

# Jesus, Part 9

## Jesus' Mission

### *Lesson checklist:*

- Optional: Have needed supplies and do needed setup for "Blind and Oppressed" game.
- "Remember Your Chains" song by Steven Curtis Chapman (or similar song) to play.

## Opening

### Option 1 - Blind and Oppressed Game

Playing on a lawn may be best for this game. Have 2 people volunteer to do a race. Then, tie their feet together (their own two feet). Then have them race each other to and from a certain point. (They can race at the same time or separately, being timed.) Maybe award a prize to the winner. (Afterward, possibly stay outside; or go inside to continue...)

#### **Ask:**

- Was it hard to do the race? Why?
- What are ways our game is like people who are physically limited - like handicapped people, blind people, people in prison, or poor people?
- How is being tied up like people without Jesus?

### Option 2 - Blind and Oppressed Analogy

Instead of playing the game...

#### **Ask:**

- How difficult would it be to race if you were blindfolded and had your feet tied together? (Why?)
- How is being blindfolded or tied up like people without Jesus?

## Jesus' Mission

**Say:** The verses we're looking at today help to summarize much about Jesus' mission...

**Read Luke 4:16-21** (while teens follow along in Bibles)

**Say:** Now let's dig into these verses and what they say Jesus did and said...

**Ask:**

- What does verse 16 say about Jesus?
- What scroll does verse 17 say Jesus was given to read from?
- What did Jesus say in verse 21 about the Scripture He read from Isaiah?

**Say:** From the verses that follow, we see that the people initially thought well of Jesus. But they became offended and by the end of His speaking wanted to throw Him off a cliff!

**Ask:** Look at verses 18-19. What are the things these verses say that the Spirit anointed and sent the person it is talking about to do?

Write each of the following phrases on a whiteboard as they are mentioned from the students:

- preach good news to the poor
- proclaim freedom to prisoners
- proclaim sight to the blind
- release the oppressed
- proclaim the year of the Lord's favor

**Say:** According to at least one commentary, Jewish teachers saw these verses as a prophecy of the Messiah - God's anointed one.

**Ask:** Where do your Bible notes say these verses were taken from?

**Say:**

- If you read Isaiah 61:1-2 in the Old Testament, you'll notice some differences.  
*(If there is time and interest, perhaps have students open to the Isaiah 61:1-2 to read it.)*
- This may be based on Jesus reading from the Septuigent. Or, He may have paraphrased or interpreted some as He was reading. Or He may have added information from other verses from Isaiah, like Isaiah 58:6 or 42:7, to help give interpretation to the verses He was reading.  
*(If time and interest, perhaps have students open to Isaiah 58:6 and 42:7 and read these.)*
- We understand that Jesus was saying that He was the one that fulfilled this Scripture.

## Examples of Fulfilling This

**Ask:**

- What are some ways Jesus fulfilled these things that He said were fulfilled?  
*(Give plenty of time. Students could include physical and spiritual ways Jesus gave sight, freed people, etc.)*
- How can these things that Jesus fulfilled apply to people now-a-days?

## John's Question & Jesus' Answer

**Say:** John the Baptist, at one point, sent two of his disciples to Jesus to ask if Jesus was the one to come or if they should expect another. Let's read about that...

**Read Luke 7:18-22** (while everyone follows along)

**Ask:**

- What did Jesus do and what did He say to John's disciples as an answer?
- How does that relate to the verses from Isaiah that Jesus said had been fulfilled?

## Freedom from Sin

**Say:**

- Jesus healed many people physically and freed many people from oppression from demons.
- But many of the people during Jesus' time were looking for an anointed savior to free Jerusalem from Rome and be a conquering king...
- Instead, the most important way Jesus came to save was from sin and the penalty of death we deserve, by His death on the cross, so people could have eternal life with God.
- That is good news!

## Song & Prayer

Play the song "Remember Your Chains" by Stephen Curtis Chapman or a song with a similar message. Tell students to close their eyes and focus on the words of the song in a prayerful way. Have them focus on what it says about Jesus releasing people from bondage to sin so they can have eternal life and be free from bondage to sin and the punishment they deserve.

Let them know that if they're Christians, they can thank God and ask Him to help them live like they're free from sin. Or, if they have believed in what Jesus did to pay for sin for the first time today, they can pray to ask Jesus to forgive them and trust Him as their Savior and Lord and be saved.

## Closing

**Ask:** What are some ways we can continue to share Jesus' mission today?

**Say:** If you believed in Jesus as your Savior and Lord for the first time today - or if you have questions - please talk to me or another Christian today!

## Close in Prayer

**References:**

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