

## Youth Worship Lesson – August 30, 2020

**Focus Scripture:** Matthew 16:21-18

**Purpose:** To discover what Jesus meant when he said “Come follow me.”

### **An Awesome Adventure: “SEEKERS AFTER JESUS”**

**Clue #1: Where We Find God**

**Clue #2: How Does God Work in Our World**

**Clue #3: Joining God in Creating Shalom**

**Clue #4: Give and You Will Receive**

**Clue #5: Take My Yoke Upon You**

**Clue #6: God’s Spirit Grows in Me**

**Clue #7: Weeds and Wheat Together**

**Clue #8: Glimpse of God’s Realm**

**Clue #9: Trust in God’s Way**

**Clue #10 God is Always With Us**

**Clue #11 Live in Harmony**

**Clue #12 You Are the Christ**

**Clue #13 A Lifetime of Seeking**

### **Preparation**

Worship Table – green cloth

Pictures activity at the end of the lesson

Certificate at the end of the lesson for your child

***Lighting the Christ Candle: “We light this candle to remind us that God is always with us.”***

### **Prayer**

Dear God,

We are searchers, looking for clues about you and your love.

Guide us in the adventure of following you and sharing your love.

Amen.

**Song: Who Am I? by NEEDTOBREATHE on YouTube**

### **Introducing the Theme – ME**

Ask the children to think of a time when they were fighting with their friends about wanting the same thing. You say “Me. Me. No me. Me.” Did you know that each and every one of you is the most important person in the world? Did you know that each of you is a unique and special creation treasured by God?

All of us have a special name - ME (hold up the letters M and E.) There is no one else like ME. God loves ME very much.

But ME can sometimes be a problem. It can cause fighting and bad feelings. When that happens it is because we've forgotten something very important about ME - something that's hidden right inside it. Let's see what it is. Turn the M and E upside down and what word do you get? WE is a word that is just as important as ME. It helps us remember that none of us are alone. It also reminds us that we are not the only ones with the name ME. So when we get into trouble with the ME part, remember that we are all ME/WEs.

Ask the children things they have done that are hard to do but, worth the time and effort. Why do people do these things if they are hard? Do you think following Jesus is hard? Do you ever have to give up something to come to church - like giving up video games or watching TV? Is that hard to do?

### **Exploring the Theme – Bible Story**

Following Peter's courageous declaration of faith at Caesarea Philippi, Jesus predicts his death (and resurrection). Peter is so overwhelmed that he hears only the first part of the sentence. Again speaking spontaneously, he resists what Jesus is saying. Jesus sees the resistance as a terrible temptation and rebukes Peter, speaking in just the same way he spoke to Satan in the wilderness. It is vital, now that the disciples realize that Jesus is the Messiah, that they also understand what this could mean for Jesus and for themselves. Jesus makes very clear that the conditions of discipleship involve a willingness to risk everything - even life itself - for the sake of faithfulness to God's purposes. He knew that if he pursued the path he had chosen it would likely result in his death.

It could be said that in choosing life, Jesus also deliberately chose death. However, we must never forget that the emphasis in the story is upon choosing life not death - upon the affirmation of God's way, not upon sheer, negative denial of self. The passage invites us to take a risk on living life to its fullest and daring to pay the price.

Hand out the certificates for participating in being "Searchers after Jesus"

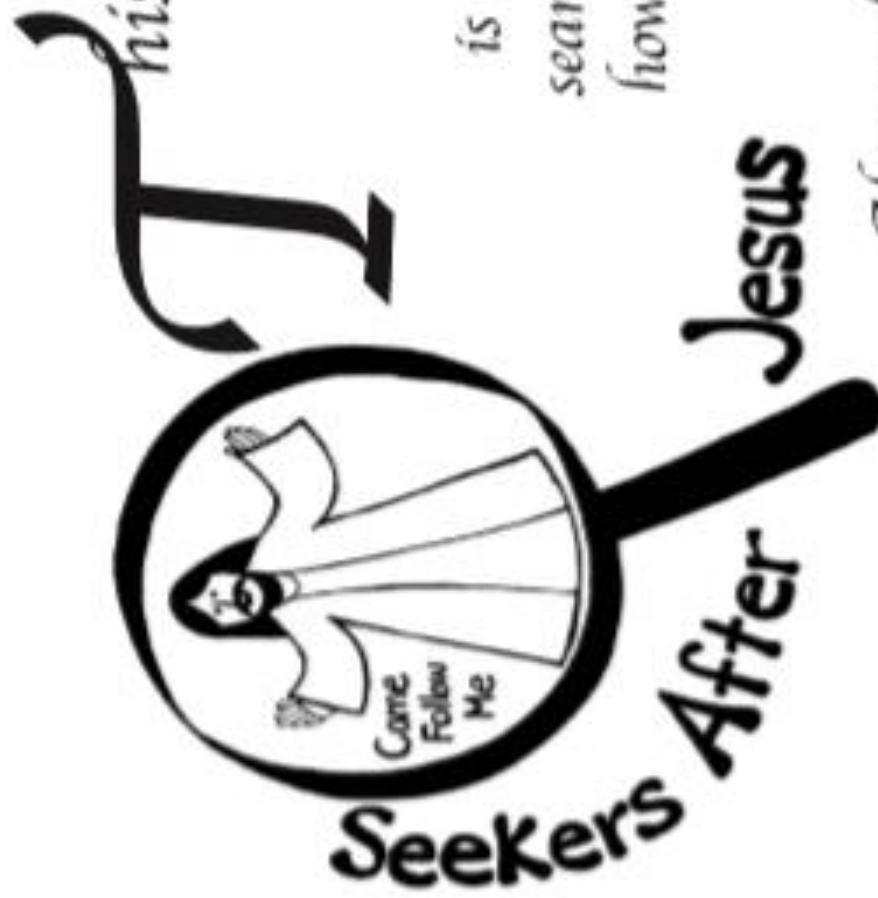
### **Activity or Craft – “Search for Clues” Activity Sheet**

**Materials:** Pencil or pen, Bible

Find the missing words and circle them in the word search.

### **Closing Prayer**

Thank you God for lips to praise you,  
Hands to serve you and hearts to love you!  
Amen.



This is to certify that

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is a seeker after Jesus,  
searching for clues about  
how to live in God's way.

Summer 2020

Always keep searching and loving

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Name (Your fellow seeker after Jesus)

## Search for Clues...

Find the words to fill in the blanks and discover clues about being a follower of Jesus.  
(One word from the scrambled letters is used twice in the verse.)

W	O	R	L	D	M	L	A	C	G	M	R	T
F	F	W	V	S	A	K	E	R	E	Y	L	B
O	O	X	U	C	J	D	P	O	C	O	M	E
L	R	L	M	W	L	I	T	S	G	B	C	D
L	G	A	O	V	D	S	E	S	A	P	P	O
O	E	D	L	S	B	C	A	L	I	F	E	T
W	T	R	D	C	E	I	W	V	N	L	G	R
W	I	N	S	H	U	P	G	J	W	U	E	S
S	I	E	W	H	O	L	E	L	M	V	O	Q
F	A	N	Y	O	N	E	T	C	E	H	C	A
J	E	S	U	S	I	S	S	O	P	L	M	B
T	H	E	I	R	V	D	H	U	S	E	L	F
P	E	R	S	O	N	W	D	A	B	L	W	R

Then \_\_\_\_\_ said to his \_\_\_\_\_, "If \_\_\_\_\_ wants to \_\_\_\_\_ with me, they must \_\_\_\_\_, carry their \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_ me. For \_\_\_\_\_ wants to save their own \_\_\_\_\_ will \_\_\_\_\_ it; but whoever loses \_\_\_\_\_ life for \_\_\_\_\_ will \_\_\_\_\_. It. Will a person \_\_\_\_\_ anything if they \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_ but lose their life?"

Matthew 16:24-26, Good News Bible

