



OFFERING FOR
GLOBAL MISSIONS

2021 - 2022



BECAUSE
PRESENCE
MATTERS

Youth Bible Study

Luke 24:13-35

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Youth Lesson One for OGM

Because Presence Matters

Ministry Focus:

Jade and Shelah Acker

Luke 24:13-35

Cultivating Beloved Community

Setting the Stage:

Can you keep a secret?

Some people are like steel traps: They can be trusted with any level of secret. These people will never crack under the pressure or show their inside knowledge by sharing a little bit of information.

Meanwhile, others are terrible with keeping a secret. They're constantly worried they'll slip up and ruin the surprise, or they just can't hold in the excitement and they spill the information at the first opportunity.

In these lessons on CBF's Offering for Global Missions, we'll learn about CBF Field Personnel and their work around the world. We'll be studying Luke 24:13-35 and explore the theme of "Because Presence Matters."



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Activity:

Who is This?

Members of the class will try to be the first to figure out who a hidden figure is based on three clues. After each clue, students are allowed to venture a guess, but they're only allowed one guess in each round. Some students may strategize to hear a second or third (and final) clue before wasting their only guess. Use these clues or create your own.

Round 1: Lightning McQueen

Clue: Famous character from a 2006 Pixar movie

Clue: Wears # 95

Clue: Catchphrase is "Ka-chow"

Round 2: LeBron James

Clue: This celebrity was born in Akron, Ohio

Clue: He wears a #23 jersey

Clue: He's led the Cavaliers, the Heat, and the Lakers to NBA championships

Round 3: Dolly Parton

Clue: This singer was born in Tennessee in 1946

Clue: She is Miley Cyrus' godmother

Clue: She sang the song "Jolene."

Round 4: Justin Bieber

Clue: This Canadian singer was born in 1994

Clue: His hair once sold on eBay with proceeds going to an animal rescue charity

Clue: His original hit, "Baby," is one of the best-selling singles of all time

Round 5: Harry Styles

Clue: This English song writer was born in 1994.

Clue: In 2010, he entered the British singing competition, X Factor

Clue: His debut single, "Sign of the Times," was released in 2017 to critical acclaim



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Biblical Connection:

Following the resurrection of Jesus Christ, there were many post-resurrection appearances. Without the internet, social media or a public broadcasting system, it's difficult to spread a consistent narrative to a large group of people.

In Luke's gospel, we read of a few who have visited the empty tomb, but no one has yet encountered the resurrected Christ. Then we meet two people heading to Emmaus.

Cleopas and another unnamed traveler are walking back from Jerusalem to the village of Emmaus. The two are downtrodden on their journey, and they share their woes with a new traveler heading the same way. They know that Jesus has been crucified and buried, but they had believed he was going to be the one to redeem Israel.

When they reach their destination, they urge this sojourner to stop and rest with them, and, in the breaking of bread, the identity of the traveler is made apparent. All along, it was Jesus who was walking with them, but they had not realized it.

Jesus then mysteriously disappears. Cleopas and the other traveler sprint back to Jerusalem with a compulsion to share this news with the disciples. As preacher Fred Craddock stated, "Having been turned from sadness and despair by having been at the table with the Christ they now recognized, their excitement moves them naturally toward their brothers and sisters who have been trapped in the same hopelessness."

The presence of Christ transformed their lives and they were compelled to share this hope with others.

Christ's presence emboldens the mission of the disciples, but it also causes them to understand by remembrance. "Did not our hearts burn within us while he talked to us on the road, while he opened to us the scriptures?" (v.32).

Life is lived in forward motion, but the path is sometimes revealed through past reflection.



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Missional Connection:

Jade and Shelah Acker are CBF Field Personnel in Kampala, Uganda. One of their areas of ministry is Refuge and Hope, an urban refugee community in Kampala. This non-profit welcomes thousands of refugees from neighboring African countries and people groups that are seeking assistance. Refuge and Hope offers skills and business training, a women's ministry, spiritual development, and a youth ministry which is where Jacob and Esau connected to the Acker family. Esau and Jacob are twin brothers who had fled the war in South Sudan, coming to Kampala, Uganda.

Jacob and Esau are teenagers who fled without their parents in the middle of the night. They were homeless until Refuge and Hope assisted them. Through this ministry, they studied the Bible, and realized their names were given to them from Biblical characters who were famous Biblical brothers.

The story of the Biblical Jacob and Esau is not their story. God was working in and through them.

Esau and Jacob have found a calling in serving in the youth ministry at Refuge and Hope. Through this work, they are able to assist other young people who are fleeing to Kampala to feel God's presence in their greatest time of challenge.



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Youth Bible Study

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Call to Action:

Cooperative Baptist Fellowship's mission contexts assist in:

- Global Poverty
- Global Migration
- Global Church

CBF Field Personnel live and serve in contexts ranging from North Africa to New York City. Their presence matters.

For refugees fleeing war and conflict, the presence of CBF Field Personnel and the Offering for Global Missions matter as well. The Offering for Global Missions seeks to provide support and the presence of Christ amidst the challenges of global migration.

The Ackers in Uganda provide an essential service in assisting a vulnerable population, showing up for ones often ignored, and providing stability to people that have only the clothes on their back.

Your youth group or class can make a difference, and you can support the mission and ministry of field personnel like the Ackers.

Set a goal as a class and talk to leaders in your church about ways to support missions, both local and global. Your class could collect even \$25 to support the youth group at Refuge and Hope in Kampala. Talk to your youth leader or youth minister to see if there's a way to raise and collect funds to assist CBF's Offering for Global Missions.



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Youth Lesson Two for OGM

Because Presence Matters

Ministry Focus:

Jenny Jenkins

Luke 24:13-35

Seeking Transformational Development

Setting the Stage:

A good conversation can start in one place and wind up someplace unforeseen.

Sometimes talking about a weekend football game can lead to a memory about a vacation. This memory can spark a conversation about a favorite restaurant and that can lead to a discussion about food allergies. How in the world did we move from a football game to a food allergy? If someone were to have stepped away and then walked back into to this conversation, they might be completely surprised.

Despite the many changes in topic and theme, the connecting line in a conversation is presence.

In today's lesson, we'll learn about the presence of Christ in a conversation between two travelers going from Jerusalem to the town of Emmaus. We'll also learn about CBF Field Personnel Jenny Jenkins and her ministry or presence in Haiti.



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Youth Bible Study

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Activity:

A Helpful Change

Youth are well aware of change as they experience change throughout their lives. Begin by asking what kind of changes students have experienced in their lives.

Ask students if they've gone to the same school for their whole life. Ask them if they've lived in the same house since they were born. Ask if they've had the same teacher at school or the same teacher for Sunday school. Likely, they've experienced many changes in their lives.

Begin your class with this ice breaker activity. Have students wonder if their location can affect their attitudes or experiences. Often students on a Sunday morning will say that they're tired, but would they still feel tired if they were at the beach or at Disney World or their favorite place on Earth?

Ask students to name an emotion and then have them consider a location that could help transform that feeling. Example: I'm feeling worried, so I'd like to visit the beach because the sand, sun and waves are calming for me. Or, I've felt sad recently, and I'd like to go to my best friend's house because he or she always makes me feel better.



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Biblical Connection:

The final chapter of Luke's gospel tells the story of an experience on the road to Emmaus. Cleopas and his compatriot begin the trek from Jerusalem to Emmaus, a journey of about seven miles.

They are joined by Jesus in this walk, but they don't recognize him.. The two are reviewing and processing the previous day and all the events that led to the death and burial of Jesus. Their new traveler joins them and immediately connects in their story.

He asks them, "What are you discussing together as you walk along?" (v. 17). Cleopas and the other are floored that their guest doesn't already know, and so they explain the events all over again.

Jesus connects in the conversation. "And beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he explained to them what was said in all the Scriptures concerning himself" (v. 27).

Even though Cleopas and his partner don't recognize this person as Jesus, they feel a connection with this individual. The presence of Christ matters to them, and they show him hospitality by inviting him to stay with them in Emmaus.

Jesus' presence and connection with these travelers leads to an invitation of hospitality. This invitation of hospitality then leads to a revelation in the breaking of bread that Jesus is alive. The revelation of Jesus' resurrection then compels Cleopas and his friend to run back to Jerusalem from Emmaus with the news.

They had entered Emmaus with downtrodden faces, but they return to Jerusalem with expectant joy. The very presence of Christ has moved and changed them, and their presence is transformed from hopelessness to hope.



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Missional Connection:

Jenny Jenkins is CBF Field Personnel in Grand Goâve, Haiti. This mountainous area in Haiti is about 60 miles outside of Port-au-Prince. The terrain and lack of infrastructure make traveling in this area very challenging. Roads are unpaved and many of the locals do not have regular access to medical care.

Jenkins has been present in this part of Haiti for over a decade. Her calling is to go to the places that are difficult to access. Part of her ministry is through medical clinics, but a lot of her work is presence. While many years have passed, the constant for Jenkins and her ministry is presence.

CBF's work in Haiti also involves educational initiatives and outreach to widows. Jenkins partners with local churches in the U.S. to assist in transforming this often-forgotten part of Haiti.



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Call to Action:

Cooperative Baptist Fellowship's mission contexts assist in:

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- Global Migration
- Global Church

CBF Field Personnel live and serve in contexts ranging from North Africa to New York City, and their presence matters. The Offering for Global Missions helps to send people and resources like Jenny Jenkins to serve people and places that have limited access to care and assistance.

The Mountain Clinic #86153 will serve more than 15,000 people this year, but there are over 125,000 people living in Grand Goâve, Haiti.

The presence of Christ is revealed in the same way as Jesus was revealed in the breaking of bread in the town of Emmaus. The ministry of presence and compassion causes those that walk in despair and sadness to walk out with joy.

Your class can make a difference in this same way.

Your presence can show God's love to a world in need. Your gift to CBF's Offering for Global Missions can help to strengthen the presence of ministry of Field Personnel like Jenny Jenkins.

Set a goal as a class and talk to leaders in your church to raise the awareness of this good work. In addition to raising funds, transform your own mission and ministry because of the presence of Christ. Listen to what God is calling you and your youth group to in your local area. Hear where God is moving and then follow through with action.



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