

YOUTH MINISTRY SMALL GROUP CONTENT

January–April 2025





Scripture: Luke 3: 1-22

Memory Verse:

“And the Holy Spirit descended on him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven: “You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased.” Luke 3:22

Questions:

1. Highs & Lows
2. Ice Breaker: Did you set a new year's resolution? If so, what?
3. What is Baptism? Why do we do it?
4. What is Confirmation? Why do we do it?
5. Read: Isaiah 40:3-5. Why does this portion of text also show up in Luke?
6. What is significant about the different groups of people John addressed (tax collectors, soldiers, Pharisees) and how did he instruct them to change their behavior?
7. What did John mean when he said people should “bear fruit worthy of repentance”? What might that look like in your life?
8. Pray.



Journal Time

What does Jesus' baptism mean to you? For you?



Heavenly Father, with joy and awe we praise you for claiming us as your sons and daughters, and for pouring your Holy Spirit upon us. Help us to prepare this earth for your glory, and shine your light on all your faithful children, for the sake of the one whose birth and baptism brought renewal and transformation to this world, Jesus Christ. Amen.



Scripture: Luke 4: 14-30

Memory Verse:

“He began by saying to them, “Today this scripture is fulfilled in your hearing.” Luke 4:21

Questions:

1. Highs & Lows
2. ICE BREAKER: If you could live the life of any movie character who would it be?
3. Reread Luke 4:21. What does Jesus mean when he says this scripture is fulfilled today?
4. Why did the people reject Jesus?
5. Read Acts 10:36-38. How does this verse correlate? What is it saying?
6. What is your personal faith rooted in? Why do you/don't you believe?
7. If someone were to reject Jesus to you what would your response be?
8. Pray

Activity: Night to Shine



Journal Time

Do you ever read your Bible? If so, where in it do you read? What questions do you have about the Bible?



God of the nations, show us how to love all the people of the earth, of all colors and kinds: those with technology and without; those who make due with very little and who use many resources; those with formal education and without; those who call upon your name and who do not; so that all your children may be glorified in the name of the One who brought glory and liberty, Jesus Christ our salvation. Amen.



Scripture: Luke 5:1-11

Memory Verse:

“Don’t be afraid; from now on you will fish for people.” Luke 5: 10b

Questions:

1. Highs & Lows
2. ICE BREAKER: Who is your favorite person to follow on social media?
3. Do you think being perceived as a follower is a positive or negative thing? Why?
4. Read Psalm 25:4-5
5. How does this Psalm relate to our text today?
6. What was Simon Peter’s reaction after they caught the fish? How do you think you would react in this situation?
7. The text from today refers to “fishing for people.” What does that mean and how might that look lived out in your life?
8. Pray

Activity: “Invite a Friend” Challenge

Journal Time

What is one way you can fish for people this week?



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Prayer (Prayer Requests)

Lord Jesus of fisher folk, You taught your disciples to cast a wide net -- not for fish, but for people. Teach us the fishing craft. Make our fingers nimble so we may handle hearts and hands gently; make our minds quiet and patient while we wait for those who are not yet ready to receive you; and make our hearts hungry for your word, for the sake of the one who has captured our hearts already, Jesus Christ. Amen.



Scripture: Luke 6:1-16

Memory Verse:

Then Jesus said to them, “The Son of Man is Lord of the Sabbath.”
Luke 6:5

Questions:

1. Highs & Lows
2. ICE BREAKER: What is your favorite book?
3. What do you like to do for rest?
4. Read Genesis 2:2-3
5. What do you think God’s intention is for Sabbath? Why do you think He created it
6. What is the difference between rest and laziness?
7. How will you participate in Sabbath?
8. Pray

Activity: Bring a Friend Night; Write Faith Story

Journal Time

What is your faith story? Did you grow up in church? When is a time you have noticed God at work in your life? Do you have a personal relationship with Jesus? How do you know?



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Prayer (Prayer Requests)

Lord of the Sabbath, your followers were told not to work on the Sabbath, and yet they boldly plucked grain to show that you are Lord of all. The world tells us not to rest on the Sabbath. Show us how to rest boldly, rejecting conventions that go against your will, and instead praying and resting as you did up on the mountain, for the glory of your word and work, Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.



Scripture: Luke 7:1-17

Memory Verse:

“A great prophet has appeared among us,” they said. “God has come to help his people.” Luke 7:16b

Questions:

1. Highs & Lows
2. ICE BREAKER: If you have to eat the same thing at every meal for a year what would you choose?
3. Is there a time in your life when you prayed for healing in your life or someone else's? What was the outcome?
4. Read 1 John 5:14-15
5. What is this scripture saying? What is it not saying?
6. What does it mean to pray “according to His will?” Do you find this easy or difficult – why?
7. What might it look like for you to go to God in faith like the people in today's text (Luke 7:1-17)?
8. Pray



Activity: Soup-er Bowl Drive & Fleece Blankets

Journal Time

Have you ever seen a miracle, or a powerful work of God? If so, what was it like? If not, what is a miracle you would like Him to do in your life?

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Prayer (Prayer Requests)

Healing Lord, by your goodness you healed many who were ill, even raising the dead to life. Restore us to new life, healing our hearts, minds, and spirits, so that we may proclaim praise and gratitude for your compassion to all who will hear. In the name of the one who is himself new life, Jesus Christ our savior. Amen.



Scripture: Luke 7:18-35

Memory Verse:

“I will send my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you.” Luke 7:27b

Questions:

1. Highs & Lows
2. ICE BREAKER: What’s the best board game? State your case!
3. What is a prophet?
4. Read John 20:29
5. Have you ever doubted that Jesus died and rose again? What do you do when you feel that doubt?
6. How did Jesus show John the Baptist that he was more than a prophet?
7. Read Ephesians 1:13-14. What does this reveal about God’s character?
8. Pray



Activity: HSM Testimony Night

Journal Time

What are 1-3 ways you can point people to Jesus (at school, home, extra curriculars, etc.)?

[illegible]

Prayer (Prayer Requests)

God of mystery, just as the crowds wondered about Jesus, we too, wonder about you. Who are you to us? Are you the one? Show us that you are God, mysterious, wonderful, mighty. Amen.



Scripture: Luke 7:36-50

Memory Verse:

Then Jesus said to her, "Your sins are forgiven." Luke 7:48

Questions:

1. Highs & Lows
2. ICE BREAKER: What year would you travel to if you have a time machine? Why?
3. Why did the woman in the story come to see Jesus? What did she do when she saw Jesus?
4. How do you think the woman felt when Jesus said her sins were forgiven? God did the impossible when the jug of oil never ran dry. What time in your life have you seen, or wanted to see God do the impossible?
5. Read Ephesians 4:32
6. What does this verse mean?
7. Do you feel like you live your life like the verse from Ephesians? How can you live out this verse in your life more?
8. Pray



Activity: Foot Washing

Journal Time

What sin would you like to be forgiven of at Jesus' feet?

[illegible]

Prayer (Prayer Requests)

Forgiving God, too often we take your forgiveness for granted. Too often we cling to our sin, believing that it is our right to harbor resentments and hatred. Be merciful to us, and show us the depth of healing that is offered when you forgive, for the sake of the one who recognized total surrender to forgiveness and offered it willingly, Jesus Christ our healer. Amen.



Memory Verse:

Questions:

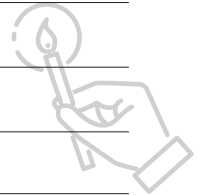
Debrief Ask the Pastor Panel

1. What surprised you?
2. What did you learn?
3. What was confusing?
4. What questions do you still have?

Activity: Discuss iPoint Camp

Journal Time

What questions do you still have about your faith?



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Prayer (Prayer Requests)

Faithful God, thank you for being a God of truth. In a world full of lies and deceit, we know that we can trust in you. Thank you for having answers to our questions. Please bless us as we continue to learn your truth. Amen.



Scripture: Luke 13:1-9, 31-35

Memory Verse:

“I tell you, you will not see me again until you say, ‘Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.’” Luke 13:35b

Questions:

1. Highs & Lows
2. ICE BREAKER: What is one song that would be on your soundtrack to life?
3. What does it mean to repent and why is this important?
4. What do you think the parable in Luke 13:6-9 means?
5. What warning did Jesus receive in Luke 13:31-35? What did he do with that warning?
6. Read 1 John 1:9
7. How often do you confess your sins to God? How often do you think you should? Take a few moments silently in group to lay it before him.
8. Pray



Activity: Lent Cards

Journal Time

Does your life look different now than it would if you didn't know Jesus? Why or why not?

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Prayer (Prayer Requests)

Holy One of mighty power, your word is powerfully dangerous. Your word casts out demons. Your word heals incurable diseases. Your word devours empires. Your word transforms the fabric of the universe. Help us to stand in awe and fear of what your word is capable of doing. Give us courage to speak your word and wisdom to hear it, for the sake of the one whose very whisper can demolish sin, Jesus Christ. Amen.



Scripture: Luke 16:19-31

Memory Verse:

“He said to him, ‘If they do not listen to Moses and the Prophets, they will not be convinced even if someone rises from the dead.’”

Luke 16:31

Questions:

1. Highs & Lows

2. ICE BREAKER: Would you rather be a fish or a bird? State your case!

3. After reading Luke 16:19-31, who would you rather be, the rich man or Lazarus?

4. Read Matthew 25:42-46

5. How does this reading relate to the rich man and Lazarus?

6. Read Matthew 20:16. What does this verse mean?

7. Based on our readings today, what changes in your life does Jesus want you to make?

8. Pray

Journal Time

Why do you think God chose to have this passage in the Bible? What do you think this story is leading you to do?

[illegible]

Prayer (Prayer Requests)

Divine Word, you sent Moses to speak law to the people and bring order to chaos. You sent prophets to speak repentance and bring hope to the hopeless. You sent your son, Jesus, to become your living Word. Open our ears to hear your word, and our hearts to reflect the light of your truth to others, for the sake of the Incarnate Word, Jesus Christ. Amen.



Scripture: Luke 18:31 – 19:10

Memory Verse:

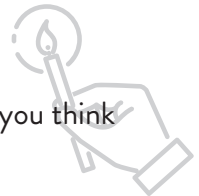
For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost.” Luke 19:10

Questions:

1. Highs & Lows
2. ICE BREAKER: Are you a morning or night person?
3. Think of a time you felt like you belonged. Think of a time you felt like you didn't belong. How did you feel in each scenario?
4. What does Zaccheus do for the poor?
5. Why were people upset that Jesus pursued Zaccheus? Why do you think Jesus pursued Zaccheus?
6. Read Romans 5:8.
7. How can you make others feel like they belong in God's Kingdom?
8. Pray

Journal Time

Do you think Jesus sees you in your everyday life? What do you think He sees when He looks at you?



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Prayer (Prayer Requests)

Lord of the lost, we are quick to judge and slow to accept those whom we consider lower than ourselves. But you show us the way of acceptance, forgiveness, and peace. We honor your name for teaching us to love, for the sake of the one who is the essence of love itself, Jesus Christ our loving Lord. Amen.



Scripture: Luke 22:7-38

Memory Verse:

And he took bread, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to them, saying, "This is my body given for you; do this in remembrance of me."

20 In the same way, after the supper he took the cup, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood, which is poured out for you.
Luke 22:19-20

Questions:

1. What is the Sacrament of the Alter?
2. Where is this written?
3. What is the benefit of this eating and drinking?
4. How can bodily eating and drinking do such great things?
5. Who receives this sacrament worthily?

Activity: Mass Service Project

Journal Time

Write a prayer to God thanking Him for His sacrifice on the Cross and Resurrection from the empty tomb for you.



[illegible]

Prayer (Prayer Requests)

God of unfailing love, in Your holy mysteries You have graciously fed us with the body and blood of Your dear Son. We pray that we and all who faithfully receive Him may grow together in the communion of the body of Christ and finally attain to the glory of the resurrection through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

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Prayer (Prayer Requests)

Eternal Father, we thank you for raising your one and only Son, Jesus Christ, from the dead. We ask that you would help us to always share the Good News of His life, death and resurrection with the world so that they would be encouraged to know the love of Christ. It is in His name that we pray. Amen.



Scripture: Luke 24: 36:53

Memory Verse:

While he was blessing them, he left them and was taken up into heaven. Luke 24:51

Questions:

1. Highs & Lows
2. ICE BREAKER: If you could learn one new skill what would it be and why?
3. How did Jesus reveal himself to his disciples?
4. Read Acts 1:8
5. What did the disciples do after Jesus was taken up to heaven?
6. What gift from the Father did Jesus promise to send us? Why is this important?
7. Read Luke 24:46-49 again. How can we declare what we believe about Jesus to others?
8. Pray

Activity: End of the Year Party

Journal Time

As you head into your summer, what is one way you can continue to grow closer with God?

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Prayer (Prayer Requests)

Have everyone go around in the group and say a prayer out loud for the members of your group during the summer months.

NOTES

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