Young Adults



Finding Christ
Through Scripture (December 2019)

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LEARNING SESSION DECEMBER 2019

Finding Christ Through Scripture

GOAL:

To learn about scripture

OBJECTIVE:

To identify one way you can make scripture applicable to your daily life

ESTIMATED DURATION:

45 minutes

SUPPLIES NEEDED:

1. Projector and laptop

2. blank paper for each participant

3. pen for each participant

Saint Story Source: https://

www.thoughtco.com/who-are-the-four-

evangelists-4082531

Article Source: https://oca.org/scripture/how-

to-read-the-bible

OPENING PRAYER

In the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

Lord, allow us "to offer ourselves as a living sacrifice," one that is, "holy and acceptable to God for this is Your true and proper worship." Allow us "not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewal of our minds." So that we may be able to "test and prove what is God's will, His good, pleasing and perfect will."

Amen.

ACTIVITY 1: ICE BREAKER

10 minutes

Tell us your name, and read aloud your selected scripture verse.

Note: Facilitator should prepare verses on slips of paper for the entire group and have each person select one randomly.

Remember:

It's always helpful to start with an activity to help participants relax and allow community to build. Early in the session, focus primarily on getting participants to open their hearts and connect with what's happening in the group. This is an opportunity to encourage participants to share their honest opinions and thoughts, as well as listen to those of others. Take this time to connect with what's important to them, and to understand what they've connected with.

ACTIVITY 2: SAINT STORY

10 minutes

Read the following article before discussion, and talk to your group about some of the highlights of the life of the four Gospel writers: Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John. https://www.thoughtco.com/who-are-the-four-evangelists-4082531

Ask the following questions, <u>facilitating a discussion</u>:

- How do the Evangelists' lives intertwine with Christ?
 Does this give them authority to write about the life of Christ?
- How do the backgrounds of the Evangelists influence their perspective on their testimony of Christ's life?
- What are the symbols of the Evangelists? How do the animals represent their lives and their writing styles?
- What ideas stood out to you in the article? Did something surprise you or make you think differently?

ACTIVITY 2: ARTICLE

10 minutes

Read the following article:

https://oca.org/scripture/how-to-read-the-bible Note: There are different sections in this long article. For each section of the article, come up with different debrief questions. Some sample questions are below.

Ask participants the following question and <u>facilitate a</u> <u>discussion</u>:

- What is your current relationship to scripture?
- How could you read scripture everyday to strengthen your relationship with Christ? (reading the Bible with obedience)
- How does the article describe the Gospel as Christ speaking to you?
- Have you ever felt that Christ Himself was speaking to you? How/when?
- How do we understand the bible through the Church?

ACTIVITY 4: SCRIPTURE

10 minutes

Have participants read the following verses:

Luke 4:16-22

"He went to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, and on the Sabbath day he went into the synagogue, as was his custom. He stood up to read, and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was handed to him. Unrolling it, he found the place where it is written:

"The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to set the oppressed free, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor."

Then he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant and sat down. The eyes of everyone in the synagogue were fastened on him. He began by saying to them, "Today this scripture is fulfilled in your hearing." All spoke well of him and were amazed at the gracious words that came from his lips."

Ask the following question and facilitate a discussion:

- Who are the characters in this passage and what are their roles?
- How was Christ teaching in the temple?
- What is the connection between the Old Testament and Christ's teachings that day in the temple?
- How does this passage show us that Scripture written 2,000 years ago is still applicable today?

Conclusion: wrap-up & commitment

5 minutes

Go around the circle and ask the group to name one way to incorporate scripture reading into the life of a college student.

CLOSING PRAYER

In the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

"Shine within our hearts, loving Master, the pure light of Your divine knowledge and open the eyes of our minds that we may comprehend the message of your Gospel. Instill in us, also, reverence for Your blessed commandments, so that having conquered sinful desires, we may pursue a spiritual life, thinking and doing all those things that are pleasing to You. For You, Christ our God, are the light of our souls and bodies, and to You we give glory together with Your Father who is without beginning and Your all holy, good, and life giving Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages."

Amen.