Seven Signs

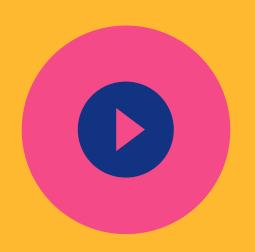
The Meaning Behind The Miracles

Week #3: Storms & Sight



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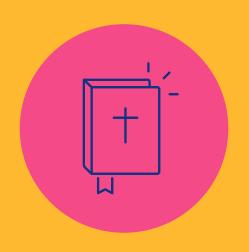
How To Lead Your YCI Club



Play a game together.



Spend time praising and thanking God in prayer.



Learn from Scripture about who God says He is and how we should respond to Him.



Go

Look for opportunities to share the Gospel, and serve others in your community with your YCI club members.





FINGER JOUST

First, one person should be chosen as the "Game Master". Next, the rest of the YCI club should be split into gender-specific pairs (guys with guys and girls with girls). Facing each other, each pair should grab the opposite hand of their partner in a way that allows their index finger to be pointing at the other person (imagine "locking thumbs" with them). Once the Game Master counts down from three (3, 2, 1, Go!), each pair should try to "poke" the other person with their index finger without letting go of their hand. The poking should be directed toward your partner's arms or legs to avoid injury. If you get poked, you are out of the game. The winners of each round will play against each other until there is only one guy and one girl remaining. These two are the winners of the game!



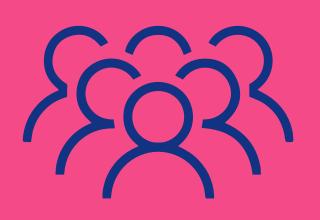


Ask God For His Will To Be Done In These Areas:



CLUB TIME

Pray that God will speak to everyone in the room through His Word.



GROUP NEEDS

Take time to discuss and pray over the personal needs and requests of those in attendance.



SCHOOL COMMUNITY

Ask God to move in situations that are unique to your school and community.



Grow: Learn

What Is A Sign?

The Gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John record the life and ministry of Jesus. Each book contains incredible accounts of miracles performed through Him, but the Gospel of John does so in a way that is particularly unique.

As outlined in "The Source: Trusting The Great I Am For Everything I Need" (YCI Curriculum), Jesus makes seven "I Am" statements in the Gospel of John. Each of these declarations point to a distinct aspect of His character. Continuing with the theme of "seven", the Gospel of John also records seven miracles that are designed to answer three questions:

- 1) What distinguishes Jesus as God?
 - 2) Why did Jesus come to earth?
- 3) How does Jesus meet needs today?

The seven signs culminate in a miracle that radically altered the course of human history (Jesus' resurrection). Each week, the goal of the "grow" portion of this curriculum is to analyze each sign through the lens of the three questions outlined above. Prayerfully, in doing so, we will experience deeper love, gratitude and faith in the person of Jesus Christ.



Grow: Read

The Sign Of Storms

John 6:15-21 (ESV)

"15 Perceiving then that they were about to come and take him by force to make him king, Jesus withdrew again to the mountain by himself. 16 When evening came, his disciples went down to the sea, 17 got into a boat, and started across the sea to Capernaum. It was now dark, and Jesus had not yet come to them. 18 The sea became rough because a strong wind was blowing. 19 When they had rowed about three or four miles, they saw Jesus walking on the sea and coming near the boat, and they were frightened. 20 But he said to them, "It is I; do not be afraid." **21** Then they were glad to take him into the boat, and immediately the boat was at the land to which they were going."



Grow: Read

The Sign Of Sight

John 9:1-11 (ESV)

"1 As he passed by, he saw a man blind from birth. 2 And his disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" 3 Jesus answered, "It was not that this man sinned, or his parents, but that the works of God might be displayed in him. 4 We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming, when no one can work. **5** As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world." 6 Having said these things, he spit on the ground and made mud with the saliva. Then he anointed the man's eyes with the mud 7 and said to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which means Sent). So he went and washed and came back seeing. 8 The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar were saying, "Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?" 9 Some said, "It is he." Others said, "No, but he is like him." He kept saying, "I am the man." 10 So they said to him, "Then how were your eyes opened?" 11 He answered, 'The man called Jesus made mud and anointed my eyes and said to me, 'Go to Siloam and wash.' So I went and washed and received my sight."



The Meaning Of The Miracles

1) What distinguishes Jesus as God?

Sign Of Storms: With the passing of each sign, the disciples' eyes are opened more and more to the supremacy of Jesus. Not only could He produce wine from water, miraculously heal others and multiply food, He controlled the seas because He was the one that set their limits at the dawn of time (Gen. 1:9).

Sign Of Sight: Since Jesus is the only source of truth, it is only through Him that we can truly see the world the way God intended.

2) Why did Jesus come to earth?

Sign Of Storms: When the disciples were in the boat at night, the Bible points out that "Jesus had not yet come to them" (Jn. 6:17). This is an appropriate description of God's people prior to Jesus being born to Mary. They were in a dark state of loneliness, but our Savior was on the way!

Sign Of Sight: In the same way that Jesus restored the physical sight of the blind man, Jesus came to heal the "spiritually blind". People who are spiritually blind are those who look for truth outside of the finished work of Christ.

3) How does Jesus meet needs today?

Sign Of Storms: Whether they are literal or metaphorical, we will face storms as followers of Jesus. During these difficult situations, we can have hope knowing that our Savior is sovereign over it all.

Sign Of Sight: In a complex and confusing world, it can be difficult to determine what is true. When we trust the words of Jesus, He promises to provide clarity.



Grow: Discuss

Let's Talk About This

(Small Group Questions If Time Allows)

1) What is one thing that "jumped out" to you while reading about these miracles? What did you learn about the heart and character of Jesus?

2) What is an area of need you are facing right now? How do the "signs" we learned about today give you hope in the midst of the obstacles you are facing?

3) As a YCI club, what are some creative things we can do to encourage our friends that are in the middle of a "storm"?



Consider This Before You Leave:



Big Idea

The seven signs in the Gospel of John answer questions about Jesus' identity as God, His purpose in coming to earth and how He meets needs today. The signs of storms and sight reveal that Jesus is present in our darkest moments, and He helps us see truth in a confusing world.



Sharing Truth Who is someone in your life that needs to hear about what we discussed today? Pray for them, and find time this week to encourage them.



Meeting Needs What is something your YCI club can do to show God's love this semester?



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