**Theme: Jesus is the Light of the world**

John 1:1-5

**Required resources:**

* Icebreaker PowerPoint questions
* Name labels and pens
* Prayer cards
* Video countdown timer
* Game resources
* Three blindfolds
* Pens and paper
* Prayer stations signs
* Candles
* Candle wax guards
* Lighter

| **Time** | **Who?** | **Item** | **Length** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  | **Doors open, Ice breaker questions on screen** | **30 min** |
|  |  | **Meal** | **30 min** |
|  |  | **Video Countdown Timer** | **5 min** |
|  |  | **Game** | **10 min** |
|  |  | **Notices & Encouragements** | **5 min** |
|  |  | Mention prayer cards available on the tables for anyone who wants to write a prayer. | |
|  |  | **Up-front activity** | **7 min** |
|  |  | Ask two / three guests to come to the front. Blindfold them and sit them down at a table. Give them a pen and piece of paper and ask them to draw a table and two chairs. Time them three minutes. At the end, show everyone what has been drawn. Ask what would have made it easier for them to do the drawings. Make sure you use words like ‘light’ and ‘dark’ etc. | |
|  |  | **Table discussion** | **8 min** |
|  |  | Ask table groups to discuss why light is important. Then feedback. | |
|  |  | **Led from the front activity** | **10 min** |
|  |  | Explain that the bible teaches us that Jesus is often called the Light of the World, and that his light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has never been able to put his light out. Then ask the question, ‘why is Jesus like light and in what way does Jesus’ light help us?’ Take answers from individual guests without them first going into groups. Feedback and do a brief ‘summing-up’ talk at the end of this section. | |
|  |  | **Whole congregation activity** | **5 min** |
|  |  | Explain that on one side of the room, are four prayer stations, each one representing a different way that Jesus’ light might help us in our lives. Invite people to come up to one station that best fits their personal situation, light a candle, and bring that candle back to their seat. Explain that when everyone who wants to, has done that, that we are going to turn down the lights and say a special prayer to finish the evening.  **Note: Prayer stations:** Jesus’ light helps us to overcome dark things in our lives  Jesus’ light shows us the way to God  Jesus’ light gives us life worth living  Jesus’ light helps us to not be afraid | |
|  |  | **Lights down, pray and finish** | **2 min** |
|  |  | **End** |  |

**Theme: Things that point us to Jesus or away from Jesus**

John 1:15-28

**Resources:**

* Name labels
* Pens
* Ice breaker PowerPoint questions
* Prayer cards
* Video countdown timer
* Game resources
* Misleading signs video
* Treasure hunt clues, etc.
* John the Baptist video clip
* Two ‘Boffins’ & prepared questions
* Sidewalk Prophets video song

| **Time** | **Who?** | **Item** | **Length** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  | **Doors open and ice breaker questions on screen** | **25 min** |
|  |  | **Video Countdown Timer** | **5 min** |
|  |  | **Game** | **10 min** |
|  |  | **Notices & encouragements** | **5 min** |
|  |  | **Table group discussion** | **7 min** |
|  |  | Show video of confusing / misleading signs or directions, followed by table discussion about people’s own experiences of bad signs etc. Then feedback. <https://youtu.be/rCVKOjjU8UM> | |
|  |  | **Move around activity** | **10 min** |
|  |  | Guests have to complete a ‘treasure hunt’ by following certain signs or directions around the room. **Note: You will need to devise your own treasure hunt for this activity.** | |
|  |  | **Link** | **3 min** |
|  |  | Say something like: *‘Signs can sometimes be very misleading. However, the flip side of that, is that sign and directions are also really important, as they help us to get to where we want to go. Likewise, people can be like signs. They can help point our lives in the right direction, or they can lead us astray.’* | |
|  |  | **Table group discussion** | **7 min** |
|  |  | First ask table groups to briefly talk about – without mentioning names – people who have led us astray. What happened? Then encourage guests to talk about people who have been helpful in their lives. Then feedback. | |
|  |  | **Video clip** | **4 min** |
|  |  | Introducing the video clip, say something like: *‘Say something like: ‘As we’ve just heard, people can sometimes be like signs, helping us to go in the right direction with our lives. Here’s a video about John the Baptist who did just that!’* [**https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JZ5jm5Ix5bY**](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JZ5jm5Ix5bY) | |
|  |  | **Boffins** | **7 min** |
|  |  | **Question 1:** Were there times when you were led astray by other people?  **Question 2:** Was there anyone like John the Baptist, who pointed you towards Jesus? | |
|  |  | **Video song** | **5 min** |
|  |  | ‘Help me find it’ by Sidewalk Prophets. [**https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CsjZ94K7UQs**](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CsjZ94K7UQs) | |
|  |  | **Sum-up, final prayer and finish** | **2 min** |
|  |  | Say something like: *‘Basically, it’s all about choices. Who are we going to turn to, to help get our lives turned round? Who could we talk to about Jesus?’* | |
|  |  | **End** |  |

**Theme: Jesus can meet our needs**

John 2:1-11

**Required resources:**

* Icebreaker PowerPoint questions
* Prayer cards
* Name labels & pens
* Prepared meal
* Video countdown timer
* Game resources
* Puzzles & ‘I can help’ sign
* ‘Water into wine sketch’
* Prepared talk
* Chris Tomlinson video song

| **Time** | **Who?** | **Item** | **Length** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  | **Doors open, Ice breaker questions on screen** | **30 min** |
|  |  | **Meal** | **30 min** |
|  |  | **Video Countdown Timer** | **5 min** |
|  |  | **Game** | **10 min** |
|  |  | **Notices & Encouragements** | **5 min** |
|  |  | **Table group activity** | **5 min** |
|  |  | Each table group is given a puzzle which has a piece missing. How will the groups solve the problem – who can meet their need? One team member needs to be wearing an “I can help” badge, and this person will have all the missing puzzle pieces. | |
|  |  | **Sketch** | **5 min** |
|  |  | The ‘water into wine miracle’, from the perspective of the Chief Steward. | |
|  |  | **Table group discussion** | **8 min** |
|  |  | Questions to discuss: **(1) What was the problem / need? (2) What might the servants have thought, as they took the wine to the Steward? (3) What would they have thought afterwards?** Feedback. | |
|  |  | **Talk** | **5 min** |
|  |  | **Video song** | **5 min** |
|  |  | ‘Water you turned into wine’ by Chris Tomlinson  URL: <https://youtu.be/OnTf4sMIKtw> | |
|  |  | **Sum up and finish** | **2 min** |
|  |  | **End** |  |

**Theme: Jesus shows us what Church is**

John 2:14-16 / Luke 19:45-47

**Resources:**

* Name labels
* Pens
* Ice breaker PowerPoint questions
* Prayer cards
* Video countdown timer
* Game resources
* ‘Smash’ video clip
* A5 sheets of paper & pens for Alien explanation
* Washing line
* Pegs
* A6 pieces of paper
* ‘Son of God’ video clip
* Prepared ‘summing-up talk
* ‘Jesus, lover of my soul’ video song

| **Time** | **Who?** | **Item** | **Length** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  | **Doors open and ice breaker questions on screen** | **25 min** |
|  |  | **Video Countdown Timer** | **5 min** |
|  |  | **The secular game** | **10 min** |
|  |  | **Notices & encouragements** | **5 min** |
|  |  | **Video clip** | **2 min** |
|  |  | Show the Aliens ‘Smash’ advert. URL: <https://youtu.be/0Ph6zTdRZyY> | |
|  |  | **Group discussion** | **8 min** |
|  |  | Ask the groups to think about how they would explain what this building (church) is, to an alien. They can’t just say, “It’s a church!” In fact, they are not allowed to use the word ‘church’ in their answers! Then feedback. | |
|  |  | **Whole group activity** | **8 min** |
|  |  | The table groups choose ideas that explain what a church is, from the previous activity, and they write each idea on a separate piece of paper. Then they come up and hang their ideas on a washing line using pegs, according to whether or not the idea is a most important or a least important one. Then feedback. In the feedback, see if the guest’s ideas can be grouped into the following categories: (1) Social / Friendship, (2) Service, (3) Glorifying God, (4) Encountering God. | |
|  |  | **Video clip** | **3 min** |
|  |  | Show clip from the film ‘Son of God’, when Jesus clears the Temple.  URL: <https://youtu.be/z8z_Noilw1E> | |
|  |  | **Led from the front discussion** | **6 min** |
|  |  | What did guests think of the video? Were they shocked? Why did Jesus behave in that way? | |
|  |  | **Summing-up talk** | **4 min** |
|  |  | Focus on the different categories from the whole group activity, particularly Glorifying and Encountering God. This is because Jesus said that his Father’s house (church) should be a house of prayer, and prayer is one of the main ways that we glorify and encounter God. | |
|  |  | **Video song** | **5 min** |
|  |  | ‘Jesus, lover of my soul (It’s all about you)’ URL: <https://youtu.be/Ol6H3LAb72w> | |
|  |  | **Sum-up, final prayer and finish** | **2 min** |
|  |  | **End** |  |

**Theme: Who is Jesus**

John 7

**Resources:**

* Name labels
* Pens
* Ice breaker PowerPoint questions
* Prayer cards
* Video countdown timer
* Game resources
* Sketch script x 2
* 3 discussion questions
* Individual response sheets
* Highlighter pens
* Casting Crowns video song

| **Time** | **Who?** | **Item** | **Length** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  | **Doors open and ice breaker questions on screen** | **25 min** |
|  |  | **Video Countdown Timer** | **5 min** |
|  |  | **Game** | **10 min** |
|  |  | **Notices & encouragements** | **5 min** |
|  |  | **Whole group activity** | **10 min** |
|  |  | Play (if enough time) two rounds of ‘Who am I’. Tell guests that they have 20 questions, in order to guess who the famous person is. If people want to ask a question, they should raise a hand – no shouting out! Use Bear Grylls and Elvis Presley. | |
|  |  | **Link** | **2 min** |
|  |  | **Sketch** | **5 min** |
|  |  | A sketch about ‘Mel’ and ‘Griff’ who are also playing guess the famous person in 20 questions. | |
|  |  | **Table group discussion** | **15 min** |
|  |  | Ask table groups to discussion three questions about Jesus, which arise out of the sketch. Then feedback. (1) Do you think that Jesus is the Son of God, or was he just a famous personality at the time? (2) Do you believe that Jesus performed miracles or were they just tricks? (3) Who is Jesus for you personally? | |
|  |  | **Individual response** | **4 min** |
|  |  | Give each guest an A4 sheet which has the name of Jesus printed in fairly large font in the centre of the page, and which also has attributes or characteristics of Jesus around the name (see template). Give each guest a highlighter pen and ask them to choose who Jesus is for them at this moment in time, by highlighting one or more of the characteristics. When everyone has finished, pray the final prayer and finish. During this time, play ‘Only Jesus’ by Casting Crowns, URL: <https://youtu.be/VXIBP2BdYR8> | |
|  |  | **Final prayer and finish** | **2 min** |
|  |  | **End** |  |

**Theme: Judgement**

John 8:1-11

**Required resources:**

* Icebreaker PowerPoint questions
* Name labels
* Pens & prayer cards
* Meal
* Video countdown timer
* Game resources
* Four statements on A4 sheets
* ‘Woman in adultery’ video clip
* ‘How can it be’ video song

| **Time** | **Who?** | **Item** | **Length** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  | **Doors open, Ice breaker questions on screen** | **30 min** |
|  |  | **Meal** | **30 min** |
|  |  | **Video Countdown Timer** | **5 min** |
|  |  | **Game** | **10 min** |
|  |  | **Notices & encouragements** | **5 min** |
|  |  | **Whole group activity** | **8 min** |
|  |  | Put up around the room, each of the following four statements: (1) Ignore them; (2) Warn everyone; (3) People don’t change; (4) Gossip about them. Next, describe out loud to the guests, the following scenario: *“Someone you know was caught stealing from people in Ignite. After having been convicted and punished, they come back to Ignite. What would you do?”* Then invite guests to go to the statement that they most agree with. Then feedback briefly. **Note: if someone raises a fifth possible statement, such as *‘Welcome them’* or ‘Forgive them’, thank them for their suggestion and say that we’ll come back to that a little later…** | |
|  |  | **Video clip** | **5 min** |
|  |  | ‘The woman caught in adultery’ URL: <https://youtu.be/W8v-4t87954> | |
|  |  | **Table discussion** | **6 min** |
|  |  | What do we think about how Jesus treated the woman? What didn’t we like? What did we like? Then feedback. | |
|  |  | **Sum up** | **2 min** |
|  |  | If helpful, refer to what guests have fed back. Point out that Jesus was the only one who had the right to throw the stone, as he had never sinned. Also, what was going on here, was that Jesus wanted to teach that *everyone* has sinned, and *everyone* can be forgiven. Unfortunately, the crowd and the religious leaders left before they could be forgiven. So just the woman has the opportunity to start a new life… | |
|  |  | **Video song** | **5 min** |
|  |  | ‘How can it be’ by Lauren Daigle. URL: <https://youtu.be/6UXn_OuJkvE> | |
|  |  | **Finish** | **2 min** |
|  |  | **End** |  |

**Theme: Blind man and mud**

John 9

**Resources:**

* Name labels
* Pens
* Ice breaker PowerPoint questions
* Prayer cards
* Video countdown timer
* Game resources
* Mud mask kits
* Scripture reading video clip
* Elephant PowerPoint picture
* A4 sheet divided into four squares
* Prepared talk
* Video song
* Prepared laminated, themed bookmarks

| **Time** | **Who?** | **Item** | **Length** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  | **Doors open and ice breaker questions on screen** | **25 min** |
|  |  | **Video Countdown Timer** | **5 min** |
|  |  | **Game** | **10 min** |
|  |  | **Notices & encouragements** | **5 min** |
|  |  | **Table discussion** | **8 min** |
|  |  | Ask the table groups to discuss what uses mud has got. Then feedback. | |
|  |  | **Upfront activity** | **5 min** |
|  |  | Ask volunteers to come up and have a mud mask. | |
|  |  | **Sketch** | **5 min** |
|  |  | The ‘elephant’ sketch. Three prepared people up front are blindfolded. Put up a PowerPoint picture of an elephant once the actors are blindfolded. Miming, they pretend to touch the elephant, to try and work out what it is. The point of the sketch is that each person thinks that they are feeling something different from the other two people, which leads into getting the guests to think about what the different people in the following bible story video clip, thought that they were each seeing. **Note:** ***we found that this bit of the evening wasn’t a great success, so try and think how you could improve it. Or replace it completely!*** | |
|  |  | **Scripture video clip** | **4 min** |
|  |  | Jesus heals a blind man with mud and spit. URL: <https://youtu.be/jqr_G6vn-Ok> | |
|  |  | **Table group activity** | **8 min** |
|  |  | Give each table group an A4 sheet divided into four squares 4 squares. Each square represents:   * Pharisee – who saw in the blind man, the sins of the parents * Parents – who saw a son who can now see (don’t know how) * Jesus – who saw a person in need * Blind man – who saw Jesus and who he is   Feedback and include why & who do you identify with the most. | |
|  |  | **TALK – Fear, doubt** | **5 min** |
|  |  | **Video Song** | **5 min** |
|  |  | ‘Open the eyes of my heart Lord’ by the Oslo Gospel **Choir URL:** [**https://youtu.be/Zhfzs\_srrsM**](https://youtu.be/Zhfzs_srrsM) | |
|  |  | **Prayer and Finish** | **2 min** |
|  |  | Give out bookmarks, pray and finish. | |
|  |  | **End** |  |

**Theme: The Good Shepherd**

John 10

**Required resources:**

* Name labels & pens
* Ice breaker PowerPoint questions
* Video countdown timer
* Game resources
* Audio recordings of six famous people
* John 10:1-7 Bible reading
* Discussion questions PowerPoint
* Large candle

| **Time** | **Who?** | **Item** | **Length** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  | **Doors open, Ice breaker questions on screen** | **30 min** |
|  |  | **Meal** | **30 min** |
|  |  | **Video Countdown Timer** | **5 min** |
|  |  | **Game** | **10 min** |
|  |  | **Notices and encouragements** | **5 min** |
|  |  | **Table group activity** | **8 min** |
|  |  | Table group has to listen to the voices of six famous people, and see if they can recognise who they are. The last three voices should be from people who are famous but whose voices are not well known, as we don’t want guests to be able to recognise all the voices this time round. Well known voices:   * [Churchill](https://youtu.be/Kx3W4F80L04) * [John Bercow](https://youtu.be/EY7EIZl4raY) * [Del Boy](https://youtu.be/QAQQ_s2Fv4A) * [Greta Thunberg](https://youtu.be/TMrtLsQbaok) * [Justin Bieber](https://youtu.be/6zEve0VdUTc) * [Justin Welby](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IXoXL4HbNGQ) | |
|  |  | **Scripture reading from John 10:1-7** | **2 min** |
|  |  | **Table group discussion** | **7 min** |
|  |  | Say that it’s all good and well reading something that was written 2000 years ago, that says that we can hear and recognise Jesus’ (the shepherd’s) voice, but what about now? Ask the table groups to discuss the following two questions: (1) Do we think that Jesus (God) speaks to us today? (2) If so, how would we recognise his ‘voice’? Then feedback. | |
|  |  | **Table group activity** | **5 min** |
|  |  | Replay the last three voices from the previous table group activity. Afterwards, ask guests if it was easier to recognise them this time. If not already brought up by guests, suggest that perhaps it was easier because we recognised them from last time, or that perhaps it was because of what they said last time. Explain that this is similar to what happens when we start to practise ‘listening’ for God’s ‘voice’. | |
|  |  | **Whole group activity** | **5 min** |
|  |  | Have a quiet time, listening for God speaking to us. Perhaps dim some of the lights and light a single candle as a focal point. Explain that we might ‘hear’ God speaking to us in different ways… it might be (although it happens rarely) an audible voice; it might be a picture in our minds; it might be a feeling that we have to do something; a bible verse might repeatedly drop into our minds. Afterwards, say that if anyone thinks they might have heard God speaking to them in some way, to tell someone in the Ignite team. | |
|  |  | **Final prayer and finish** |  |
|  |  | **End** |  |