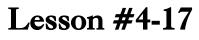




Sunday, January 7, 2018



Come and See the Messiah

John 1:35-51



Key Verse:

They came and saw where he was staying, and they remained with him that day." John 1:39

The Point:

We see what it looks like to give testimony to the Messiah and how we deepen our trust in Jesus by following him.

Unit Theme (January 7—January 21):

God's Presence Brings Life



Play a game of seeing and naming.

You will need:

- **†** Items that symbolize Jesus (see suggestions below)
- † Tray
- + Blanket or towel
- **†** Pens or pencils
- † Paper
- **†** Whiteboard or large sheet of paper
- † Marker



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What Do You See? (Continued)

Preparation:

- Gather a selection of five to ten items that relate to who Jesus is, including various names of Jesus. Suggestions include: a cross, a lamb, a bottle of oil, a Bible, an icon or picture of Jesus, a candle or flashlight, empty plastic Easter egg, Christmas decoration, crown, nails, etc.
- 2. Set up the items on the tray or a table so they are all visible. For older students, you may have more items and set them up closer together.
- 3. Carefully place a blanket or other cover over the items so they are hidden from view.

Instructions:

- 1. Distribute the pens or pencils and paper to the students.
- 2. Our Bible story today is from the Gospel of John. In this passage, Jesus tells some people "Come and see." I want you to come here and see this collection of objects I have put together.
- 3. When I uncover them, look at them carefully for 30 seconds and try to remember what is here. When I cover them back up, take a moment to write down every object that you can remember.
- 4. Uncover the tray or table for 30 seconds, and then cover it back up.
- 5. After students are finished writing down their lists, go around the group and have students list the items out loud. Write this list on the whiteboard.
- 6. Once everyone has had a chance to share and your whole group list is complete, uncover the items again and check to see the accuracy of students' memories.
- 7. Let's look at these objects again. What do they have to do with one another? What is their connection? [They all have to do with Jesus.] Go through each item, and have them identify its connection to Jesus.
- 8. Pick up one item that is easily connected to Jesus (e.g. a cross). What do you think of when you see this item? When we see a cross, we think about Jesus dying on the cross, right? You are *seeing* something, and it helps you to *identify* or *name* something about Jesus. That is what happens in our Bible story. Let's "come and see" what happens.

Note: If doing this in worship or otherwise, you can skip the writing portion of the activity and just have participants name aloud what they remember.