

JESUS BROKE THE POWER OF SIN

YEAR: KNEEL / FOCUS: I AM AN AMBASSADOR
SERIES: GOD IS THE MESSAGE - I AM THE MESSENGER

BIG TRUTH: JESUS BROKE THE POWER OF SIN

Romans 8:1-3, 15; 1 Corinthians 15:55-57

BIBLE VERSE: COLOSSIANS 1:19-20

"For in Him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through Him to reconcile to Himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of His cross."

BIG IDEAS

- Only Jesus can defeat sin because He alone is fully God and man.
- Jesus lived a sinless life and died a sacrificial death in our place.
- Sin has no power over those who have been saved by the blood of Jesus.

BIBLE PASSAGE: COLOSSIANS 1:15-22

KNEEL - I AM AN AMBASSADOR

The Kneel Year is an exploration of what it means to worship God with our all (Luke 10:26-28). Worship is not something that is limited to a service once a week, but instead occurs every day, in all of life. We are unceasing worshipers. Worship never stops, it only changes directions. In order to worship God with all of our heart, soul, strength, and mind, we must embrace our identity as image bearers. It is out of that identity that we can begin to live for God's glory in all of life (Colossians 3:17).

SERIES AIMS



Every student should know that...

- The gospel is the good news of Jesus Christ that brings salvation to sinners.
- Salvation comes by grace alone through faith alone in Christ alone.
- Jesus followers have been trusted with the gospel in order to share it with others.



Every student should strive to...

- Share the gospel each month with at least one person who does not know Jesus.
- Practice sharing the gospel using multiple different tools or methods.



Every student should feel...

- Humbled that as believers we have been entrusted with the glorious gospel of our Savior.
- Satisfied in Jesus as the only true Savior



Every student should want...

- To grow in awareness of the false saviors they are tempted to put their hope in.
- To have a softened heart and love for people who are lost
- To take advantage of opportunities to share the gospel with people in their lives who need Christ

GUIDES AND WORKOUTS

The Guide provides a commentary page on each week's Bible verse and on each Big Idea that unpacks the Big Truth. Each week also includes a Student Workout as a resource to help the student pursue spiritual disciplines on their own. Additionally, each week has a Family Workout that helps equip parents and guardians to have spiritual conversations with their student.



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BIBLE VERSE: COLOSSIANS 1:19-20

"For in Him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through Him to reconcile to Himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of His cross."

Jesus holds power over all things.

"For in Him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell..."

- Jesus is fully God. When Paul writes that the fullness of God was pleased to dwell in Him, he is reminding the Colossians of Jesus' divine nature. The language of filling and fullness is used in the Old Testament to refer to God's Spirit filling the temple. What Paul is saying is that Jesus is fully God and possesses all of the characteristics and attributes of God.
- Because Jesus is fully God, He holds power over everything. Jesus is the origin of all things and all things are subject to Him. Nothing is more powerful than Him and nothing can ever overcome Him. He has power and control over everything.

Jesus defeated sin and death on the cross.

"...and through Him to reconcile to Himself all things..."

- Jesus came to the earth, taking on human form that He might live the life that no man or woman could ever live. Jesus lived on the earth, facing all the things that we face, but doing so without sinning. He walked in complete and perfect obedience to God the Father, never once disobeying His will or Word.
- Jesus was crucified on the cross for the sin of the world. He took on the sin of man and died the sacrificial death that man's sin required. Jesus defeated death and sin when He died on the cross. Because He was the perfect sacrifice, sin lost its power over mankind. Those who believe in Jesus are forgiven of their sin debt and set free to live in obedience to God.

Man has freedom from sin and peace through Jesus.

"...making peace by the blood of His cross."

- Sin separates man from God. It causes a great chasm between man and God. Just as the first man and woman were sent out of the Garden of Eden away from God, man's sin causes a separation between God and man. Sin not only separates, but it enslaves. Man's sin nature has a powerful hold over him. It drives him to reject God and to rebel against God's design for the world and humans.
- Jesus' death sets people free from their sin natures. Jesus' death overcame sin and defeated the power it has over people. Now those who believe in Jesus are free to obey God and His Word. Prior to repenting and believing in Jesus, people are at war with God, but Jesus' death brings them peace. Once they are true followers of Christ, they are at peace with God and are no longer rebelling against Him. They are reconciled to Him and free to live for Him and in communion with Him.

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BIG IDEA #1: ONLY JESUS CAN DEFEAT SIN BECAUSE HE ALONE IS FULLY GOD AND MAN.¹**[THIS]**

Jesus is God in the flesh. Colossians 1:15 teaches us that Jesus is the image of God; He is fully God with all the attributes and characteristics of God. Because God is a triune God, He is one God in three persons. Jesus is God the Son, one of the three persons of the one true God. Jesus is equally as much God as God the Father and God the Spirit. He holds power and authority over all things because He is the beginning of all things. Everything has its origin in Jesus and everything holds together because of Him. Jesus alone has the power to defeat sin and death. Only He could live the sinless life as a human that we could not do. He faced every temptation, yet He did so without sinning.

[THEREFORE]**Why is it necessary for Jesus to be fully God in order to save us from our sin?**

In Colossians 2:9, Paul writes that the fullness of God dwells in the flesh of Jesus. This means that even though He took on human likeness, He is fully God. John 1:14 and 8:58 teaches us that Jesus is Immanuel, or God with us. This means He came down from heaven and took on human form. As you seek to share this truth with others, you can share with them these verses that teach that Jesus is God in the flesh.

Why is it necessary for God to be fully man to save us from our sin?

As you discuss with others the truth that Jesus is God and man, you can show them the importance of this truth by showing them Acts 2:24. Jesus died because He was fully man, yet death could not hold Him because He is fully God. He is also a God who can share in our struggles as humans as Hebrews 4:15 shows us. He is a God who came down to us and delivered us from our sin as Philippians 2:7 reminds us.

[THIS]

Jesus became like man to defeat sin by becoming the perfect sacrifice. When He came to the earth, He took on human flesh and became fully man. He is the only being to be fully God and fully man. No one else is like Him. Jesus is unique in His two natures and because of this, only He could defeat sin and overcome death. No one else could overcome sin and defeat its power like Jesus. Because no person has the power that God does, no one can overcome his or her own sin nature. We could never become the perfect sacrifice required to pay our sin debt because we'd always have sin in our hearts. Jesus alone is the only Savior. He is the only One with the power to pay our sin debt and defeat its power over us.

[THEREFORE]**How can you start a discussion about how Jesus is the only One who could defeat the power of sin?**

As you seek to discuss with others that Jesus is the only way to know God, you can begin in Acts 4:12 which reminds us that salvation comes only through Jesus. Because Jesus is the only One who could defeat sin, He is the only One who could save us and offer us forgiveness. In John 14:6, Jesus says He is the only way to know God. The fact that Jesus is fully God and He became like us means that only He could pay our sin debt. As you seek to share this good news with others, remember that we could not save ourselves because we are all sinful. Only Jesus lived a sinless life and His death on the cross satisfied our sin debt.

1. Colossians 1:15: Jesus is God in the flesh. He is fully God and when He was born of the virgin Mary, He took on human flesh to live as one of us.

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BIG IDEA #2: JESUS LIVED A SINLESS LIFE AND DIED A SACRIFICIAL DEATH IN OUR PLACE.²**[THIS]**

In Colossians 1:15, Paul writes that Jesus is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. Paul's statement about Jesus is a pivotal truth to all of Christianity. Because Jesus is God, He had the power to face the sin of this world and live in perfect obedience to God the Father. Jesus lived on this earth just as we live. He faced hunger, thirst, fatigue, and even the sin of this world. Yet, He faced all of these things without sinning against God. He did not disobey. He followed God the Father perfectly and resisted any and every temptation to sin. His life was perfect. He always interacted perfectly with others. He always chose correctly and in a way that honored God and brought Him glory. He lived the life that we could not. He lived a life holy and blameless before the Lord.

[THEREFORE]

Why is it important that Jesus was sinless and how can you discuss this with someone else?

The author of Hebrews writes in 9:14 that Jesus' perfect life enables Him to die for our sin, thus purifying those who believe in Him. It's important that Jesus lived without sin because otherwise, He could not have paid our sin debt. No one could have. 1 Peter 2:22 reiterates the truth that Jesus never sinned and drives home the point that His sinlessness saves us from our sinfulness. He had to live the life that we could not so we could live with God forever.

[THIS]

When man first sinned, death entered the world. God, the Creator and beginning of all things, is a just and righteous God. This means that man's sin must be atoned for. Because every person born is born with a sin nature, we are all sinful. We can never be the perfect sacrifice needed to atone for our sin. Every person is in need of the perfect sacrifice to take their place. Jesus lived the perfect life and died a sacrificial death in our place. He willingly came to earth, born of a virgin, to live among us and do what no person could do—live holy and blameless before God. He then went to the cross and willingly died in our place. God chose to see our sin when He looked at Jesus on the cross. He saw Jesus, holy and blameless, and accepted His death as a substitute for the sacrifice required for our sin. Jesus became our substitute and died that we might live.

[THEREFORE]

How can you discuss the way that Jesus' death made a way for man to know God this week?

Reconciliation between man and God is possible because Jesus died in our place. Romans 5:10 shows us that it is through the sacrificial death of Jesus that we can know God because we are no longer estranged from Him. As you seek to discuss this truth with others, you can share with others 2 Corinthians 5:16-17 which shows us that Jesus makes us new through His death on the cross. When we have faith in this salvation, we are reconciled to God and can know Him personally.

Ponder that we all need a Savior. How can you share this truth with others?

No one is without sin because we are all born with a sin nature and we all rebel against God. Point out the truth found in Romans 3:23 that we have all fallen short of God's standard.

2. 2 Corinthians 5:21: Jesus took on our sin debt. He chose to become the representation of our sin that He might save us from eternal death.

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BIG IDEA #3: SIN HAS NO POWER OVER THOSE WHO HAVE BEEN SAVED BY THE BLOOD OF JESUS.³**[THIS]**

In Colossians 1:19-22, we see the power of Jesus' blood over sin. The blood of Jesus conquered sin and set mankind free from its hold over it. Jesus' death on the cross satisfied God's requirement for man's sin, making a way for people to know God and be reconciled to Him. Those who repent and believe in Jesus and the power of His death are saved from eternal death and set free from the power of sin. Before Jesus' death, mankind was enslaved to its sin nature. There was no hope and no way for anyone to overcome the power of sin. Every person sins against God just as Romans 3:23 tells us. No one is able to overcome sin and live an obedient, holy, and righteous life in their own power. The power of sin over man is great and only the blood of Jesus could conquer it.

[THEREFORE]

Think about specific sins that we all commit, such as lying, cheating, jealousy, etc. How can you use these examples to discuss the power of sin over mankind?

Romans 8:7-8 teaches us that it is impossible to please God in our flesh. Our flesh rules us and leads us away from God and not toward Him. As you seek to discuss our sin nature with others, remembering the power of sin over us can help facilitate a discussion. We can look at our world and see the effects of sin on it and we can look at people and see the way our flesh, or sin nature rules us.

[THIS]

Jesus' defeat of sin means victory for those who believe He is the Savior of the world. Because He died on the cross in our place, sin no longer has power over those who have saving faith in Jesus. This means that for people who repent and believe in Jesus, they can resist the temptation to sin. They can first know God personally because there is no longer sin separating them from God. Secondly, they can live for God and walk in obedience to His Word. It means that they can overcome the temptation to sin and choose obedience instead. Prior to this type of faith, people have no power over their sin nature. Instead, they are ruled by it. Believers have victory over sin because of Jesus and only because of Him. They are set free to live a new life with a new heart that is pleasing to God.

[THEREFORE]

How can you share with someone the way Jesus' death gives victory to those who believe in Him?

Hebrews 2:9 shows us that Jesus died in our place and because of this, believers have victory. 1 Corinthians 15:57 also shows us that believers are set free by the blood of Jesus. As you seek to share this with someone this week, you can share about Jesus' perfect life and that because He lived perfectly, His death fulfilled our sin debt and overcame its power in our lives. Now, believers can live with new hearts that seek God and desire to obey Him.

How can you use a personal example of overcoming the temptation to sin to point others to the power of Jesus' death over sin?

We see in Ezekiel 36:26 that God gives His people new hearts with new desires that are for Him and not against Him. We can overcome our own personal sins because Jesus overcame sin on the cross.

3. Romans 6:14: Sin has no power over those who have placed their faith in Jesus as their Savior.