



Ripple
Effect

MODULE 3 | **The Real Jesus**

Training Guide

Session 6

How we are forgiven

Key idea: *Jesus' death and resurrection is the event that secures our forgiveness. The innocent and powerful king dies in the place of, and at the hands of, guilty people so that we can be forgiven.*

Key encouragement: *There is a lot you already know about how to read Luke's Gospel well.*

Practical challenge: *Notice how many 'Christian' words you use and 'Christian' concepts you assume. Try to explain them in everyday language.*

Session goals:

- *Discuss how and why Jesus died.*
- *Consider how to explain Christian ideas in everyday language.*
- *Pray for each other and each other's friends.*

Session Introduction

Watch the introduction video for Session 6.

Jesus' death and resurrection is the event that secures our forgiveness. The innocent and powerful king dies in the place of, and at the hands of, guilty people so that we can be forgiven. Everything in Luke's Gospel, indeed, everything in the Old Testament, has been leading up to this.

Share

Choose one of the following to share about:

- Which passage from Luke 15:1-19:27 did you choose for an in-depth read? Why did you choose this one?
- Share stories of evangelistic opportunities God gave you this week. These might be conversations you are grateful for or ones that didn't go as you hoped. They might be interesting conversations with potential or clear answers to our prayers.
- How did inviting someone to read Luke's Gospel with you go? Who will you see or speak with this week that you would also like to invite?

Pray

Jesus knew that the cross was ahead of him when he set out for Jerusalem. This was why he came into the world.

Jesus took the Twelve aside and told them, “We are going up to Jerusalem, and everything that is written by the prophets about the Son of Man will be fulfilled. He will be delivered over to the Gentiles. They will mock him, insult him and spit on him; they will flog him and kill him. On the third day he will rise again.”

The disciples did not understand any of this. Its meaning was hidden from them, and they did not know what he was talking about.

Luke 18:31-34 (NIV)

- I Use this passage and the sharing time to guide your prayers for yourself, each other, and your friends.

Train

Luke’s Gospel

Having been betrayed, tried and condemned to death despite his innocence, Jesus is executed.

1. Read Luke 23:32-49 and discuss the three questions:
 - a. Jesus: What do we learn about Jesus in this story?
 - b. People: What do we learn about the people who met Jesus?
 - c. Me: What is my response to Jesus and this story?
2. Review your discussion.
 - a. Think back to each of the three questions: Jesus. People. Me. What comments or additional questions helped keep discussion focused on Jesus, moving forward and going deeper?
 - b. What does this story teach us about forgiveness?
 - c. What aspects of the passage would you like to have discussed, or to have discussed more fully, if you had your time again?
3. Explain, in simple English and without ‘Christian’ technical language, how the death of Jesus brings people forgiveness.

Skill: Giving context

When we talk about Jesus and read the Bible with people, it's helpful to be aware of how many 'Christian' words and concepts we use without noticing it. For example, first century words and practices that are no longer current, Old Testament references, or theological words and ideas. Even everyday Christian words like grace, gospel and sin can fall into this category. It's useful to notice Christian words so that we can explain them in everyday language to people who are unfamiliar with the Bible, Jesus and Christianity.

1. Look back at Luke 23:32-49.
 - a. Make a list of words or ideas that might be unfamiliar, confusing, or missed by someone who was reading Luke for the first time.
 - b. Try and explain, in everyday English, a couple of the words or ideas you identified in Question 1a.
 - c. How many of these words and ideas would it be helpful to explain when reading Luke's Gospel with someone?
2. How could you help someone gain an overview of Luke's Gospel so that they better understand the context for the stories you read together?
3. Pray. Thank God for the grace and humility of Christ, that led him to die on the cross so that we might be forgiven. Ask God to help us be amazed and moved by Jesus' love for us.

Revise

Read Luke 19:28-23:49 in one sitting. Here Jesus talks about his coming death so that when it happens we know what it means. Choose one short passage from within these chapters and answer the three questions:

- Jesus: What do we learn about Jesus?
- People: What do we learn about the people who met Jesus?
- Me: What is my response to Jesus and these stories?

Look back at the Loving your Neighbour tables in Session 4.

- Act on at least one of these ideas this week.

Connect with other group members during the week.

- Share with each other your plans to love your neighbour, or, how God has been answering our prayers.

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