



SERIES OVERVIEW

The Big Questions

We're convinced that life's biggest questions deserve better answers. So we teamed up with Orange to create this very special four-week curriculum series.

For the book [3 Big Questions That Change Every Teenager](#), our FYI team collected hundreds of hours of research from teenagers, churches, and student-focused organizations across several cultures, as well as answers from students of varying races, socioeconomic backgrounds, and genders. Our research revealed huge opportunities for the church to walk with a generation as they ask "Who am I?", "Where do I fit in", and "Do I matter?". We've taken the insights from the book and developed an all-new curriculum for your ministry! This series will spark new discipleship conversations as you help teens discover Jesus-centered answers to their biggest questions of identity, belonging, and purpose.

We can't wait for your teenagers to discover the practical ways that following Jesus helps answer life's biggest questions. Enjoy this series and be sure to check out the good work happening over at thinkorange.com.

SAMPLE

TOPIC

Identity, Belonging, & Purpose

RELATIONSHIP

God, Self, & Others

RESPONSE

Authentic Faith, Healthy Relationships, & Serving Others

WEEK ONE

SCRIPTURE

Matthew 4:18-20 NLT

BOTTOM LINE

When you really understand who Jesus is, it changes everything.

WEEK TWO

SCRIPTURE

John 6:1-15 CEB

BOTTOM LINE

You don't have to prove you're enough.

WEEK THREE

SCRIPTURE

Acts 16:13-15 NLT,
Acts 16:40 NIV,
Galatians 3:26-28 NIV

BOTTOM LINE

You belong here.

WEEK FOUR

SCRIPTURE

I Corinthians 3:5-9 NLT

BOTTOM LINE

You matter more than you think.

REMEMBER THIS

For we are God's masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things he planned for us long ago.

EPHESIANS 2:10 NLT



SERIES OVERVIEW

EVERY SESSION INCLUDES

- Teaching script
- Slides, video and audio files, and graphics to enhance your teaching
- Small group leader guide
- Worship leader guide
- Parent communications
- Printable daily devotionals for students
- Social media guide and graphics
- Suggestions for digital and socially distanced options

SAMPLE



COMMUNICATOR GUIDE

The Big Questions / Week 1

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

WORSHIP

STORY

GROUPS

HOME

SERIES BOTTOM LINE

Our biggest questions deserve better answers.

GOAL OF SMALL GROUP

To help students think about what it really means to follow Jesus and to take a step in the direction of following Jesus with their lives.

WEEK 1 BOTTOM LINE

When you really understand who Jesus is, it changes everything.

SCRIPTURE

- Matthew 4:18-20 NLT
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TEACHING SLIDES

All scripture, bottom lines, and teaching points that are bolded in this script are also provided as slides in your weekly "Teaching" folder.

OPTIONAL VIDEOS

- The Big Questions Countdown (10 minutes)
 - The Big Questions Teaching Video – week 1
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TEACHING OUTLINE

INTRODUCTION

- We never outgrow the need to ask questions.
- We're wired to look for answers. And usually, the topics of our biggest questions can be pretty intense.
- We may wonder things like, "Why am I here? Who are my people? What am I supposed to do with my life?"
- For the next few weeks, we're going to spend some time discussing some big questions.

TENSION

- To start off, we're going to ask a somewhat churchy question. The question is, "What does it mean to follow Jesus?"
- Some people would say that our answer to this question changes everything about our lives.
- The thing is, you'd probably get a lot of different answers. And when there are multiple possible answers to a question, it's confusing.
- In fact, let's take a quick look at what TikTok (or Google) suggests as the answer to that question.
- The point? A lot of people have different opinions about what it looks like to follow Jesus.
- And if following Jesus doesn't seem to really do anything for your life, then it makes sense you wouldn't want to follow Jesus.

TRUTH

- In the gospels—the part of the Bible that tells us about Jesus' life—we're given an insider look at what following Jesus is all about.
- *One day as Jesus was walking along the shore of the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers—Simon, also called Peter, and Andrew—throwing a net into the water, for they fished for a living. Jesus called out to them, 'Come, follow me, and I will show you how to fish for people!' And they left their nets at once and followed him (Matthew 4:18-20 NLT).*
- Back in the day, religious leaders—not just Jesus—had disciples, people who followed them around to learn from them.
- Surely Peter and Andrew wondered what made Jesus different from other teachers and probably wondered things like: Where would following Jesus take them? And how long would they be gone?
- For whatever reason, Andrew and Peter agreed to go with Jesus. They left their fishing nets, their careers, their identities, and their community. And they followed Jesus.
- Jesus invited them to follow in His footsteps and do as He did, talk as He talked, and love as He loved. He invited them to go where He went so that they could be more like Him. Lots of other men and women joined them as they went.
- Fast-forward three years. Throughout their time together, these disciples would see Jesus walk on water, heal the sick, and raise people from the dead. They would hear Him speak and watch Him forgive sins. They would see Him arrested and sentenced to death without even putting up a fight. And finally, after three days of being dead and buried, they'd see Him alive again.
- What's also crazy is what following Jesus meant to the disciples after Jesus was gone!
- When Jesus asked them to follow, they had no idea what they would do and who they would become. But God knew. God had a life in mind for them that was bigger than the life they were currently living.

- Jesus had more in mind for their lives in the areas that mattered most. And in the same way, Jesus has more in mind for our lives in the areas that matter most.
- The disciples just had to commit, one day at a time, one step at a time to following Jesus and His example. And in doing that, they began to live out what following Jesus meant.
- When you really understand who Jesus is, it changes everything.

APPLICATION

- Whether you are already following Jesus or are just thinking about it, here are a few things we can do to get started:
 - Start reimagining what following Jesus looks like.
 - Take a step.
 - Think about these three questions: *Who am I? Where do I fit in? Can I make a difference?*

LANDING

- Jesus has more in mind for our lives in the areas that matter most.
- Remember that this is one of the reasons why we have small groups. We want to have a safe place to ask big questions with others who are asking the same sorts of things.

SAMPLE



TEACHING SCRIPT

The Big Questions / Week 1

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

WORSHIP

STORY

GROUPS

HOME

BOTTOM LINE

When you really understand who Jesus is, it changes everything.

INTRODUCTION

2 MINUTES

No matter how old we are, we never outgrow the need to ask questions. The truth is we just don't know all the answers. Most of us go to Google with our questions. Just think about the things you've googled—Questions like why you can't put the dog in the washing machine, to wondering how old certain celebrities are, to how to spell certain words, to how to learn the hottest TikTok dance.

But here's the thing: We can't Google search EVERY answer we're looking for. Actually, I take that back. We can. We just may not always get a clear answer. I once Googled, "Are blueberries *good* for you?" I got answers like, "Ten proven health benefits of blueberries." And then, just to see, I Googled, "Are blueberries *bad* for you?" I got answers like, "The health risks of eating blueberries." No lie!

That's a random example, but you get my point. We're wired to look for answers. And usually, the topics of our biggest questions are more intense than blueberries. We may wonder things like, *Why am I here? Who are my people? What am I supposed to do with my life?* And hunting for answers to questions like this can get complicated. That's why for the next few weeks, we're going to spend time discussing some big questions. And the goal is that by the end of this series, we'll not only become more comfortable asking questions, but we'll also grow closer to other people who we can ask those questions with.

[Click here to purchase this curriculum and access the full teaching script.](#)



TRANSITION INTO SMALL GROUPS