

DONUTS AND DISCIPLES

LESSON SNAPSHOT

A Dozen Donuts

BOTTOM LINE:

Becoming a disciple means I will have to put God and others ahead of myself.

OBJECTIVE:

Kids will learn, “Becoming a disciple means I will have to put God and others ahead of myself.”

KEY PASSAGE:

Luke 9:23-26, 57-62, Counting the Cost

MEMORY VERSE:

“Have your roots in him. Build yourselves up in him. Grow strong in what you believe.”
Colossians 2:7a (NIRV)

SUMMARY:

Unfortunately, we don't live in a world where donuts are free. If you want to buy a dozen donuts, you have to decide if the reward is worth the cost. (And if you do buy them, you have to decide if the reward of eating a dozen donuts is worth the tummy-ache later on!) Becoming a disciple of Jesus is so much greater than the regular life, but Jesus did tell those who wanted to follow Him that they needed to “count the cost.” Following Jesus does mean we will make sacrifices in this life because we are living with the next life in mind.

SIMPLE PRAYER:

*Dear God,
Please help me to look for the ways I can put others first.
In Jesus' name,
Amen*

DONUTS AND DISCIPLES

MEMORY VERSE

“Have your roots in him. Build yourselves up in him. Grow strong in what you believe.”
Colossians 2:7a (NIRV)

“Rooted and built up in him, strengthened in the faith.” Colossians 2:7a (NIV)

“Let your roots grow down into him, and let your lives be built on him. Then your faith will grow strong...” Colossians 2:7a (NLT)

“Rooted and built up in him, and stablished in the faith.” Colossians 2:7a (KJV)

LARGE GROUP:

Group Callout:

Have various groups recite the verse together. Use the list below or create your own.

Say the verse if you:

- Like glazed donuts
- Like chocolate frosting on your donuts
- Have ever made homemade donuts
- Are allergic to donuts
- Like jelly in your donuts
- Like cream in your donuts
- Like sprinkles on your donuts

SMALL GROUP:

Decorate the Donut

Get into a circle. Explain to the kids that they are the donut and that when they toss the ball, it decorates the donut. But, in order to toss the ball, you have to say the next word of the memory verse. Toss or roll a ball to one child. Have him say the first word of the verse before tossing or rolling the ball to someone else, who then says the next word, and so on. Continue until you complete the verse. If the ball is dropped, start over again. Time how long it takes to finish the verse; and try to beat the previous time.

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SKIT

Deluxe Donut Dilemma

ITEMS NEEDED:

White coat or chef hat

“No Cell phone” sign

Cell phone

A handful of change

Some dollar bills

CHARACTER BREAKDOWN:

1 M, 2 F

CHARACTERS:

Baker Bob

Emma

Sophia

(Sophia enters Baker Bob's holding her phone up to her ear.)

BOB: Welcome to Baker Bob's, home of the—wait a minute, can't you read the sign?
(points) NO CELL PHONES!

SOPHIA: Well, that's a silly rule. Everyone has a cell phone.

BOB: I had to put an end to them after my granddaughter put me on the ChewTube. I turned into a virus and suddenly I had so many kids in here with their camera sticks, no one could even walk around without getting hit!

SOPHIA: Chewtube? Do you mean Youtube? Virus? Oh, viral! Camera sticks? Do you

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SKIT (Continued from page 3)

mean a selfie stick? Wait! You're Baker Bob? Like, the Baker Bob! That's amazing! Can I take a selfie with you?

BOB: What's a selfie?

SOPHIA: I want to take a picture with you for my Insta.

BOB: Is that a cell phone thing?

SOPHIA: Yes.

BOB: Then, no. (points again) NO CELL PHONES

SOPHIA: Okay, fine!

BOB: Wait, if you aren't here because you know who I am, then what are you doing here?

SOPHIA: Oh, well, I just got my report card back and I made super good grades, so my parents gave me some extra money, and I just need to spend it! I thought I would treat myself.

BOB: Great job on the grades! You are A-mazing! So what can I get for you?

SOPHIA: I'll take a Deluxe Extreme Sweet Li—

(Emma runs in the door, out of breath.)

EMMA: I did it! I finally got enough money for that glazed donut I've had my eye on!
(Hands Baker Bob a handful of change. Does a happy dance and accidentally bumps into Sophia.)

SOPHIA: Hey! Watch where you're going!

EMMA: Oh, my goodness! I am so sorry. I totally didn't mean to.

SOPHIA: Why are you jumping around like a crazy person?

EMMA: I'm just so excited! I got such a great report card that my mom scraped up all the change we could find in our couch and in our car so she could let me come get this treat!

SOPHIA: Oh, that's okay.

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SKIT (Continued from page 4)

EMMA: Thank you. Hold on, don't I know you from somewhere? I do! You're that Christian girl from school! You always carry your bible around and you hang around all the other Christian kids. You—

BOB: Emma, I'm sorry honey, but you're 10 cents short.

EMMA: Oh man! I must've dropped some of it on the way here because I was so excited. Just wait a second. Let me go back outside. I'm sure I can find a dime on the street somewhere.

SOPHIA: *(Staring at her dollar bills, sighs.)* Wait, Emma, don't go. I don't really need the Deluxe Extreme Sweet Life Max. I'd rather get just the Sweet Life and get one for you, too!

EMMA: Really? Oh, wow! My brother is going to be so jealous! Usually, we only get those on our birthdays!

SOPHIA: Absolutely! It's no fun to eat these kinds of treats all by yourself. How about we get these to go and you can come over to my house? It sure would be sweet to have a friend like you!

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OBJECT LESSON

ITEMS NEEDED:

1 bag of regular size marshmallows *(or small toy prizes if you don't want to use food)*
Timer

Have you ever had to sacrifice something small at first for something better later? It's so hard isn't it? Like when your mom says you can either have one small piece of candy before dinner or a brownie if you wait until after dinner. You know the candy would be a nice little treat, but you also know that your mom makes the best brownies in the whole entire planet! It's such a hard decision! You have to count the cost. You have to decide if it is worth it to you to wait.

So today, instead of me just talking about our object lesson, we all get to participate in it. I am going to put one marshmallow in front of you. If you can wait a whole 3 minutes without eating your marshmallow, then I will give you a second one. But, if you eat it before the timer goes off, then you don't get any more marshmallows. Do you understand?

(Pass out the marshmallows and set the timer. Once the timer goes off, reward anyone who waited for their second marshmallow.)

Waiting to eat the second marshmallow is kind of like what it's like to be a disciple, someone who follows Jesus. Jesus says that we will have to deny ourselves, or say no to something we want now, because we are living with the next life in mind. The next life is the one that believers get to spend with Jesus forever. Doesn't that sound amazing?

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LARGE GROUP GAME

FREEZE TAG

ITEMS NEEDED:

none

INSTRUCTIONS:

Invite kids to play a regular game of freeze tag. If someone gets tagged they are frozen until someone comes to unfreeze them. In order to be unfrozen, someone must crawl through the legs of the person who is frozen. Secretly keep track of the child who unfreezes the most people.

WHAT'S THE POINT:

Announce which child unfroze the most people. Give the child a prize.

Say: In order to unfreeze your friends, you had to risk sacrificing yourself. (Name of winner) risked that sacrifice and got rewarded. That's what it's like to follow Jesus. Sometimes we have to give up something now because we are living for the next life with Jesus.

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LARGE GROUP LESSON

Becoming a disciple means I will have to put God and others ahead of myself.

OBJECTIVE:

Kids will learn, “Becoming a disciple means I will have to put God and others ahead of myself.”

KEY PASSAGE:

Luke 9:23-26, 57-62, Counting the Cost

INTRO:

Have you ever heard of the story of the man who traded a red paper clip, and kept trading and trading and trading until he eventually got a house? It took him a year to do it. Here’s how it worked:

The man, his name is Kyle, put an ad on the internet that he wanted to trade a red paper clip. Two girls traded him a pen shaped like a fish for his red paperclip. He traded the pen shaped like a fish for a doorknob with a crazy face on it. He traded the doorknob for a camping stove. He traded the stove for an electric generator. He traded it for a barrel and a neon sign. He traded those for a snowmobile. A magazine offered him two trips to the Colorado Rockies for his snowmobile. In turn, a corporate guy offered him a company truck for the two trips. He traded the van for a recording contract, like to make music in a studio. He traded the recording contract for one year’s rent for half a duplex. Someone traded him an afternoon with an old, famous rock star for the year’s rent. He traded that for a KISS snow globe. (KISS is another old band.) He traded the snow globe for an opportunity to act on TV (the guy that offered this has one of the world’s biggest snow globe collections). This guy, Kyle, lives in Canada, by the way, and someone from a city in Canada offered him a house for this acting role!

Each time Kyle made a trade, he had to count the cost. He had to decide if it was worth giving up something now for something better later. Jesus talked about this same thing when it comes to being a disciple.

READ LUKE 9:23-26, 57-62

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LARGE GROUP LESSON

MAIN POINT:

Here's what these verses are talking about. In order to follow Jesus, we have to deny ourselves. Sometimes we will have to say no to something we want because it's not what Jesus wants for us. We have to surrender our lives and allow Jesus to be in control. He may guide us down a completely different path than we would have chosen for ourselves.

In these verses, Jesus is not saying that you have to sell your house and go live in the jungle to follow Him. He is saying that following Him means denying yourself. This may look like giving up sleeping in on Sunday mornings to come to church. This may look like risking looking uncool at school by talking about Jesus.

DRIVE IT HOME:

These passages make it very clear that following Jesus won't always be easy, and it is something that you need to put some serious thought into before deciding. Jesus doesn't want people who are going to follow him half-heartedly.

You can't just be "interested" in Jesus, you have to be "committed" to Him. It's like if you play a sport on a team. In order to be a good team player, you have to show up to all the practices ready to work. You can't decide not to go because your friend invited you to go see a movie. That's not how it works, not in sports, and not when it comes to your faith.

Jesus wants you. All of you. He wants you to play a part in His kingdom. But that can't happen if you aren't willing to do your part. A lot of times, this kind of talk might make someone think twice about following Jesus, but if this talk inspired you to want to go all in and learn more about how to follow Jesus, please be sure to talk to a grown-up here at church and we will help you figure out your next step on your walk with Jesus.

CLOSE WITH A SIMPLE PRAYER:

Dear God,

You expect a lot from someone who follows You.

Please help me to trust you with that decision.

In Jesus' name,

Amen

DONUTS AND DISCIPLES

SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION (K-2ND)

ICEBREAKER:

When is a time that you bought something or did something that wasn't worth it?

MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY:

Decorate the Donut

Get into a circle. Explain to the kids that they are the donut and that when they toss the ball, it decorates the donut. But, in order to toss the ball, you have to say the next word of the memory verse. Toss or roll a ball to one child. Have him say the first word of the verse before tossing or rolling the ball to someone else, who then says the next word, and so on. Continue until you complete the verse. If the ball is dropped, start over again. Time how long it takes to finish the verse; and try to beat the previous time.

SMALL GROUP GAME/ACTIVITY:

The Price is Right

Set up a row of common household items. Label each item with a price that is higher or lower than its actual price. Divide the class into two teams and have them take turns sending in a player. Hold up each item and ask the player whether the item's actual price is higher, lower or the same as the listed price. If the player guesses correctly, her team gets a point. The team with the most points wins.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

Read Luke 9:23-26, 57-62

What does it mean to deny yourself?

Can you think of a time that you've had to deny yourself?

What are some things that might be hard about following Jesus?

What do you think it means to "count the cost"?

What does the word sacrifice mean?

SIMPLE PRAYER:

Dear God,

Please forgive me for the times that I have put myself first.

In Jesus' name,

Amen

DONUTS AND DISCIPLES

SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION (3RD-5TH)

ICEBREAKER:

When is a time that you bought something or did something that wasn't worth it?

MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY:

Decorate the Donut

Get into a circle. Explain to the kids that they are the donut and that when they toss the ball, it decorates the donut. But, in order to toss the ball, you have to say the next word of the memory verse. Toss or roll a ball to one child. Have him say the first word of the verse before tossing or rolling the ball to someone else, who then says the next word, and so on. Continue until you complete the verse. If the ball is dropped, start over again. Time how long it takes to finish the verse; and try to beat the previous time.

SMALL GROUP GAME/ACTIVITY:

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DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

Read Luke 9:23-26, 57-62

What do you think it means to take up your cross?

Why do you have to do it daily?

What do you think it means to "count the cost"?

Why do some people choose not to follow Jesus?

Why do you think following Jesus means we will make sacrifices?

SIMPLE PRAYER:

Dear God,

Please forgive me for the times that I have put myself first.

In Jesus' name,

Amen

DONUTS AND DISCIPLES

POWERPOINT REVIEW GAME

1. What must you take up?

- a) your collection
- b) your cross*
- c) your cat
- d) your car

2. How often must you take it up?

- a) daily*
- b) Weekly
- c) monthly
- d) quarterly

3. If you gain the whole world, you may lose:

- a) Your way
- b) Your heart
- c) Your self*
- d) Your shot

4. Fill in the blank. Foxes have dens and birds have nests, but the Son of Man has no _____.

- a) rhythm
- b) food
- c) satisfaction
- d) place to lay his head*

5. True or False: It is always easy to follow Jesus.

- a) True
- b) False*

MAKE IT STICK

5 SIMPLE WAYS
YOU CAN MAKE
THIS LESSON STICK
WITH YOUR KIDS

Donuts and Disciples Lesson 3



IN THE CAR:

Ask your child what they learned about this week on the drive home:

Unfortunately, we don't live in a world where donuts are free. If you want to buy a dozen donuts, you have to decide if the reward is worth the cost. (And if you do buy them, you have to decide if the reward of eating a dozen donuts is worth the tummy-ache later on!) Becoming a disciple of Jesus is so much greater than the regular life, but Jesus did tell those who wanted to follow Him that they needed to "count the cost." Following Jesus does mean we will make sacrifices in this life because we are living with the next life in mind. Luke 9:23-26, 57-62, Counting the Cost



HANGING OUT:

Make this week's lesson real: Ask your kids ...

What is the most expensive thing you've ever bought with your own money?

Was it worth the cost?



AT DINNER:

Here are some great discussion starters:

Can you think of an example of a time that doing the right thing might cost you?

What kind of sacrifices do you think you'll have to make by following Jesus?

Can you think of any people anywhere around the world that sacrifice for Jesus?



AT BEDTIME:

Quiz your child on this week's memory verse:

"Have your roots in him. Build yourselves up in him. Grow strong in what you believe."

Colossians 2:7a (NIRV)



PARENT TIME:

What you need to know:

It is so easy to think of other people as sinners, just as the Pharisees did. It is so easy to point out where others have gone wrong. We know deep in our hearts we are equally as guilty. We each need Jesus. Thankfully, He loves us so much and wants to give us the "sweet life." All we have to do is follow Him.

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TAKE HOME ACTIVITY

Items needed:

Popsicle Sticks

Glue

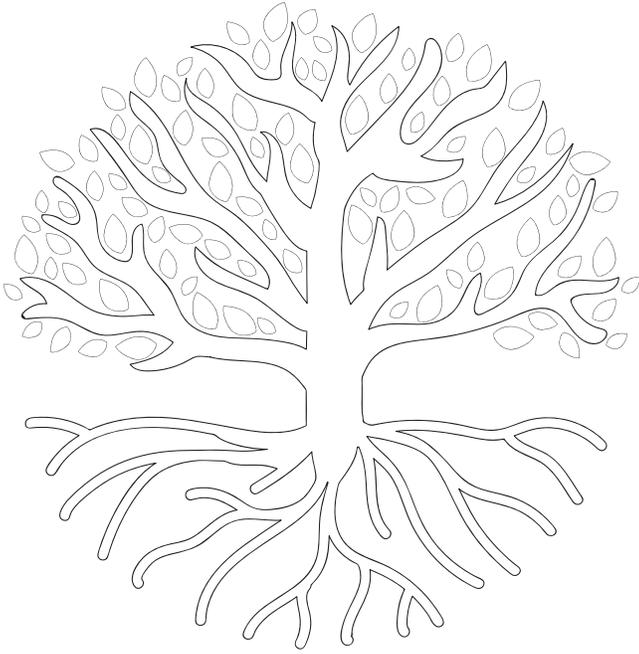
Yarn

Markers

Take Up Your Cross Daily

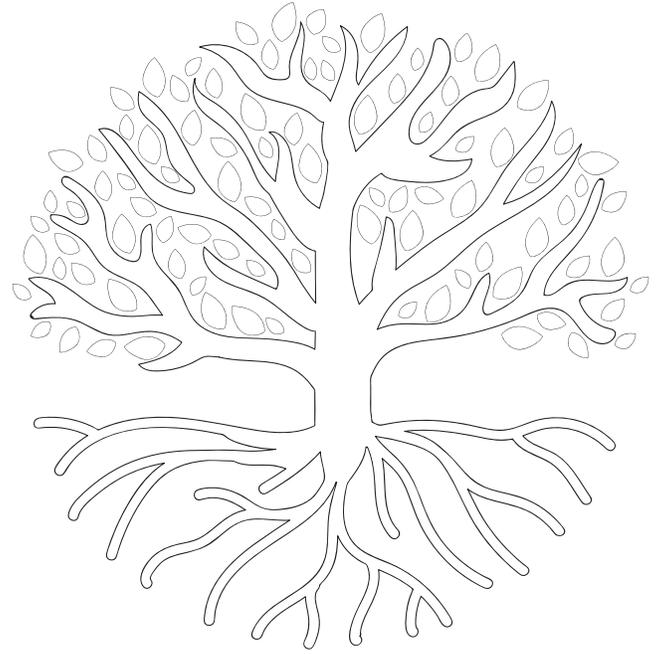
Instruct the kids to get 2 popsicle sticks and to place them perpendicularly to form a cross. Have them place just a small dab of glue where the two sticks meet. For extra enforcement, have them wrap some yarn, in a crisscross design around the center of the cross. Once they are finished, invite them to decorate their crosses however they would like.

This week, their take home comes with a challenge. Challenge the kids to literally take up their cross daily. Take their cross with them in their backpack, in the car on the way to soccer practice, etc. Let the cross be a reminder to put God and others before themselves this week.



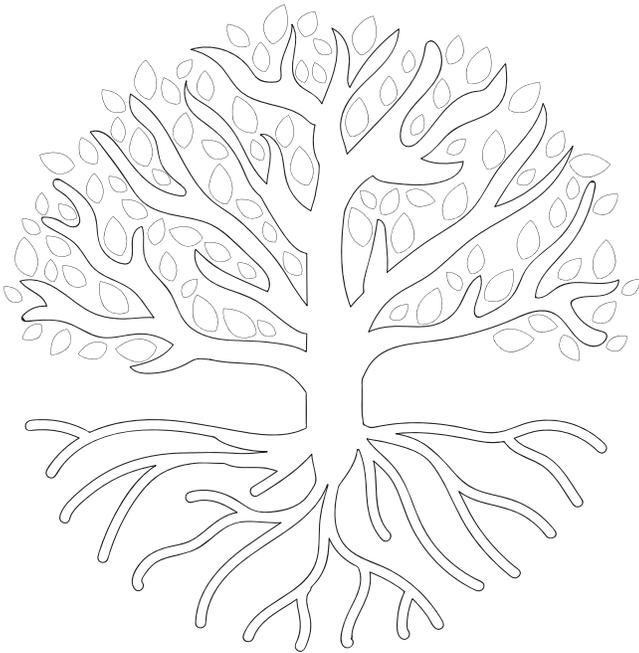
**“Have your roots in him. Build yourselves up in him.
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Colossians 2:7a (NIRV)



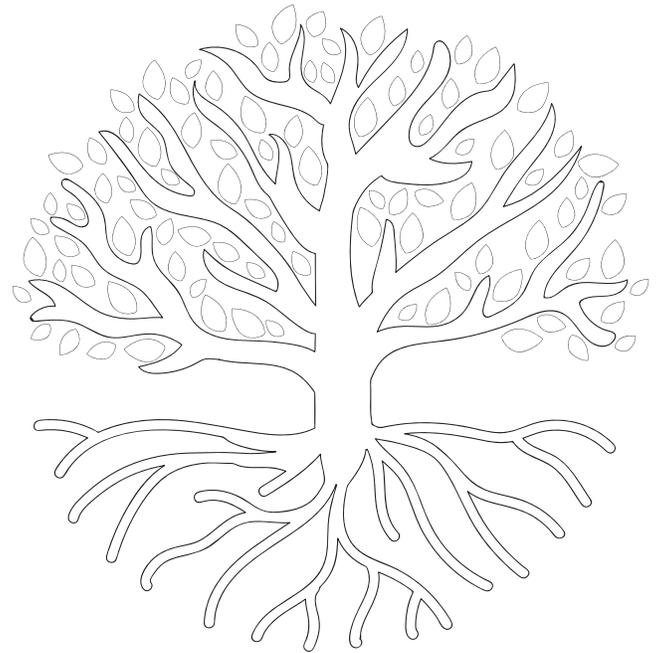
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