

Who is Jesus?

TEACHING POINT:

This week will be a brief introduction to this year's course explaining what the girls will be learning about in their Scripture class. We will also be taking some time to remind ourselves of who Jesus is so that when embarking on the course the girls will have firmly in their minds that Jesus was not just a man who lived on this earth all those years ago but actually He was God's Son who was sent into the world to save us!

Read Matthew v 13-20

Background to story

SAMPLE

- ☐ In this year's course we will be exploring the life of Jesus throughout the New Testament who had a meeting with Jesus.
- ☐ Through this course we will explore various issues the girls face in their everyday lives and how even though it was written thousands of years ago we can still learn from it.
- ☐ We begin our journey your girls are at as you ask them the same question, who do they say Jesus is? At this stage you may like to share with them what Jesus means to you.
- ☐ In the passage Peter recognised Jesus for who He was - the Christ and the Son of the living God. There are many people whom we read about in the Bible who also recognised Jesus as the Son of God. Similarly there were also some who did not recognise His divinity and greatness.
- ☐ Jesus always referred to Himself as the Son of Man as opposed to the Son of God, because He knew that if He said He was the Son of God, the religious leaders would accuse Him of blasphemy.
- ☐ Jesus had performed miracles and preached to large crowds of people. In this passage Jesus takes the opportunity to ask His disciples who people were saying He was. Jesus then went on to ask them who they personally thought He was. It was Peter who spoke up among the disciples and said "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." Peter had shown his faith in Jesus and shown his rock like faith in Jesus his Saviour therefore living up to the name Jesus had given him.

SUGGESTED MEMORY VERSE

**"Simon Peter answered, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God"
Matthew 16 v 16**

LEADER'S GUIDE FOR JUNIORS

Get READY

Ask the girls the following question: "If they could have dinner with 3 people (they can be alive or dead) who would they choose and why?" Then ask them to share with everyone else in the group who the three people they chose were. This can be a really fun exercise and it is supposed to be a light introduction to this year's course.

Explain to the girls that in this year's scripture course they are going to be looking at various Bible characters who had an encounter (or a meeting) with Jesus and because of that meeting they were transformed and their lives were changed. The Bible is great for helping us learn lessons that will help us live our life here on earth. Explain that over the next number of weeks they too will hopefully learn many things from these encounters.

Get SET (remember to use your back to get a better understanding)

Explain to the girls that we are looking at the men who were Jesus' disciples. Ask the girls who people they think Jesus was talking to that were important.

Jesus asks His disciples (the passage Matthew 16 v 13-20). From the passage ask the girls who Peter said Jesus was? Explain to the girls the punishment for our sins and the things

SAMPLE

Ask the girls to turn to page 4 of their puzzle books and answer the following questions:

1. Can you list in the space below people who met Jesus in the Bible? (it does not matter if they do not include the characters they will be studying in this year's course). Take some time to ask brief questions about the people who they have listed.
2. Have you ever met someone who was really important? Who was it? If not is there anyone you would like to meet? (share with the girls anyone important/famous you may have met).

On page 5 they are asked to figure out the first part of the Bible verse from Matthew 16. There is a circle with various pictures in the segments. The girls should write beside each picture the first letter of each object to spell out part of who Peter said Jesus was. They then should look up the rest of the Bible verse in their Bibles. The verse in question is Matthew 16 v 16 (NIV version). They are then challenged to memorise the verse.

Remind the girls again that each week we will be reading about people who lived during Bible times who met a very important person, Jesus and how their lives were changed because they met with Him.

Finish off the lesson by praying with the girls that God would be with us as we study His Word this year in Girls' Brigade. Ask that we would learn from the Encounters that people had with Jesus.

GOD & ME

Take some time this week to reflect on the character of Jesus using props. Throughout the Bible we hear various character traits that refer to Jesus so use these as your inspiration eg. bread of life (have a loaf of bread), light of the world (have a torch or candle), good shepherd (have a toy sheep), Servant (bowl and towel with a towel), King (a crown).

There are countless ways you could play the clip around the girls of who Jesus was and we want to ask the girls the same question-Who do you think of when they hear Jesus's name mentioned to share their ideas with the group. Explain their answers and if they are struggling to encourage them to share their ideas with the group. Explain their answers and if they are struggling to encourage them to share their ideas with the group. Explain their answers and if they are struggling to encourage them to share their ideas with the group.

Give them a chance to share their ideas with the group. Explain their answers and if they are struggling to encourage them to share their ideas with the group. Explain their answers and if they are struggling to encourage them to share their ideas with the group. Explain their answers and if they are struggling to encourage them to share their ideas with the group.

What can you as a leader do?

It would be really helpful for the girls at this stage (or even throughout the course) to perhaps share how your encounter with Jesus has changed your life. You could even have Officers share their story throughout the course or invite a range of people from your church to come in throughout the course to have an informal chat with the girls about how their encounter with Jesus transformed them. It says in Revelation 12 v 11 "They overcame him (Satan) by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony" Therefore there is nothing as powerful for the girls as hearing how Jesus is STILL relevant today as He was thousands of years ago.

Leader's prayer

Pray for your girls throughout this year that if they do not already know Jesus that God will use this course to reveal Himself to them.

Why not make yourself a bookmark and list all the names of the girls in your class on it. Place it in your Bible as a reminder to pray for them throughout the year.

GO!!! (if you are teaching BRIGADERS)

Ask the girls to turn to page 56 & 57 of their journals. The first question they are asked is about the passage as an introduction to the lesson, "Who did Simon Peter say that Jesus was?" The other question on the page is more fun as a way of an introduction "Write in the box below the most interesting encounters with people that you have ever had. Have any of these encounters had a big impact on your life? Share them with the group."

Once you have spent some time discussing the girls' different encounters ask them to turn to page 57. Jesus asked the disciples who they thought He was and we want to ask the girls the same question-Who do you think of when they hear Jesus's name mentioned to share their ideas with the group. Explain their answers and if they are struggling to encourage them to share their ideas with the group. Explain their answers and if they are struggling to encourage them to share their ideas with the group.

Finish the lesson in a little bit more of a variety of ways.

...Himself to us in other people. May we see how our lives can be transformed by the living God.

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