

middle school



Lesson 6 / April 26, 2020

Jesus: Our Superglue

By Jill Meek

for use as
STEP 1 

Lesson 6

Focus:

All Christians have Jesus in common.

Lesson 6

Bible Basis:

Acts 1:8; 2:5-11, 14, 40-42, 46-47

Lesson 6

Memory Verse:

Here there is no Gentile or Jew, circumcised or uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave or free, but Christ is all, and is in all.
—Colossians 3:11

Students will consider what connects us to each other as they explore our commonality through Christ.

Materials:

Internet access

What connects us? This is a question we ask as people vote for different futures based on different ideals. It is a question we ask as we try to keep up with our groups while being asked to “social distance.” It is a question asked in the upcoming animated movie, *Connected*.

Trailer for *Connected* [2:40]:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=toBGv7yvIV8>

This movie asks questions about whether technology or in-person interaction keeps us better connected. It asks whether this family can connect as a team in a battle against technology gone rogue! Animated movies are fun and silly, but they can ask good questions. What do you think?

➤ **How does technology have the ability to connect us?** (Accept all reasonable answers. Technology allows us to connect with others regardless of distance. We can see and hear from people on the other side of the world. We’ve learned we can do just about any activity via the Internet, thanks to social distancing.)

➤ **How does in-person interaction such as eye contact have the ability to connect us?** (Accept all reasonable answers. In person, we can experience touch and don’t have to rely on Wi-Fi strength to connect. Some people may not have Internet access and therefore miss out on virtual connection. It can be easier to have a conversation or experience a moment or sensation together. We may have learned to value this now more than ever.)

➤ **How have you experienced connection with others recently?** (Accept all reasonable answers. Students may have experienced more quality time with family recently, sharing more laughs—or tears—around a table or over a game night. Students may have also recently connected with teachers or classmates or their church family online. This may also be a new experience which may have been welcome and a relief, or at times difficult.)

➤ **What is difficult about connecting with others?** (Accept all reasonable answers. Time, proximity, access, and personal differences all play a role, as well as our own ability or willingness to make the effort to connect.)

After Jesus’ life, death, resurrection, and ascension, the first-century Christians were left to live out this new religion, new beliefs, and new lifestyle day by day, together. The “together” part wasn’t always easy because they came from different backgrounds, but they were all connected by their commitment to Jesus and the power of the Holy Spirit. This is true of Christians today, too—we are all different, but Jesus connects us to each other.

(Continue on to Steps 2 and 3 in your teacher’s guide; your Step 4 appears below.)

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Lesson 6 / April 26, 2020

Jesus: Our Superglue

for use as
STEP 4 

Lesson 6

Focus:

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Jesus in common.

Lesson 6

Bible Basis:

Acts 1:8; 2:5-11, 14,
40-42, 46-47

Lesson 6

Memory Verse:

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or uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave
or free, but Christ is all, and is in all.
—Colossians 3:11

Materials:

None

Our faith may be personal, but it is also to be shared. Gathering together with other Christians is an important part of the life of faith. When we come together with all of our differences connected by Jesus, it is a powerful witness.

➤ **How connected do you feel to the Christians in your life?** (Accept all reasonable answers. Some students will have a strong Christian friend group through church or otherwise. Some may find that their main social group consists of non-Christians, and they feel on the outside of the Christian “clique.”)

➤ **If you would like to increase your connection to other Christians, how could you do this?** (Accept all reasonable answers. Sometimes it takes stepping out of your comfort zone to reach out to a peer or a potential mentor. Many congregations are looking for ways to know and care for each other as never before. Connection can increase through social, service, or prayer groups, among other ways.)

➤ **How connected do you feel to Christians who are different from you in age, denomination, or otherwise?** (Accept all reasonable answers. Variances in opportunities and exposure will mean some students will have more or less connection with Christian adults, friends from other denominations or socioeconomic backgrounds, among other differences.)

➤ **Have you ever considered reaching out to connect with other groups of Christians? What effect could that have?** (Accept all reasonable answers. Those who have had the chance to know and learn from other Christians may share their experiences. Christians from different backgrounds can encourage one another, learn from one another, and work together to be a witness through their service to the community.)

If you have the opportunity through a video conferencing platform, discuss as a group, the ways you can increase your connection with other Christians. Would your group like to share a message of solidarity with other churches through a poster or cards? Could you partner with a local youth group for games or service online? Could you become pen pals with a church in another country? Could you institute a mentor program so that older and younger Christians can know and learn from each other? Would your class like to “grill the minister” or others with get-to-know-you or deeper questions? Decide on one way you will all use to connect this week or give students opportunity to come up with their own.

Reach out to your students this week via e-mail or text to pray for them. You can use a prayer such as this one: *Heavenly Father, thank You for Your Son, Jesus, and how He brings us together as brothers and sisters when we trust in Him. Help us to overlook the minor differences we might have with others and concentrate on what we do have in common: Jesus. Help us find new and innovative ways to connect or stay connected during this difficult time, and we will be careful to give You the glory in Your Son's precious name. Amen.*

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