L.I.T.O

WHO DO YOU SAY THAT I AM?

Helping Christian Teens Investigate

Session 1 - Christianity's core claims

This session focuses on claims about Jesus and how we can research, consider evidence and weigh up the claims of others.

Warm up - 10-15mins

Step 1 THINK - 5mins

Step 2 WATCH - 12-15mins

Step 3 RESEARCH - 15-20mins

Step 4 DISCUSS- 10-15mins

Step 5 PLAY - 15MINS+

Step 6 PRAY

Warm Up - Candace's Miracle

Read or perform the short story and the five witness clues - Did Candice perform magic? Read the witness clues, discuss information that is credible and relevant, that gives context or provides background, and uncover the lie.

It was a bright, calm Tuesday afternoon, and a group of teens were waiting at the bus stop - chilling and chatting. An elderly lady approached the bus stop and did not see the banana peel in her path. Candice waved her hand, and the banana peel moved out of the way. All the teens saw it, but the elderly lady walked on by unaware.

Tyrell - "She had been talking about miracles in class this afternoon"

Miranda - "Candice was telling me about a new church she had joined"

Michael - "I saw it with my own eyes, so did Gabriel and Emma - you can ask them - she moved that banana by magic - through her hands!

Zoe - "Candice has been there when strange things have happened - remember when she only had like 5 sweets in her pocket but managed to give one to every student in class?"

Kobe - "It was windy, that's why the banana skin moved."

Abdul - "It wasn't even a banana, it was a plantain skin."

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Step 1 - Who do you say Yeshua (Jesus) is? As a group, think about whom you believe Jesus to be and make a short list of your claims.

Step 2 - WATCH:

Did Christianity Copy African Religions? NO...Adam ...

Is the evidence for Jesus sketchy?

Talk about what you've heard in the videos. How do we know if something is real? What makes someone's argument persuasive? How can we test someone else's claims?

Step 3 - RESEARCH: Examine the core claims of Christianity. Find scriptures to match these claims and fill them in.

Yeshua really existed: _____

Yeshua was born of a Virgin: _____

Yeshua performed miracles: _____

Yeshua died and rose from the dead: _____

Yeshua was God: _____

Yeshua will return and rule as King over all: _____

Step 4 - DISCUSS: Look at the table below and discuss the differences and what they mean, for example, does it matter if Yeshua (Jesus) was born of a virgin? Does he need to be God for us to be saved?

Yeshua	Really existed	Was born of a virgin	Did miracles	Rose from the dead	Was God
Protestant Christianity	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Rastafari*	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
The Nation of Islam	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗
Hebrew Israelites**	✓	Mixed teachings	✓	✓	Mixed teachings

*Rastafari have key teachers, but it is not a religion with a centralised organisation, so there may be many internal differences among Rastafari. The ticks here represent a common consensus rather than a fixed teaching for all.

** The Hebrew Israelites are made up of many camps, as well as other followers who are not part of an organised group and simply believe they are descendants of the true Israelites. These ticks represent teaching from camps most commonly found on social media, such as IUIC and GOCC.

Step 5 - Play: Pseudo (inspired by the game - THE MOLE)

Separate your group into two groups – those on trial and those being interrogated. Of the cards provided, shuffle and hand to each of those on trial randomly. They will have an event or location (from the Bible) on their card, except for one (whose card will say PSEUDO). Only they should see their card.

The interrogators will take turns to ask those on trial a question about the event/location with two objectives:

1) to figure out where they are/what is happening, and

2) to figure out who has the Pseudo card.

example: is it hot or cold where you are? are there many people around? is Jesus there? What can you smell right now? are people sad or happy?

The one with the Pseudo card must blend in when asked a question, taking clues from other players' answers and can win by figuring out where they are or what is happening before they are caught. At any point, they can announce themselves and the answer.

The interrogators can discuss and make an accusation at the end of each round (when each of those on trial has answered one or two questions). If they agree (by vote) on whom to accuse and it is wrong, the falsely accused will be out.

Three false accusations mean the interrogators lose.

Step 6 – PRAY:

· For wisdom to help understand what the Bible teaches and how it impacts our lives.

· For discernment and guidance when encountering information that goes against what we believe.

· For strength to not be deceived by lies.

· For more boldness to share the gospel and to answer those who have questions.

· For unity so that we can work together to share the love and truth of God in our society.

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