



ENGAGE WEEK DISCUSSION

CHOOSE LISTENING

GOSPEL S.T.O.R.Y. SCRIPTURE. TRUE. OUR. REAL. YOU.

The word **Gospel** means **Good News**. It was used to announce good news about a new king. The good news told about the king's message, actions, and victories. The Gospel of Jesus is found in the Bible. It is the Good News of who Jesus is and what He has done. The Gospel story also tells us who we are, why we are broken, and how Jesus is the King who gave His life to rescue us. We are invited to be a part of God's story by trusting and following Jesus.

LISTENING

 <p>SCRIPTURE tells us who Jesus is and what He has done.</p>	<p>There are many voices that we are told to listen to. Some are good, like teachers, coaches, and parents. Other are not so good. We have to choose who we will listen to. The Gospel story tells us to listen to Jesus because of who He is.</p> <p>The Bible tells us the true story about who Jesus is and what He has done. Mark chapter 1 verse 1 tells us exactly who Jesus is: "The beginning of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God." Mark says clearly that Jesus is the Son of God. We can look to Jesus to know exactly what God is like. The entire story of the Bible is about how Jesus is coming to rescue people from sin, because He is the true King.</p>
 <p>TRUE identity begins with knowing that God created us.</p>	<p>But wait, why do we need Jesus to rescue us from our sins? Let me explain.</p> <p>The story began with God creating all things. He called everything that He made, good. He created humans to know Him and to represent Him on the earth (Genesis 1:27). God created you, knows you, and loves you more than you could ever imagine. He has created you to love Him and other people. This is your true identity. God also created you to hear His voice and respond.</p> <p>Sadly, everything did not remain the way that God created it. Everything became broken.</p>
 <p>OUR lives are broken by sin.</p>	<p>The first humans that God created chose to turn away from Him. They broke their relationship with God. We have all chosen to live our own way, too. We have failed to fulfill God's purpose for our lives to love Him and other people. This is called sin. The Bible says that we have all sinned and fall short of the glory of God (Romans 3:23). Our lives and the world that we know are broken by sin. Instead of listening to God, we listen to other voices that lead us away from Him. This causes us to feel distant and disconnected from God. We need someone to rescue us and reconnect us to God.</p>
 <p>REAL love is Jesus giving His life for ours.</p>	<p>Jesus came with a message of Good News. He was sent by God to rescue us and restore our relationship with God (Luke 19:10). Jesus never sinned. He perfectly loved God and all people. Jesus showed us real love by giving His life for our sins. He died and was buried, but on the third day, God raised Him from the dead. He was seen alive by over 500 people (1 Corinthians 15:3-6). He is the true King who rescued us by His love. Listening to Him is the first step to being rescued.</p>
 <p>You are invited into God's story.</p>	<p>You have a choice about who you will listen to. By listening to this Good News about Jesus and believing it, you can be rescued from sin. You are invited into God's story. It begins with a choice to trust and follow Jesus.</p>
	<p>If you would like to begin a relationship with God, I would like to invite you to pray with me. PRAY: "God, I believe this Gospel story of Jesus. I know that I am broken. I ask you to forgive me of my sins. I want you to be the King of my life. I choose to trust and follow Jesus today and forever. Amen." (Pass out Student Response Cards while the Host shares Response Time from Part 3.)</p>