Living your faith:

Between the Sundays

1 John 2:6

Randy Grimes

Living your faith: Between the Sundays

In Matthew 9:36-38, Jesus looked at the crowds and had compassion for them. He saw where they were spiritually and had sympathy on them. Jesus knew they may never come to know God unless someone leads them to Him. Jesus then asked His disciples to pray for God to send someone to lead them to Him.

The purpose of this study is to help Believers in Christ stop, look at the crowds in their daily life, have compassion for them, then help lead them to Christ. How can this be done? 1 John 2:6 clearly states how, "Whoever says he abides in Him ought to walk in the same way in which He walked." This says if you are going to be a Christian, be one 24/7. Live your faith so the lives you daily touch see Jesus in all you do. This means your family, friends, neighbors, co-workers, and those you meet during your day all need to Jesus when they look at you.

Ask yourself this question: When the people in my daily life look at me, do they see me or Jesus?

**Before beginning this study please read Jeff Iorg's book, *Unscripted*, it sets the background for the lessons we will cover.

Living your Faith:

"Between the Sundays"

1 John 2:6

Lesson	1	_ 1	nt	rad	1101	tin	n
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Lesson 2 - Viewing the Lives Around You

My Sphere of Influence Chart

Lesson 3 - Compassion for the Lives Around You

Lesson 4 - The Story of Your Faith

Lesson 5 - Strengthening the Foundations of Your Faith

The Way Assessment Questions

Lesson 6 - Who I Am in Christ

Lesson 7 - Sharing Jesus by Living Your Faith

Plan of Salvation Examples

Lesson 8 - Praying for the Lives Around You

Lesson 9 - Conclusion

Introduction

Open in prayer.

Discuss the book Unscripted, by Jeff Iorg:

- 1. What did God speak to you about as you read Iorg's book?
- 2. How does your daily walk align with what is discussed?
- 3. What are your easiest and hardest changes to make?
- 4. Discuss what does Paul in 1 John 2:6 (ESV) teach about the daily walk of a believer?

View and discuss the Strangers Video:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rHZiR7gCwSE&t=14s

- 1. Why did Lisa want to know more about Jesus?
- 2. List the names of those who learned of Jesus because of Kim's love for Him.
- 3. How many people know Jesus because of your love for Him?
- 4. When was the last time you shared Jesus with someone?

This study will do three things:

- 1. Help you see how the lives you daily touch are viewing your faith,
- 2. Help you strengthen the foundations of your faith, and
- 3. Help you boldly live and share your faith between the Sundays as John mentions in 1 John 2:6.

My prayers are with you as you go through this study.

Assignment for Lesson 2:

Fill out "My Sphere of Influence" worksheet.

My Sphere of Influence

	List their first name	Step into their shoes, what do they see?	Rate 0-5
i. My Family		-	
	1		
	3		
	4	8	
	<u> </u>		
	J	2 	
II. My Friends			
ii. iviy i tielius	240		
	2		
	3		
	4		
	5		
III. My Neighbors			
	1		
	2		
	3		
	4		
	5		
IV. My Co-Workers			
ta. Ialà co-anotreiz	4		
	1		
	2		
	3		
	4		
	5		
V. People in My Day			
	1		
	2		
			
	3		
			
	5	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	

Directions:

- 1. Please begin with a prayer and reflect on all the people your life touches each day.
- 2. Next, in each section above list five of them by first name only.
- 3. Then, stop and step into the shoes of each person you listed and look back at yourself. Make a few notes on how you think they feel about your faith in God? Does your life show them Jesus in all that you do and say?
- 4. Last, for each person, rate 0 5 how you honestly feel they would rate your faith in God. Zero being the lowest and five being the highest. You may even want to text them and have them rate you.
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Viewing the Lives Around You

Open in Prayer

Discuss how the group members scored on their Sphere of Influence Chart.

- 1. What group had your highest scores?
- 2. What group had your lowest scores?
- 3. What group do you have the most compassion for?
- 4. Discuss what changes you need to make to raise your scores in all five groups?

Read Matthew 9: 36-38.

When He saw the crowds, He had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. Then He said to His disciples, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest."

- 1. What was the first thing Jesus did?
- 2. What happened next?
- 3. What did Jesus ask His disciples to do?
- 4. How did Jesus view the crowds around Him?
- 5. Discuss the five crowds listed on your sphere of influence worksheet.

Next week we will use this same passage to discuss how to have more compassion for the crowds around you.

Assignment for Lesson 3:

Start praying that God will give you compassion for those listed on your sphere of influence worksheet. Close in prayer.

Compassion for the Lives Around You

Introduction +

- 1. Open in Prayer
- 2. Review last week's lesson and the people in your sphere of influence.
- 3. What do you see as you look at them?
- 4. Which ones stick out of your crowd?

Read Matthew 9: 36-38.

When He saw the crowds, He had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. Then He said to His disciples, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest."

- 1. How did Jesus view the crowds?
- 2. What does the word compassion mean?
- 3. What does the Bible say about compassion? Read Colossians 3:12
- 4. Why did Jesus have compassion on the crowds?
- 5. What does His observation tell about their faith and eternal destiny?
- 6. What did Jesus ask His disciples to do about the crowds?
- 7. Discuss the crowds around you. What are you doing about them?
- 8. On your sphere of influence worksheet circle one person in each group. If you do not already have compassion for that individual, do as Jesus asked and start praying for them. In the conclusion we will discuss how your compassion for them has changed after praying for them for a few weeks.

Assignment for Lesson 4:

We will discuss "your" story of when you met Jesus. Be prepared to briefly share these points of your story:

- (a) Your life before meeting Jesus.
- (b) Who first told you about Jesus.
- (c) How has knowing Jesus changed your life.
- (d) Does your sphere of influence see Jesus in your daily life?

The Story of Your Faith

Introduction -

- 1. Open in Prayer
- 2. Review last week's lesson and your compassion for the people circled in your sphere of influence.
- 3. What do you feel and see happening as you continue to pray for them?
- 4. Which ones do you see God's Holy Spirit working in the most and stick out of your crowd?

Read John 5:1-15.

- 1. Discuss the setting.
- 2. What did Jesus ask him to do?
- 3. What did the man do?
- 4. Who criticized him for walking and carrying his bed? Did their lives shine the love of God they so boldly professed to know?
- 5. When did the man know who had healed him? Who did he tell?

Discuss your story of meeting Jesus:

- 1. Your life before meeting Jesus.
- 2. Who first told you about Jesus?
- 3. How has knowing Jesus changed your life?
- 4. Does your sphere of influence see Jesus in your daily life?
- 5. Next week we will begin discussing ways to strengthen your love for Jesus.

Have group members pair off and share their story with each other.

Assignment for Lesson 5:

- 1. Take the Spiritual Assessment Survey.
- 2. Be prepared to discuss your strengths and weaknesses based on your survey results.

Strengthening the Foundation of Your Faith

Introduction -

- 1. Open in Prayer
- 2. Discuss your scores on the Spiritual Growth Assessment Survey.
- 3. What areas did you score the highest?
- 4. What areas do you need to improve upon?

Read 1 Samuel 17:

David was a young teenager, a shepherd, and the youngest of the eight sons of Jesse of Bethlehem. Saul, the first King of Israel and his men were in a fierce battle with the Philistines. To save many lives, armies back then would have their best soldiers fight each other. The soldier who won would claim victory for their entire army. The Philistines had Goliath, a 9-foot giant, who had all the men of Saul's army shaking in their boots. Then David, a young boy, filled with faith and a passion for God arrived on the scene. David quickly heard God's name being blasphemed by Goliath and became angy. Taking a stone and his sling, David sent Goliath to the ground. He then cut off Goliath's head with his own sword which sent the Philistine army running for their lives.

Discussion:

- 1. Goliath was taunting the Sovereign Lord of the Universe and challenging the army of God's own people to stand up for Him. They were scared, but how did David's faith get strong enough to step out in faith and face the giant? (Read 1 Samuel 17:34-37). David's time alone with God showed him who God was and taught him how to stand firm in his faith. Are you spending quality time alone with God each day? Does your daily walk reflect it?
- 2. Accepting Christ as your personal Lord and Savior is just the beginning of your spiritual journey toward becoming spiritually mature. How can you strengthen the foundations of your faith to stand strong in the Lord as David did? (Read Psalm 119:105; Romans 10:17; 1 Peter 2:2; James 1:2-4).
- 3. What giants do you face in your life? Is your faith strong enough to firmly stand face-to-face before them? (1 Peter 3:15; John 14:6).
- 4. Are there places in your life where God is not welcome? Since God is Holy and we profess to walk with Him, our lives must be holy and free from sin. We cannot live in partial darkness. (1 John 2:6-7).

Assignment for Lesson 6:

- 1. Read through the ten biblical attributes of Who I Am in Christ.
- 2. Be prepared to discuss which biblical truth your faith is strongest in and which one is your weakest.

The Way - Assessment Questions

These twelve evaluative questions were designed and intended to help believers move forward in their spiritual maturity.

What is spiritual maturity? The Apostle Paul described it this way: "Him we proclaim, warning everyone and teaching everyone with all wisdom, that we may present everyone mature in Christ. For this I toil, struggling with all his energy that he powerfully works within me Colossians 1:28-29 (ESV). "The spiritual mature person will resemble Jesus Christ in His character, convictions, relationships, responses, and in His outlooks and values" (Walker: The Way, pg.3).

This assessment tool is designed from the same twelve questions Walker developed in *The Way*. Since spiritual maturity takes time and intentionality, these questions should help clarify your current spiritual heath and identify areas for potential growth. Please pause for a moment in prayer before you begin.

Using the response scale below, please mark your score for each question below:

Generally Describes M		Partially Describes		Does Not Describe Me	
5	4	3	2	1	

The Way Q1. Do I believe in God and acknowledge His character?

• -	
1. I believe that I have worth and value because the God who created and designed the universe created and loves me	е
2. Even when I do not feel God's presence, or my life is difficult, I know and trust He is with me, and will never leave nor abandon me.	,
3. Because God is Holy, my desire is to be holy as well, and makes me weigh even the smallest desires that might detract from His holiness	ie
4. I regularly bring to the infinite God my failures, problems, challenges and disappointments in timely ways to get His guidance and help.	
5. I feel my group is intentionally helping me grow in this area.	
Tota	al

Generally Describes M		Partially Describes		Does Not Describe Me
5	4	3	2	1

The Way Q2. Have I accepted Jesus as my Lord and Savior?

1. Since I have accepted Jesus as my Lord and Savior, I am 100% convinced that I will go to Heaven when I die. 2. I am convinced that Jesus' sacrifice on the cross is enough to pay for all of my guilt and make me right with God. 3. I see my life as a path going somewhere; and as a Christian, I follow Jesus' guidance and directives on the path of life. 4. I know and can easily explain the Gospel, the basic Christian message, in a few minutes. 5. I feel my group is intentionally helping me grow in this area.	
The Way Q3. Have I come to the conviction that God has a purpose for my life?	
 I believe God's primary purpose is for me to become like His Son Jesus. My life makes a meaningful impact on people other than myself and my family. I can confidently say, "My life matters to God." 	
4. I believe that God's purpose and plans for me are good, despite whatever troubling circumstances I may find myself in.	
5. I feel my group is intentionally helping me grow in this area.	
Total _	
The Way Q4. Have I resolved to pursue God wholeheartedly?	
 I have come to a point where what God says matters more to me than what I think or what others around me think. I am convinced that God is not satisfied with half-hearted love and obedience. How I live my life shows that pursuing God is my highest priority. 	
4. I consider daily how to live my life in a way that will honor and obey Christ.	
5. I feel my group is intentionally helping me grow in this area.	

	Generally Describes M		Partially Describes		Does Not Describe Me	
1	5	4	3	2	1	

The Way Q5. Is my life marked by worship and prayer?

 I practice praying thoughtfully, persistently, and intentionally with God's concerns and priorities in mind. I have learned to worship and glorify God through all circumstances, both good and bad. I would sacrifice anything God asks me to no matter what the cost to me. I have made the regular worship of God with other believers one of my highest priorities. 	
5. I feel my group is intentionally helping me grow in this area.	
Total	
The Way Q6. Am I learning and obeying God's Word?	
1. I am learning what God wants from me by interacting daily in Scripture.	
2. Reading, studying, pondering and memorizing the Bible is a high priority to me.3. I am hungry/eager to learn from the Scripture and to be reminded of the truths that shape my life.	
4. When the Bible, as the final authority of my life exposes an area of my life that needs changing, I humbly ask God to change my heart and my mind.	
5. I feel my group is intentionally helping me grow in this area.	
Total	
The Way Q7. Am I living life responsive to God's Spirit?	
 When faced with an unclear decision, I trust and ask the Spirit of God to guide me. I know how to draw upon the Spirit's power and apply the Spirit's power when I am challenged in life. 	
3. My life is regularly marked by the fruits of the Spirit (love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control).	
4. I have learned to identify the Holy Spirit's voice as He guides me.	
5. I feel my group is intentionally helping me grow in this area.	
Total Total	

Generally Describes M		Partially Describes		Does Not Describe Me	
5	4	3	2	1	

The Way Q8. Do I recognize the presence of Satan and stand against his schemes?	
1. I look at every temptation as an opportunity to resist evil and to trust Christ to meet my wants, needs, and desires.	
2. I recognize that my mind is a battleground, so I take every thought captive to obey Christ.	
3. When people confront me about my sin against them, I listen humbly and weigh their words seriously.	
4. I recognize how Satan works to discourage, distract, and hinder, and I resist and expose his schemes.	
5. I feel my group is intentionally helping me grow in this area. Total	
The Way Q9. Am I connecting relationally in Christian fellowship?	
 I gather frequently with a group of Christians for fellowship and accountability. There are specific people in my church who I know are regularly praying for me, and I for them. 	
3. I am closer to Christ because of my Christian friendships.	
4. I do not deceive others with my true self or present condition but am intentionally transparent with at least a few other believers.	
5. I feel my group is intentionally helping me grow in this area.	
Total	
The Way Q10. Am I using all God has given me to serve Him and others?	
1. I spend money and time on things that will bring eternal dividends.	_
2. I can identify my spiritual gifts and use them to serve others.	
3. Giving a portion of my income to God and the church is the first thing I do in my monthly budget.	
4. I am very aware that God who is good and gracious has given me all that I have and will be accountable for what God has entrusted to me.	

5. I feel my group is intentionally helping me grow in this area.

Total _____

Generally Partially Does Not
Describes Me Describes Describe Me
5 4 3 2 1

The Way Q11. Am I learning to live as a contagious Christian?

 I regularly look for and take opportunities to speak about Jesus to others. I intentionally maintain relationships with non-believers in order to share my testimony. 	
3. I assume that in every situation I have a green light to speak freely about Jesus and my faith in Him and will do so until I see a yellow or red light.	
4. I know how to ask insightful questions to diagnose the spiritual condition of another and help them come to grips with the basic Christian message, the Gospel.	
5. I feel my group is intentionally helping me grow in this area.	
Total	
The Way Q12. Am I involved in the worldwide spread of the Good News?	
1. I am open to going anywhere God calls me, in whatever capacity to share my faith.	
2. I am aware of the role God wants me to play in the worldwide spread of the gospel.	
 I am aware of the role God wants me to play in the worldwide spread of the gospel. I feel compassion for every soul in the world who does not know Christ. I am aware of the global persecution of the church and prayerful of God's presence 	
 I am aware of the role God wants me to play in the worldwide spread of the gospel. I feel compassion for every soul in the world who does not know Christ. 	

ASSESSMENT SUMMARY

TOPIC	YOUR SCORE	MAX SCORE
The Way Q1. Do I believe in God and acknowledge His character?	ľ	25
The Way Q2. Have I accepted Jesus as my Lord and Savior?		25
The Way Q3. Have I come to the conviction that God has a purpose for my life?		25
The Way Q4. Have I resolved to pursue God wholeheartedly?		25
The Way Q5. Is my life marked by worship and prayer?		25
The Way Q6. Am I learning and obeying God's Word?		25
The Way Q7. Am I living life responsive to God's Spirit?	į	25
The Way Q8. Do I recognize the presence of Satan and stand against his schemes?	10	25
The Way Q9. Am I connecting relationally in Christian fellowship?	1	25
The Way Q10. Am I using all God has given me to serve Him and others?		25
The Way Q11. Am I learning to live as a contagious Christian?		25
The Way Q12. Am I involved in the worldwide spread of the Good News?		25
Overall Total		300

Total

Who I Am In Christ

Introduction -

- 1. Open in Prayer
- 2. Review last week's lesson about strengthening the foundation of your faith. What are your plans to strengthen the areas where you scored low in your spiritual assessment?
- 3. Are you spending quality time alone with God each day?

Read 2 Corinthians 5:17:

"If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has passed away; behold, the new has come!"

In the Greek language there are two words used for "new," the first is *neos*, which refers to something that has just been made and there are many others just like it. The word used in this verse is *kainos*, which means "something just made which is unlike anything else in existence." When we accept Christ as our Lord and Savior we are made a new creation. God doesn't just clean up our old selves, He gives us an entirely new self. 2 Peter 1:4 says when "we are in Christ, we are partakers of the divine nature." God's Holy Spirit takes up residence in our hearts. We are in Christ and He is in us. We then begin a life long journey of maturing spiritually to become just like Jesus, which fulfills God's purpose for our lives.

Below are some of the many attributes we have in Christ. Have your group members read and discuss the verses below:

- 1. I Am LOVED: John 1:12; John 3:16; Romans 8:16-17; Galatians 3:26.
- 2. I Am REDEEMED: Ephesians 1:7; Colossians 1:13-14; 1 Peter 1:18-19.
- 3. I Am FORGIVEN: Hebrews 9:14; 1 John 1:9; 1 John 2:12; Romans 6:5-6.
- 4. I Am FREE: John 8:32-36; Romans 6:22-23; Galatians 4:7, 5:1.
- 5. I Am CHOSEN: Psalm 139:13-18; John 15:16; Romans 8:30; Ephesians 1:4.
- 6. I Am NEW: 2 Corinthians 5:17; Galatians 2:20; 1 Peter 1:3, 23; Romans 6:4; Ezekiel 11:19.
- 7. I Am COMPLETE: Colossians 2:9-10; Philippians 1:6; 1 Corinthians 1:5-7.
- 8. I Am a CONQUEROR: Romans 8:37; Ephesians 3:20; Philippians 2:13, 4:13.
- 9. I AM a CITIZEN of HEAVEN: Ephesians 2:19; Philippians 3:20; Colossians 1:12.
- 10. I Am BOUGHT WITH A PRICE and BELONG TO GOD: 1 Corinthians 6:19-20, 7:23.

Discuss these attributes and how Believers are different from those in the world around them. The question is: Does your daily walk with Jesus reflect the attributes?

Assignment for Lesson 7:

Read through the examples of how to share the Gospel and plan on discussing them.

Sharing Jesus by Living Your Faith

Introduction -

- 1. Open in Prayer
- 2. Review last week's lesson about who you are in Christ.
- 3. How has reviewing who you are in Christ impacted your faith?

Read 1 John 2:6, If we say we are a Christian, we should live like one 24/7.

Read John 4:4-42.

Believing in Jesus is more than a one time event, it is also more than attending church each Sunday. John says if we live in Him, we must walk in Him. John is talking about how our daily lives need to be centered around Jesus and our faith focused on Him and not the world around us. We must remember, we may be the only Jesus the lives we touch every see.

Briefly discuss the conversation with Jesus in John 4:4-26; then read out loud John 4:28-30, and 39-42.

- 1. In verse 29, what did the Woman at the Well say about the man she had just met? Who did she say he was?
- 2. In verses 39-42, remember the people in the town knew her very well, what part of her story made them seek out this man at the well?
- 3. How many believed in Jesus because she was not afraid to tell them what He had just done in her heart.
- 4. What would have happened if she never told them about Jesus? How is that different from the people around us today?
- 5. When her life was over and she went to Heaven, the whole town was there because of her boldly telling them about Jesus, the man she had just met. How many people will be in Heaven because of you?

If someone told you they wanted to accept Jesus Christ as their personal Savior. What would you tell them? How would you lead them to Christ?

Pair off and take turns sharing the plan of salvation with each other.

Assignment for Lesson 8:

Continue to pray each day for the people listed on your sphere of influence worksheet.

ROMANS ROAD

TO SALVATION

We are all sinners by nature and by choice.

Romans 3:23

For all have staned, and come short of the glary of God.

We receive eternal life as a free gift!

Romans 6:23

For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

God demonstrated His love for us, His enemies.

Romans 5:8

But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.

We must trust and surrender to Jesus as Lord.

Romans 10:9-10

That if then shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, then shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteeuspess; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

A sinner's prayer for forgiveness

"Dear God, I know I'm a sinner. I know my sin deserves to be punished. I believe Christ is the Son of God, who died for me and rose from the grave. I want to turn from my sin and trust Jesus Christ alone as my Savior. Thank You for the forgiveness and everlasting life I can now have through faith in Jesus. In Jesus' name, Amen."

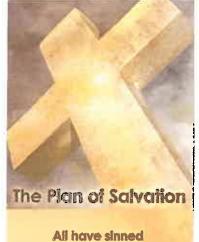
Our assurance of salvation through Jesus

Romans 10:13

For whoseever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.

Steps to





Romans 3:23

There is a penalty for sin Romans 6:23 John 3:18

You cannot save yourself
Titus 3:5
James 2:10

Salvation has been provided

Ephesions 2:8-9 John 3:16 John 14:6

The conditions are simple

Repent. Luke 13:3 Confess. 1 John 1:9 Romans 10:9 Believe. Acts 16:31

Now is the time for a decision Joshua 24:15 2 Contitions 6:2

Accepting Christ is just the beginning....

The Next Steps

- Publicly profess your faith by being baptized (Matthew 10:32-33; Luke 3:21; Romans 6:4).
- Join a church which follows the Bible, where you can grow in your faith through prayer, Bible study and fellowship with other Christians. Get involved in Sunday School and Bible study for encouragement and accountability.
- Begin a daily personal worship experience with God where you study the Bible and pray.
- Share with others what Jesus has done for you...tell your story (Romans 10:14; Matthew 28:19-20),
- Begin to live for God (Romans 12:1-2, 9-18; James 1:19-27).

BROADMAN CHURCH SUPPLIES

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2 FACTS 2 PROMISES 2 RESPONSES





by Billy Graham Associa

SHARE JESUS WITHOUT FEAR

How many times have you wanted to share your faith but didn't because you were afraid of failing? Success is not the result of bringing someone to Christ Success in witnessing is living the Christian life daily, sharing the gospel, and trusting God for the results.

PRINCIPLE

God does the work.
We cannot fail.
It is all God's work.

Share Jesus Without Fear Withersing Cords @ 1997 LifeWay Press* I'rem (035/01/3); Printed in the USe Scriptura quotations are taken from the Holman Christian Standard 3libio*, @ 1999, 2000, 2002, 2003, 2009 by Holinan Bible Publishow. Used by permission

1. USE QUESTIONS THAT DETERMINE WHERE GOD IS WORKING

- 1 Do you have any kind of spiritual belief?
- 2. To you, who is Jesus?
- 3 Do you believe there are a heaven and a hell?
- 4. If you died right now, where would you go?
- 5 If what you believe were not true, would you want to know it?

"Yes"—open Bible "No"—do nothing

TRUTHS

- "By grace you are saved through faith, and this is not from yourselves." Ephesians 2.8
- "I was with you in weakness, in fear, and in much trembling. My speech and my proclamation were not with persuasive words of wisdom, but with a demonstration of the Spirit and power." I Corinthians 2.3-4.
- "No one can come to Me unless the Father who sent Me draws him." John 6:44
- "We are ambassadors for Christ, certain that God is appealing through us, we plead on Christ's behalf, 'Be reconciled to God'"

 2 Corinthians 5:20
- "My word ... will not return to Me empty." Isaiah 55:11
- "Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations." Matthew 28:19

2. LET THE BIBLE SPEAK

Read the verse aloud. Ask, "What does this say to you?"

- 1. Romans 3:23—"All have sinned "
- 2. Romans 6:23—"The wages of sin is death."
- 3. John 3:3—"Unless someone is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God," Ask, "Why did Jesus come to die?"
- 4 John 14:6-"! am the way "
- 5. Romans 10:9-11--"If you confess, you will be saved."
- 6. 2 Corinthians 5:15—"Those who live should no longer live for themselves."
- 7. Revelation 3:20—"I stand at the door and knock."

SHARING SHARIN

3. CLOSE WITH KEY QUESTIONS

- 1. Are you a sinner?
- 2. Do you want forgiveness for your sins?
- 3. Do you believe Jesus died on the cross for you and rose again?
- 4 Are you willing to surrender your life to Christ?
- 5. Are you ready to invite Jesus into your life and into your heart?

After asking question 5, be silent and pray

Salvation Prayer

Heavenly Father, I have sinned against You. I want forgiveness of all my sins. I believe Jesus died on the cross for me and rose again. Father, I give You my life to do with as You wish. I want Jesus Christ to come into my life and into my heart. I ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.

Praying for the Lives Around You

Introduction -

- 1. Open in Prayer
- 2. Review last week's lesson about sharing by living your faith as the Woman at the Well did.
- 3. Have these past lessons have made you more aware of how you are influencing the lives around you for Christ?

2 Kings 6:16.

The Bible is full of amazing stories of how the power of prayer changed both peoples lives and the events around them. One of these stories is found in 2 Kings 6:16. Elisha's prophetic abilities were hindering the plans of an advancing enemy king who sent a battalion of soldiers to surround and then attack the city where Elisha was staying. As Elisha's servant was panicking, Elisha prayed for him saying, "O lord, open his eyes so he may see." God answered Elisha's prayer and when his servant opened his eyes he saw a vast army of Heavenly hosts in fiery chariots, encircling the enemy. Then Elisha prayed for God to blind the enemy army, which He did. Next, Elisha led them away from the city. If we could see God's protective celestial army encircling us every day, realizing that they are blind to His power, we might have the faith to do whatever He asks of us!

Ouestions to discuss:

- 1. How often did Jesus pray? A quick Google search will amaze you. Jesus was always praying.
- 2. How often should you pray? (1 Thessalonians 5:16-18; Philippians 4:6-7)
- 3. Why is daily prayer so important to the lives of those who believe in Christ?
- 4. Share a story you have personally witnessed of how prayer changed the life of someone you know?
- 5. Is your daily prayer life an act of worship and obedience? If not, what changes do you need to make in your prayer life?
- 6. After praying for those in your sphere of influence, how have you seen God begin to work in their lives?
- 7. Discuss how to keep a prayer journal of your prayers. Review them frequently to mark the date when God answered them. Make sure you stop and thank Him for answering each one.

Assignment for Lesson 9:

Continue to pray each day for the people in your sphere of influence.

My Daily Prayer Journal

Date	Prayer	Date Answered

"Listen to my voice in the morning, Lord.

Each morning I bring my request to you and wait expectantly."

Psalm 5:3 NLT

Conclusion

Introduction -

- 1. Open in Prayer
- 2. Discuss last week's lesson about prayer. How is God speaking to you about your daily prayer life?
- 3. How has your compassion grown for the people listed on your sphere of influence sheet?
- 4. What do you feel and see happening as you continue to pray for them?

Review and discuss the book *Unscripted*:

- 1. While you were reading the book what areas of your life did God speak to you about?
- 2. What changes have you made in your daily walk since reading the book?

Review and discuss the Strangers video:

- 1. How has viewing this video helped you see the importance of living your faith?
- 2. How many people know Jesus because of your love for Him?

Review and openly discuss this study:

- 1. How has your view of those in your sphere of influence changed during this study?
- 2. How has your compassion changed for the lives you daily touch?
- 3. How has your boldness to share your story with those in your sphere of influence changed?
- 4. What areas of your spiritual foundation have you strengthened during this study and what areas do you still need to work on?
- 5. How has your understanding of who you are in Christ changed during this study?
- 6. After this study, could you use the given tools to lead someone to Christ?
- 7. How has your prayer life changed both your life and the lives around you?

Assignment for the rest of your life:

- 1. Memorize 1 John 2:6.
- 2. Live your faith between the Sundays by becoming what you believe.
- 3. Continue to pray each day for the people in your sphere of influence.
- 4. Keep a prayer journal so you can know and praise God when He has answered your prayers.