male within 15 miles of Jerusalem had to attend Passover in Jerusalem. When boys reached the age of 12, they were considered adults in the community. It was the goal of all Jews to make a pilgrimage to Jerusalem for Passover at least once in their lifetime.

Jesus had a family just like many of us and participated in family traditions, such as traveling to Jerusalem each year. But Jesus was also drawn to the religious tradition from an early age. He was participating in human life while discovering the holy side of himself.

Read Luke 2:41-52.

What traditions were Mary and Joseph practicing?
They were going to Jerusalem for Passover.

How old was Jesus? **He was 12.**

What did Mary and Joseph do when they couldn't find Jesus?
They returned to Jerusalem to find him. They searched in the temple, where they last saw him.

What was Jesus doing in the temple?
He was asking questions and discussing scriptures with the teachers.

How was Jesus received in the temple?
They welcomed his questions and were amazed by his answers.

What reason did Jesus give for staying behind in the temple?
He was in his Father's house.

Who did Jesus mean when he said, "Father"? **God.**

What can we interpret from Jesus' actions and response?

He felt at home in the temple and close to God. His ultimate occupation would be fulfilling God's mission on earth.

How does the story end?

Jesus was obedient to Mary and Joseph and returned to Nazareth, where he grew in wisdom and experienced the grace of God.

- How are we to respond to our parents?
- What parts of Jesus' life are similar to parts of our lives?

At this time, Jesus was just starting to understand that he had a special connection with God. Although he knew God was his parent, he was obedient to his earthly parents and continued to be a part of his earthly family. Jesus learned a trade and worked as a carpenter before he began his ministry around age 30.

Read Mark 6:3.

What was Jesus' job before he began his ministry? **Carpenter.**

What does this verse say about Jesus' family? **He had brothers and sisters.**

What's the Same?

Participating in traditions helps us learn what is important to our family or friends. Traditions give us common ground with other people. For example, the Lutheran tradition of confirmation welcomes participants into the body of Christ in a new way. As a group, describe other traditions in which you participate.

- How do these traditions help create common ground?
- As a group, discuss times when you felt unwelcome.
- Think of two things you can do as a group to help make your church a more welcoming place.

Close with prayer.

Session 3

Jesus' Ministry

Open with prayer.

Share your answer to one of the following:

- Who is one person you admire and why do you respect him or her?
- What would you like to do when you are an adult?
- Who would you choose to assist you with an important project? Why?

Make a list of careers you might consider pursuing as an adult. As a group, discuss your options and what type of training you'll need to enter these fields. Discuss similarities in training needs. What steps will you need to take in order to accomplish your goals?

Jesus' Baptism and Temptation

Read Matthew 3:1-17.

Where does this story take place? Locate this area on a map.

Along the Jordan River.

Who does Jesus meet there? **John the Baptist, Elizabeth's son.**

What was John doing there?

He was preaching and baptizing people for the repentance of their sins.

How did John respond to Jesus' request for baptism?

John felt unworthy to baptize Jesus and thought Jesus should baptize him instead.

Why was Jesus baptized? **Jesus was setting an example for us to follow.**

What happened at Jesus' baptism?

God spoke, saying, "This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased." See Psalm 2:7 and Isaiah 42:1.

Why are we baptized?

In baptism, God forgives sin, delivers us from death and the devil, and gives believers everlasting salvation. See Mark 16:15-16. In baptism, we are filled with the Holy Spirit and become part of God's family. See 1 Corinthians 12:12-13.

Session Goal

To learn about Jesus' ministry, and understand his dedication to God's purposes. Jesus' behavior is the example by which we live our own life.

Leader's Note

Bring a map showing the location of the Jordan River.

John the Baptist was preparing the way for Jesus to come to save the world. Part of his role was to help people recognize their sin and need for forgiveness. His baptism was a symbol of forgiveness for those who repented of their sins. Jesus, although he had no sin, wanted to set an example for all people, including Jews and Gentiles.

In addition, Jesus' identity was revealed by God through his baptism. From this time on, Jesus would no longer live in Nazareth as a carpenter; he would begin his preaching ministry. After Jesus was baptized, he went into the wilderness to be alone with God. While he was in the desert, he was tempted by Satan several times.

Read Luke 4:1-13.

Why did Jesus go into the wilderness?

He was led by the Holy Spirit, possibly to pray.

How long was Jesus tempted? **40 days.**

How was he tempted?

The devil told Jesus to turn a stone into bread. Jesus was offered power in exchange for worshiping the devil. Jesus was told to test God by throwing himself down from the temple.

Why would Jesus be tempted by these things?

Jesus was vulnerable as a human, like us.

How did Jesus respond to Satan?

Jesus quoted scriptures: Deuteronomy 8:3; Deuteronomy 6:10, 13, 20; and Deuteronomy 6:16.

Why did Jesus choose not to use his power?

To set an positive example for us.

How does this story end?

Satan left until he could find another opportunity to tempt Jesus.

How does this story suggest we are to live as Christians?

Look to God and follow Jesus' example.

How are we tempted today? How can we respond to temptation?

Individual answers.

Jesus Calls the Disciples

Jesus did not minister alone. In addition to the twelve people he called as his disciples, he had many other followers. Think about the things they must have given up to follow Jesus, and the things they gained from following him.

- Think about what this might mean to you as a follower of Jesus.
- Look up the word *disciple* in the dictionary. What is the definition? Use a thesaurus to find similar words.

Read Matthew 4:18-22; Matthew 9:9-13; and Luke 6:12-16.

List the twelve disciples and their original professions (if known).

Disciple	Profession (if known)
Simon (called Peter)	fisherman
Andrew	fisherman
James	fisherman
John	fisherman
Matthew	tax collector
Philip	
Bartholomew	
Thomas	
James	
Judas Iscariot	
Simon the Zealot	
Judas (the son of James)	

Who are some other people who followed Jesus during his life on earth?
Some examples: Mary Magdalene, Nicodemus, Joanna, Cleopas.

Were these people considered religious? Why did Jesus choose these people?
No, these people were not considered very religious. But they were open to Jesus' teachings. They were ordinary people like us; they were not perfect.

Read Matthew 10:5-16 and Luke 9:1-6.

What instructions did Jesus give his disciples?

Go to the lost sheep and preach to them; perform miracles; tell them that the kingdom is near; tell them about Christ; take nothing with them.

How did Jesus prepare the disciples for this task?

He taught them and modeled good behavior.

Would You?

- If there were disciples today, who or what do you think they would follow?
- If Jesus came today and asked you to be his disciple, how would you respond?
- What kind of people do you think would respond to Jesus' call today?
- How would these followers be trained?
- What would happen if there were no people to share God's word today?

Read Matthew 28:16-20.

What are we asked to do today as followers of Jesus?

Go make disciples, baptizing and teaching them.

Close with prayer.

Session 4

The Parables

Open with prayer.

Share your answer to one of the following:

- What is your favorite book or movie? Why?
- Who is or was your favorite teacher? Why?

Session Goal

To learn how and what
Jesus taught his followers.

Group Story

Write a group story, with each person contributing part of the story. Give one person a sheet of paper to write the introduction. (For example: “Once upon a time, in a land far away ...”) If there are fewer than 10 participants, continue to pass around the paper until the story is complete.

- Person 1 folds over the introduction so it’s not visible, then passes the paper to Person 2.
- Person 2 adds a line introducing a character, giving a name and occupation.
- *Continue to fold and pass the paper with each new person.*
- Person 3 adds a line about what the character likes to do.
- Person 4 adds a line introducing the main character to a new character.
- Person 5 adds a line telling about the weather.
- Person 6 adds another action or activity.
- Person 7 adds how the main character feels.
- Person 8 adds a place that the two characters go to visit.
- Person 9 adds what happened at the place they went to visit.
- Person 10 writes the conclusion of the story, then reads the story aloud.

Jesus Teaches Using Parables

This session looks at some of the parables—or stories with lessons—that Jesus used when teaching his followers. Telling parables was a common way to teach lessons in Jesus' time, because they were filled with examples from everyday life that people could understand. Because the world has changed in many ways over the past 2,000 years, some of Jesus' parables are hard for us to understand today.

Read Matthew 13:1-9.

What was the purpose of the parable of the sower? **This parable highlights the differences in people's abilities to hear and accept new teachings.**

Read Matthew 13:10-23.

How do these verses relate to the story of the sower?

Jesus is telling the disciples they will be able help others truly hear and see the message of God.

Write one sentence explaining each of the parables listed below. Include what this parable means to you in your everyday life.

Matthew 9:16-17

**New wine into new wineskins—
have a new attitude as a Christian.**

Matthew 13:3-8

Sower—listen to Jesus with an open mind.

Matthew 13:47-50

Net—let your actions reflect Jesus' teachings.

Matthew 20:1-16

**Workers—accept that God's will provide,
and pay attention to your own behavior.**

Matthew 25:14-30

**Talents—do your best for God, and do not be
afraid to take risks.**

Mark 4:30-34

**Mustard seed—faith grows, just as we grow as
Christians.**

Luke 5:8-10

Lost coin—God cares about each one of us.

Luke 14:15-24

Banquet—accept God's invitation to new life.

Luke 15:11-31

**Prodigal son—God forgives us and cares about us
deeply.**

Luke 18:10-14

**Tax collector and Pharisee—be humble,
not arrogant.**

Parables Today

How do we use parables today?

We need to continue to hear and share the good news.

If Jesus were teaching with parables today, what topics might he cover?

Possible examples: chemical abuse, HIV/AIDS, how to treat our friends.

Use the newspaper to get additional ideas.

Group Activities

- Make a “Top 10” list of parables based on which lessons are most meaningful to you.
- The leader will ask one participant to pick a Description Card and describe the person, place, feeling, or event mentioned on the card for the rest of the group. Once someone guesses the correct answer, that person picks a card. Continue playing until the cards are gone or time is up.

Break into groups of three.

Choose one of the following activities. Each group should share with the others upon completion of their project.

- Write your own parable using a topic of your choice. Some examples include stealing, homelessness, swearing, respect for friends, family, or following God.
- Act out a parable, or modernize one of the parables. Record it on video.
- Draw your parable as a poster or comic strip.

Close with prayer.

Leader's Note

Read a modern parable aloud to the group. For example: *The Giving Tree* by Shel Silverstein. Many children's books will work here as well, since they often have important themes and can be read at an adult level.

As an option, you could let the participants select parables, asking them in advance to bring in their selections.

Description Cards

Before the session begins, photocopy and cut out the Description Cards on page 37 to use as a group activity.

If you want to add some competition, ask the participants to form two teams and give points for each correct answer.

Session 5

The Cost of Discipleship

Session Goal

To understand that being a Christian was not easy for the disciples, just as it is not always easy for us.

Life-or-Death Cards

Before this session begins, photocopy and cut out the Life-or-Death Cards on pages 38-39. These cards can be used as an opening activity or at the end of the session as a wrap-up.

Open with prayer.

Share your answer to one of the following:

- If you had to leave your house and take only one thing, what would it be?
- Who is the person most important to you and why?

Jesus warned his followers of the cost of discipleship. Jesus wanted these people to understand that a life of discipleship would not be glamorous or easy, just as his time on earth was not glamorous or easy. Jesus told his followers to love God above everything else, including their families. Jesus did not mean they shouldn't love their families, he just reminded them that God should be their number one priority. There is a cost to discipleship.

Read Luke 14:25-30, 33.

What does Jesus say to his followers? What are they to give up? Why?

Anyone who does not give up everything cannot follow. Jesus is setting expectations.

What do these verses say about the cost of discipleship?

Jesus has expectations as to what it means to follow him.

Is hearing Jesus' words the same as acting out Jesus' words? Compare the two.

Many people heard what Jesus said but did not act on what they heard.

A smaller number of people acted on Jesus' words. In these verses, Jesus is encouraging people to act, not only hear.

- For you personally, what is the most important part of following Jesus?
- What would you be willing to give up to follow Jesus? What would be the hardest thing to give up?
- What is the biggest obstacle that keeps you from following Jesus?
- Why would Jesus tell us these things about being a disciple?

Read Matthew 21:33-46.

What did the vineyard owner do?

He planted a vineyard, built a wall around it, dug a winepress, built a watch-tower, rented it to a farmer, and left on a journey.

When harvest time came, what happened?

He sent his servants to collect the fruit, and they were beaten, stoned, and killed. This happened several times.

What was the owner's final attempt? Why?

He sent his son, because he thought the tenants would respect him.

How did the renters treat the owner's land, servants, and son?

Poorly and without respect.

What was the end result of this behavior, according to the crowd?

The owner would take the land away from the renters and give it to others.

What message was Jesus trying to convey?

The grace of God is a gift and we need to respect and cherish this gift.

What Happened to the Disciples?

Though we do not know the exact details of the lives of the disciples, legend provides some hints. The disciple John was exiled on the island of Patmos. He later returned to the region of Galilee and continued to preach and proclaim the Gospel. He died at an old age.

Simon Peter was put to death because of what he believed. It is said he was crucified with his head in a downward position. He requested to be upside down because he felt unworthy to be crucified in the same manner as Jesus. Peter's wife also suffered martyrdom.

Andrew was crucified on a cross that was shaped like an X. He, too, felt unworthy to be crucified on a cross like Jesus. James, the brother of John, was put to death by Herod Agrippa. He was beheaded. Philip suffered martyrdom as well. He was whipped brutally, thrown into prison, and afterward, crucified.

Bartholomew was cruelly beaten and crucified upside-down. Thomas excited the rage of a pagan priest while he was preaching and was martyred. He was speared to death. Matthew was martyred in Ethiopia, being beaten to death with a weapon called a halberd, a long handled iron club. James, the son of Alphaeus, was beaten, stoned, and his head was dashed against a rock. Judas, son of James, was crucified at Edessa. Simon the Zealot was crucified at Judea. Judas Iscariot repented of what he had done and took back the thirty pieces of silver to the temple. He hanged himself.

What about You?

Being a disciple or follower of Jesus not only means giving something up, but also trusting Jesus enough to follow where he leads. Think through the following questions.

- Would you be willing to sacrifice as much as the disciples did?
- How does being a Christian influence your behavior and decisions?
- What difference does it make to believe in God?
- What does confirmation have to do with being a Christian?
- Does having a personal relationship with God make a difference?

Close with prayer.

Session 6

The Miracles of Jesus

Open with prayer.

Share your answer to one of the following:

- Tell of a time when you “couldn’t believe your eyes.”
- How do you know when something is real?

Jesus not only taught with parables, but he also performed many miracles. These miracles ranged from feeding 5,000 people with a few loaves and fishes to healing the sick. All of these miracles involved Jesus caring for people, most of whom were considered outcasts in society.

Read **John 14:11; 20:30-31.**

According to these verses, why did Jesus perform these miracles? **To allow people to see God in him. To give glory to God.**

Who witnessed these events? **The disciples, those people helped by Jesus’ miracles, other people nearby.**

Look up the following verses and read about some of the miracles Jesus performed. After each verse, describe the miracle performed and people’s reactions, if any.

Matthew 8:5-13	Jesus healed the centurion’s servant. The centurion had so much faith he believed Jesus would heal the servant with one word.
Matthew 9:1-8	The paralytic person was healed. The crowds praised Jesus.
Matthew 17:14-23	Jesus drove a demon out of a boy when the disciples had been unable to do so. Jesus also predicted his own death.
Matthew 20:29-34	Jesus healed two blind men. They followed him.
Luke 13:10-17	On the sabbath, Jesus healed a woman crippled by a spirit. She straightened up and praised God.
Luke 17:1-19	Jesus cleansed 10 lepers. One of them returned to thank him.

Session Goal

To understand the holiness of Jesus through his miracles, and to witness his interactions with people.

John 2:1-11

At a wedding in Cana, Jesus turned water to wine at the request of his mother. Afterward, the guests praised the host for saving the best for last.

John 6:1-15, 35

Jesus fed 5,000 people after starting with a small amount of food.

What is common in each of these miracles? **Jesus helped people.**

How did the people helped by Jesus most commonly respond?

They praised God; they went to the temple; they experienced deep faith.

Jesus performed many of his miracles for people who were considered outsiders in society or were strangers to him. Many of these people approached Jesus while he was teaching and traveling. The following story is a little different. Jesus, just like you and me, had many friends. Several references are made in the Bible to Mary, Martha, and their brother Lazarus. It seems that their house was one of rest for Jesus, a place to stop and visit between his travels.

Read John 11:1-44.

What was Jesus' response to this crisis?

Jesus gave his assurance that the situation would not result in death, but he was slow to arrive at Lazarus' home. He responded with sadness over Lazareth's death and the mourning of his friends and relatives. Then he moved the stone from the front of the grave and commanded Lazarus to come out.

How did Mary and Martha respond to Jesus?

They believed Lazarus would not have died if Jesus had been present, but they welcomed him with trust and faith.

How would you feel if you were Mary or Martha, and Jesus had not come in time to help your brother? **Individual answers.**

Verse 35 says that Jesus wept. What does this response tell you about Jesus?

Individual answers.

What was Jesus hoping to teach people by raising Lazarus from death?

He wanted people to believe in him and in the resurrection.

He wanted to share the glory of God.

Read John 6:14-15.

How did the people respond to Jesus in these verses? **They believed he was the prophet they had been expecting (the Messiah or King).**

How did Jesus take this?

He withdrew. He did not want to be “king” in this manner.

Read John 11:45-53, 57.

Not everyone was convinced that Jesus was a prophet or the Messiah.

What did several of the people do after witnessing the raising of Lazarus?

They went to the religious leaders, who called a meeting of the Sanhedrin, the governing council.

Although the Romans were the governing body of the entire region, the Jewish people had their own governing body called the Sanhedrin. This council was given the authority to oversee the Jewish people and carry out the Jewish laws. To keep political peace, the Romans wanted to be friendly with the Jewish leaders so as to maintain the support of the Jewish people. Giving the Sanhedrin such power helped accomplish this.

Why were the religious leaders concerned with Jesus?

They were worried about losing their own power.

What was the outcome of the meeting of the Sanhedrin?

Jesus was to be arrested on sight.

If you were a ruler during Jesus' time, what would you think about Jesus?

Individual answers.

Read John 12:23-36.

Why was Jesus saying these things? **He was trying to prepare his followers for his death.**

How do you think the disciples felt about Jesus being killed?

Individual answers.

What about You?

- How would you feel if one of your friends died?
- Have you ever felt like an outcast? How does it feel when you don't fit in?
- Jesus performed many wonderful miracles. What can we learn from these miracles today?

Close with prayer.

Session 7

The Last Days of Jesus' Life

Open with prayer.

Share your answer to one of the following:

- What is your favorite family celebration? Why?
- If you had only seven days to live, what would you do?

Jesus did an amazing thing for all of us. He chose to die for us so that we might be reconciled with God. This session covers the last seven days of Jesus' life. Look for both the joyful and painful sides of these times.

Read John 12:12-19.

How did the people respond to Jesus being in Jerusalem?
The people celebrated. They treated Jesus like a king.

Read Luke 22:1-6.

Why were the people gathering in Jerusalem?
They gathered for Passover.

What did Judas agree to do?
He agreed to betray Jesus.

How do we betray Jesus today?
Individual answers.

Why might Judas have betrayed Jesus?
Individual answers.

Read Luke 22:7-13.

Why were the disciples gathered together?
To celebrate Passover together.

Jesus' final Passover meal led to which new sacrament for Christians?
Holy Communion.

Session Goal

To understand Jesus' final words to his disciples as they celebrated the Passover, and what these words mean to us as we celebrate Holy Communion.

The original Passover took place when God saved the Israelites from slavery in Egypt. To remember that event, the Jewish people eat a Passover meal every year. Jesus gathered with his disciples to celebrate this traditional Passover meal, but this time he added new meaning to the tradition, which became the sacrament Christians celebrate as Holy Communion.

Leader's Note

For the “Imaging the Past” activity, set up the room like a dining area.

Put down a tablecloth and place a lit candle in the center of the table.

- **You will need bread, juice (or wine), meat (for lamb), herbs, applesauce, and saltwater.**
- **Hold up each “Meal” item as you talk about it.**
- **Check for allergies or dietary restrictions among the participants before serving food.**
- **You will also need basin of water and a towel for foot-washing.**

Imagining the Past

Let's travel back through time and put ourselves in the place where Jesus and his disciples gathered for their last meal together. We gather in a large room to celebrate the Feast of Unleavened Bread, part of the Jewish tradition passed down since the days of Pharaoh.

Today we remember when the angel of death passed over our houses; the day we sacrificed the Passover lamb. This meal is both a time for joy and sorrow: joy because at this meal we celebrate our freedom; joy because at this meal we remember God's faithfulness to our people and hope someday to be free from Roman rule; sorrow because we are still not free. Today we wait, remember, and wonder if our freedom might not come on a night like this. Tonight we hope for a Savior to come.

Read aloud Psalm 113; Psalm 116; Psalm 117; and Psalm 118.

The Meal

- These bitter herbs remind us of the sorrow we experienced in Egypt. We dip them in salt water to represent our tears.
- The unleavened bread is a reminder of the haste with which we ate. There was not time for the bread to rise before we had to leave.
- This fruit is a reminder of the many hours of back-breaking labor we performed.
- The lamb is a reminder of the sacrifice made on our behalf. It is because the lamb was killed that our firstborn sons were spared.

We are thankful for the lamb in securing our salvation. We drink this wine to be reminded of the fruit of the earth—the celebration of life in God. Let these be symbols of our life together.

Let us pray.

God, we ask your presence here today as we gather to participate in this Feast of Unleavened Bread. Help us to understand the significance of this time for Jesus and for us as we begin this special meal. Open our hearts and our minds. Amen

Foot Washing

Characters

Jesus
Peter
other disciples

Props

table with bread and cups
bowl of water with hand towels

Jesus: Tonight, as we share our last meal, I remind you that my time on earth will soon come to an end. We have shared much over these past years and you have been my dear friends. But more than that, you have been prepared for a great task after I am gone. Let this be my example to you. *(Jesus begins washing Peter's feet.)*

Peter: Wait. Stop. You shouldn't be washing my feet. You are my teacher. I should be the one washing your feet. Please ... no! This isn't right.

Jesus: *(Stops washing)* Let me do this. It is important for me. It is written by the prophet Isaiah that the Messiah will come as a servant. This is true. I have come for all people. Today these words are fulfilled. Today one of you here will indeed betray me. The day has come when no one will know who will be their friend or who will be their enemy.

Peter: What do you mean? Who are you talking about? Is it me? Surely none of us would ever betray you. We are your friends.

Jesus: *(Continues washing)* The times ahead will be hard. If the people in the world do not accept you, know that they first hated me. But you are now of something greater; you are God's. I have told you these things so you will know and will not go astray. But in the days ahead, it will be hard to follow God. In fact, many of you will find it hard to admit you are my disciples. I tell you these things because I will no longer be with you. It is now time for me to leave. And I can do so, because you are here to

carry on the work that I have started. You will be confused and grieve, all while the people of this world rejoice. But I will not leave you alone. I will send my Spirit to guide you. Listen to the Spirit, trusting and knowing that this is God's voice.

Peter: Surely you are not talking about us? I can say for myself, I would never fall away.

Jesus: I tell you the truth: tonight, before the rooster crows, you will deny knowing me three times.

Peter: No! Jesus, I would die before doing something like that. *(Looking away)* I don't understand this. Where are you going? What's happening?

Jesus: Where I am going you cannot follow. I am returning to my Father. The time has come for me to leave you. Now eat this last meal with me. *(Lifting the bread)* See this bread? This bread is my body, which I have given for you. Eat this bread and remember me. *(Lifting the cup)* See this cup? This is my blood. Drink of it, all of you. Share it with your friends, for this is the new promise I give to you. I poured out my blood for you so that your sins may be forgiven. Do this to remember. Whenever you eat this meal, remember me. And in sharing this meal, we will all become one, joined together with other believers. Let's pray.

(Jesus and all of the disciples bow their heads.)

All: Dear God, thank you for this meal. Thank you for showing us how to be servants. Please help us to remember your love for us. Amen

Read Luke 22:17-34 and John 13:1-17.

List the key events that took place at the Last Supper.

Jesus shared bread and wine, washed his disciple's feet, and told of his betrayal.

What did Jesus serve the disciples at the meal? What do these things symbolize?

Jesus served bread and wine. The bread symbolizes Christ's body, and the wine symbolizes his blood.

Why is it important to remember the body and blood of Christ?

Because Christ loved us and died for us. We partake in communion to remember him.

Why did Jesus wash the disciples' feet? **As a reminder that we should act as servants to one another.**

When Jesus taught his disciples and performed miracles, he emphasized the importance of helping others. Focusing on the role of a servant was a new concept at the time—opposite of what other leaders practiced. People had expected Jesus to come with mighty armies, overtaking those in power. Instead, he came as a baby, born into a poor family, and learned the trade of a carpenter. Throughout his life, Jesus looked out for those in need, including social outcasts and people rejected by society. He invites us to do the same.

- How can we serve others today? Think of some ideas on your own.
- Tell the group of a time when someone you know acted as a servant.

At the Last Supper, Jesus gave new meaning to the traditional Passover meal. He also told the disciples what was going to happen to him. Think about how Jesus and the disciples must have felt at this meal. Think about how you feel while taking communion. Write down four sentences about what the Last Supper means to you as a Christian.

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

Close with prayer.

Session 8

Jesus' Death

Open with prayer.

Share your answer to one of the following:

- What do you do when you need time alone?
- Whom do you trust with private information?
- Describe a tough time in your life and who or what helped you through it.

Jesus Prepares

After Jesus shared the Passover meal with his disciples, he took three of them with him to pray in Gethsemane, a place they had visited many times before. Gethsemane is where Jesus and his friends spent their final hours together before Jesus was arrested.

Read Luke 22:39-46 and John 17.

Describe Jesus' prayer: **He prayed for his disciples and for all believers. He also asked that the cup (the crucifixion) be lifted from him, but that finally God's will be done.**

How do you think Jesus was feeling as he prayed? **Individual answers.**

What did his best friends do as Jesus prayed? Were they supportive?
They fell asleep. By sleeping, they were not supportive.

- Describe a time when you've been worried or scared for yourself or your friends.
- Have your friends ever failed to support you at a time when you needed them? How did this make you feel?

At this point, Jesus was betrayed and arrested. Judas, one of the disciples, went to the location where Jesus was praying and kissed him on the cheek, giving the soldiers a sign that this was the person they sought to arrest. Once arrested, Jesus was taken to the High Priest's home. Religious leaders accused Jesus of going against the Jewish law and decided to put him to death.

Session Goal

To understand what happened during Jesus' final hours and see what impact these events have on our lives today.

Under law, the Roman official named Pontius Pilate was the only person who legally could have Jesus killed, so the religious leaders took Jesus to him. After questioning Jesus, Pilate found Jesus innocent of all charges. Because Pilate didn't want to make the public angry by pardoning Jesus, he turned Jesus over to King Herod, whose guards beat Jesus but still returned him to Pilate.

To resolve the situation, Pilate made a deal with the public. They had a choice between two prisoners: Jesus and a hardened criminal named Barabbas. One of these men could be killed if the other one went free. The people decided to let Barabbas go and to execute Jesus.

In his final days on earth, Jesus predicted his suffering during the Last Supper. Then Jesus was arrested, and the disciples watched as he was beaten. Finally, the disciples watched a crowd mock and humiliate their friend. This was the crowd that chose Barabbas over Jesus.

Read Luke 22:14-16, 47-48, 54a, 63-65; and Luke 23:13-25.

What risks did a follower of Jesus face? **They risked living as outcasts—and sometimes risked death.**

- In situations like these, how would you react? Would you admit your belief in Jesus? Discuss your responses as a group.

Peter's Denial

On this evening, people felt uncertain about what they believed and what decisions they should make. With all this uncertainty, it was dangerous to express one's opinion.

Read Luke 22:54b-62.

What did Peter do after Jesus was arrested? **He followed Jesus.**

How did Peter respond to his questioners? **He denied that he was a disciple and that he knew Jesus.**

How many times was Peter confronted? **Three.**

Did he respond the same each time? **Yes.**

How might you have responded? **Individual answers.**

Why do you think Peter responded as he did? **Individual answers.**

What did Peter do after the final confrontation? **He went away and wept.**

- How do you act after doing something you know you shouldn't have done?
Discuss this topic as a group.

Group Activity

All of us face situations when it is hard to stand up for what we believe.

- As a group, make a list of situations that test your beliefs.
- Describe ways you could respond in a situation that tests your beliefs.

Example: If you attend a party where others are using drugs, you could choose to leave, or you might try to talk them out of using drugs. There are options besides following the crowd.

- Describe some things we can do in order to more closely follow Jesus' example rather than Peter's.

The Crucifixion

Our last glimpse of Jesus before his crucifixion is of a man who had not slept for two days. He had been beaten and was alone. Peter, one of Jesus' closest disciples, denied him three times. Jesus' own people, who had praised him only days earlier, became scared and silent. Even the Roman officials were not sure of their decision to kill Jesus. This was the scene as Jesus carried his own cross to Golgotha to be crucified.

In these final hours of Jesus' life, we are reminded that Jesus was both human and divine. Crucifixion was the form of death that criminals experienced, for it was long and painful. Victims actually died of suffocation. As their bodies became weaker from their wounds, gravity pulled them toward the ground and their lungs collapsed. Yet Jesus was also divine. In this time of pain and suffering, he looked to God for his strength.

Read Matthew 27:45-51; Luke 23:38-46; and John 19:25-30.

Record the last words of Christ on the cross.

Jesus again demonstrated his obedience to God's will (Into your hands ...; It is finished), as well as his continuing concern for others (here is your mother; Father, forgive them; ... be with me in paradise). He also showed his humanity, through his thirst and his words of despair (I thirst; My God, my God ...).

What kind of example did Jesus set even as he suffered? **Individual answers.**

Who came to the cross? **Mary (Jesus' mother), Mary's sister, Mary Magdalene, and many others.**

Mary Magdalene's Perspective

I was there that terrible morning. I followed the crowds out to that awful place of death outside the city walls. It was dawn when they began to put him to death, yet it wasn't like any other daybreak. It was so painful to see them put his beaten body onto that ugly piece of wood to die. He looked so frail. Some of the blood had dried, but I saw many fresh wounds. If only I could have done something. But what? What could I do? He uttered fragmented statements. I could only hear them faintly.

Even up on that cross, dying, he still wanted to provide for his mother! She must have felt much of his pain. I wondered how she could watch her son die. I was glad to see one of Jesus' disciples taking her home. I wished the guards would stop telling him to save himself. Didn't they know who they were talking to? How could they laugh at him? I wished I could leave, but I couldn't. He was in so much pain—I couldn't walk away—he seemed so alone. My stomach seemed to sense it would soon be over.

My body ached, my hands trembled, tears rolled down my face. He had been hanging there for hours. Clouds seem to take over the sky, but the air was dry. Then suddenly, it was over. And then came the time I had to say good-bye to my Lord.

- How does this story make you feel about Jesus' death?
- What would it be like to watch the death of someone you loved?

Group Activity

Break into groups of three or four and do one of the activities below. When you are finished, share your project with the entire group.

- Prepare a news report on the death of Christ.
- Create an overhead presentation, using images of the last days of Christ's life on earth.
- Make a poster or collage focusing on these four parts of the story:
 1. The Last Supper
 2. Christ's suffering
 3. Christ's last words
 4. The hope of Easter

Close with prayer.

Session 9

Jesus' Resurrection and Ascension

Open with prayer.

Share your answer to one of the following:

- What is your favorite part of spring?
- Describe a symbol of new life.
- Describe a way we celebrate life.

New Life . . . Again and Again

Read Luke 24:1-12.

Who came to the tomb? **Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary (the mother of James), and some other women.**

What did they see? **The stone was rolled away from the entrance, and Jesus' body was gone.**

Why is it important that Jesus rose from the dead? **Sample answers: Jesus said he would rise again; Jesus overcame death; Jesus is teacher who is of God.**

What would your response have been if you saw Jesus at the tomb?

Individual answers.

Easter is a time of new life and resurrection—a time that moves us from death, grief, and despair into new life with a fresh outlook.

- Describe a time in your life when you have felt a “resurrection,” as if you had a second chance.
- Describe some ways you can offer others a second chance.

Session Goal

To understand what the resurrection of Jesus means for us personally and to review the previous studies.

Jesus appeared several times following his death. Break into groups of two or three and read about these appearances. Then share your findings with the larger group.

Mark 16:9-20 **Great Commission speech.**

Luke 24:13-35 **Road to Emmaus.**

Luke 24:36-49 **Appearing to disciples.**

John 20:19-29 **Appearing to the disciples.**

John 21:1-14 **While fishing.**

Read Acts 1:1-3.

Forty days after the resurrection, Jesus ended his time here on earth. He promised his disciples they would be taken care of and guided, even after he was no longer with them. It was at this time that God gifted the disciples with the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit remains active in the world, guiding us as well and empowering us to be followers of Jesus.

Read Luke 24:50-53; John 16:12-13; and Acts 1:4-11.

- What new things did you learn about the time after the resurrection?
- What would it have been like to see Jesus ascend into heaven?

Human and God

Jesus lived and died as a human on earth, but Jesus was also God. List some ways Jesus showed he was human and some ways Jesus showed he was God.

Human

God

List some traditions in which Jesus participated, then list some comparable traditions we practice today.

Traditions in Jesus' Time

Traditions Today

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Describe how each of the following people responded to Jesus.

Mary (Jesus' mother): _____

Joseph: _____

Simeon: _____

Anna: _____

Herod: _____

Peter: _____

Pontius Pilate: _____

The disciples: _____

Others: _____

List three important things about being a follower of Jesus.

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

What are some important things you will remember from this study on *Jesus of Nazareth*?

Close with prayer.

Description Cards for Session 4

<p>Describe ... A Person Your best friend</p>	<p>Describe ... A Place Your favorite restaurant</p>	<p>Describe ... A Feeling A time you were sad</p>
<p>Describe ... A Person Your neighbor</p>	<p>Describe ... A Place Your "dream vacation" spot</p>	<p>Describe ... An Event Your best birthday celebration</p>
<p>Describe ... A Person Your favorite teacher</p>	<p>Describe ... A Feeling A time you were happy</p>	<p>Describe ... An Event The first day of school</p>
<p>Describe ... A Person Your grandma or grandpa</p>	<p>Describe ... A Feeling A time you were angry</p>	<p>Describe ... An Event A family wedding</p>
<p>Describe ... A Place Your bedroom</p>	<p>Describe ... A Feeling A time you were frightened</p>	<p>Describe ... An Event A funeral</p>
<p>Describe ... A Place Your grandparent's house</p>	<p>Describe ... A Feeling A time you were excited</p>	<p>Describe ... A person, place, feeling, or event</p>

Life-or-Death Cards

for Session 5

Instructions

Photocopy these Life-or-Death cards on sturdy paper and cut them out.

Individually or as a group, read the cards and think about how you might respond in each situation.

There are not necessarily right or wrong answers to every situation.

<p>Your friend wants to smoke crack cocaine at a party.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>What will you do?</i> 	<p>Your 80-year-old grandfather is expected to live only a few more weeks. Your family is going to visit him, but you have a soccer tournament scheduled.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>What will you do?</i>
<p>It is late at night, and you are at a party five miles from home. Your date is too drunk to drive, and no one else is available to take you home.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>What will you do?</i> 	<p>A close friend tells you he is contemplating suicide.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>What will you do?</i>
<p>A 3-year-old has just slipped into a half frozen lake. You're a very good swimmer.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>What will you do?</i> 	<p>Your mother finds out that she has cancer. The doctors say she has only three months to live.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>What will you do?</i>
<p>You wake up in the middle of the night and your home is filled with smoke and on fire. Your whole family is still sleeping.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>What will you do?</i> 	<p>Driving home late through the inner-city streets, you see a man sleeping on the sidewalk. It is 30 degrees below zero.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>What will you do?</i>

Life-or-Death Cards

for Session 5

<p>Your friend is pregnant and wants an abortion. She needs \$100 more and asks you for the money.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>What will you do?</i>	<p>Your high-school-age cousin has been diagnosed with the HIV virus. His friends are too uncomfortable to speak to him.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>What will you do?</i>
<p>You are camping in an isolated area, sleeping in a tent with three other people. You awaken to the noise of a bear outside your tent.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>What will you do?</i>	<p>Your sister has been in a coma for the last six months and machines are keeping her alive. Your parents think it is time to unplug the machines.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>What will you do?</i>
<p>Your school group is planning a trip to Mexico to build a home for a single mother and three children. If you go, you'll have to spend all of your savings.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>What will you do?</i>	<p>You see a young child run into the street, and a car coming quickly toward the child.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>What will you do?</i>
<p>Your younger brother gets into your parents' car and releases the emergency brake. The car starts rolling down a hill.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>What will you do?</i>	<p>In the middle of the night, you hear someone breaking into your basement.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>What will you do?</i>

Instructions

Photocopy these Life-or-Death cards on sturdy paper and cut them out.

Individually or as a group, read the cards and think about how you might respond in each situation.

There are not necessarily right or wrong answers to every situation.



To Know, To Live,
To Grow

Apostles' Creed
Building the Christian Church
Jesus of Nazareth
Lord's Prayer
Meaning of Service: Living in Love
My Faith
New Testament
Old Testament
Ten Commandments
What Is a Lutheran?

ISBN 978-0-8066-4906-1



9 780806 649061



90000

Augsburg Fortress
www.augsburgfortress.org