

TREK

Lesson 9 - "Tell Others"

Series Objective: Students will learn:

- That a "Trek" is a long, vigorous journey.
- That every individual's life is their Trek.
- That the Bible is full of stories about others' Treks that help us to better understand how our Trek should be lived out.
- That being a disciple of Jesus is a daily Trek, not a one-time choice.

Series Theme Verse: "A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another." John 13:34-35

Lesson Objective: Students will understand:

- Christians have a story called the Good News: Jesus lived, Jesus died, Jesus lived again!
- Christians are expected to tell others the Good News.
- Telling the Good News multiplies.

Lesson Passage: Acts 5:17-42

Lesson Materials:

Pre-service - Music, lights, announcement slides

Worship – Lyrics for TVs

The Story - Copy of story outline

Small Groups - Trek Journals, Pens

The After Party – Sandwiches, Packing Shoeboxes

Attachments – None

Lesson:

Worship:

- Do It Again
- Who You Say I Am
- How Great Thou Art

The Story: (Talking Points)

- Theme Development: Trek
 - Trek: A long and vigorous journey usually made on foot.
 - Remind students of last week's scenic lookout (Visual Aid) of our Trek (Brown Trail on Wall)
 - Luke 10:25-37
 - Last Week, in the story of The Good Samaritan, we saw two things:
 - God expects us to love everyone, even those we think are unlovable.
 - When we love everyone, people will know that we are God's children.
 - Transition: "Loving everyone helps us to **share the story** of the Good News with everyone, which is who deserve to hear the Good News."
- The Great Escape: Acts 5:17-25
 - The high priest and all his companions were Sadducees. They were very jealous of the apostles. So, they arrested them and put them in the public jail. But during the night an angel of the Lord came. He opened the doors of the jail and brought the apostles out. "Go! Stand in the temple courtyard," the angel said. "Tell the people all about this new life." Early the next day, they did as they had been told. They entered the temple courtyard. There they began to teach the people.
 - The high priest and his companions arrived. They called the Sanhedrin together. The Sanhedrin was a gathering of all the elders of Israel. They sent for the apostles who were in jail. The officers arrived at the jail. But they didn't find the apostles there. So, they went back and reported it. "We found the jail locked up tight," they said. "The guards were standing at the doors. But when we opened the doors, we didn't find anyone inside." When the captain of the temple guard and the chief priests heard this report, they were bewildered. They wondered what would happen next. Then someone came and said, "Look! The men you put in jail are standing in the temple courtyard. They are teaching the people."
 - The Jewish leaders did not want the Good News being told.
 - The Good News is: Jesus was Born, Jesus lived, Jesus died, Jesus lives again.
 - The apostles told the Good News constantly, and people listened.

- The Confrontation: Acts 5:26-32
 - So, the captain went with his officers and brought the apostles back. The high priest questioned them. “We gave you clear orders not to teach in Jesus’ name,” he said. “But you have filled Jerusalem with you teaching. You want to make us guilty of this man’s death.” Peter and the other apostles replied, “We must obey God instead of people! You had Jesus killed by nailing him to a cross. But the God of our people raised Jesus from the dead. Now Jesus is Prince and Savior. God has proved this by giving Jesus a place of honor with him. He did it to turn Israel away from their sins and forgive them. We are telling people about these things. And so is the Holy Spirit. God has given the Spirit to those who obey him.”
 - The Jewish leaders do not like that the Good News the Apostles told made them look bad.
 - Peter says they cannot stop telling the story because God has instructed them to tell the story.
- The Final Decision: Acts 5:33-42
 - When the leaders heard this, they became very angry. They wanted to put the apostles to death. But a Pharisee named Gamaliel stood up in the Sanhedrin. He was a teacher of the Law. He was honored by all the people. He ordered the apostles to be taken outside for a little while. “Men of Israel,” he said, “Leave these men alone! Let them go! If their plans and actions only come from people, they will fail. But if their plans come from God, you won’t be able to stop these men. You will only find yourselves fighting against God.”
 - His speech won the leaders over. They called the apostles in and had them whipped. The leaders ordered them not to speak in Jesus’ name. Then they let the apostles go.
 - The apostles were full of joy as they left the Sanhedrin. They considered it an honor to suffer shame for the name of Jesus. Every day they taught in the temple courtyards and from house to house. They never stopped telling people the Good News that Jesus is the Messiah.
 - The apostles faced suffering because of their decision to tell the Good News.
 - People around the world still face suffering for telling the Good News.
 - We are instructed by God to share the Good News until everyone hears.

- When we share the Good News, it spreads exponentially.
- Transition to Small Groups: “In your Small Groups, you will be discussing how we can share the Good News and where we can share the Good News. After your Small Groups, everyone will have a partner and get to pack a shoebox that will be a part of telling the Good News to children all over the world.”

Small Groups:

IMPORTANT NOTE: *Packing shoeboxes will take time, so no more than 10 minutes in Small Group. Set a timer so you are out on time!*

Beginning the Conversation

- Go around the room and have each person introduce themselves, beginning with the leaders, by answering two questions:
 - What is your name?
 - Who first told you the Good News?

Trek Journals

- Have Trek Journals and pens on table for students to grab
- Explain to students that part of small group will be journaling in their Trek Journal. Have students AND LEADERS write the following questions in their Journal (*it would work best if you had these questions written on a piece of poster board to make it easier to copy into the journal*) and take about 5 minutes to respond to the questions in their Journals.
 - What is my favorite part of the story I heard in Big Group?
 - What does this story tell me about Jesus?
 - What is the Good News?
 - What does this story say about me?
 - Who do I need to share the Good News with?
 - What is the best way to tell the Good News?
- After 5 minutes, have everyone (leaders first) answer the first question out loud to the group.
- Work through the rest of the questions together, letting a couple answer each question.
- A couple important things that you need to discuss are:

- The Good News is simply: Jesus lived, Jesus died, Jesus lives again, and Jesus wants a relationship with every human.
- The best way to share the Good News is in a relationship. Get to know somebody as a friend, and then they are more willing to hear your story of the Good News.
- Close in a prayer like, “Saving God, thank you for the Good News, help us to be faithful to share the Good News with others...Amen.”
- Transition: “You can grab a sandwich and then find a seat so that when everyone is out of groups, we can pack shoeboxes together.”

The After Party:

Sandwiches

Packing Shoeboxes

- Students pair up and get a box to pack.
- They can pack their shoebox using the items on the tables.
- No duplicate items in a box...you can have 1 tennis ball, 1 pack of crayons, etc., unless stated on the table.