



Good news!

Christianity is not a secret to be kept – it's a gift to be shared. The good news that Jesus has saved us, and that we can have an eternal holiday in heaven, is the best news ever! So how can we share the gift of good news with others?

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Before you start:

1. Prayerfully read through the whole lesson at least twice.
2. Gather all the materials you need for each section (see right).
3. Work with another team member and plan who will manage each section of the session.

Leadership Personal Preparation:

How did you discover the good news that Jesus saves and forgives you and wants to take you to heaven? Do you still think of it as good news, or has it become old news for you? How can this news be fresh every morning in your life?

What are the top ten good news stories that God has written in your life? If you were to tell someone what Jesus has done for you, what would you say? Can you think of a time when you shared the good news of God's love with another person and they were touched or excited by your story?

If the Holy Spirit invites you to do so, be willing to share something of your experiences during today's session. Otherwise use the inspiration of your personal experience to fill you with enthusiasm for today's session.

You will need:

Icebreaker - Good News Relay:

- A collection of identical newspapers – one per group of 4-6 people
- 1 sheet of flip-chart paper per group
- Sticky tack to stick the flip-chart sheets to the wall
- Glue-sticks
- One table per group (or do the activity on the floor)

Word Search:

- Copies of Word Search studies - 1 study per person
- Paper and pens

Mission Possible:

- Copies of 'The Top Ten Good News Headlines!' – 1 per group of 3-4 people
- Pens
- 12-15 sticky notes per group

Family Focus Time:

- Copies of 'Our Good News Paper' – 1 per family (alternative activity would be to use the Family Discussion Cards)
- Cups and drinks

Praying Together:

- A selection of buttons, beads, stones, shells (use whatever you have available to provide a wide variety of objects)
- Bowls

Jesus and Me (JAM) Session:

- CD player and CD of soft worship music
- One set of 'Jesus and Me' Journal Pages per participant

Take-away Menu (optional):

- Small sachets of salt

By the end of the session, the group members will:

- Know the good news that Jesus brought into the world and also the good news that Jesus has brought into their personal lives.
- Feel a desire to share the good news about Jesus with others
- Respond by discovering their own good news stories and finding others with whom they can share the good news.



29 KID for Teens: Leaders Guide: Consequences



Welcome, Prayer and introduction – 5 mins

Say:

“ What’s the best news you’ve ever heard? How did you feel when you heard it? What difference did the news make to your life? And how would you feel if your friend had a wonderful secret and they didn’t share their good news with you? Good news is meant to be shared...Today we’ll explore the good news that Jesus has shared with us, and look at some different ways we can share that news with others. ”

Icebreaker - Good News Relay - 15 mins

You will need:

1. The requirements as set out on page 1.
 - Prepare for the activity by sticking one sheet of flip-chart paper per group along a long wall.
 - Use a random method for dividing people into groups of 4-6 people and arrange the groups along the wall facing the paper sheets.
 - Give each group a newspaper and a glue-stick.
 - Explain that this is a relay race and when you tell them to start they have to read through their newspapers looking for any examples of good news that they can find.
 - Then one person has to tear out the news article, run to the flip-chart paper, and stick the article on the paper using a glue-stick.
 - It is up to each group to decide how they will manage the task.
 - Allow them 5-7 minutes to do the activity. Then stop and see who has found the most good news stories.
 - You can also look at the different kinds of good news stories that have been found, such as medical research, adverts for sales, good news about the economy, someone who has been heroic or saved from harm, etc.

Word Search - 25/35 mins

You will need:

1. Paper and pens
 2. Copies of Word Search studies - 1 study per person
- Discuss and fill out the Word Search sheet in small groups of 2-3 people.
 - Allow 20 minutes for this study.
 - Call the groups back for feedback.

Mission Possible - The Top Ten Good News Headlines! - 20 mins

You will need:

1. Copies of ‘The Top Ten Good News Headlines!’ – 1 per group of 3-4 people
 2. About 12-15 sticky notes per group
 3. Pens
- Divide people into groups of 3-4 people.
 - Give each group a copy of ‘The Top Ten Good News Headlines’ and a pile of sticky notes.
 - All the instructions are written on the sheet, but you can explain the activity so that everyone understands what to do.
 - Allow 7-10 minutes for this activity, and then bring the group back together to feedback their top ten good news headlines.
 - Use a flip-chart and draw 10 lines across the paper and number them 1-10.
 - Stick each group’s sticky notes on the line where they placed them in their own top ten and see which good news messages score highest.

Feedback:

- ‘Do you all agree with these top ten ratings?’
- If not, why not?’
- What other good news headlines did you choose?’





KID for Teens: Leaders Guide: 29 Consequences



Family Focus – 15 mins

You will need:

1. Drinks and cups
 2. Copies of 'Our Good News Paper' - 1 per family (or use the family discussion cards)
- Serve drinks.
 - Let everyone re-assemble into their family groups, collecting a drink on the way.
 - Give each family a copy of 'Our Good News Paper' or the Family Discussion Cards
 - Allow families ten minutes to start working on this activity.

Family Prayer Time – 10 mins

You will need:

1. A selection of buttons, beads, stones, shells, whatever you have available – but there must be a wide variety of objects
 2. Bowls
- Give every family a bowl of the different bits and bobs you have gathered together.
 - Ask them to pray silently and ask God to show them a friend who needs to know the good news about his love, or forgiveness, etc.
 - Then invite them to sift through the objects in their bowls until everyone has found one object that reminds them of someone who needs to hear the good news.
 - If they wish they can show their objects to each other and say why they chose a particular object to represent their friend.
 - Pray a brief prayer together asking the Holy Spirit to guide each of you in the best way to share the good news with your friends.

JAM Session (Jesus and Me) - 5 mins

You will need:

1. CD player and CD of soft worship music
 2. One set of 'Jesus and Me' Journal Pages per participant
- Give out the 'Jesus and Me' Journal Pages for this week.
 - Allow at least five minutes for people to make a start on their pages so that they will be encouraged to complete their projects during the week ahead.

Take-Away Menu (optional)

You will need:

1. Small sachets of salt
- Give each person a small sachet of salt and read Matthew 5:13, preferably in a modern translation. In 'The Message' Bible it says that God's people are to be like salt and to bring out the God-flavours in the world.
 - Ask the group to think of all the ways we use salt today.
 - Then ask them to think about the kind of salt they would like to be in the community where they live.
 - How can some of the ideas about being salt help them to share the good news of Jesus with those around them?

Closing Prayer





29 KID for Teens: Handout: Good News Word Search: What is the Good News?



Read the verses below and list the different good news messages you can find in them - there may be more than one message per verse!

REFERENCE	WHAT IS THE GOOD NEWS IN THIS VERSE?
John 3:16	
John 10:14-16	
John 14:1-3	
John 14:27	
John 16:5-7	
Matthew 5:4	
Matthew 7:7-11	
Matthew 5:10-12	
<i>List ANY OTHER GOOD NEWS MESSAGES WHICH JESUS TAUGHT:</i>	





29 KID for Teens: Handout: Good News

Word Search: How did Jesus share the good news?



Read the verses below and list the many different ways that Jesus shared the good news with other people.

Reference	<i>Different ways that Jesus shared the good news with others</i>
Matthew 8:16	
Matthew 9:10-13	
Luke 8:49-56	
John 4:1-15	
John 8:1-11	
John 13:1-17	
Luke 19:1-10	
Luke 18:15-16	
John 3:16	
<i>List any other ways in which Jesus shared the good news</i>	





29 KID for Teens: Handout: Good News

Word Search: A parable about the Good News



Read the Parable of the Seed-Sower (Matthew 13:1-9 and 18-23) and explore it in closer detail.

THE SYMBOL	WHO OR WHAT DOES IT REPRESENT?
The farmer	
The field	
The seed	
The road	
The birds	
The rocky ground	
The sun	
The thorn bushes	
The good ground	
The harvested seed	

Some questions to wonder about:

- What do you like best about this parable?
- What is the most important message in this parable for you?
- Where would you put yourself in the parable? On what kind of ground has the seed fallen in your life?
- If you had written this parable would you have added any other places where the seeds could have fallen, or any other features? Or would you have left some parts of the story out?
- How might Jesus tell this parable differently if he told it today?



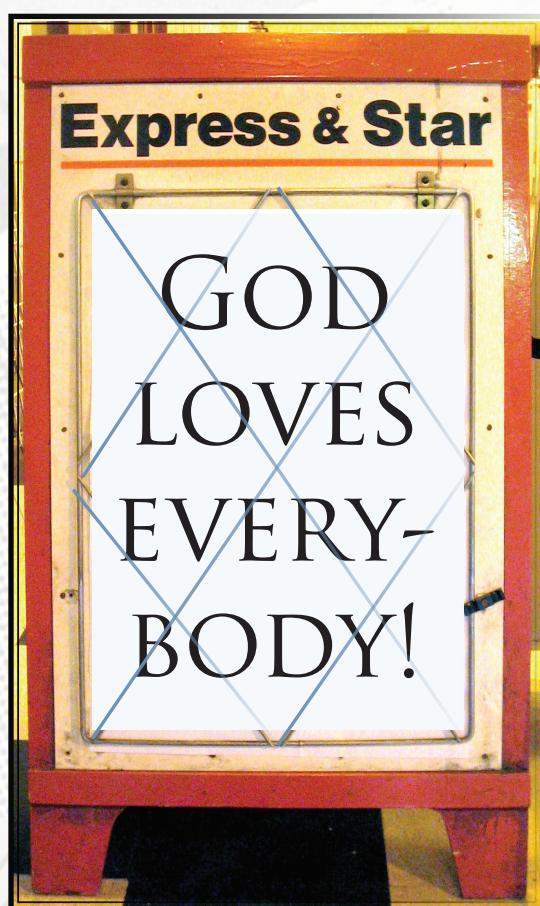


29 KID for Teens: Handout: Good News Top Ten Good News Headlines



If you were to choose the 'top ten good news headlines' in the Christian faith what would you choose? If you were to rank them, what would be top of the list, and then second, and so on?

Here are some of the headlines that you might choose:



*Jesus says 'THERE'S NOTHING I
CAN'T FORGIVE!'*

*THERE REALLY IS LIFE AFTER
DEATH!*

*Heaven - THE BEST HOLIDAY
DESTINATION EVER!*

*You've BEEN HANDMADE BY THE
CREATOR!*

Write these and five more of God's 'good news headlines' on sticky notes, and then work together to decide which ones are the best good news and second best, and so on. Feel free to rewrite these headlines if you think of snappier ones!

Then stick your headlines onto the 'top ten' chart on the next page, with the best news on the top line etc.

You will need to work fast! Like all good newspapers, there's a deadline!



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KID for Teens: Handout: Good News Top Ten Good News Headlines



'TOP TEN GOOD NEWS HEADLINES!'

1.	
2.	
3.	
4.	
5.	
6.	
7.	
8.	
9.	
10.	





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KID for Teens: Handout: Good News

Our Good News Paper



EDITION 1844

FREE FOR EVERYONE

OUR GOOD NEWS PAPER





LESSON 29 -

FAMILY Discussion CARD

For me the best news about God is...

The best news any human being ever told me was...

Whenever I hear good news I feel...

If I didn't know the good news about God my life would be different because...

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Jesus and Me: Journal Lesson 29: Good News: Sharing Parables



Read each of the following parables and wonder about what each of them can help you to understand about sharing the good news with other people.

Match each parable to its possible meaning and then add some extra meanings and ideas of your own.

PARABLE

POSSIBLE MEANINGS

The Mustard Seed
Matthew 13:31-32

We share the good news freely, but the people who hear it are responsible for what they do with the message.

The Yeast in the Dough
Matthew 13:33

We might tell someone a tiny part of the good news, but it can grow in their hearts until it becomes so big that other people can share in it, too.

The Story of the Salt
Matthew 5:13

We share the good news about God when people can see us living our lives well and caring for them.

The Story of the Seed-Sower
Matthew 13:1-9

We may share the good news with someone, and it might seem as if they aren't really listening. But sometimes they are listening, and their whole life changes.

The Story of the Light on a Light-Stand
Matthew 5:14-16

The good news that we share with people works invisibly, changing them from the inside out.

The Story of the Two Sons
Matthew 21:28-32

We share the good news of Jesus when we live lovingly amongst the people around us.



29 Jesus and Me: Journal Lesson 29: Good News: What's your story?



WHAT ARE THE GOOD NEWS STORIES ABOUT GOD IN YOUR LIFE?

Think about them and how you could use these stories to inspire and encourage other people, too.
You could make a mini newspaper of your personal good news stories, or write them in a journal or notebook.

A good news story about a time when God helped me to do something amazing:

A picture of you...

A good news story about the difference that knowing Jesus has made to my life...

I feel positive about the future because...

I believe in Jesus because...





29 Jesus and Me: Journal Lesson 29: Good News: But I'm really shy...



Maybe you don't feel that talking is your gift...Jesus didn't always talk or preach. He went to dinner parties, made people feel welcome, blessed them, helped them to feel better, encouraged them, rescued them, fed them and painted thought-provoking pictures with his words.

How could you share Jesus with others?

BY CREATING VISUAL IMAGES

Through your art, photos, posters, PowerPoints, creativity, symbols, etc

BY BEING HELPFUL

By going on a mission project, feeding the homeless, packing shoe-boxes for ADRA, etc.

BY LISTENING

By listening to your friends when they are hurting or confused, by being there for them



IN WHAT
OTHER WAYS
CAN YOU
SHARE JESUS
WITHOUT
SPEAKING?

BY WRITING

Writing stories, blogs, texts, linking interesting things to your Facebook page, writing thought-provoking dramas, etc

BY LIVING YOUR LIFE WELL

Being a good example of forgiveness, living peacefully with others, being honest, living with integrity, etc.





29 Jesus and Me: Journal Lesson 29: Good News: That's interesting!



Paul liked to witness by learning about people's culture, beliefs and interests. Then he used what he had learned about them to share Jesus with them in a way they could understand.

Read 1 Corinthians 9:17-23 and Colossians 4:5-6
(use a modern translation if possible)

What can you learn about witnessing from these verses?

List your friends, their interests and some of the ways you could use their interests to help them become curious about spiritual things.

FRIEND	THEIR INTERESTS	How I <i>could</i> use their interests to increase their curiosity about spiritual things





29 Jesus and Me: Journal Lesson 29: Good News: Questions, Questions



Jesus often asked questions, especially when he wanted people to think about important issues. Asking questions is a good idea because we can find out what our friends really think, and they may ask us about our ideas, too.

Here are some questions that you could ask your friends...

What other questions could you ask?

What do you think really happens after people die?

???

What do you think God is like?

What kind of God would you like God to be?

What do you think will happen to this earth in the end?