



Seven Signs

The Meaning Behind The
Miracles

Week #4: Resurrection



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How To Lead Your YCI Club



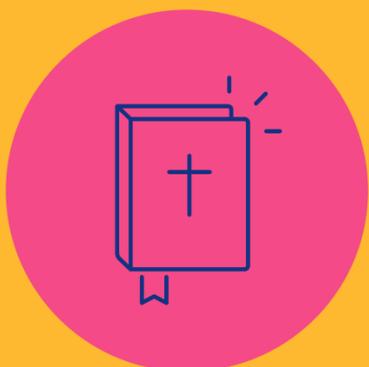
Play

Play a game together.



Pray

Spend time praising and thanking God in prayer.



Grow

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



Go

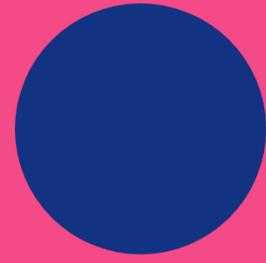
Look for opportunities to share the Gospel, and serve others in your community with your YCI club members.





WHAT YOU GOT?

First, one person should be chosen as the "Investigator". After the Investigator leaves the room, the rest of the YCI club has 30 seconds to identify something that *everyone* owns (bicycle, pencil, bookbag, etc.). After 30 seconds, the Investigator will enter the room and ask everyone, "What You Got?". One by one, everyone should respond with a clue that isn't too vague and isn't too specific. For example, if you choose a pencil, a clue might be: "It's a valuable tool, but it isn't expensive." If the Investigator can identify the item before everyone has a chance to give a clue, they win the game. This process can continue for as long as time allows!



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.



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.



The Sign Of Resurrection

John 11:32-44 (ESV)

32 Now when Mary came to where Jesus was and saw him, she fell at his feet, saying to him, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died."

33 When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who had come with her also weeping, he was deeply moved in his spirit and greatly troubled. **34** And he said, "Where have you laid him?" They said to him, "Lord, come and see." **35** Jesus wept. **36** So the Jews said, "See how he loved him!" **37** But some of them said, "Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man also have kept this man from dying?" **38** Then Jesus, deeply moved again, came to the tomb.

It was a cave, and a stone lay against it. **39** Jesus said, "Take away the stone." Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, "Lord, by this time there will be an odor, for he has been dead four days." **40**

Jesus said to her, "Did I not tell you that if you believed you would see the glory of God?" **41** So they took away the stone. And Jesus lifted up his eyes and said, "Father, I thank you that you have heard me. **42** I knew that you always hear me, but I said this on account of the people standing around, that they may believe that you sent me." **43** When he had said these things, he cried out with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out." **44** The man who had died came out, his hands and feet bound with linen strips, and his face wrapped with a cloth. Jesus said to them, "Unbind him, and let him go."



The Fulfillment Of The Signs: **Jesus' Resurrection**

John 20:11-18 (ESV)

11 But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb, and as she wept she stooped to look into the tomb. **12** And she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had lain, one at the head and one at the feet. **13** They said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping?" She said to them, "They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him."

14 Having said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing, but she did not know that it was Jesus. **15** Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you seeking?" Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away." **16** Jesus said to her, "Mary." She turned and said to him in Aramaic, "Rabboni!" (which means Teacher). **17** Jesus said to her, "Do not cling to me, for I have not yet ascended to the Father; but go to my brothers and say to them, 'I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.'" **18** Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, "I have seen the Lord"—and that he had said these things to her."



The Meaning Of The Miracles

1) What distinguishes Jesus as God?

In a miraculous climax of demonstrating to the world who He is, Jesus shows that He is "the giver of life" (Ps. 36:9). Not only is He able to resurrect Lazarus four days after his death, but Jesus *conquered death* himself three days after being crucified. There are many doctors that can heal disease, but *only God* can raise someone from the dead.

2) Why did Jesus come to earth?

Whether it was producing new wine in John 2 to illustrate the New Covenant or healing a blind man in John 9 to explain that He was opening our eyes to truth, there is powerful meaning in every miracle Jesus performed. However, all of these signs would be irrelevant if the sign of the resurrection had not taken place. Before God can meet our needs, we must first be alive. Apart from Jesus, we are dead in our sins, and resurrection is only attainable through placing our faith in Him!

3) How does Jesus meet needs today?

Salvation is the greatest need in our world. Without it, there is no hope in the midst of pain. Yes, God can provide for our tangible needs (physical healing, provision, etc.), but none of these things matter if we are still dead in our sins. If you choose to place your faith in the finished work of Jesus Christ, He promises to *resurrect* you and give you new life!



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 does the "sign" we learned about today give you hope in the midst of the obstacles you are facing?

3) Have you made the decision to place your faith in Jesus? If not, what is keeping you from making that decision? Would you like to surrender to Him today?



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 sign of *resurrection* shows that God is the giver of life, and it is only through placing our faith in Him that we can be spiritually resurrected.



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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