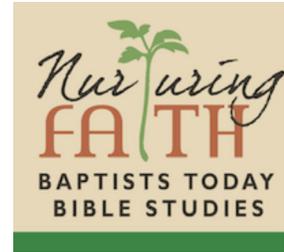


Youth Teaching Resources

September 6, 2015



Serious Church

True Faith — James 2:1-26

Pure Speech — James 3:1-12

Highborn Wisdom — James 3:13-4:10

Fervent Prayer — James 5:13-20

www.baptiststoday.org

Subscribe to *Baptists Today* to access the core Bible content for this lesson.

www.nurturingfaith.net

Find links and videos related to this lesson.

YOUTH Teaching Guide

by Jeremy Colliver

This youth teaching outline is designed to support THE BIBLE LESSON by Tony Cartlege, printed in *Baptists Today*. You can subscribe to either the digital or print edition of *Baptists Today* to access the lessons. Please also ensure that each person in your class has a copy of *Baptists Today* so they can prepare before the lesson.

TEACHER PREPARATION: YOUTH AND THIS LESSON

“Prove it!” “Show me!” “Let me see it!” For many of our students, they need to see to believe. This is tough when they are trying to form a relationship with God who isn’t physically in front of them. It also makes it easy to point out when you see God in them. When they perform acts that are “acts of God” then we need to point them out. It is our responsibility to help them see where God is until they can start to readily identify God themselves. To do this, you first have to start doing it yourself. Where do you see God in your daily life? How is God moving? Share these stories with your students so that they will start to look for God as well.

TEACHING THE LESSON

Fellowship

Begin your session by showing the clip “Who Am I?” from *Les Miserables*. If you are unable to show the clip, summarize it to the best of your ability and then facilitate a discussion using questions like the following:

- 1) What is the conundrum that Jean Valjean faces?
- 2) What reasons does he have to not turn himself in? to turn himself in?
- 3) Why is this situation a question of who Valjean really is?
- 4) How does his choice reveal his true self? How does what you do reveal who you are?
- 5) How does what you choose reveal what your faith really means to you?

Information

Transition to the next section of the session by reading James 2:1-26. Allow the students to ask any initial questions they have about the text. As you answer their questions, you may want to provide some of the information from THE BIBLE LESSON, printed in *Baptists Today*.

When the students have had an opportunity to share their initial thoughts, continue the discussion by facilitating a discussion using questions like the following:

- 1) Why would members of early churches been hesitant to welcome those who had less than they did?
- 2) What law does James say they are followers needed to live by? How would this change how they acted?
- 3) How does James use the old law to validate the law of liberty that Christians are to live by?
- 4) What does James say a Christian can be seen by? How is faith without works dead?
- 5) How do the faith of Abraham and Rahab prove James' point?

If your group would like to continue their discussion on this passage, share some of the insights provided in “Digging Deeper” and “The Hardest Question” (NF Online Adult Teaching Guide).

Transformation

Conclude your session by leading your students through the ancient practice of *Lectio Divina* using James 2:1-26. After each reading, pause and allow the students time to share what they experienced. Use this practice to show how the students can see God in different aspects of their life on a daily basis.

Close your time together with a prayer thanking God for the mercy that we are shown and for the strength to continue to live a life that shows our love for God.