

Sample Lesson Plan for Adult Group Life

As you prepare to teach the lesson and lead conversations, think about how your 40–50-minute lesson will take place in your group.

Example: *Genesis 1*

Central Truth & Doctrinal Statement (5 minutes)

As you start your lesson, simply give your group a summary statement of what we have been learning, what they will see together in the current passage, and what they will learn. The central truth of the lesson is provided in your lesson.

Central Truth:

Creation declares God's glory and power, calling us to acknowledge and trust Him.

Doctrinal Statement:

From the New City Catechism Question #2

What is God?

God is the creator and sustainer of everyone and everything. He is eternal, infinite, and unchangeable in his power and perfection, goodness and glory, wisdom, justice, and truth. Nothing happens except through him and by his will.

Tell the Story (approximately 5 minutes)

Summarize the story of the day in your own words. Do not add details that are not in the passage, but give yourself permission to be vague and allow the group to fill in the gaps when you retell the story. Tell the story in a casual way, just as you would a bedtime story – you are engaging your group to get into God's Word!

Good tools for telling the story, summarizing the story, or paraphrasing the story:

The Message Bible

The Jesus Storybook Bible

The Biggest Story Bible Storybook

Rebuild the Story as a Group (approximately 10 minutes)

Did you know 50% of American Adults believe the Bible is without error; however, the vast majority of American Adults, saved and lost, do not regularly engage with the Scripture? Only 39% of American Adults engage with the Bible more than four times per year.

The reasons include, but are not limited to:

- The belief in the Bible's relevance
- The conviction of sin and self, the Bible promises and brings
- The difficulty of understanding the Bible.

As a Group Leader, you have the opportunity to break down these barriers, not by lecturing, but by teaching your group to engage with Scripture. Imagine the joy of knowing the answer in a Bible study for the first time in your life! You might just open it for yourself between Sundays.

As you answer these questions, your group will begin to see details they have never seen before, because many of them have never shared the story with anyone. Suddenly, the teacher is no longer teaching the lesson, but the class is teaching together. The teacher is empowering them to have these same conversations in their family.

Tell the group to open their Bibles.

Using Storying Questions, rebuild the story.

***1. Who created the heavens and the earth, and what does this reveal about His nature?
Genesis 1:1***

2. What does Hebrews 11:3 teach us about how the universe came into being?

3. Who is "the Word" in John 1:1-3, and what role did He play in creation?

***4. What does it mean that mankind was created in the image of God?
Genesis 1:26-27***

***5. Why is the creation of light on the first day significant?
Genesis 1:3, John 8:12***

***6. How does the pattern of creation show God's order and purpose?
Genesis 1:31***

***7. Why did God rest on the seventh day?
Genesis 2:2-3, Hebrews 4:9-10***

8. How does Colossians 1:16-17 connect the creation story to Jesus?

9. What does this story teach us about ourselves?

10. How does it affect our lives if we believe that God made everything we can see?

11. In what ways do you see the light of Christ bringing order and hope into the chaos in your own life?

12. How can you practice the rhythm of work and rest that God modeled in creation?

Information Questions (10 minutes)

Using your ***Background Information for Leaders***, you can lead the discussion and guide your group in answering the following questions.

These questions help us build doctrinal and theological truths, and they also facilitate your group's interaction with both familiar and unfamiliar passages.

What stood out to you in the passage?

Do you have any questions?

Here is a good question someone might ask:

Where is Jesus?

Your answers can vary:

Honestly, you just stumped me. I have just assumed He's there.

Does anyone else know?

I'm not sure. Let's table that question for now, do some research for this week, and answer it together at the start of our lesson next.

Fortunately, I do know the answer. Let's read John 17:5.

Was there anything in the passage that was confusing or odd?

What does this passage teach us about God? Refer to your ***Attributes of God***

Doctrinal and theological terms are wonderful, but keep your answers practical and memorable. *Don't use a dollar word when a nickel will do!*

Do you see Jesus in the passage?

In the OT – does this passage include a promise Jesus will fulfill?

In the NT – does this passage include a promise Jesus has fulfilled?

Why are these verses in the Bible? What is the Gospel emphasis?

The Bible has a grand redemptive narrative, including 4 major acts:

- a. Creation
- b. The Fall
- c. Redemption
- d. New Creation

Application Questions (10 minutes)

How can I personally respond to the passage? What should I do?

How can I share this passage with someone else?

We need to challenge our people's personal evangelism and ability to tell their own testimony. Additionally, our people need to know how a story can impact fellow believers.

Another way to ask this question to your group: *Our children are learning this same passage today. What is something you hope they learn?*

Memory Verse (1-2 minutes)

Prayer Requests (5 minutes)

Take prayer requests in light of what you have learned from the passage, while it is still fresh on the group's mind. This is an opportunity for accountability and spiritual growth through discipleship. Other prayer requests are not less important, but they can be shared throughout the week via text, phone, email, and many different avenues.

Additionally, refer to your lesson for ***Prayer Prompts***.