

CENTERSHOT® MINISTRY



planner



Welcome



Hello, friends.

Our team at Centershot® Ministries is excited to help you plan for this new opportunity. We are grateful for your heart to make an impact in God's kingdom.

We designed this Ministry Planner to assist you and your team as you work through the details. To ensure your success, our network of experienced Centershot® Ministry Guides are here to help. Your personal Ministry Guide will be reaching out to you soon. Welcome to the team!

Aaron, Mark & Dan

MINISTRY PLAN

where do I begin?

WHO DO YOU WANT TO REACH?

youth? families? college? couples?
singles? seniors? women? men?



WHAT TYPE OF CENTERSHOT® ARCHERY LEAGUE SHOULD YOU START WITH?

see LEAGUES

page for descriptions

WHEN IS THE BEST TIME OF YEAR TO HOST YOUR LEAGUES OR CAMPS?



WHERE CAN YOU SAFELY SET UP AN ARCHERY RANGE?

indoors? outdoors? both?

HOW WILL THIS MINISTRY BE FUNDED? HOW WILL YOU RECRUIT VOLUNTEERS?



TRAINING

what training do I need?



archery training

Centershot® follows the NASP® BAI (Basic Archery Instructor) training protocol. Centershot® will train and register your BAI Coaches in the International NASP® BAI Database. Coaches will be required to report through a coaches survey every year to establish a safety track record. This safety track record along with background checks will make your Centershot® Archery Ministry one of your church or camps safest activities.



ministry training

Centershot® Ministries empower BAI Coaches to have Kingdom impact in their communities and/or around the world. Centershot® BAI Coaches will receive L.E.D. Training (Loving Environment Developer). This training will inspire coaches to "Walk in the Light of Christ" in every area of their life.

EQUIPMENT

what do I need?

Centershot® offers membership discounts on NASP® approved equipment.



BOWS

Centershot® uses the Genesis® Original, the Genesis® Mini or the GEN-X® bow depending on league type. They have a universal draw length that makes it equal and fair for every archer.



ARROWS

Centershot® uses the Easton 1820 full length aluminum arrow. They come in different colored shafts, fletching and nock colors to help distinguish an archer's score. These arrows are approved for NASP competition.



TARGETS

Centershot® uses 80 cm FITA (Federation of International Target Archery) Bullseye Targets or IBO® (International Bowhunting Organization) 3D Foam targets. Other targets available depending on league type.



BACKSTOP NET

A specific designed arrow curtain approximately 30 feet long and 8-10 feet high is used to safely stop arrows that miss the target.



FLOOR ARROW QUIVERS

A vertical tube about 15 inches tall and 2-4 inches in diameter with a secure base to hold arrows at the shooting line. Every archer must have their own quiver on the shooting line.



BOW RACKS

Safely rack the bows between the waiting line and the shooting line.



REPAIR & MAINTENANCE KIT

Arrow fletching and nocks can be repaired quickly. Bow maintenance will ensure decades of safe use.



ARCHERY RANGE POCKET GUIDE

PLUS - Weekly itinerary ministry plan



STRING BOW TRAINING AID

Used for warm up & safely training "11 Steps of Archery Success."



WHISTLE

Used for safety and range commands.

CHURCH MEETING

agenda



LEAD PASTOR:

meeting date: meeting time:

01 SHARE "What is Centershot®?" video
[Facebook.com/Centershotministries/videos](https://www.facebook.com/Centershotministries/videos)

SHARE financial justification

02

LEAGUE REVENUE

participant fees:
(suggested fee \$50)

estimated number
of registrations:

x _____

**TOTAL LEAGUE
REVENUE**

LEAGUE EXPENSES

annual license fee:
(*\$250/YR*)

coach training cost:
(*\$80/coach*)

other expenses:

+ _____

**TOTAL LEAGUE
EXPENSES**

03 ADDRESS safety

Centershot® follows all NASP (National Archery in the Schools) safety protocols.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=H7RHXu8FxpK>

SHARE liability insurance information

04 <https://www.naspschools.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/11/LiabilityInsurance3DI.pdf>

SUSTAINABILITY

equipment kit cost:
(*approx \$3,000 / lasts 10 yrs*)

profit or loss:
(*est revenue - est expense*)

÷ _____

**NO. OF LEAGUES
REQUIRED FOR
SUSTAINABLE
MINISTRY**

LEAGUES



Centershoot® Life Leagues and Camps have the widest age range for archers. (Age 7-97)

They bring youth, college, families, couples, men, women, & seniors together for the life giving gospel of Jesus Christ.



Centershoot® Compete offers students 4th - 12th grade an opportunity to travel and compete in local, state and national tournaments based on the NASP style of international archery.



Centershoot® 3D Target offers archers an opportunity to compete in the NASP/IBO 3D style archery competitions, as well as IBO Triple Crown National Tournament trail. Multiple bow classes available.



Centershoot® Blue offers law enforcement and first responders a tool for Community Engagement and Officer Wellness. School Resource Officers and P.O.S.T. Teams can use these leagues & fun shoots to develop trust around positive engagement.

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*The Share the Plan
Poem...Back Cover*



The Journey of Sharing!!

Welcome again to Archery Ministries! We hope and pray that these next few weeks will once again be a rewarding experience for you. You may be wondering how archery and church go together. Well, hang on because the journey continues once you have accepted Jesus Christ as your personal Savior and are striving to live out your life in discipleship.

The study you are about to begin is called *Share the Plan: This Is My Story*. What does that mean? Hopefully through this study you will understand that God loves you and has a plan for how you should be a witness for Him and share your story of God's love to everyone and know what it means to share that love. During this study, you'll use *The Share the Plan Poem* which was written to help you understand what the next step is once you have made a decision to follow Christ and you are striving to be His Disciple and being good stewards. Basically, the lessons in this study will help you understand how we should live our lives in Christ and share our story in all aspects of our everyday living. And, as if that wasn't cool enough, we're going to learn more about archery in the process!

So listen up! We're all going to learn something new in the next few weeks.

Share the Plan is divided into eight sections, or Arrow Points, that will take you beyond the basics of shooting a bow and arrow to a more in-depth critique of your shooting form and performance. Some of you may have been shooting for a long time and see no need for any help. Everyone will benefit from this course because critical practice is a tremendous help for everyone. We hope that you will take this important step seriously. While archery is very important to this study (and there's going to be a lot of shooting!), this handbook was created to help you focus on the many spiritual ways to continue your journey with Christ. Don't worry we know none of us like homework! Because of that, the lessons are developed to be concise and to the point without missing the focus! Each study should take you about 45 minutes. However, we encourage you to study further and be in prayer about what God has in store for you!

Finally, we wish you blessings on your journey and will be praying for your success as you undertake this program. We thank God for your effort and hope that you will find success in archery and, most importantly, that this study will help you to make Christ the Story of your life!

Let the journey continue!!!

God Bless,

Your Archery Team Leaders

Leader Suggestions:

Theme:
"This Is My Story"

Introduction:

1. As you begin this new series of lessons share the process of the Centershot studies.
2. We began with God's Plan of salvation and moved then to the area of discipleship in order for us to know God's plan of ministry and mission.
3. We studied how to live the plan by observing the stewardship of our lives.
4. Now we are going to study how to share the plan as we are challenged to give witness to our story of faith.
5. **Prayer:** As the leader opens with prayer. You may choose to pray or lead in the Lord's Prayer that is printed at the end of the lesson. If you use the Lord's Prayer at this point be prepared to pray yourself at the conclusion of the lesson.

You Can't Come Back from Where You Ain't Been!

There is an old Appalachian mountain saying that carries the title of this lesson, "You can't come back from where you ain't been". In other words, you cannot share what you have not experienced. Jesus shared with His disciples in Luke's account of The Acts of the Apostles, "...you will receive power to be my witnesses in Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria and to the ends of the earth" (Acts 1:8). God has a plan for the salvation of the world and those who are Christ Followers are given the privilege and opportunity to share what, where, why and how they have experienced God's love and grace in their lives. All who follow Christ have a life story to share!

What is your life story? In Luke's Gospel, chapter 15, there are three stories of what God is like. The third story is about a family. They are all prodigals in their own right (Prodigal means extravagant). Let's hear this story: A father has two sons! The youngest one is a rebel and plots a way to leave the farm his father and brother and seek the fun and adventure of the world. However, he is broke! The younger son is smart enough to know that to do what he wants to do will cost a fortune. His plan is to approach his father with the idea that he deserves his inheritance now while he can enjoy it and not have to wait until the father dies. The father in showing love, agrees. The young lad in his joy takes the money and heads out of town and right into the arms of those who would love to spend his money for him. There were lavish parties, drunken nights, and outlandish purchases to keep all of those around him happy and close by his side. However, there is a price to be paid for that kind of living and before too long the young spender is broke, friendless, and hungry.

This Is My Story

Sharing Point

Acts 1:8

Arrow Memory Verse

- "You will receive power to be witnesses in Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria and to the ends of the earth."

Follow through Point

- Living as Disciples and being good stewards is only one aspect of our story of following Christ and accepting Him as our Savior, Lord and Friend. We must share our story with those whom we come in contact and with the world. Sharing our story is a way of showing our love for Christ.

Spiritual Goals

- Reflect on your life story
- Witness by sharing your life story
- Learn about the witness of a family from the Bible through a parable of Jesus

Archery Goals

- Review of Range Rules
- Review of Basic Handling of bow
- Review of Commands
- Review of 11 Steps of Archery

Know the Word

Read Acts 1:8

What does this Scripture mean to you?

Handwriting practice lines with a large, stylized letter 'S' in the center.

What do you do when you are desperate?

The young fellow decided on working yet the only job he could find was feeding the swine; a young Jewish boy feeding the pigs? What a picture! He realized that he was so hungry that he would even eat the slop he was feeding the pigs. In his state of crushed dreams and loneliness the young man comes to his senses. He remembers the lavish table that was set at every meal back home. He remembers a prosperous father and an older brother that he really did love. His mind takes him back to the servants his father had on the farm and knew that they were far better off than he was. In that moment of enlightenment he decided to return home with a prepared speech for his father. He memorized it! "Dad, I have messed up! Everything that I wanted is gone. I know what it is to lose everything. I know that I have been selfish and it is nobody's fault but mine. Could you be so kind as to let me come back as one of your servants? I'll gladly take the bunk house and whatever the servant's life would be." And so he sets out for home!

Meanwhile back at the farm his father has spent some sleepless nights and the big brother has dreamed that his faithfulness to his father would be rewarded with the pleasure of his father's life style after the father's death. The father has sat daily on the front porch of the home place watching with anticipation and hope that his young son would return. Days had turned into weeks and weeks into months and now even years had passed with an empty vision of his son's return. But he lived with hope! Daily he waited and longed for his son's return. His wait was rewarded because one day he saw the figure of a man coming up the lane and he recognized the walk even though it was labored. It was his son coming home! The son's eyes fastened upon the house ahead, as he rehearsed his speech, but the father was running with open arms down the lane to hug his son and welcome him home. As they got closer and closer to each other the tears were running down dad's face and the son was mumbling over and over his prepared speech yet in the moment all you could hear was dad's cries. "Your home, your home, welcome back, welcome back! I have longed for this day. Here are some new clothes, a new family ring, it's party time! We will celebrate your return!"



Read **Luke 15:11-32**

A vertical sheet of lined paper with a yellow margin on the left and a large grey letter 'C' in the background. The paper has horizontal lines and a small grey arrow pointing to the right on the left margin.

1. This is a time for tremendous insight into each person. It is a time to help each person to become more comfortable in giving witness to their story. It should be emphasized that each participant cannot get this wrong. This is giving witness to your story and there is nothing wrong about your story.
2. Let me make two suggestions for processing this lesson.
 - a) Make sure each student has a pencil or pen. Have them draw their dining room table or living area and place their family around it or in it in the space provided in their lesson manual.
 - b) After concluding, each person will join in a circle and share one at a time what they want the group to know about themselves and their family. They can begin by saying "I am _____ and this is my story...." As the leader you begin the sharing. If the group is over 12 people break it up into another group or have them just share specific things about themselves and their family. What is important in this exercise is having each person give witness to their story. This can be a bonding time as you begin this journey. It will be extremely important that the group honor each person's story by being attentive.
3. You can make a list of the things that you want each participant to share, i.e., name, address, parents, siblings, interests, hobbies, what they like about Center-shot, etc. After a brief time you can join everyone into a circle and begin giving witness to the stories. As a leader you begin.
4. At the conclusion of this circle time of sharing please thank everyone for the gift of their life story.

This space is for the illustration of your family story:



1 First Arrow Point

Know the Word

In light of what we've discussed, what does our story tell us about our Christian witness?

[illegible]

1st Arrow Prayer:

Let us say the Lord's Prayer together from Matthew 6:9-13

"Our Father, which art in heaven. Hallowed be thy name; Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses and we forgive those who trespass against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: for Thine is the Kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen."

In Conclusion:

This Biblical witness of a particular family is one of the characteristics of many parables with which Jesus used to teach. The parable is about what many call the Prodigal son, however; perhaps the most extravagant or prodigal in this parable is the father.

The father waits daily for the son's return and when it happens the father bathes the son with grace, forgiveness, love and acceptance. The father proclaims that his "son was lost, but is now found" and they prepare for a celebration of the sons return. What is God like? This is an awesome picture of God's waiting for our return home. When we have gone our way and have chosen to live without a relationship with God, God awaits our coming back. We can return to God's open and waiting arms of grace any time any place. That is the "Good News" to which we can personally give witness once we have experienced it. Remember, "you can't come back from where you ain't been".

Extra Notes:

[illegible]

Leader Suggestions:

1. Conclude your time together with circle prayer. If you sense that people do not know the Lord's Prayer than this would be a teaching moment.
2. Use the Lord's prayer that is printed in the lesson manual or you may spend this time in gratitude to God for the session that everyone has experienced and for each story that was shared.

It's Personal

Leader Suggestions:

1. As you begin today take time to review last week's lesson. As you prepare to pray thank each participant for their courage in telling their story and begin by praying together the Lord's Prayer (It is printed in the lesson Manual).
2. As you prepare for this lesson it would be good to review some or all of the following Biblical stories and choose one of them to share in its context. It would be great to develop props or have the students participate in the story. You may choose to diminish some of the blood, guts and gore of the stories and emphasize the underlying meaning of these events in salvation history.

We all like heroes or heroines. When I was a boy it was superman and superwoman, the Lone Ranger and Sky King. My children loved Ninja Turtles and Star Wars. Do you follow super heroes or do you have someone that you look up to in your life? Biblically we remember David's triumphant victory over the giant Goliath, Moses' leading the Israelites out of slavery and bondage. There was Caleb and Joshua scouting out the Promised Land. What a great adventure of faith they had. There was Gideon being victorious over the Philistines with 300 men carrying pitchers, lamps, and trumpets. Whoever heard of fighting a battle with such weapons? These are just a few of the many heroic figures of the Bible that give us inspiration in various ways as we live our lives every day. Can a doubter be a hero?

After God resurrected Jesus from the dead, Jesus appeared to his disciples on several occasions. On His first appearance to them one of the disciples was missing, Thomas. When Thomas heard of his friend's witness of seeing Jesus, Thomas doubted their testimony. Thomas declared that he would not believe without proof. "Unless I see the nail holes in his hands, put my finger in the nail holes, and stick my hand in his side, I won't believe it." (John 20: 25 The Message) A week later when the disciples are gathered together again and Thomas is present, Jesus appears to them. The proof is standing before Thomas and humbly he declares that Jesus is his Lord. Thomas becomes our hero! Thomas informs us that we can have doubts, questions, and problems with Jesus' life, death, and resurrection and still be a Christ Follower.

My relationship with Jesus Christ is an adventure of hope, love, doubt, joy, questions, affirmations, pondering, and faith. Peter is another hero for us because he enables us to see that we can have great faith and great failures and still live a faithful life. Many people have shared with me over my years of being a Christ Follower that their relationship with Jesus is personal. How true it is! My walk with Christ is personal! The Bible declares just how personal it is. John, records in chapter 20, verse 31 that he has written his gospel so that we might believe that Jesus is the Christ and believing in Him we might have life in His name; that sounds personal to me. When I decided to follow Christ it was my choice for my life.

This Is My Story

Sharing Point

John 20:31

Arrow Memory Verse

- "But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in His name."

Follow through Point

- Living as Disciples and being good stewards is only one aspect of our story of following Christ and accepting Him as our Savior, Lord and Friend. We must know that our relationship with Christ is personal but it does not keep us from giving our witness to others having questions.

Spiritual Goals

- Reflect on why we believe that Jesus is the Christ
- Who is your hero?
- Be aware of our struggles in our faith journey and admit and search for the answers/

Archery Goals

- Strive for improving your averages in your shooting
- Help others and encourage each other

2 Second Arrow Point

Know the Word

Read [John 20:25](#)

What does this Scripture mean to you?

Handwriting practice lines with a large, faint, stylized letter 'S' watermark.

Being personal however does not mean there are not questions to ask and doubts to face. It is important that we know why we believe that Jesus is the Christ. It is important that we face the issues of proof that we need to journey with Christ. When friends and family, acquaintances and strangers cast disparaging remarks our way how do we respond? What does it do to our faith? Write your thoughts to this question in the box below.

[illegible]

So let us journey down the road of questions, doubts and faith so that we might know why we believe what we believe about this Jesus. This is an important journey in giving witness to our story!

It's the personal part of our faith journey.

1. **Do you believe that the Bible is the Word of God?**
If so, why?

Leader Suggestions:

1. The following questions are important for the students to answer because it enables them to better know what they believe and why. In our world they will face the questions and doubts of faith and should be prepared for those situations as they experience them.
2. The size of your group will be the determination of how these questions can be shared. Please make sure that everyone has an opportunity to express their answers and question derived from this inquiry. We would suggest that time be given for them to work personally on answering the questions and then report back to the total group. Again you can gain great insight into their faith journey or the lack there of during this lesson and this time can lead you to pursue particular areas of faith for clarification. Also, you being vulnerable enough to share some of your faith struggles will be important in the group dynamics.

2 Second Arrow Point

Know the Word


Read **John 20:31**

What does this Scripture tell us about having a personal relationship with Christ?


- 2. Thomas had problems believing that Jesus was raised from the dead and needed proof, do you need proof? Why? Or Why not?**

- 3. Why do you believe that Jesus is the Christ and believing in Him you have eternal life?**

4. Do the lives of the disciples before and after Jesus' Resurrection inform us that Jesus has risen from the Dead? If not, why? If so, how?



- 5. Can we be a follower of Christ and not believe in His resurrection? Why? Or Why not?**



2 Second Arrow Point

Know the Word

In light of what we've discussed, what does it mean to be courageous and admit and search, like Thomas, for answers to our questions about our faith journey?

2nd Arrow Prayer:

Let us say the Lord's Prayer together from Matthew 6:9-13

"Our Father, which art in heaven. Hallowed be thy name; Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses and we forgive those who trespass against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: for Thine is the Kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen."

In Conclusion:

Thomas the doubter, Peter the denier, and the other disciples who were cowards during a time when Jesus needed them most are all examples of people who have failed yet took advantage of the opportunity to be renewed in faith and continue their journey. Our faith is personal. We should always study and share with others our journey so that we know why we believe what we believe about this Jesus.

As Christ's Followers we conclude our time together with a question in preparation for next week, since our faith in Christ is personal, does that mean that it is private? Make it a great week!



Extra Notes:

Leader Suggestions:

1. In your concluding remarks please make it known to your students that any struggles, questions, or doubts that they experience can be shared with you, a pastor, youth leader, church school teacher, etc., so that they can be assured that they do not have to face those times alone. Making each of them aware that it is normal to have these kinds of struggles in their faith life is extremely important. The courageous ones are the ones who will admit and search, like Thomas, for the answers.
2. Conclude your time together with circle prayer. If you sense that people do not know the Lord's Prayer than this would be a teaching moment.
3. Use the Lord's prayer that is printed in the lesson manual or you may spend this time in gratitude to God for the session that everyone has experienced.

A Penny for Your Thoughts

Leader Suggestions:

1. Preparation for this lesson will take securing 10 pennies for each student and yourself.
2. As you begin today, take time to review last week's lesson. As you prepare to pray, thank each participant for their willingness to join in the discussion and share their doubts, questions, and affirmations.
3. It is important that the students learn that it is in everyday situations and with people that they know that sharing their faith story begins. One person sharing with another what they believe is great news for their own life.

Could one single cent mean an eternal difference in someone's life? Let's see! Andrew was a fisherman that had an older dominant brother named Simon. Andrew was quiet, reserved, but open to new thoughts and possibilities. He had lived his religious life searching for the Messiah. In John's Gospel Andrew is mentioned on three occasions. Each time, John characterizes Andrew as someone who is bringing people to Jesus. After Andrew first heard Jesus speak and spent an afternoon with Him, Andrew went quickly to get his brother Simon Peter. He greeted Simon with these words, "We have found the Messiah" (John 1:40-42, The Message). And with those words Andrew took his brother to meet Jesus. It was on a Galilean hillside where Jesus had been teaching the multitude when Jesus challenged the disciples with the task of feeding the 5,000 plus people who had gathered. It was again Andrew who brought a young lad to Jesus who disclosed that what he had he would share; five (5) barley loaves of bread and two (2) fish. Could this young lad's lunch be dinner for everyone? Without Andrew bringing him to Jesus we would never know that little is much in the hands of the Christ.

Have you ever brought anyone to Jesus? Have you ever invited anyone to come with you to Church? Let's see if we can identify ways to discover people who need Christ and the Church! Let's begin where we are:

How did you get to Centershot? Did you see a registration form laying somewhere; hear about it from a friend at school? Did your parents read about it or did they talk with a friend who gave them a registration form? How did you arrive here?

This Is My Story

Sharing Point

John 1:41

Arrow Memory Verse

- The first thing Andrew did was to find his brother Simon and tell him, "We have found the Messiah."

Follow through Point

- Living as a follower of Christ everyday is an awesome challenge and to give witness to our faith is one of the greatest ways we can share our love for others and make a difference in their lives

Spiritual Goals

- Reflect on why we should share our faith story and where it begins.
- To give witness to your faith, do a kind deed, serve someone else.

Archery Goals

- Continue to strive for improving your averages in your shooting
- Evaluate your technique.

3 *Third Arrow Point*

Know the Word

Read **John 1:40-42**

What does this Scripture mean to you?

Handwriting practice lines with a large, faint watermark of the letter 'C' in the background.

Why would Simon go immediately with Andrew to see a stranger? Because of trust! Simon knew Andrew of course, he was his brother. But Simon knew something else about Andrew; Andrew could be trusted! Who are the people that you believe want the best for you? People that we trust! And when they tell us something that is important for our lives we are willing to check it out for ourselves because of our trust.

We have been on this journey for three weeks and now take a huge step in seizing the opportunities in giving witness to our faith. Are you willing to be an Andrew? We have already learned that we have a personal story and we have shared it with each other. We have learned that we have a personal relationship with Christ, but there is a next step in our process in which we are invited to take. It is sharing our faith story. It is another part of our life story that we cannot get wrong. It is just sharing what our relationship with Christ is like. There is an important discovery that we are all challenged with everyday as a Christ Follower, “our faith is personal, but it is never private” (John Wesley).

What is my faith story? Answer the following questions to begin forming and sharing your faith story:

1. When did you first learn of God's love for you?

Leader Suggestions:

1. Give the students some time to answer their questions and help them discover their faith story questions.
2. Tell the students that they will be sharing their answers to their faith story questions.

3 *Third Arrow Point*

Leader Suggestions:

1. As you gather students in a circle for the group's time of witnessing, it will be important for you to be sensitive to students who struggle with their faith story. This will probably be the first time for most of the students to share their faith journey. Again you play a key role by sharing your faith story first and helping everyone to know that we all are at different junctures in our faith journey just like we all are at different levels of maturity. Listen between the words as they are shared and make sure that everyone has an opportunity to witness to their faith in Jesus Christ .
2. At the conclusion of this group time make sure that everyone hears again this truth, "our faith is always personal, but it is never private".

2. At the conclusion of this group time make sure that everyone hears again this truth, “our faith is always personal, but it is never private”.

[illegible]

3. Where were you, i.e., home, church, a friend's house, basketball practice, etc.?

4. Why did you decide to be a Christ Follower?

[illegible]

What does this Scripture tell us about Andrew and Simon Peter?

Where is the Starting Line?

Leader Suggestions:

1. As you begin this session continue to open to each student as you build relationships with them. You may choose to let them reflect over the last few days in their lives and share. Please begin by praying the Lord's Prayer together.
2. Perhaps you have a starting line story in your life. Maybe it was your first music recital, your first volleyball game, your first chess match, etc. Discover a starting line point for your group to relate. In addition have some of them share their first athletic, arts, social group, etc. experiences. How did they feel (not think)? Help them to use feeling language. What was it like to shoot a bow for the very first time in Centershoot? Investigate the things they thought and felt and relate with them some of your feelings and thoughts as you began teaching these lessons or something else that had a "starting line".

Can you run fast? In 2009 Usain Bolt set the world record for the 100 meter dash at 9.58 seconds. He was running 27 mph. In Bolt's native Jamaica he was a standout Cricket player as well as a sprinter. His sprinting career is really unusual because of his size. Usain Bolt is 6'5" tall which hampers him aerodynamically. His maximum power is said to occur when he is less than one second into the race and only running at half his eventual maximum speed. But like all athletes Usain Bolt had to run his very first race. How does he arrive at his greatest power less than one second into the race? Can you image running 27 mph? These were questions Bolt had to answer after long hours of coaching, study, and practice. There was a tremendous amount of practice. With practice comes success and the ability to handle defeat. Have you ever thought about how intimidating the starting line must have been to Usain Bolt the very first time he ran a race?

One of my grandsons loves to wear Michael Jordan athletic shoes. He has never seen Jordan play basketball, but he has heard the many stories from others in the family. Michael Jordan was a great basketball player; renowned in the athletic world, but Michael Jordan had to play his first game, go to his first practice, dawn the court for his first tryout. Have you ever thought about the very first jump ball at half court for Michael Jordan? Both Usain Bolt and Michael Jordan are great examples of people who are physically gifted and live out their greatest potential athletically. But both of these great athletes had their first starting line and first jump ball. We all have a place to begin, a starting line, regardless of what we do.

Last week we discovered that our faith is always personal, but it is never private. In addition we were challenged to begin sharing our faith witness at least ten times every day. How is it going? Where did you start? Share with everyone your starting line! You may want to write your thoughts down in the box.

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This Is My Story

Sharing Point

Acts 8:35

Arrow Memory Verse

- Then Philip began with that very passage of Scripture and told him the good news of Jesus.

Follow through Point

- Witnessing our faith story can be intimidating, but is very fulfilling when we share it. All we have to do is have a starting point or strategy in mind.

Spiritual Goals

- Reflect on how you can develop a starting point in sharing your faith witness.
- Name some places where you can give your faith witness.

Archery Goals

- Continue to improve your form and your accuracy in your shooting at 7 & 10 meters.
- Evaluate yourself.

4 Fourth Arrow Point

Leader Suggestions:

1. Again you have the opportunity to help your students think through the questions. With your leadership let them probe the possibilities in each scenario..
2. This will lead you into the final discussion about a strategy for faith witnessing. At the conclusion of the lesson spend time in prayer requesting God's direction for each person as they share their faith witness during this next week.

[illegible][illegible]

Know the Word

[illegible]

4 Fourth Arrow Point

Know the Word

In light of what we've discussed, what can we do to share our witness just like Philip?

4th Arrow Prayer:

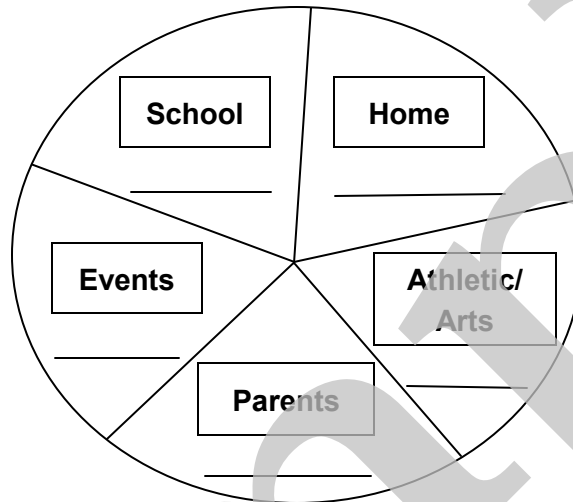
Let us say the Lord's Prayer together from Matthew 6:9-13

"Our Father, which art in heaven. Hallowed be thy name; Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses and we forgive those who trespass against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: for Thine is the Kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen."

In Conclusion:

Is there a starting line for faith witnessing? Jesus' life teaches us that the key to sharing our faith witness is through relationships. Why is building a relationship so important in sharing your faith witness?

SHAPE OF WITNESSING



Write in the name of a person in each area that you might give witness to your faith.

Extra Notes:

Leader Suggestions:

1. As you prepare to conclude this lesson, use the chart to help the students with their areas of witness.

Leader Suggestions:

Introduction:

1. The scripture today is a lengthy text that will need to be read and then retold as well so the students remember as much of it as possible.
2. As you begin please take time to reflect over the past week and if anyone had used their SHAPE of witnessing and also ask about their penny witnessing.
3. You could take time to ask if there are any prayer requests from the group or if the group could pray for anyone who people in the group are seeking to build a relationship.
4. Take time at this point to ask each student to share some good news as they answer the questions in their manual. Make sure everyone shares something. You may need to prompt some because not everyone likes to talk about themselves. You also may need to help some of those who want to monopolize the conversation to respect time for others.

What Do YOU do with Good News?

What do you do with good news? I cannot image that you keep it to yourself! What happens when you get good grades in school, do you keep it to yourself? When your pet has been lost and is found do you celebrate or do you scold your pet? Do you keep it a secret when you are having a birthday? If your team won the big game would you never tell anyone?

1. Share with the group your greatest success story. Write your story down in the box below to share with the class.

2. Of what are you most proud? Use the box below to help you write your thoughts down.

This Is My Story

Sharing Point

Luke 24:25

Arrow Memory Verse

- He said to them, "How foolish you are, and how slow to believe all that the prophets have spoken!"

Follow through Point

- We are called to share the good news and it is the news that people all over the world need to hear and we as followers of Christ, need to tell them about the Risen Jesus and His love and not keep it to ourselves.

Spiritual Goals

- Share your greatest success story
- Don't keep the good news to yourself
- Learn about the Road to Emmaus and how Jesus was revealed to two men as the prepared to dine.

Archery Goals

- Improve on 7 & 10 meter scores
- Help encourage your fellow archers
- Strive for excellence

Know the Word

Read **Luke 24:13-35**

What does this Scripture mean to you?

S

We readily tell Good News to anyone who will listen and sometimes we tell it to folks who do not want to listen. Is it good news that you are a follower of Jesus? As we read the Bible and continue to understand that God is in love with each of us regardless, it is great news to know and it is great news to share.

In Luke's Gospel the events around the death of Jesus was terrible news for those who had followed him. It was sad news because someone they loved had died and for some of them the circumstances around Jesus' death brought guilt and shame. The disciples were so afraid for their lives that they had left Jesus when he needed them the most. Peter, Jesus' leader among the disciples had denied Him, not once, but three times. When Jesus hung on the cross only one of His disciples was present, John. After Jesus gave His life on the cross only those who believed they were safe helped to bury His body. Joseph of Arimathea and Nicodemus gathered his body and laid it in a tomb that was owned by Joseph. It was a sad day for everyone who followed Jesus.


This man-made Friday, full of desperation and death was the seed God sowed for the redemption of the world. Jesus did not die for nothing. He died for everyone in the world, including you and me! He died to destroy our sin! Because of Jesus' death upon the cross we are forgiven of our sin and made new. There is even more good news! Early on Sunday Morning there were some women who had a solemn task to perform. They were on their way to Jesus' tomb to anoint His body, but they made the discovery of the ages. God is greater than death! The tomb was empty! Because of God's love for us and God's plan to save us from our sins Jesus had died upon the cross and now God raised Jesus from the dead. Because of God's love for us, Jesus had conquered sin, death, and the grave. He lives!

- 
1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

Know the Word

Re-read Luke 24:13-35

What does this Scripture tell us about spreading the good news of resurrection of Jesus Christ?



5 Fifth Arrow Point

Emmaus Road Crossword Puzzle

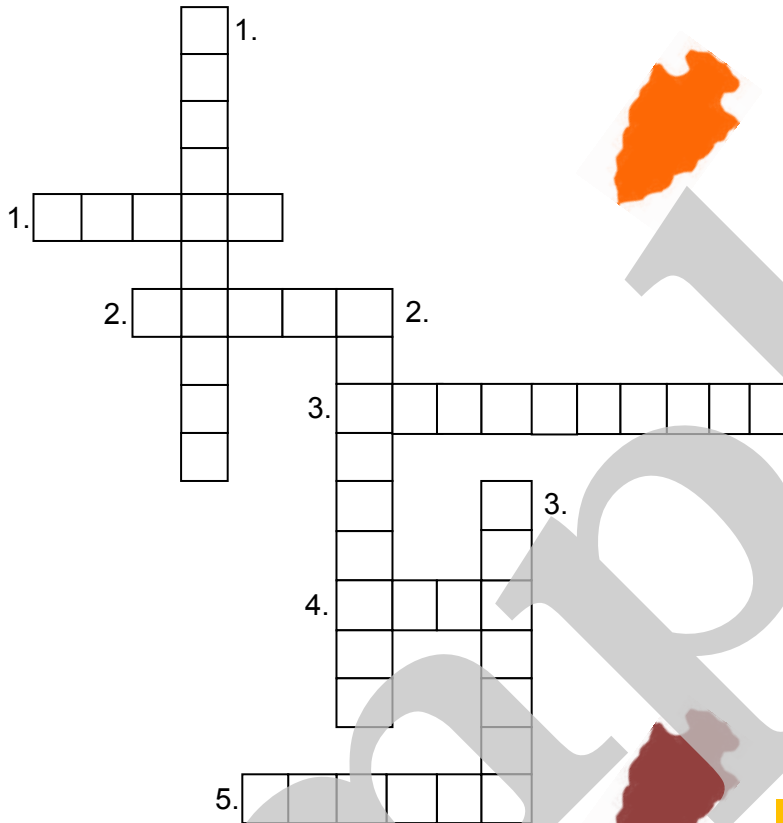
Know the Word

In light of what we've discussed, what does the world need from us and need to hear through our witness?

5th Arrow Prayer:

Let us say the Lord's Prayer together from Matthew 6:9-13

"Our Father, which art in heaven. Hallowed be thy name; Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses and we forgive those who trespass against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: for Thine is the Kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen."



Leader Suggestions:

1. You may use the crossword puzzle as a competition to see who can complete it correctly first.
2. Conclude with prayer and the challenge to look for good news every day as well as giving witness through their SHAPE for witnessing...

3. Answers:

Down...

- 1..EmmausRoad
- 2.Disciples
3. Cleopas

Across...

1. Jesus
2. Bread
3. Scriptures
4. Luke
5. Hearts

DOWN:

1. What was the name of the road Jesus was walking on with Cleopas and another disciple?
2. What was the name Jesus used to call his group of followers?
3. What was the name of one of the disciples walking with Jesus on the Emmaus Road?

ACROSS:

1. Who joined Cleopas and the other disciple on the Emmaus Road?
2. What did Jesus break?
3. Jesus explained the _____ to the disciples as they walked along.
4. What was the name of the Gospel in which this scripture lesson was written?
5. What burned within the disciples as they listened to Jesus on the Emmaus Road?

Extra Notes:

This Is My Story

Leader Suggestions:

1. Our goal in this lesson is to help everyone understand that the key to witnessing is faithfulness! Begin by reviewing our witnessing journey in the first 5 lessons and then begin with prayer. Perhaps there are students who have given witness to someone and they want the group to pray for them; or they have had a negative encounter and want to offer prayer for all of those involved. As the leader offer your prayer to include these situations

Is this A Journey of Win-Win or Win-Lose?

How are you at losing? How do you handle the word no? When our oldest son was small a day could not pass without some kind of ball game. Usually it was me pitching to him while he attempted to hit the ball with a large plastic bat. He would get so frustrated when I wouldn't hit his bat! Even though I never batted he would always want to know who won. As he grew older, the summer time evenings were filled with kick ball games. Kids from the neighborhood would always know that after dinner they could find a good kick ball game at our house behind the church. Our son grew up to love all kinds of ball games and excelled in baseball, basketball and football in high school. He never liked to lose! Although it is better today, when we play golf he still doesn't like to lose. Who does?

What about this witnessing lifestyle, can you lose at witnessing? Jesus sent out 72 disciples and taught them about losing! When you go to a home that does not accept you, dust your feet off and move on was His instructions (Luke 10:11). Paul, a soldier for Christ found himself in all kinds of situations where he was asked to no longer proclaim the gospel, but his response was that he could not help himself; regardless he was going to share his Jesus story. In Acts 26, Paul is before King Agrippa and shares his witness only to hear the King say, "Almost you have persuaded me", almost, what a sad word from the King's lips.

Jesus also had an experience of hearing no! There was a rich young ruler that Jesus loved that was inquisitive about salvation and asked Jesus,

"Good teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life? You know the commandments: 'You shall not commit adultery, you shall not murder, you shall not steal, you shall not give false testimony, honor your father and mother.' All these I have kept since I was a boy," he said. When Jesus heard this, he said to him, "You still lack one thing. Sell everything you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me." When he heard this, he became very sad, because he was very wealthy. (Matthew 19:16-22 selected verses)

Sharing Point

Matthew 19:21

Arrow Memory Verse

- "...If you want to be perfect, go sell your possessions and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me."

Follow through Point

- Living as Disciples and being good stewards is not only the reason to become a follower of Christ. We must give witness to our faith and to fulfill this goal. The key is faithfulness.


Spiritual Goals

- Reflect on and review our witnessing journey with the Christ.
- What is a win-win goal?
- Be aware of your community situations and develop a plan to serve others in need.

Archery Goals

- Improve your skills as you shoot at 7 meters and 10 meters.
- Encourage each other in their shooting and scoring.

Read **Matthew 19:16-22**



Were Paul and Jesus losers at their witnessing ministry? _____ Did their witness of God's transforming love and grace not measure up because a King and a rich young ruler said no? _____

One of the questions we must ask ourselves is how will we handle the rejection of our witness of faith? Are we losers when people say no or decide not to spend time with us because they do not want to hear about our relationship with Jesus? When I was teen, our youth group did visitation in our community and invited people to come to church. While making a visit with another youth one evening we had a difficult encounter when we knocked on the door of a home occupied by a widower. He opened the door and we shared that we were from the church two doors down and wanted to invite him to church. He stepped outside his door onto the porch and began to "bless us out" for coming onto his property and asking him such insulting questions. He informed us that he wasn't going to that church or any church because Churches were full of hypocrites and all they wanted was his money and then he told us to get off his property. It was bummer to say the least! We quickly left of course and I felt so rejected and down cast because of his reaction to a simple invitation. Some of the innocence of my faith was destroyed in a few short seconds. In all of my years of ministry and visiting in homes of people I knew and people who were total strangers I never have had that happen again. But as a youth I was done with witnessing to strangers.

1. Next, we suggest that you play a game where the students will experience winning or losing. Divide the group into 2 teams; let them choose two reps from each team and then let them play corn hole (a game to seven; or let the two teams play bingo and when any one on the team Bingo's that team wins.
2. After the game is over talk with the teams about their FEELINGS. What did it mean for you and your team to win? What is it like being on the losing team? Do you like the emphasis of our society on winners and losers?, etc
3. Another approach may be to have 2 people to role play a witnessing situation where an invitation to attend church is answered with a NO. Make sure in this approach that the one role playing the person extending the invitation does not know that the response will be an infatic NO.
4. After these exercises have concluded read the story of Jesus and the rich young ruler (Matthew 19:16-22) and Paul and King Agrippa (Acts 26:1-29)

1. The point of these questions is to help the students identify with the feelings of Paul and Jesus. As you lead the discussion, help to clarify the feelings that might have been experienced by Paul and Jesus.
2. Let the students dialogue their understanding of win-win in witnessing.

[illegible]

Blank lined paper for writing.

6 Sixth Arrow Point

Know the Word

In light of what we've discussed, what does it mean to be in a win-win journey?

6th Arrow Prayer:

Let us say the Lord's Prayer together from Matthew 6:9-13

"Our Father, which art in heaven. Hallowed be thy name; Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses and we forgive those who trespass against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: for Thine is the Kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen."

Does God expect so many notches on our Bibles? Is success in witnessing how many people are influenced by our witnessing lives and lips? Let me suggest that the win-win in witnessing is faithfulness. In Acts 4:1-20 we read the story of Paul and John before the Sanhedrin, i.e. the supreme court of Judaism. They were forbidden to speak or teach in the name of Jesus again. Their response was not to run and hide, but to proclaim in faithfulness, "...we cannot help speaking about what we have seen and heard."

In one of our lessons you were encouraged to share your witness ten times per day and or per week and to acknowledge that by keeping ten pennies in your pocket and every time you shared your witness to move one penny to your other pocket. Have you been successful and/or faithful? That is the question for all of us when it comes to telling of our relationship with Jesus, are we faithful in telling the story.

In Conclusion:

The challenge this week is for us not to measure our lives of witnessing by how many come to church with us or how many times people say yes to our sharing, but how faithful we are sharing the story of God's love and grace that we know in Jesus the Christ. Take the opportunity this week to share your story through serving at a food pantry; feeding the hungry; collecting food for a homeless shelter in your community; sharing in an act of kindness to someone who is elderly in your neighborhood; spending time chatting with someone in a nursing home, etc. and return next week to share your experience. Remember this is a journey of win-win not win-lose! Our faithfulness in giving witness with our lips and our lives is the key! Make it a great week and everyday discover a way to tell His story!

Leader Suggestions:

1. Take a look at your community situations and help the students develop a plan to serve others in need as a group sometime during the next 2 weeks.
2. Close the sharing time with the Lord's Prayer and you might ask ahead of time for one of the students to lead that prayer

Extra Notes:

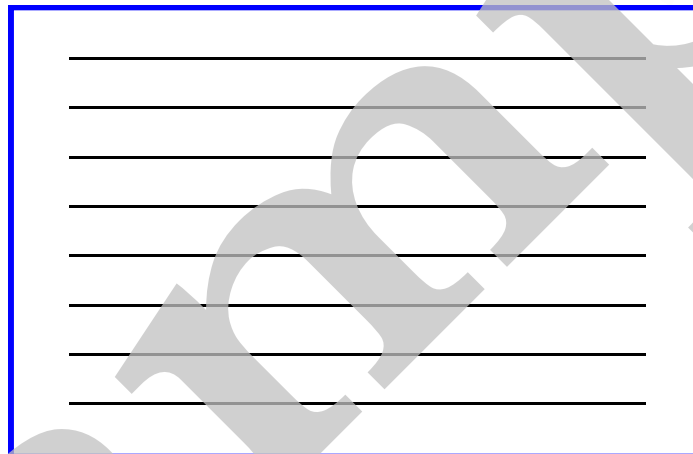
Home Alone?

Leader Suggestions:

1. As you welcome your group take time to review the journey thus far and particularly last week's lesson. After sharing is completed introduce lesson 7 and begin with prayer.
2. Make sure that everyone gets to share. We want each person to feel the loneliness expressed in the individual responses.

If you have watched any of the "Home Alone" flicks and you are like me you have "laughed yourself silly". We all know that the crooks can't be that stupid, but it is hilarious entertainment. It is difficult to believe that a family could leave behind a child, but if you have enough children, perhaps you can. Loneliness! One of the worst illnesses I ever had was homesickness. Being alone is not a choice many of us would make unless under certain circumstances.

Share with the group a time that you felt lonely and how did you overcome it? Use the box below to write your thoughts down.



Perhaps the natural feelings of disappointments and the decision to become discouraged when we are alone is why Jesus sent out the 72 in pairs. Luke shares his witness of this event in chapter 10. Read Chapter 10:1-23 and write your thoughts about this passage in the box on the next page. These disciples, after a crash course in Evangelism 101 were given some OJT (on the job training). They were sent with the specific goal of sharing their witness of the Kingdom of God. Also, they were instructed in what to do in certain situations. They were prepared by Jesus to exercise faithfulness in sowing the seed of the Gospel. Do you remember the parable of the sower? The Gospel of Matthew chapter 13 Jesus shares this powerful parable.

This Is My Story

Sharing Point

Luke 10:1

Arrow Memory Verse

- "...the Lord appointed seventy-two others and sent them two by two ahead of Him to every town and place where He was about to go."

Follow through Point

- Living as a follower of Christ everyday is tough but we should not walk alone. We should let other Christ Followers encourage and help us as we grow in our faith in Jesus Christ. We are in this journey together.

Spiritual Goals

- Reflect on an event in your life where you experienced the encouragement of another Christ Follower.
- To give witness to your faith, help and encourage your fellow archers with their walk with Christ.

Archery Goals

- Continue to strive for improving your averages in your shooting
- Evaluate yourself as far as technic

7 Seventh Arrow Point

Know the Word

Read **Luke 10:1-23**

What does this Scripture mean to you?

S

“That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat by the lake. ² Such large crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat in it, while all the people stood on the shore. ³ Then he told them many things in parables, saying: “A farmer went out to sow his seed. ⁴ As he was scattering the seed, some fell along the path, and the birds came and ate it up. ⁵ Some fell on rocky places, where it did not have much soil. It sprang up quickly, because the soil was shallow. ⁶ But when the sun came up, the plants were scorched, and they withered because they had no root. ⁷ Other seed fell among thorns, which grew up and choked the plants. ⁸ Still other seed fell on good soil, where it produced a crop—a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown.”

This parable is not about the soils but the seed. The farmer sowed (planted) the seed in all of the soils. Again the emphasis is on the faithfulness to sow and to let the seed do its work. What is the seed in this parable?

The seed is the story of God's love and grace that we know in Jesus the Christ. The seed is God's plan of salvation for the whole world and the responsibility and privilege of all disciples is planting it by sharing their witness. Sometimes that witness will be accepted and sometimes it will not, but our joy is to sow it wherever.

One of the real keys to sending out the 72 was their return debriefing. They all gathered together to share their journey. They all had great stories of faithfulness. Reading between the lines of that encounter you can sense that not all of their stories were what we would call fruitful. Some had to have dealt with rejection, disappointment and what they considered failure.

How do we deal with those kinds of emotions as followers of Christ? That question is at the heart of this lesson. Are we in this journey alone? Write your thoughts on this question.

Leader Suggestions:

1. The seed is the Gospel, i.e. that God is in love with each of us and has provided God's love and grace for our salvation and reconciliation to God through Jesus Christ.
2. Choose a game to play where the group is divided into two teams. Each team chooses one player to represent their team. Privately (without the team's chosen player) share with one team to cheer on their player and the other team to be extremely quiet no matter the outcome of the game being played. You may choose to do a three-legged race (if so, you would choose 2 players from each team instead of one) through an obstacle course, checkers, etc.

7 Seventh Arrow Point

Play a game chosen by your leader and follow his or her instructions. After playing the game, answer these questions.

How did it feel to be cheered for?

How did it feel to be alone in the game?

How did it feel to be a part of the group that cheered?



Did it make you a part of the victory or loss?



How did it feel to stand by and do nothing while your team mate played the game?

Know the Word

Re-read **Matthew 13:1-8**

What does this Scripture tell us about the seed?

[illegible]

7 Seventh Arrow Point

Know the Word

In light of what we've discussed, how can we help our fellow Christians in their journey?

7th Arrow Prayer:

Let us say the Lord's Prayer together from Matthew 6:9-13

"Our Father, which art in heaven. Hallowed be thy name; Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses and we forgive those who trespass against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: for Thine is the Kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen."

There was a man in the Early Church whose story is told in the Book of Acts. His name is Barnabas. The name Barnabas means "son of encouragement" and that was exactly what Barnabas did with his life. In all of the accounts of Barnabas' ministry he was encouraging someone. Every disciple needs an encourager! That is one of the reasons why participating in church is so important for us as followers of Christ. The truth is we will all discover times of disappointment, failure, rejection, etc. and we will need someone or a small group in which we can confide and share our hurts and pains.

Jesus planned a share time for the 72 so that everyone could find support and encouragement for their first big mission trip. The interaction between Christ Followers is important for growth, self-disclosure, confidence building, accountability, responsibility, encouragement, etc. As Christ Followers we are a part of something far bigger than ourselves, we are a part of the Kingdom of God. We are not only sent to witness but we are called to be the cheerleaders and encouragers of others who journey with us in the most important calling in life; sharing the story of our relationship with Jesus Christ. May it never be said of us that we left another Follower of Christ "home alone" to deal with life's struggles and joys.

Our challenge this week is to find situations where we can be an encourager. Perhaps we can help a friend to deal with a test failure at school or success in an athletic event; perhaps we can listen to a friend or colleague who is going through a personal event in their life; maybe you know of a person who needs befriending. Perhaps you are struggling with this whole challenge of telling your story of God's love and grace and you need an encourager. This week search for those around you in life's journey that need an "Encourager", let's not leave anyone "home alone".

Extra Notes:

Leader Suggestions:

1. It is important that your group sense the significance of sharing this faith journey with others so that no one is alone or feels alone.
2. Close the session by sharing an event in your life where you experienced the encouragement of another Christ Follower and how it made you feel. Be vulnerable! The group will not be vulnerable without the leader taking those steps as an example. It is in and through our vulnerability that we grow in our faith in Jesus Christ.
3. Close with the Lord's Prayer and ask one of the group members to lead. Stand in a circle and hold hands signify the unity and togetherness of the group.
4. Leave them with this word: "Do not walk alone and do not let other Christ Followers around you walk alone! We are in this journey together."

Leader Suggestions:

1. Reflect with the students over the last week. It would be most helpful for you to offer times that you were encouraged or built up by someone during the last week. After your sharing ask students in the group to share their experiences. After this sharing time begin with prayer.

2. Then read 1 Timothy 1 for the text today. Note for the students the words of encouragement and challenge that are included in Paul's words to Timothy. This is known as Paul's pastoral letter. After reading the text you can use some of the examples that follow or you can share some of your own stories that reflect leaving tracks. The more personal and vulnerable you are willing to be the more your students will grasp the lesson.

Leaving Tracks

One of the great joys of my life is turkey hunting! I love being in the woods in the early morning hours of a new spring day and listening to the gobbles echoing through the valleys and across the ridges of my native West Virginia. I lack one bird of completing two grandslams (harvesting all 4 species of wild turkey in the United States). It is also awesome fun to do pre-season scouting. Looking for signs of where turkey have been is a great way to determine a strategy for the hunting season; one of those signs that I look for are tracks.

Have you ever thought about the tracks you are leaving for those who follow you? I had the privilege of growing up on a small cattle farm and was taught by my father the personal and public significance of hard work. I remember during the winter months of rising early to help feed the cattle before going to school. Following Dad's tracks in the snow was one of the benefits of being younger. He would blaze the trail for us boys and we would make every attempt to walk in his footsteps. Whether we realize it or not we all are leaving tracks for those who come behind us.

Our youngest son lives in Black Hawk, Colorado. Recently, he called to talk about the cat tracks that he had been seeing close to his house. BIG cat tracks! He also discovered a mule deer carcass close by that was another sign of this big cat. The Department of Natural Resources had been tracking this particular cat for some time through a transponder that had been placed around its neck. The batteries were running low and they needed to capture the cat again and update their monitoring device. It was later that week David called to share that the cat had in fact been captured and that he was able to observe and touch it while it was sedated. Did I mention that it was a BIG cat? Tracks! We all leave tracks! Think of tracks that you may have encountered when you have been in the outdoors. Share the names of the them with the class.

This Is My Story

Sharing Point

1 Timothy 6:12

Arrow Memory Verse

- Fight the good fight of faith. Take hold of the eternal life to which you were called when you made your good confession in the presence of many witnesses.

Follow through Point

- Witnessing our faith story can be intimidating, but is very fulfilling when we leave tracks for others to lead them to Jesus.

Spiritual Goals

- Reflect on how you can leave tracks and mentor others who follow behind us.
- Name some people who have had a great impact on your faith journey and life.

Archery Goals

- Get ready and reflect on your scores as you prepare for the closing tournament and awards celebration.
- Evaluate yourself and this seasons Centershot session.

8 Eighth Arrow Point

Know the Word

Read 1 Timothy 6:11-16

What does this Scripture mean to you?

Blank lined paper for writing.

Read 1 Timothy 6:11-16. How does our life journey help us in leaving tracks and fighting the good fight to the end of our lives? Write your thoughts in the box to the left.

Several years ago I was traveling on a tour in the Holy Land and our guide was showing us through the area around Jerusalem and the Mt. of Olives. At one point we stopped in front of a gate and fenced area and observed a trail and steps that led from the Mt. of Olives across the Kidron Valley and up the hillside to the walls around Jerusalem. The guide shared that archeologist and theologians believed that the trail would have been the way that Jesus had walked. We also walked inside the walls of Jerusalem and through the “stations of the cross”, the Via Dolorosa, i.e. the way of suffering. The moments that I stood and looked at the trail and the moments that I walked the way of suffering, I thought about the fact that I walked where Jesus walked. Walking in the steps of Jesus have lead me into all avenues of life, the good, the bad, the ugly, but as I walked in His tracks I felt in my heart and knew by faith He was close to me. We all leave tracks! What kind of tracks are we leaving? If someone was to follow the tracks of our lives would we lead them to Jesus, the Christ?

Take a few minutes and think of the people in your lives or the person in your life that you seek to emulate; someone who is giving you a witness of the way to live your life. Write their name or names down and share with the group how these people or this person is affecting your life?

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

Leader Suggestions:

1. Google “animal tracks” and gather a large collection of different animal tracks to have your students identify. You may want to divide them into teams and let them discuss and choose their answers together or play a matching game with pictures of the animals and the tracks on the same page so that each student can match the track with the animal, etc.
2. This is an important and insightful time for you as their leader. During the following exercise listen for their choices and the reasons why. Especially be cognoscente of students who are following the tracks of someone that is not a follower of Jesus, and emphasizing how important it is to have a Christian mentor in our life journey.

8 *Eighth Arrow Point*

Leader Suggestions:

1. Share a personal example of someone who has been a Christian mentor for you.
2. Familiarize yourself with Paul and Timothy and the relationship that they were fostering as Mentor and Mentee. Share the direct instructions that Paul gives to young Timothy as examples of how mentors challenge and encourage their mentees.

When I was in grad school I met a man that changed my life. He was a retiree that was on staff to share with us students what it was like to lead in parish ministry. His name was Bishop Kenneth Goodson. As I write this lesson his portrait hangs on the wall in my office with a yoke hanging over it which is a symbol of the tracks he left for me. He was a mentor for me in the truest of sense! His words, his actions, his life, were all a testimony to a life of faith and devotion to the Christ who we follow. The one statement that he made that I have held onto throughout my life is, “nothing so sets the course of your life, nothing so determines your way then to say, ‘this is what I believe’.” As a spiritual coach, he gave me strong advice when I needed it and asked me the correct questions that helped me to discover God’s directing hand for my life. He left tracks for me to follow that continually lead me to Jesus.

There is a great mentoring example in Scripture, Paul and Timothy. Paul recognizes Timothy's life of faith that Paul had witnessed in Timothy's mother and grandmother and Paul invests his time, energy, love, and resources in equipping Timothy for a ministry of servant leadership.

“I thank God, whom I serve, as my forefathers did, with a clear conscience, as night and day I constantly remember you in my prayers. Recalling your tears, I long to see you, so that I may be filled with joy. I have been reminded of your sincere faith, which first lived in your grandmother Lois and in your mother Eunice and, I am persuaded, now lives in you also. So do not be ashamed to testify about our Lord, or ashamed of me his prisoner. But join with me in suffering for the gospel, by the power of God, who has saved us and called us to a holy life.” (II Timothy 1:3-6, 8-9)

Know the Word

Read 2 Timothy 1:3-6, 8-9

What does this Scripture tell us about Timothy's life of faith?

[illegible]



The Salvation Poem

Jesus, You died upon a cross - Romans 5:8
And rose again to save the lost - John 3:16
Forgive me now of all my sin - 1 John 1:9
Come be my Savior, Lord, and Friend - Romans 10:9
Change my life and make it new - 2 Corinthians 5:7
And help me, Lord, to live for You - Colossians 2:6

The next step is Discipleship.

The Disciple Poem

Jesus, Your Presence in my life each day - Mark 12:30-31
Gives me strength and courage along life's way - Joshua 1:9
Enable me to walk in newness of life - Matthew 5:13-14
And be Your loving servant in joy or strife - Matthew 25:29
Give me eyes to see the journey ahead - Matthew 4:19
And hands to embrace others who tread - Luke 10:27

The next step is Stewardship.

The Stewardship Poem

My life does not belong to me; - Psalm 24
My body, this earth, even the sea; - Psalm 24
I am in partnership with God; - 1 Corinthians 3:7-9
Caring for myself, the environment, the sod. - Romans 12:1-2
Life is a gracious, precious, and awesome gift; - Ezekiel 34:3
Living with gratitude is my way to uplift. - Luke 12:33-34
Generosity is our way to share; - 2 Corinthians 9:6
Revealing to God and others that we care.
1 Corinthians 12:58
What a blessing God gives us to show; - Proverbs 11:25
Let us live to bless strangers and people we know.
Matthew 5:13-14

The next step is Sharing the Plan.

The Arrow Poem

I trust in God to guide me - Acts 1:8
In all that I have learned - John 20:31
Lead the way that I may see - John 1:41
The future bright and sure - Acts 8:35
Whatever happens in my life - Luke 24:25
On Him I can depend - Matthew 19:21
There's nothing I can't handle - Luke 10:1
With Jesus as my friend - 1 Timothy 6:12