



His Story - Part 2



THE MISSION AIM

The New Testament is part two of God's story, and shows His plan coming to life.



KEY VERSE

Luke 22:44: [Jesus] "He said to them, 'This is what I told you while I was still with you: Everything must be fulfilled that is written about me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets and the Psalms.'"



Pre-Mission Activity



Supplies Needed

- Story from last week "A Visit to the Cottage" (see attachment page 8)
- Paper
- Crayons, markers, pencils

Directions

SAY: Well I don't know about you but last week's "to be continued" stories and pictures were quite a challenge. It's like watching a show on television where they say, "To be continued". You don't get to see the ending. Speaking of television shows, let's focus on that "to be continued" piece by playing a game of "TV tag". One person will be "it" and if they get close to you, you can yell out the name of a TV show and duck down. If you get down before they tag you then you're okay. Otherwise, you're "It".

OR

SAY: Last week I told you a story about Jake, the little boy who left the cottage and was last seen wandering over the edge of a cliff. I'll read it to you again. Now, take a moment to write or draw what you think will be the ending to his story.



Mission Uplink 1



Have ready YouTube playlist: "Season 3 – The Bible Episode 4: His Story - Part 2"

Play "The Bible (S3) Episode 4 (1/4)". Episode begins with the *Ready to Serve* theme song, followed automatically by the MISSION # 1 VIDEO. Pause the video when the RTS SHIELD appears on screen and remains as you and your recruits complete Mission # 1.

If using PPT for video, have TB-Episode_4-His_Story_Part_2.pptx ready and play slide one. Pause on the RTS SHIELD so you and your recruits can complete Mission # 1.



Mission #1



Supplies Needed

- "A Visit to the Cottage - Part 2" (see attachment page 9)
- Pictures that you collected last week that were to show your drawing
- Several small slips of paper for brainstorming thoughts, stories about Jesus; a hat or container to place them in afterward
- Pencils
- Large sheets of paper or whiteboards (at least two) or chalkboards (at least two) that can be moved to place on the floor if possible; writing tools for these
- Recording device i.e. iPhone, video camera, camera or just pretend for sending Intel back to the team
- A copy of television with Bible verse for each recruit (see attachment page 10)



Mission Assignment

SAY: I can't believe the team has been stuck at Control Central since Kate has been gone. What a mess! I'd be totally hungry and grumpy by now. I don't even know if I'd be able to take on a new mission but...life goes on, doesn't it? Speaking of life going on, we didn't get a chance to hear the rest of our story about Jake. Anyone want to hear the ending?

DO: Read the rest of the story from last week's "A Visit to the Cottage - Part 2".

SAY: We also didn't get to see our pictures from last week to see how similar they are to mine. Let's take a quick look.

DO: Take a few moments to look at the pictures that the recruits drew last time.

SAY: Some are pretty similar and well others, you know. We finally have some loose ends tied up from last week. What about the next part of the Jesus story? Christie couldn't give us her mission, due to those technical difficulties but I think we can figure out what she wants us to do. It sounded like she wants us to record what we already know about Jesus and why He came. I have an idea.

DO: Put the recruits into two teams to brainstorm as many things that they know about Jesus as possible: stories, events, plans. Put the pieces of paper far away from the group so that as members come up with an idea they can run and get the paper to write it on. Please emphasize that one idea goes on each piece of paper. Remind the recruits that they should think of ideas that would express who Jesus is and that would be somewhat easy to draw.



Squad leader, if you have several recruits divide them into more teams as necessary.

DO: Put all of the ideas from both teams in a hat. Let each team sit in a separate circle around a large sheet of chart paper, whiteboard or chalkboard. Choose one person from each team to come and take out one of the slips of paper from the hat. Look at the piece of paper yourself so that you know what they are drawing. On "go" they will each run back to their team and draw a picture to get someone from their team to be the first from both teams to guess the drawing. When



someone is sure that they have a guess, they need to run back to you and tell you their answer. The team that guesses correctly first will get a point. Once a team gets the picture, have them briefly discuss the story or event and stick the paper on the wall. Continue with the game for about five minutes. Pretend to record the recruits as they are playing so that you can send the Intel back to the team. (iphone, phone, video camera, pretend camera) If you don't get through all of the ideas from the hat, take a moment to quickly read and briefly tell about a few more ideas before moving on.

SAY: Wow! We sure know a lot about Jesus already. Do you know that just like we heard the rest of our story about Jake, the New Testament is the next part of the story? Remember in our clean up game last week, we saw how the Israelites kept thinking that they needed someone to rescue them? Well, He came, the rescuer came! Jesus wasn't just a miracle worker; He came to bring people back to God! People messed up so much that they needed a Saviour, and Jesus the Son of God, was God's "plan" for life! We still mess up but we can ask Jesus to forgive us for our sins and ask the Holy Spirit to change our hearts. Yeah, God!

SAY: Our key verse this week is so perfect! It really tells us about why Jesus came. It's on a television screen to remind us of that "to be continued" part. The New Testament was the continuation of the story. Let's read our verse together. Luke 22:44: He said to them, "This is what I told you while I was still with you: Everything must be fulfilled that is written about me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets and the Psalms."

SAY: Jesus says that when He came, everything came true. All of the pieces came together from the Old Testament. The Ten Commandments of Moses were boiled down to two commands in the New Testament ...love God and love your neighbour. Not only that but the promises given by the prophets in the Old Testament came true as Jesus came and gave life! How exciting!

SAY: Jesus came and lived on earth, and continued the story, giving people a chance to get back to God. Now, I'm wondering if we get to finish the story and see what the team is doing back at the Control Centre. Do you think we'll get better communication soon? By the way, as you were playing Pictionary, I was recording your pictures so they have already been sent back to the team.



Mission Uplink 2



YouTube: Play "The Bible (S3) Episode 4 (2/4)". Pause the video when the MISSION # 2 CARD appears on screen and remains as you and your recruits complete Mission # 2.

PPT: Click to advance to next slide. Pause video when MISSION #2 CARD appears on screen and remains as you and your recruits complete Mission # 2.





Mission #2



Supplies Needed

- Copies of individual letters from the template “Friends of Jesus” (see attachment pages 11-13) so that all recruits have one; ensure that at least two recruits have the same one; copy one letter of Stephen’s for use with the whole group; in the interest of time you may find that you just want to choose two or three of Jesus’ friends letters to use
- Enough copies of Jesus’ Friends Worksheets for recruits to share in their groups (see attachment page 14)
- An enlarged sample of Jesus’ Friends Worksheet to display for the entire group (see attachment page 14)
- Pencils and markers



Mission Assignment

SAY: How exciting! Kate is back and all she was doing was taking time to cool down. She wasn’t trying to lock everything down. That’s a relief! Sometimes life sends us some real surprises. We misinterpret what is really happening. We heard of horrible things happening in the Old Testament times and of God’s people not always obeying or listening to him. Now, Jesus brings it around by showing us a better way to live and a way to seek forgiveness for our sins. As Becki said the New Testament tells us the stories of Jesus and his disciples who shared His message of love with others. I think Michael makes the message pretty clear as to what mission #2 is. Drum roll please... (Reading mission card from satellite uplink) “Recruits, find out about some of Jesus’ friends and how they helped to spread the Good News of Jesus around the world!” Sounds great, let’s get to it.

SAY: Imagine if Jesus’ friends had written letters for us to get to know them better! Well, we have some here to read, isn’t that great! Let’s read one of them now.

DO: Read Stephen’s letter. Fill out an enlarged version of the Friends of Jesus template on the wall by having the recruits help you fill in the blanks. You could have a recruit drawing in the top box as you read the letter.

SAY: Now I’m going to give you a letter and you can find someone else who has the same one. Once you’re together, read the letter and fill out the answers on your question sheet.

DO: Make sure you have pre-chosen people who you will partner together i.e. readers, non-readers, kids who get along, etc. If you have a smaller group who can work alone that is fine. If not, just choose one or two of Jesus’ Friends letters for them to read in pairs or as a group and complete the templates.

SAY: Now that you’ve had a chance to read about one of Jesus’ friends, we’re going to listen as you share with the rest of us.

DO: Give the recruits a chance to share their ideas and drawings on their templates with the whole group.



Squad leader, if in the interest of time you feel that you want to just use two or three friends’ letters then please do so.



SAY: Well done recruits. I see from your templates that the “to be continued” story has gone on as Jesus’ friends shared His message with others. I’m sure that the people who heard about Jesus went and told others too. You know what’s amazing is that all the men we heard from today were ordinary people like you and me. They just loved Jesus and wanted the story to go on. Speaking of the story going on, I’d love to see how our friends are doing back at Control Central. Let’s lift our papers into the air before we hand them in and say, “To Control Central”.

SAY: There, I’m sure that got our information back to the team.



Mission Uplink 3



YouTube: Play “The Bible (S3) Episode 4 (3/4)”. Pause the video when the FIELD MISSION CARD appears on screen and remains as you and your recruits complete the Field Mission Project.

PPT: Click to advance to next slide. Pause video when FIELD MISSION CARD appears on screen and remains as you and your recruits complete the Field Mission Project.



Field Mission Project



Supplies Needed

- One sample bracelet made with a red, navy, white, and green beads (recruits will make their own during the Prayer Huddle time)
- Large sheet of paper posted on the wall or whiteboard/chalkboard
- Marker or chalk

Mission Project

SAY: Well that was great. Getting a chance to meet Becki was awesome. Is anyone else with Kate who says she’s kind of nervous about sharing Jesus with her friends? Isn’t it strange how we often feel that way? We can be so silly. But, Jesus came and continued the story of the Old Testament, and then His friends shared His story. What about us? What do you think someone would say about our own stories? What might someone say about you or me? What have we taught? How have we cared for others? Wow! That’s something to think about. Would people remember us by the stories we tell of Jesus? That sure makes me think. Us, ordinary people called by God to share the wonderful news of Jesus. I guess if we’re going to do that we should hop to it and find out what our next mission is. Drum roll please, (reading mission card from satellite uplink) “Your final mission, recruits, is to brainstorm together and figure out some practical ways that you could tell others about Jesus.”

SAY: This sort of reminds me of a little friendship bracelet I heard about. There were four little beads on it that reminded the person wearing it of four important things: “God loves me, I have sinned, Jesus died for me, I have decided to live for God”. It looked something like this:



DO: Show the bracelet you've made with a red bead showing God's love, a navy bead showing our sin, a white bead reminding us of the forgiveness of the cross and a green bead showing that we've decided to live for God. As you show each colour remind the recruits what each colour represents.

SAY: If I was to wear a bracelet like this then I could use it to tell people about Jesus' love for them and of His forgiveness. Paul wrote letters to remind others of Jesus, Peter preached sermons, Stephen served and spoke. So what could we do to tell people the stories of Jesus? Let's create a list of ideas together.

DO: Begin to create a list of ways to share the stories of Jesus with others. (create a book with some of Jesus' stories and read it to a younger sibling or to your class, write a letter or create a card telling someone the four most important things, read your Bible and talk to your friends about what you are reading and learning about, volunteer as a group to go to a nursing home and do a service where you can share the stories of Jesus, prepare a puppet show to perform at an outdoor service, choose to live for Jesus by standing up to the bullies at school, by choosing to play with the kids no one else wants to).

SAY: Wow, that is quite a list, but just because we have a list of ideas doesn't mean it's easy for us to act on them. We really do need the power of the Holy Spirit to help us to spread the news of Jesus' love and His stories to others.



Prayer Huddle



YouTube: Play "The Bible (S3) Episode 4 (4/4)". Pause the video when the PRAYER HUDDLE CARD appears on screen and remains as you and your recruits complete the prayer huddle.

PPT: Click to advance to next slide. Pause video when PRAYER HUDDLE CARD appears on screen and remains as you and your recruits complete the prayer huddle.



Supplies Needed

- Enough red, navy, white, green beads and string, yarn, or plastic string for each recruit to make a bracelet

Directions

SAY: Let's take some time now to pray and allow God to remind us of the story of His love and forgiveness so that we have the courage and strength to share it with others. As we pray we will be making bracelets to remind us of the love story of Jesus.

DO: Give each recruit some yarn, string or plastic string and a red bead. Get them to put a knot in the bracelet beside the first bead to keep the beads from slipping.

SAY: As we place the first bead on our bracelets we're reminded that Jesus loves us.



DO: Give recruits a moment to put their red bead on the bracelet.

SAY: Now, as you touch your red bead we are going to pray.

DO: Have recruits repeat after you: "God, thank you for loving me. Thank you that though I may hurt you, no matter what I do right or wrong, you will always love me. Nothing can keep you from loving me."

SAY: Now, let's put our navy bead on the bracelet.

DO: When the recruits are ready have them repeat the following prayer. "I have sinned. I know that I am so far from perfect. I have _____ (let recruits silently fill in the blanks of sins that they have committed). I will never be perfect and I will sometimes make choices that hurt you."

SAY: Now it's time for our white bead, the one that represents the cross of Jesus and God's forgiveness. When we ask Jesus to forgive us He makes us as white as snow.

DO: When it's appropriate have the recruits repeat the following prayer. "Jesus, I know that you died for me and as I bring my sins to you, you do forgive me. Thank you. Please forgive me for _____" (allow recruits to silently fill in the blanks).

SAY: Finally our green bead, the bead that reminds us to grow and to focus on living for God. Before we place this bead and pray I want you to think of something from our list or of something that you have thought of on your own that you can do this week to tell others about Jesus.

DO: Add the green bead to the bracelet and when they are ready lead the recruits in prayer, "Jesus, thank you for your gift of forgiveness and love that saves me. I know that since you have given me this gift I too should share your love with others. Please help me this week to share your love and to share your stories by _____" (allow the recruits to silently fill in the blanks).

SAY: We sure have an important mission this week, to share the love and stories of Jesus. I think we can do it. Have a wonderful week and remember that the New Testament stories are just as important today as they were thousands of years ago. They really are the "to be continued" of the Old Testament.

NOTES:

Videos you can share with your recruits:

Old Testament Books of the Bible: www.youtube.com/watch?v=i7ZtWRSCH7E

New Testament Books of the Bible: www.youtube.com/watch?v=ppxke-s6sCA



A Visit to the Cottage

There was once a very busy little boy named Jake who was off visiting his aunt at the cottage. It was so exciting! Though his parents loved the outdoors and the beautiful view they weren't so sure about what Jake might do. They knew that he was always exploring and getting into things and there was a huge cliff just over the hill and past the trees that made them very nervous.

The second day everyone was sleeping when Jake snuck out of bed. Before anyone knew it they were all awakened with a start when they heard the screen door slam loudly enough to make the whole cottage shudder. It took a second for Jake's mom to look over and see that he was gone.

"Oh no", she groaned as she jumped out of bed in a flash. Without grabbing her shoes she ran out the door of the cottage and down the stairs. As she got to the bottom step she could see Jake's tiny form disappear over the hill as she yelled after him, "Jake, come back here!"

A Visit to the Cottage - Part 2

There was once a very busy little boy named Jake who was off visiting his aunt at the cottage. It was so exciting! Though his parents loved the outdoors and the beautiful view they weren't so sure about what Jake might do. They knew that he was always exploring and getting into things and there was a huge cliff just over the hill and past the trees that made them very nervous.

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Part 2

"Jake, come back!" she kept yelling as she ran through the sharp grass cutting her feet but not feeling the pain as she ran faster and faster.

Reaching the edge of the cliff she discovered Jake, covered in blue, sitting right on the edge joyfully picking blueberries.

Without a thought, she grabbed him and hugged him so tightly that he groaned and struggled to get free. He had no idea that he had just been saved from tumbling over the edge onto the rocks below. But, his mother knew and was so relieved to know that she had made it just in time. A happy ending! What a relief!

To Be Continued...

Luke 22:44: [Jesus] "He said to them, 'This is what I told you while I was still with you: Everything must be fulfilled that is written about me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets and the Psalms.'"

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Friends of Jesus

Stephen (Acts 6:1-8:1)

Hi, I'm Stephen. You might be surprised to be hearing from me since things didn't end so well for me but hey, I'm getting ahead of myself. I was one of seven people who were chosen to help take care of some widows by making sure they had enough food. Actually, that sounds very similar to what The Salvation Army does. Though I didn't get to meet Jesus, I got to share His love story with these women by showing them that He loved them and even cared about them getting enough to eat! That part of my life was such a blessing. Practically sharing about Jesus was very important to me but I also loved to tell people about Jesus even though they didn't always want to listen. God was working some miracles through me and gave me the gift to be able to use my words to tell people all about Him. But there was a group of people, the Sadducees, who hated me so much that they basically dragged me off to court. That could have been a nightmare if it hadn't actually worked in my favour, because I got to tell them all about Abraham from the Old Testament, about Joseph and Moses and then about how Jesus had come! The message was great. But...what happened next wasn't high on my list of things to do in life. People were so angry that I was telling the news about Jesus that they actually killed me. As I was dying, I saw Jesus waiting for me in heaven! With the strength of the Holy Spirit I showed people by my actions how Jesus lived and I told Jesus' story all the time, even when I was being dragged off to court and stoned to death.

John (Revelation 1:8-19)

Hi, my name is John. I was the last to share the message of Jesus in the Bible itself. I was one of the 12 disciples that Jesus chose to hang out with when He was on earth. That was an amazing learning experience. There were people who hated Jesus and were threatened by him, and so when they realized that I was friends with Him they were not impressed so they sent me off to an island called Patmos to be punished. Little did they know that was where Jesus would give me a vision of what was to come in the future. Jesus came and spoke to me very clearly in this vision. He told me, He is the beginning and the end. He told me to write down what I saw and to send it to some of the churches that had grown because of our lives and witness. It was almost indescribable it was so amazing. I saw lampstands and what appeared to be a person dressed in a robe reaching down to his feet, with a golden sash around his chest. The hair on his head was white like wool, as white as snow, and his eyes were like a blazing fire. His feet were like bronze glowing in a furnace, and his voice was like the sound of rushing waters. In his right hand he held seven stars, and coming out of his mouth was a sharp, double-edged sword. His face was like the sun shining in all its brilliance. (Revelation 1:12-16)

Jesus came to me in this vision and I wrote down what I'd seen to pass on to others. What a great way to share the message of Jesus' love, to be able to share what He showed me in my vision of Him.

Philip (Acts 8:26-40)

Hi, I'm Philip. I was one of the 12 disciples who were chosen to be with and learn from Jesus while he lived on earth. But the strange story I want to tell you actually took place after Jesus had gone back to heaven. I love Jesus with all of my heart and I really wanted to let everyone know about Him but I didn't expect to be able to do that the way God had it planned. One day an angel came to me and told me to take the road from Jerusalem to Gaza. I hadn't really intended on leaving the city that day but... anyway, I started on my way, trying to be obedient to the Holy Spirit. It was on the road that I met an Ethiopian man in his chariot. He was obviously an important man and was in charge of the money for the Queen of Ethiopia. He had been to Jerusalem and was heading home. While on his way, he was reading the book of Isaiah from the Old Testament. The Holy Spirit prompted me to run by his chariot and talk to him. I asked him if he understood what he was reading, but not having had any background and not having been with Jesus he didn't quite get it. So he asked me to come and sit with him and talk to him about what he was reading. It was so great. This is what he was reading:

Acts 8:32-33 (NIV)

32 "He was led like a sheep to the slaughter, and as a lamb before its shearer is silent, so he did not open his mouth.

33 In his humiliation he was deprived of justice. Who can speak of his descendants? For his life was taken from the earth."

I was so excited because I got to tell him that the sheep was Jesus who came and died on the cross, without complaining so that we could be forgiven for our sins. With the Holy Spirit's help I went and talked to this Ethiopian man about Jesus and he believed and was baptized. How cool is that?

Peter (Acts 1:14-41)

Hi, I'm Peter. I was totally blessed because I got to hang out with Jesus as one of His disciples. I was actually a fisherman when Jesus came and told me to follow Him. I loved hanging out with Jesus and learning from him but I made a few big mistakes. One of them I don't even like to talk about; it was when Jesus had been arrested and was about to be killed. I told people I didn't even know Him. But miracle of miracles, Jesus forgave me and I went on to be a leader in the church after Jesus had gone to heaven and the Holy Spirit had come. My very first sermon was to a huge crowd of people who couldn't figure out why all of us disciples were so happy. I got to tell everyone that we were so happy because the Holy Spirit had come and that if they believed in Jesus they would be saved. Then I told them the story of Jesus, and about how God allowed Jesus, an innocent man and the Son of God, to be killed so that we could be forgiven and that Jesus rose again. Because of my sermon so many people believed in Jesus and asked Him to forgive them for their sins. During my first sermon about 3000 people came to know Jesus. I listened in my heart to the Holy Spirit and spoke what He told me and God did amazing things. Wow!

Paul (Galatians 1:11-24)

Hi, I'm Paul. I have quite a story. I actually used to hate Christians. I hated them so much that I would find them and kill them. In fact, when Stephen was being killed I stood to the side watching it all happen. I was so awful. I am so glad Jesus came to me and forgave me. I was a very religious man but I didn't know Jesus. Then one day He actually stopped me while I was on the way to kill more Christians. He asked me why I was hurting Him. He covered my eyes so it was like I was blind and sent me on to the city of Damascus where I met a man who told me the truth. I've not looked back and now I get to tell the Gentiles, those who haven't come from the Jewish faith, about Jesus. I went to visit many of them on some missionary journeys and then with the help of the Holy Spirit, I wrote many of the letters of the New Testament. They are letters which encourage, challenge and bless the people that I visited. So, I tell the stories of Jesus by writing letters. I tell about what He has done for me and how He would like us to live for Him. Letter writing is a great way to share Jesus' stories when you live far apart from others.

Friends of Jesus Worksheet

Recruit's Name: _____

Friend of Jesus: _____

As you read the letter from Jesus' friend, draw a picture of what his story reminds you of, or how you think the situation might have looked.



How did this person know Jesus? If they met, where did this take place?

How did this person tell others about Jesus? (sermons, actions, letters)
