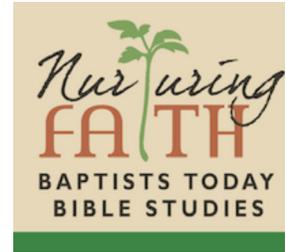


Youth Teaching Resources

March 13, 2016



Season of Lent (February 10-March 26)

When Old Becomes New — 2 Corinthians 5:11-21

God's New Thing — Isaiah 43:16-21

The Dark Night Before the Dawn — Luke 23:1-49

Ladies First — Luke 24:1-12

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.

God's New Thing

Isaiah 43:16-21

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

Do you ever feel like you need to start over? Like you need a redo on the day? Have you ever thought, “I need to go back to bed and wake up all over again”? Most of us have, so we need to allow our students to think the same way as well. Our students will make mistakes. Some of them will be more public than others, but they will all make mistakes. How we handle our responses to these mistakes, usually is how our relationship will continue or not continue with that student. There are times when we even need to tell students to let go and start over, because the path that they are going down in leading no where. As you help your students start over, remember to do it filled with grace.

TEACHING THE LESSON

Fellowship

Before the session begins, find the most difficult maze that you can and print off enough copies so that each student can attempt the maze. As the students enter the room, provide them with a copy of the maze and a pencil and challenge each student to attempt the maze as quickly as they can. When the students have finished their mazes, bring the group back together and facilitate a discussion using questions like the following:

1. How difficult was this maze to complete?
2. Did you work with a partner to help complete your maze?
3. How did it feel when you go to a section and you couldn't go any further?
4. Does your life ever feel like a maze? Explain your answer.
5. What makes your journey of faith easier to manage? What makes the journey difficult?

Information

Transition to the next section of the session by reading Isaiah 43:16-21. 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 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. Who does Isaiah speak for in this passage? Who is he speaking to?
2. Why does Isaiah want the people of Israel to look forward instead of backward?
3. What is the new thing that God promises to be done? How did this eventually happen?
4. How do we look to Christ as our future so that we don't have to worry about the past?

If your group would like to continue their discussion on this passage, share some of the insights provided in "Digging Deeper" (NF Online Adult Teaching Guide). You may want to use some questions like the following to facilitate your discussion:

1. Why are images of water and rivers so pertinent to the people of Israel?
2. How did the way Cyrus dealt with the people he conquered different than how the Israelites had been dealt with before?
3. How is this metaphor from Isaiah similar to the metaphors of Jesus?
4. Is this a promise that all will be good when looking to the new? If not, what kind of promise is it and why would someone want to follow this promise?

You may also want your group to discuss "The Hardest Question" (NF Online Adult Teaching Guide): To remember, or forget?

Transformation

Conclude your session by showing the video "Starting Over Isn't Crazy" from *The Beaver*. If you are unable to show the video, summarize it to the best of your ability, and then facilitate a discussion using questions like the following:

1. Walter makes the statement "to go on, we have to wipe the slate clean." Do you agree with his statement?
2. When has there been a time when you have wanted to start over?
3. How have you tried to start over?
4. How did starting over affect the relationships that you were in?
5. How do you know when to start over and when to keep going?

Close with a prayer thanking God for second chances and wiping the slate clean so that we can continue on with the lives that we are to live.