



MODULE 1 | **Jesus & Me**

# **Training Guide**

# Module Overview

## MODULE 1 | Jesus & Me

**This module is designed to help you prayerfully proclaim the good news of Jesus to people as you tell them the story of how Jesus met and changed you.**

1. Listen and Share
2. People and Prayer
3. Trained and Ready
4. Creation and Identity
5. Fall and Brokenness
6. Redemption and Security
7. Re-creation and Hope
8. Transformation and Change
9. Telling My Story
10. Living My Story

### **Each session includes these components:**

1. **INTRO.** Each session starts with a short training video.
2. **TRAIN.** Build our confidence and competence in evangelism by working through Biblically grounded training material.
3. **SHARE.** Talk through evangelistic opportunities in the past week, whether these are stories of successes, 'fails,' or simply interesting conversations with potential.
4. **PRAY.** Praise God for His love, salvation, and the privilege of evangelism. Ask God to save our family and friends and speak through us to them.
5. **HOMEWORK.** Revisit session content from a different angle to consolidate our learning.

### **Module Goals**

- Learn a gospel framework to help us better understand what God has done for us in Christ.
  - So that we continue to grow closer to God and more willing and able to glorify Him.
- Practice articulating the gospel (= God's story) and how it intersects with our story.
  - So that we can talk with others about Jesus and the difference knowing Him makes.
- Pray for our family and friends who don't know Jesus yet.
  - So that they might share in knowing Jesus with us.

## Session 4

# Creation and Identity

*Knowing our God-given identity. I am created for relationship with God, others, and the world.*

### **Session Introduction**

Watch the introduction video for Session 4 and listen to Larissa's story about how knowing the God who created her gives her security and purpose. Then Jakob and Esperanza will give you an introduction to Session 4: Creation and Identity.

### **Train**

Over the next few sessions, we'll reflect on the main stages of God's story: Creation, Fall, Redemption, and Re-creation. In each session we'll look at one stage in God's story and how it intersects with our story. We'll consider how each stage of God's story answers the questions people ask about life and connect it with words that come up in everyday conversation. Our final session on God's story will be about transformation and how knowing God changes us for the better.

This week we focus on Creation. Knowing that God created us helps us answer questions about identity and purpose; questions like 'who am I?', 'do I matter?' and 'what is the purpose of my life?'.

### **God's Story: Creation**

In Genesis 1 we learn about God's relationship with the people and world He made. We learn about who we are and what our God-given purpose is. Read Genesis 1:26-31.

1. What do we learn about our relationship with:
  - a. God?
  - b. other people?
  - c. the world?

2. What does God think about us and our world?

Read Psalm 8:3-9.

3. Who or what are we created for?
4. What is the right response to our God and Creator?
5. What does it mean to be created 'in God's image'?

Origin stories are powerful in giving us a sense of identity and purpose. Humans are created in God's image for relationship with God, each other, and the world.

We were created to enjoy Him and His blessings as we care for the world He made. When we understand how precious and important we are to God we find a secure dignity, meaning and purpose.

The impact of rightly understanding and embracing who God made us to be should ripple out from us and bless the lives of those around us.

### ***My Story: Identity – Who am I?***

Everyone needs to work out who they are and why they matter. At the start of this session, Larissa shared about how knowing her God-given identity and purpose gave her great joy and security in a changing world. How does God's story connect with you personally and become part of your story? How do you know, experience, and live out these truths in your life?

Choose one of the following questions to reflect on. They are different angles on the topic of Creation and Identity. There are several starting points because different approaches 'click' with different people. Just chose one that feels most natural to you. Aim to illustrate your answer with a specific example or story from your life. Spend a couple of minutes making some notes about what to share with the group.

1. How does being created in God's image give me dignity, value and/or purpose (aka, why do I matter)?

Be specific. When has knowing this helped me respond to a situation at work, negotiate a difficult relationship, make a decision, etc.

2. How does knowing that all people are created in God's image, with dignity and value, shape the way I relate to them (aka, why do you matter)?

Be specific. Is there a time when knowing this changed the way I thought, felt, and treated people?

3. How does being created by God bring me joy or security? Can I illustrate this with a specific real-life example?

4. What do I find beautiful about the picture in Genesis 1:26-31? Why?

## Share

- Share with the group a little about the final person (from the five you identified in previous weeks) that God has placed in your life. Try to guess how they would answer the question: who or what are you created for? Take time to consider how their lives would be better if they knew Jesus.
- Share with the group any parts of the Gospel summary 'Key to Christianity' that stood out for you, or any questions you had with the presentation.

## Pray

When I consider your heavens,  
the work of your fingers,  
the moon and the stars,  
which you have set in place,  
what is mankind that you are mindful of them,  
human beings that you care for them?  
You have made them a little lower than the angels  
and crowned them with glory and honour.  
You made them rulers over the works of your hands;  
you put everything under their feet:  
all flocks and herds,  
and the animals of the wild,  
the birds in the sky,  
and the fish in the sea,  
all that swim the paths of the seas.  
Lord, our Lord,  
how majestic is your name in all the earth!

Psalms 8:3-9 (NIV)

Psalm 8:3-9 describes the right response to our creator God. In groups of three or four people:

- | Praise God for creating us with dignity and purpose.
- | Ask for opportunities to share your story about the God who created us.
- | Pray for each other's friends by name.

### **Homework**

In Genesis 2, the creation narrative focuses in on humanity. It speaks about who we are, as it again describes our relationship with God, each other, and the world God made. We need to read Genesis 1 and 2 together to understand them both. Read Genesis 2 and add to the answers you gave in God's story.

- Write out a 'purpose statement' for your life based on Genesis 1-2.





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