

Series Theme: Old Testament (first part of the Bible) OCT **New Testament (second part of the Bible) NOV**

Series Overview:

A foundational series exploring key characters from the Old and New Testament, looking at their struggles, victories and the lessons we can learn from their lives and apply to our own journey of discipleship today. Every character will need to be placed in their biblical and historical context to help the listeners understand what was going on and to help give clarity and expand the significance of their story.

Key Wins:

For Believers to gain a deeper biblical understanding, to grow in proximity to God and to take away key lessons that they can apply on their own journey of discipleship.

For Un-believers to meet God through how he has impacted and worked through the lives of those from the New and Old Testament, and to demonstrate a real God who exists for real people.

Mission (Revive, Outpour, Advance, Restore)

All

Strategies (Know God, Get Free, Find Purpose, Make a Difference)

All

Environments (Reception Area, Living Room, Kitchen Table, Revive Team)

All

The Code

All

Creative Blocks from MFT

Possible Event – Chosen Episodes, Mary & Nicodemus

Old Testament & New Testament two different action songs one for each month

Series Resources

Message 1 – Noah : Faith

Scriptures: Hebrews 11:7, Genesis 6-9, Genesis 6:22, 9

Focus: We need to define faith; there will be those who cannot grasp what faith is. What are we doing in our desert places when we need to have faith, look at what the circumstances were like for Noah. However loud the Lord's voice was there was a 120-year gap between God telling him and the flood. Everything would have been against him, but he had the drive to keep going. Bring in the real story the archaeological fact, where the boat ended up, shells at the top of Everest, dinosaur bones found 'drowned'. Every man was doing what they wanted, there was no law. He did all that God commanded him. Noah was righteous, the only blameless man who walked in close fellowship with God. Faith comes from walking closely with God. The level of revelation and task that was given were because of his intimacy with God. Noah shows us and challenges us to have a level of righteousness, to be people of integrity. They didn't have open doors they kept close to God, kept away from evil.

Key Points: Faith is produced through intimacy and there is an importance to be obedient and lead a godly life, to strive to righteousness and do what God has called us to do no matter what. Regardless of our circumstances, Noah lived in a difficult time but remained in faith. We live in difficult times but need to remain in faith. In his intimacy he knew the character of God and so he could trust him, which is where faith comes from. We cannot know that if we are not intimate.

Where is Jesus: God promised he wouldn't flood the earth again even though we possibly deserve it, instead he gave us Jesus who ensured we could be saved regardless of the world we live in, Jesus was there from the start.

Message 2 – Jonah : Disobedience & Judgement

Scriptures: Jonah 1-4,

Focus: Jonah judged Ninevah and the story of Jonah ends with him angry. God has the last word and talks about his compassion on the people, but there's an open question to us are we going choose to partner with Gods plan or not. Jonah never saw the joy in the miracle because he was bound up in bitterness. Gods plans prevail and we can choose to be joyful or bitter about it. Jonah wasn't scared but he was bitter about a people being saved that he didn't think deserved it. His judgement and his condition of heart wasn't about being embarrassed it was pride. He knew the character of God, but he refused to be obedient because he didn't want them to have the opportunity to repent. He ran away from what God is asking us to do. Jonah has a lack of faith and unbelief in what God can do. Jonah received Gods undeserved Mercy through the fish saving him and the plant sheltering him, and yet he was cross that that same mercy was offered to the Ninevites.

Key Points: We can run away from what God is asking us to do, we can also be judgemental on those who don't have Jesus. We must put away our repulsion of those God wants to save. We need to make sure the condition of our hearts is good

and in line with what God wants to do, then we can participate with joy in what his plans are. We can be joyful and love others, or we can be judgemental and unhappy. There sometimes is a Jonah moment for us where we hear the call of God and think of fleeing and we must choose not to. Gods Mercy is for all.

Where is Jesus: The three days in the whale is a shadow of the substance of Christs death. The Mercy and Grace of God were demonstrated through Jonah. Jesus was relatable to us, Jonah smelled of fish which the Ninevites had fish Gods, that made him more acceptable. Jesus came to be acceptable and show us a way to relate to him.

Message 3- Daniel : Courage & Devotion

Scripture: Daniel, Daniel 6 – Lion's den. Hebrews 11, Daniel 7, Matthew 26

Focus: His faithful devotion to God helped Daniel to trust God in the situations he found himself in. His devotion to God was unwavering, his intimacy with God was his main priority. God was his number one. God never left him because Daniel never failed in his faith. He was honoured and lifted above men as he walked in righteousness and with integrity with God as the number one thing. The ungodly king fasts for Daniel being saved because he can see Jesus in Him. Daniel is given great revelation out of his obedience and worship to God. He didn't do it for show; our God will save me but even if he doesn't, I will not give up my faith. He served the King he was obviously good at what he did, but nothing took the place of God. He came under authority where he needed to.

Key Points: Intimacy and devotion to God must be above everything else, he served the authority he was placed under but not to the detriment of God. The relationship with God was valued above his life, but also, he trusted God with his life in the lion's den. He was marked out so much that ungodly pagans fasted through the night to save his life. Daniel challenges us to a level of righteousness we can attain to. Whilst David had the spirit anyone now can have the spirit dwelling within them, whoever we are we can come unrighteous and have the Holy Spirit to help us.

Where is Jesus: Daniel prophesied the Son of Man which is who Jesus referred to himself in Matthew 26 and confirmed this was him.

Message 4 – Deborah : Identity

Scriptures: Judges 4&5 4:5

Focus: Deborah a prophet is raised up as a judge by God to rule. She walks close with God and so he can use her, sits under the palm under the shadow of God, as in his presence. People knew she had authority. She dispensed judgment to those who came to her. She sat in confidence and in a position her culture said she shouldn't sit in; she pointed to that deliverance would come at the hand of a woman. God can use a person regardless of if they know their identity in Jesus. As a woman she shouldn't

have been a judge, God can use anyone regardless of what culture or others say. She had a strong sense of her identity in God. She was a woman of strength and confidence in her identity in God. She was the righteous one God chose. She sat outside in wisdom, so her modesty was clear and visible. Model of faith and servant leadership. She wasn't intimidated by culture.

Key Points: When we are secure in our identity in God, we can do the things God's calling us to do, Deborah from that position was known to be upright, strong, wise, a mother and a woman. She didn't try to be a man; she did her job well firmly rooted in her identity which comes out of being rooted in her relationship with God. Deborah's prophetic revelation and understanding enabled her to be alongside the men in the battle and to bring the victory. Barrack led the battle, but she went with him as a representative of God, she gave them the charge. She is the prophetic covering, and she carried the presence of God. Jael is the hand of the woman who gave them the victory. Deborah is the deliverer.

Where is Jesus: Jesus is an example of someone confident in who he is without arrogance, he was secure in his identity. Deborah was the judge, deliverer and brought 40 years of rest shadowing what Christ did.

Week 5 – BAPTISM WEEK 1st NOV – John the Baptist

Scriptures: Luke 3:21-22, Matthew 3, Isaiah 40:3

Focus: John bridges the Old Testament to the new, he came to make a way for Jesus. He was the forerunner. John is prophesied in Isaiah and Malachi; He understood his position.

Key Points: Look at the significance of water baptism and Jesus who was obedient to go through the waters. John prepared the way of the Lord so that we could be saved and follow his example.

Where is Jesus: Being baptised

Message 6 – Mary Magdalene: Lifestyle change & freedom

Scriptures: Luke 8:1-3, Mark 15:40. John 19:25, Romans 12:2, Galatians 5, Matthew 27:55-56,

Focus: Jesus brings transformation to even the messiest of lives, regardless of where we begin. Mary Magdalene experienced a radical change after encountering Jesus, not only in her behaviour, but in the direction of her entire life. While we do not have to change to come to Jesus, walking with Him should gradually make us more like Him. Mary was brought from isolation into community and chose to stay close to Jesus through every season, remaining faithful at the cross, at the tomb, and as the first witness to His resurrection despite being considered an unlikely witness in that culture. Consistently mentioned throughout the Gospels and involved in the early church, her life shows how deeply Jesus transforms people and how powerfully He can use those who pursue Him wholeheartedly.

Key Points: We can go on and keep on a journey of transformation. Encountering Jesus brings transformation when we choose to follow him and to make him our number one, as a community we must accept those saved from all backgrounds on their own journey of transformation.

Where is Jesus: He was the one Mary didn't let her eyes go from, he was with her at every point of her journey. He made her righteous and restored her. She had faith he would keep his promise and so continued to go even after his death.

Message 7 – Nicodemus : What's the cost?

Scriptures: John 3: 1-21, John 7: 50-51, John 19: 39-42

Focus: Nicodemus was a wealthy, respected Pharisee who appeared to have everything, yet he still wrestled with the question of whether there was more to life than status, knowledge, and success. Curious about Jesus, he chose to visit Him at night, not wanting to be judged by the other Pharisees and aware that he had much to lose if he became associated with Him. His decision to seek Jesus was careful and measured, as he wrestled with the potential cost of discovering the truth for himself. Many people hesitate to fully step toward Jesus because they fear what following Him may cost, and Nicodemus reflects that tension throughout his journey. Jesus met him with patience and hospitality, allowing him to ask questions, wrestle intellectually, and discover the truth for himself. Over time, Nicodemus moved from private curiosity to public courage. He later challenged the legality of condemning Jesus without a fair hearing, risking his reputation among the religious leaders, and eventually became an open follower who helped bury Jesus after the crucifixion. The man who first came in darkness ultimately stepped into the light, willing to risk position, reputation, and wealth because he recognised Jesus was worth the cost. His story shows that while many approach Jesus intellectually at first, those who genuinely seek Him often discover something far deeper that leads to transformation and courageous faith.

Key Points: It is okay to question and wrestle your way toward Jesus because He is patient and kind. Nicodemus began unsure, risking reputation, position, and security, yet as he continued the journey, he realised Jesus was worth the cost. Following Jesus will often require sacrifice, especially when there is something to lose, but Nicodemus ultimately recognised Him as King. His bold and costly actions at the end of Jesus' life revealed just how deeply he had been transformed and what Jesus truly meant to him.

Where is Jesus: Patiently answering our questions, meeting us in our doubt and worthy of all the cost.

Message 8 – Peter : Denial & Restoration

Scriptures: John 2: 15-19, John 18: 10-11, John 18: 15-18

Focus: Peter was impulsive and often self-sufficient, acting before thinking and rarely measuring the consequences of his actions. Yet beneath his inconsistency

was a deep love for Jesus, and Jesus knew his heart. Peter's passion is seen when he cuts off the servant's ear at Jesus' arrest, only to be corrected by Jesus' moments before later denying Him three times. In that moment, Peter was overwhelmed by fear and denial, acting against who he truly was. Yet his failure did not disqualify him. After the resurrection, Jesus lovingly restored Peter beside another charcoal fire, revisiting the place of his deepest shame with the question asked three times, "Do you love me?" Each response began to heal what had been broken, turning Peter's confession into restoration rather than condemnation. In one of the most personal and emotionally powerful moments in the Gospels, Jesus restores Peter over a simple meal among friends and entrusts him with a new responsibility: "Feed my sheep." Peter's story moves from denial, to confession, to mission, showing that failure can become part of our formation rather than the end of our calling. Jesus does not ignore our past, He redeems it. What once felt like disqualification becomes the very ground from which renewed purpose and deeper discipleship can grow. The risen Christ does not discard broken people, He restores, commissions, and leads them into greater purpose.

Key Points: If we want to journey from our own strength to God's strength, there's a need to be deeply devoted, he doesn't deny him from his heart Peter's denial of Jesus comes from fear, when he realises, he's denied him he's heartbroken. Jesus tells Peter to look at him. Failure doesn't disqualify Peter from leadership; it was a place he learned from. Peter's humanity and his ownership of mistakes became part of his redemption and restoration. Mention cancel culture.

Where is Jesus: Jesus invites Peter to reclaim who Jesus says he is.

Message 9 – Phillip: Obedience to take the Gospel anywhere

Scriptures: Acts 8: 26-40, including verse 37,

Focus: The angel gave Philip instruction, and he rose and went without questioning, delay, or distraction into a desert place. In contrast to Jonah, who initially resisted when called, Philip immediately obeyed. Because he went where he was sent, he encountered someone who was open to the message of the gospel. When we follow God's leading, we walk in His favour. The Holy Spirit empowers us for mission, guiding us as we listen and enabling us to act in His strength. Philip spoke as the Holy Spirit prompted him, and the message crossed cultural and national boundaries, breaking down barriers that would normally divide people. In this encounter, difference was overcome and the response led to baptism. We are not called to complicate what God makes simple; when the Spirit leads, we follow and speak when He directs. In God's providence, obedience creates opportunity. Philip remained in step with the Spirit, the gospel bore fruit, and the Ethiopian eunuch believed and asked to be baptised. Baptism is a declaration of faith and a natural next step in the journey of discipleship.

Key Points: The eunuch is seen as the one who brought Christianity to Africa, one of the oldest churches in the world is in Ethiopia. The fruit of Phillip's obedience resulted in a nation change. The eunuch too was obedient to be baptised.

Where is Jesus: Isaiah 53:7-8 spoken by the Eunuch Acts 8:33, it was the prophecy of the Christ and then he was able to tell him it had been fulfilled in Jesus.