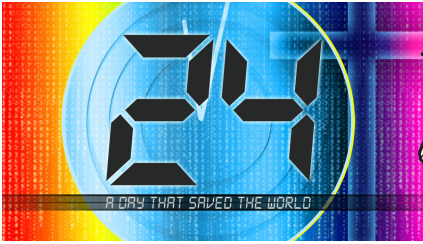


# Small Group Experience

## LESSON 5 - "Tough Choices"



### **Watt's Up:**

"God Loves Everyone In The World!"



### **Power Verse:**

"For this is how God loved the world: He gave his one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life."

**- John 3:16**

## **Retelling The Bible Story**

### **SUPPLY LIST:**

\* Bible story pictures (provided; print one set)

### **TEACHER INSTRUCTIONS:**

*Before small group begins, print the Bible Story Pictures. Once small group begins, use the pictures to review the lesson. Today's concept is all about choices. Jesus made tough choices when he decided to go through with being crucified. Hold up the pictures one at a time and ask what Jesus might have been feeling during that moment. Identify and discuss what the tough choice was and why Jesus made that choice. Continue on this way until the story is complete.*

**Say** - "Thank you for choosing to come today. Our lesson is all about choices. Jesus was faced with some very tough situations and there is so much that you and I can learn from the choices he made. I have a set of pictures from the Bible story. I am going to hold them up one at a time so that we can review them together. I want you to think about three things with each picture. What do you think Jesus was feeling in that moment, what was the tough choice that was made, and why did He make that choice. Let's begin."

### **-Hold up the first picture-**

**Ask** - Let's see if we can think through our three questions. What do you think Jesus was feeling in that moment?

### **-Allow time for response and discussion-**

**Ask** - What tough choice is Jesus making here?

### **-Allow time for response and discussion-**

**Say** - "Why do you think Jesus made this choice?"

### **-Allow time for response and discussion-**

### **-Hold up the second picture-**

**Ask** - What do you think Jesus was feeling in that moment?

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**-Allow time for response and discussion-**

**Ask** - What tough choice is Jesus making here?

**-Allow time for response and discussion-**

**Say** - “Why do you think Jesus made this choice?”

**-Allow time for response and discussion-**

**-Hold up the third picture-**

**Ask** - What do you think Jesus was feeling in that moment?

**-Allow time for response and discussion-**

**Ask** - What tough choice is Jesus making here?

**-Allow time for response and discussion-**

**Say** - Why do you think Jesus made this choice?

**-Allow time for response and discussion-**

**-Hold up the fourth picture-**

**Ask** - What do you think Jesus was feeling in that moment?

**-Allow time for response and discussion-**

**Ask** - What tough choice is Jesus making here?

**-Allow time for response and discussion-**

**Say** - “Why do you think Jesus made this choice?”

**-Allow time for response and discussion-**

## **Game/Activity**

### **SUPPLY LIST:**

\* “CHOSE” Print Piece (*provided; print one per team*)

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**TEACHER INSTRUCTIONS:**

*Before small group begins, print and cut the “CHOSE” Print Piece. Once activity time begins, divide the kids into teams. Give each team a copy of the CHOSE print piece letters. Have them place the letters face down in front of their team. Ask the review questions. If a team thinks they know the answer, they should raise their hands and say, “Choose Us!” If they answer correctly, allow them to flip over one letter. The first team to flip over all of the letters wins.*

**Say** - “I am dividing you all into teams and giving each team a set of letters. These letters spell the word CHOSE. Place the letters face down in front of your team. I am going to ask the review questions. If your team thinks they know the answer raise your hands and say, ‘Choose Us!’ Answer correctly and you will be allowed to flip over one letter. The team to flip over all of the letters first wins!”

**Q.** Who led the Roman soldiers to Jesus?

**A.** *Judas*

**Q.** How much money did Judas accept in exchange to betray Jesus?

**A.** *30 pieces of silver*

**Q.** How did the religious leaders feel about Jesus?

**A.** *They were jealous of him*

**Q.** True or False, The religious leaders accused Jesus of doing things he had not done?

**A.** *True*

**Q.** True or False, The soldiers beat Jesus but he fought them off?

**A.** *False*

**Q.** Pilate asked the crowd what they wanted to do with Jesus and they said what?

**A.** *Crucify him*

**Q.** True or False, The soldiers laughed at Jesus and made fun of him while he was on the cross?

**A.** *True*

**Q.** What did Jesus pray as he hung on the cross?

**A.** *“Father, forgive them, they don’t realize what they are doing.”*

**Q.** Who chose to send Jesus?

**A.** *God*

**Q.** Why did Jesus choose to leave heaven?

**A.** *Because of us!*

*(Continued on next page)*

## Group Sharing

### SUPPLY LIST:

- \* “Chose Me” Print Piece (*provided; print one per kid*)
- \* Pencils, crayons, or markers

### TEACHER INSTRUCTIONS:

*Before small group begins print and cut the “Chose Me” Print Piece. Once group sharing starts, give each kid something to write with and a copy of the print piece.*

**Say** - “Jesus made a lot of choices that were tough to make. He made every single one of those choices because of YOU. WHOA! That’s a big deal. You’re a big deal! Jesus chose to leave heaven, come to earth and die for you. God chose to send his son just for you. Let’s take a few minutes and think about that. I am dividing you all into small groups. The words to your power verse are printed at the bottom of your page. Read and discuss the verse together. Why do you think God chose us? Write your answers in the blank box.”

**-Allow groups time to complete this task-**

**Ask** - Would anyone like to share what they wrote?

**-Allow groups time to respond. Discuss their answers together-**

**Say** - “God made a lot of tough choices, but he was able to make them because of his love for you. Jesus made a lot of tough choices, but he was able to make them because of his love for you. These were huge sacrifices made because of you and me.”

**Ask** - What are some ways that we can honor what was done for us?

**-Allow kids time to respond and discuss their answers together-**

## Prayer Time

**Say** - “The best way we could close today is to spend some time telling Jesus thank you for giving his life for you and me. He gave us everything because he loved us; now let’s tell him just how thankful we are!” (PRAY)

## Closing

**Say** - “Jesus made the ultimate tough choice. He gave his life so that you and I could be forgiven. That was a tough choice to make, but he did it because of his great love for you and me. Jesus was willing to do anything to save us. He chose us over himself. WOW! That is some powerful love. I think it is important that we take time and remember what Jesus did for us. We should remember that he chose us and that choosing us meant he gave up his life. When we remember what Jesus did for us it definitely affects the way we live our life. Our attitudes, words, and actions should honor the sacrifice that Jesus made! Thank you for being a part of our time today. I will see you next time.”









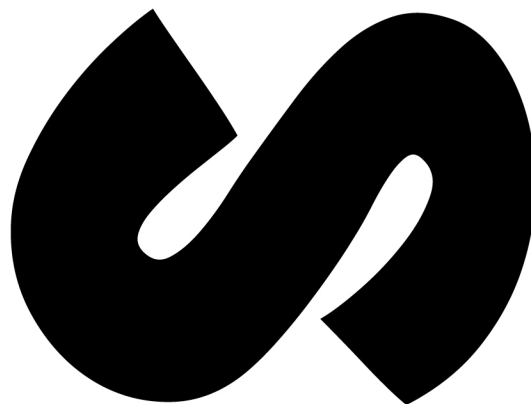
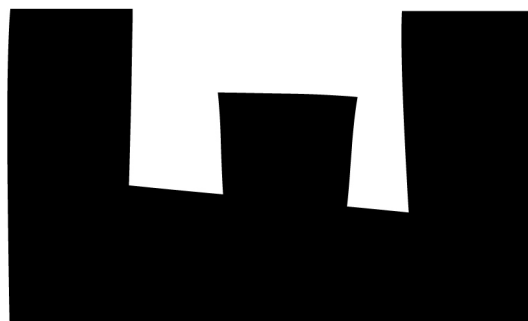
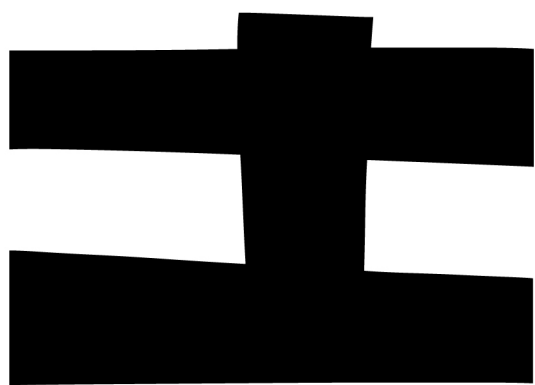
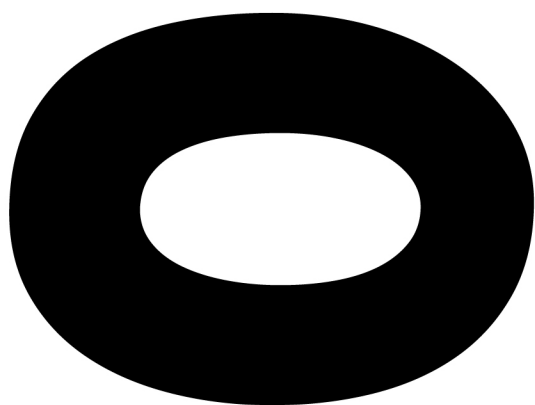
ARE YOU THE MESSIAH?













**JESUS CHOSE ME!**



**"FOR THIS IS HOW GOD LOVED THE WORLD: HE GAVE HIS ONE AND ONLY SON, SO THAT EVERYONE WHO BELIEVES IN HIM WILL NOT PERISH BUT HAVE ETERNAL LIFE." - JOHN 3:16**

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**JESUS CHOSE ME!**



**"FOR THIS IS HOW GOD LOVED THE WORLD: HE GAVE HIS ONE AND ONLY SON, SO THAT EVERYONE WHO BELIEVES IN HIM WILL NOT PERISH BUT HAVE ETERNAL LIFE." - JOHN 3:16**