

Word One Bible Study

Spiritual Challenges

By Matthew Kuschel

Text: Luke 13:31-35 for the Second Sunday in Lent, Lectionary Series C

OBJECTIVES

Participants will:

1. Identify the tools Jesus provides to help us grow spiritually.
2. Better understand how much Jesus loves us and wants us under his wings of love.

MATERIALS NEEDED

Bibles
3x5 index cards
Chalk board or newsprint
Cut-out tools for Reinforcing What Has Been Learned
Markers and pencils

GROUP GUIDELINES

"If I could. . ."

1. Have students each write their name on a 3x5 index card and drop it in a box.
2. After mixing up the cards, have each person draw one from the box.
3. One at a time, have kids each read aloud the name on their card, then tell that person one gift they would give him/her if they could and why. Make sure kids understand that all gifts must be positive, no joke gifts.

LOOKING AT GOD'S WORD

1. Today look at your spirituality and some of the challenges you face, as well as at the assistance God gives you to face the challenges. Rate your spirituality on a scale of one to five. One being not so good and five being terrific.
2. What are some of the spiritual challenges that people face? List these answers on the board/newsprint.
3. Read Luke 13:31-35. Answer the following questions and list the answers on the board.
 - a. Who is Jesus talking to?
 - b. What is Jesus talking about?
 - c. What is Jesus concerned about?
 - d. Do these concerns exist today?
4. How do you see Jesus helping you with your spiritual challenges?
5. What tools do you think Jesus gives to help you out when you are challenged spiritually?
6. List the answers to the following questions on the board.
 - a. How does Jesus respond to the Pharisees?
 - b. Are there some principles that can be found to help you grow spiritually?
 - c. What are some ways you can stay under the wings of Jesus?

REINFORCING WHAT HAS BEEN LEARNED

1. Have the students perform a skit that demonstrates one or more of the principles.
2. Cut out shapes of tools and have the students write one principle on each tool. Use these tools to make a bulletin board, titled "Tools That Help Us Grow Spiritually."

CLOSING

Close with a prayer asking for God's help to stay under the wings of Jesus.

Originally published in Discovery Bible Studies.

Updated for youthESource in December 2015

youthESource is published on the Web by the LCMS Office of National Mission—Youth Ministry. The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, 1333 South Kirkwood Road, St. Louis, MO 63122-7295; 1-800-248-1930; www.youthesource.com. Editor: Sherrah Holobaugh Behrens. VOL. 13 NO. 1. January 2016.