



UN ASH AM ED

LEADER
GUIDE

CONTENTS

Intro	2
Leader Tips	3
SESSION 1	
Know It	5
SESSION 2	
Embrace It.....	8
SESSION 3	
Live It.....	11
SESSION 4	
Share It.....	14
Sermon Notes.....	18
Plan of Salvation	22

INTRO

“Unashamed” is focused on the gospel. We will be studying passages from the Books of Romans and Acts in each session. We are called to live with confidence in the face of opposition, but many Christ-followers are living in fear and shame, apologizing for their beliefs. The gospel gives us the ability to live with boldness in a world that opposes everything about God. We will explore four responses to the gospel which give us confident hope and assurance in Christ.

This Bible Study Leader Guide was created to prepare you in Bible study. This Leader Guide is designed to be just that—a guide. It’s something you can customize to fit your group and your own teaching style. The best way to prepare is to study the Scripture and use the lessons as your personal Bible study. As you interact with Scripture and the material in the Guide, take notes and answer the questions yourself. Learn from the lessons before you attempt to teach them. Allow the Holy Spirit to teach you through this study and then pray that God would use you to teach your students!

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KNOW IT

KEY VERSE

Romans 3:23-24

SCRIPTURE

Romans 3:21-26;
Acts 4:1-13

NOTES

TEACHING AIM

What is the gospel anyway? Knowledge is necessary before we can act, and this is true of the gospel. The opportunity to believe and repent transforms our lives and is one reason we can approach the gospel with confidence. We must recognize there is a difference in simply knowing about our faith and allowing it to become who we are.

GETTING STARTED

Divide your group into two teams and place a game of movie trivia. Read off the six questions below, one at a time, and allow teams to write down their answers on a piece of paper. At the end, read the answers and award ten points for each right answer. The last question is worth fifteen points.

- What are the names of the seven dwarfs in Snow White? [Answer: Sneezzy, Sleepy, Dopey, Doc, Happy, Bashful, Grumpy]
- What zoo are the animals from in Madagascar? [Answer: Central Park Zoo]
- What is the name of the first Marvel movie ever made? [Answer: Iron Man]
- How many Star Wars movies have been released? [Answer: Nine]
- What is the name of the pig in Toy Story? [Answer: Hamm]
- What type of fish is Nemo? [Answer: Clownfish]

This game simply tested our skills of knowledge. We all have a lot of knowledge; some of it is beneficial, while the rest is useless. We just displayed some trivia knowledge that is more than likely considered useless for your life.

Knowing the gospel is the greatest knowledge we have as followers of Christ. Today's theme is 'KNOW IT.' Before we can act on the gospel, we have to first know what it is.

THINK

READ ROMANS 3:21-26.

Instruct your students to read the passage to themselves and underline any words that stand out to them.

Help your students define some of those words in their Student Guide by filling in the blanks as you read the definitions below.

- All – Every individual
- Justified – To prove just, right, or reasonable
- Freely – Without restraint or reservation
- Redemption – The act of making something acceptable
- Propitiation – A sufficient sacrifice
- Demonstrate – To be evidence of something
- Righteous – Morally right before God

Now that we have gone over these important definitions, let's break down this passage of Scripture to see what it reveals about the gospel.

Ask your students the following five questions (not listed in their Student Book) and help guide a conversation centered around the meaning and understanding of the gospel.

1. What does “apart from the law” mean? Why is important for us to know and understand?

The Law and those God used to foretell the coming Messiah could only bear witness of but not fulfill the gospel. Obeying or following the Law could not save us. Therefore, we needed a Savior to fulfill the Law.

2. What is the righteousness of God? How do we receive it?

On our own, we cannot be righteous and stand right before for God on our own. We cannot earn it through good behavior or good works. We need His righteousness, His holiness, to make us clean. We receive it through faith in Jesus and believing in Him.

3. What does sin and falling short mean?

Sin is what separates us from a holy God and causes us to fall short of His perfect and holy standard.

4. What is the solution to our sin problem and what does it cost?

Our problem is solved through justification and redemption (remember those definitions?). This comes free to us (v. 24), but cost God the sacrifice of His Son. Only Jesus could satisfy this law because He demonstrated righteousness while walking as a man. He lived a perfect, sinless life. He was the unblemished, sacrificial lamb.

5. How is Jesus able to be the atoning sacrifice?

Through Jesus' death on the cross, He took on our sin. Through Jesus' righteousness, He defeated both death and our sin. Therefore, He has the authority to declare us righteous (2 Cor. 5:21).

Encourage your students to take a few minutes to answer the following questions in their Student Guide. If time allows, offer a chance for students to share their answers with the group.

What are some things you didn't fully realize about the gospel?

What part of the gospel do you need to be reminded most of right now?

READ ACTS 4:1-13.

How did Peter defend the work that they had done?

What was the knowledge Peter and John taught about in verse 12?

How were Peter and John described in verse 13? Why is this important for us to know?

DIAGNOSE

As you think about what it means to share the gospel think about the person who shared the gospel with you.

What were the circumstances surrounding that event and what do you remember about what was shared with you? Take some time to write down the facts about that event in your life and what was shared with you as you gave your life to Christ.

MOVE

Distribute a note card to each student and direct their attention to a poster or board with the gospel presentation written on it.

- God created us perfect.
- We sinned and were separated from God.
- God sent Jesus, who lived a perfect, sinless life.
- Jesus took our sins through His death on the cross.
- He was victorious over death through His resurrection.
- We were made right with God.

Lead students to copy this onto their note cards. Invite students to find a partner. Instruct pairs to take turns sharing the gospel.

PRAY

To begin your prayer time, ask students who are willing to speak one or two words of gratitude to God for what He did for us through the gospel. Once students have been given a chance to respond, close the prayer.