

## Help spread the gospel: *Living and Leading Like Christ*

### LESSON AT A GLANCE

#### Facilitator Notes:

- For Your Journey episodes can be found on the [NAC USA YouTube channel](#) *and* in the [NAC USA mobile app](#)
- Sermon clips are available in the [NAC USA mobile app](#) *and* in the app web player (link in the list to the right)

#### I wonder...

- How should I treat those whose sin is obvious?
- Should I ignore the sins of others?
- How is living and leading like Christ spreading the gospel?

#### I believe...

- I should not focus on the sin of others, but reflect on my own sinful nature. (Romans 14:12)
- I should not accept sinful behavior, but should accept the sinner and seek to save him/her by leading him/her to Christ.
- This is demonstrated by admission of my own sin and my need for Christ's redeeming power. Christ makes us new and we have the opportunity to demonstrate how a relationship with Him impacts our lives. (2 Corinthians 5:17)

#### Materials:

- IGNITE Bible
- For Your Journey
  - [Episode 58 - Repentance](#)
- Chief Apostle sermon clip 17 – *Love like Jesus loves*  
<http://subspla.sh/93b34o6>

#### References:

- Bible: John 8:4-11, Romans 14:12-13, 2 Corinthians 5:17, 1 Peter 2:24

### PRE DISCUSSION MESSAGE TO PARENTS AND STUDENT (TO BE SENT VIA EMAIL OR TEXT)

Have you ever wondered how to respond when you see someone sin? Come find out at our next discussion!

### POST DISCUSSION MESSAGE TO PARENTS (TO BE SENT VIA EMAIL OR TEXT)

#### Facilitator Notes:

- Please keep the main message intact, but feel free to add local information as necessary.
- Consider including a link to one of the videos listed in the "References" section above for families to watch together and use as a conversation starter.

Dear Parents,

This week the "I Wonder...." questions are about how we can spread the gospel by accepting sinners and sharing how much God loves them despite the sin. Talk with your child about a time you have experienced grace and how you felt.

As always, if you have questions about the topic, please feel free to contact your Youth Leaders.

Your Youth Leaders

### SUNDAY SERMON REFLECTIONS(up to 10 minutes)

**Facilitator Notes:**

- Allow 2-3 students to share their reflections. For larger groups, vary who shares from week to week.

- What Bible verse was used for the basis of last Sunday's sermon?
- What were some of the main takeaways? What did you learn?
- So far this week, how have you applied what you learned from the sermon last Sunday?
- Going forward, how will you apply what you learned from the sermon last Sunday?

### Hook(up to 15 minutes)

**Facilitator Notes:**

- Allow 2-3 students to share their reflections. For larger groups, vary who shares from week to week.
- If no students are willing to answer this question, you can ask if they've ever seen someone do something wrong and get caught. Ask the questions about the person who was caught. If none of the students share an experience, be prepared to share an experience when someone was caught doing something wrong.

- How are you and how are you feeling today?
- Who would like to share their point to ponder or call to action from last week?
- Has anyone ever done something wrong and gotten caught?
  - Who caught you?
  - What was the result/consequence?
  - How did/ you feel? (embarrassed, ashamed)
  - Would you have felt the same way if you hadn't been caught?
    - After the students have shared a few answers, remind them that the commandments are "you shall not steal", not "you shall not get caught stealing."
- Today we are going to talk about sin – your own and the sin of those around you- and how we can share with others how Jesus saves.

### SET THE STAGE(1 minute)

**Facilitator Notes:**

- Preview the "I wonder" questions with the students.

**I wonder...**

- How should I treat those whose sin is obvious?
- Should I ignore the sins of others?
- How is living and leading like Christ spreading the gospel?

**LESSON(up to 25 minutes)**

**Facilitator Notes:**

➤ **Background: Read John 8:4-11 together**

- **John 8:4-11** - ...they said to Him, "Teacher, this woman was caught in adultery, in the very act. Now Moses, in the law, commanded us that such should be stoned. But what do You say?" This they said, testing Him, that they might have something of which to accuse Him. But Jesus stooped down and wrote on the ground with His finger, as though He did not hear. So when they continued asking Him, He raised Himself up and said to them, "He who is without sin among you, let him throw a stone at her first." And again, He stooped down and wrote on the ground. Then those who heard it, being convicted by their conscience, went out one by one, beginning with the oldest even to the last. And Jesus was left alone, and the woman standing in the midst. When Jesus had raised Himself up and saw no one but the woman, He said to her, "Woman, where are those accusers of yours? Has no one condemned you?" She said, "No one, Lord." And Jesus said to her, "Neither do I condemn you; go and sin no more."

Review the story and make sure the students understand the following:

- a. Was there a question as to whether or not the woman had sinned? (No, it says she was caught in the act.)
- b. What was the consequence for being caught in adultery? (to be killed/stoned)
- c. Were the Scribes and Pharisees genuinely concerned about the woman/her sin/her welfare? (No, they were trying to test Jesus and find fault in Him.)
- d. What did Jesus say they should do? (That whoever had not sinned should begin to stone the woman.)
- e. What did the people do? (They did not stone her – they left and no one was left to accuse her except Jesus.)
- f. Why didn't they stone her? (Each one realized that they had sinned themselves.)
- g. When Jesus was left alone with the woman, what happened? (He asked where her accusers were. She said no one condemned her. Jesus said He didn't condemn her either – and then said "Go and sin no more.")

**Student Question 1:** How do you think she felt when she was caught? What do you think she expected to happen?

➤ **I should not focus on the sin of others, but reflect on my own sinful nature**

- Was Jesus' reaction to the woman's sin expected or unexpected? (probably unexpected –based on the understanding others had of the law at that time)
- When it says "those who heard it, being convicted by their conscience" – what does that mean? (Each person there realized their own sinfulness and that they could not accuse/stone the woman.)
- Could Jesus have thrown the first stone and rightfully accused the woman? (Yes – He was without sin.)
- Did Jesus realize the woman was doing something wrong? (Yes, - He told her to go and sin no more. He left **her** with responsibility to change her sinful ways.)

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Romans 14:12-13</b>            So then each of us shall give account of himself to God. Therefore let us not judge one another anymore, but rather resolve this, not to put a stumbling block or cause to fall in our brother's way.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ We all sin. Is it more beneficial for us to focus on the sins of others or our own sin? (Our own.) Why? (Because we want to grow closer to God. Sin separates us from God. If we repent we grow closer to our Heavenly Father. When we realize that we sin, it should become harder for us to condemn others for their sin.)               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reference <b>Romans 14:12-13</b></li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>1 Peter 2:24</b>            who Himself bore our sins in His own body on the tree, that we, having died to sins, might live for righteousness-by whose stripes you were healed.</li> <li>• For Your Journey episodes can be found on the <a href="#">NAC USA YouTube channel</a> <i>and</i> in the <a href="#">NAC USA mobile app</a></li> </ul>	<p><b><u>Student question 2: Have you ever had an experience where you should have been punished but weren't? How did you feel?</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Christ taking the punishment that we deserved for our sins is a primary element of the Gospel message. The more we understand our relationship to Christ and His deliverance through grace, the more we're able to appreciate our freedom and respond by living lives that are pleasing to God.               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reference <b>1 Peter 2:24</b></li> </ul> </li> <li>○ <b>Contemplating and understanding the impact of our sin is an important step that leads to repentance.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Watch <a href="#">For Your Journey   Episode 58 – Repentance</a> together and ask the students to share a point from the episode that stood out to them.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b><u>Student Question 3: How can you show Christ's love to others who sin?</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Think back to the discussion about how you felt when you were caught doing something wrong. You may have felt embarrassed that everyone knew and ashamed that you made a mistake. We have been offered forgiveness through Jesus' sacrifice. How does it make you feel to know that your shame and embarrassment can be washed away? (Relieved, grateful)</li> <li>○ When we realize that we sin – does that/should that give us perspective about the sin of others? (Yes.) What perspective does it provide us? (When we realize that we are sinners and can be saved, we should want the same salvation for others that we would like for ourselves. We don't need to tell others how to change – we just need to love them like Jesus loves them. When they realize how much Jesus loves them, they will want to change because of their love for Jesus.)</li> <li>○ I should not accept sinful behavior, but should accept the sinner and seek to save him/her.</li> </ul> <p>➤ Discussion: When we receive a great present/reward – what is one of the first things we do? (We usually want to tell everyone about it). When we receive the forgiveness we are offered because of Christ's sacrifice, we should want to share that message with others.</p>

## WHAT'S IN IT FOR ME?(up to 10 minutes)

### Facilitator Notes:

- Sermon clips are available in the [NAC USA mobile app](#) and in the app web player (link in the list to the right)

**Wrap up the lesson with why we must live and lead like Christ, linking it to our desire to help spread the gospel.**

- If time allows, watch the Chief Apostle sermon clip 17 – *Love like Jesus loves* <http://subspla.sh/93b3406>

### Close with the "I Wonder...." questions

- Ask a student to read an "I Wonder...." question, and invite another student to answer with an "I Believe...." statement in their own words.
- As you review each question and answer, stop and check in with the group to be sure there are no misunderstandings or misconceptions.
- Remind the students that on their Confirmation day, they will or have already promised and committed to surrendering themselves in belief in God.

### I wonder...

- How should I treat those whose sin is obvious?
- Should I ignore the sins of others?
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### I believe...

- I should not focus on the sin of others, but reflect on my own sinful nature. (Romans 14:12)
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- This is demonstrated by admission of my own sin and my need for Christ's redeeming power. Christ makes us new and we have the opportunity to demonstrate how a relationship with Him impacts our lives. (2 Corinthians 5:17).

### Point to Ponder....

- Think about a situation where you knew someone sinned. How did you react – did you want them to experience the consequences of their sin? Did you react as Jesus would?

### A Call to Action....

- Think about something you've asked to be forgiven for. How relieved were you to be able to know you could access Christ's salvation? Share your feelings with a friend or family member.

### Weekly Reflections

What Bible verse was used for the basis of last Sunday's sermon?

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What were some of the main takeaways? What did you learn?

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So far this week, how have you applied what you learned from the sermon last Sunday?

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Going forward, how will you apply what you learned from the sermon last Sunday?

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**Point to Ponder...**

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**Call to Action...**

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## Help spread the gospel: *Living and Leading Like Christ*

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<b>References:</b> Bible: John 8:4-11, Romans 14:12-13, 2 Corinthians 5:17, 1 Peter 2:24	

1. Today we read about the woman caught in adultery. How do you think she felt when she was caught? What do you think she expected to happen?

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2. Have you ever had an experience where you should have been punished but weren't? How did you feel?

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3. How can you show Christ's love to others who sin?

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**Point to Ponder:** Think about a situation where you knew someone sinned. How did you react – did you want them to experience the consequences of their sin? Did you react as Jesus would?

**Call to Action:** Think about something you've asked to be forgiven for. How relieved were you to be able to know you could access Christ's salvation? Share your feelings with a friend or family member.