

Lesson 10 / February 7, 2010

Superhero Scrutiny

for use as

STEP 1

Lesson 10 Focus:

Christ has the power.

Lesson 10 Bible Basis:

Luke 5:1-11

Students will discuss different “superheroes” to get them thinking about God’s amazing power.

Materials:

- pictures of superheroes
- buzzer
- table or pedestal
- dice

Before class, set your buzzer (this can be any type of board game buzzer) on a table or pedestal that three people can stand around comfortably. As your students arrive, greet them warmly and instruct them to stand in a line, shoulder to shoulder. Once everyone is situated, number your students off into teams. Make sure that no team has more than 5 people. Try to limit the number of teams to three. (If you have more than 15 students in class, consider asking for volunteers to play. If you have 3 or less students, simply have the individuals face each other.)

Announce to your class that “Today we will play a game called “Superhero Scrutiny”! Here are the rules:

- (1) There are five rounds to this game.
- (2) At the beginning of each round, a different player from each team will gather around the buzzer.
- (3) The round will begin when I reveal a picture of a well known superhero.
- (4) Once the picture has been revealed, teams are free to hit the buzzer.
- (5) The first team to hit the buzzer has the opportunity to play the round.
- (6) They must first answer two “enter the round” questions, before they can play the round.
- (7) To answer the two “enter the round” questions, the team member who hit the buzzer must share two pieces of information about the pictured superhero. These two pieces of information must fit into one of these three categories: (A) the superhero’s real name, (B) special abilities of the superhero, or (C) additional characters found within this superhero’s story [sidekicks, damsels in distress, villains, etc.].
- (8) If the team member who hit the buzzer gives two accurate pieces of superhero information, then the entire team plays the round.
- (9) Playing the round means that the entire team must now come up with

Lesson 10
Memory Verse

Be strong in the Lord
 and in his mighty
 power.

—Ephesians 6:10

three additional pieces of information regarding the superhero to win the round. If they do so, they win the round and receive 10 points [two points for each correct piece of information].

- (10) If the team cannot come up with the necessary information (either in the “enter the round” stage or in the team stage), other teams have a chance to steal the round.
- (11) To steal, the remaining teams roll the dice. The team with the higher roll steals the round. (If you only have two teams, rolling the dice is not necessary.)
- (12) The team that stole the round only wins if they answer the rest of the information questions. (Example: Team A buzzes first and answers the two “enter the round” questions about Iron Man. They then get stumped and only come up with one of the three remaining information questions. Team C steals and comes up with two remaining pieces of information about Iron Man. Thus, Team A gets no points and Team C gets four points, because they answered two questions. If Team C fails to come up with the two remaining pieces of information, then Team A would just get six points.)
- (13) After all five rounds, the points are totaled and the winning team is declared!

You may use any superheroes, but some examples are Superman, Batman, Spiderman, Iron Man, and Wolverine. You can go to the following Website for pictures of each superhero:

<http://www.superherohype.com/imageGallery/imageGallery.php>

After the game is over, ask these questions:

- ▶ Why do you think superheroes are so popular in our culture today?
- ▶ Name one superpower you wish you had. Why?
- ▶ Why do you think God made us without superpowers? (*It might make us prideful. He wants us to be dependant on Him for strength.*)

Today’s lesson is about a “superhero” in the Bible who has real power. This superhero doesn’t use His power to leap tall buildings or shoot spider webs out of His hand, but instead, He uses His power to do miracles that help people. Let’s look at one of the miracles that He did for some fishermen.

[Continue on to Steps 2 and 3 in your *Middle School Teacher’s Guide*; your Step 4 appears below.]

To find out more information about superheroes, go to:
<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Superhero>

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Superhero Scrutiny

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STEP 4

Lesson 10

Focus:

Christ has the power.

Lesson 10

Bible Basis:

Luke 5:1-11

Students will plan ways to let God's power work through their lives.

Materials:

- two flashlights (make sure only one has working batteries)

Today, we've talked a lot about Christ's power. We've seen how Jesus used His power to do a miracle for Peter who was tired and frustrated. Jesus used this event to show Peter that He was calling him to be a "fisher of men." In order for Peter to carry out his calling, he would have to depend on Jesus' power working through Him. The same is true for us today. We must have Jesus' power working through us to complete the work God has called us to do. The following activity will help illustrate this point.

Turn off all the lights in your classroom and make it as dark as possible. Instruct your students to sit quietly as you pass out the flashlights. (Make sure both flashlights have batteries, but that only one of them actually works.) Have the two students holding the flashlights come to the front of the room, where you are standing. Ask them both to turn their flashlight on. Give the student with the non-working flashlight a couple of minutes to try to make it work. Then turn the classroom lights back on and ask the students the following questions.

- ▶ **Why do you think one of the flashlights worked and the other one didn't work?** *(Act like you have no idea why the flashlight isn't working. You might even point out that it has batteries. In the end, help the students focus on the point that even though the flashlight has batteries, the batteries themselves were out of power – they needed to be recharged.)*
- ▶ **How can we team-up with God more regularly so that His power runs through us and we don't become like these powerless batteries?** *(Focus on the responses that point to spending time with Jesus – the place where we get recharged. The more time we spend with Him – both personally and corporately – the more we will be transformed to look like Him. The more open we are to Him, the more His power will flow through us on a regular basis!)*

Now ask for three volunteers who would be willing to give their response to a short scenerio. Tell them to think about how Christ's power could be working through them in each situation.

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Situation #1: You are sitting in the school cafeteria, eating your lunch. You hear a group of students sitting near you making fun of a 7th grader who is sitting all alone at the next table. What do you do?

Situation #2: You're standing in line at the movie theater. It's opening weekend and you're about to see the new Iron Man movie! When it's your turn to pay, the cashier actually gives you too much change back. What do you do?

Situation #3: Your younger siblings are being a really big pain. They won't get out of your room! They keep touching all your stuff. They're bored and want to play. What do you do?

After you've read all three scenarios, ask these questions:

- ▶ **How might your responses to these scenarios be different if you were not depending on God's power and just acting according to the ways of the world?**
- ▶ **What is something that you are facing this week where you need God's power?**

Close in prayer.

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