



**CURRICULUM FOR  
JANUARY 13, 20, 27  
FEBRUARY 3 & 10**



*Beulah Youth*

Edited Friday January 13, 2016



## SERIES INTRODUCTION

### THE BIG IDEA [Where we are going with this whole series]

In the opening chapter of the book of Romans it talks about a people who disobey God. It talks about how even though they had the opportunity to know Him, they decided to go the other way. They receive the wrath of God because as it says:

*"...they exchanged the truth about God for a lie..."* Romans 1:25

So often we read through passages like that pointing our fingers and shaking our heads saying, "Those bad people who do that bad stuff," and we forget that in fact, that is us. It's my hope and prayer that through this series we can highlight how we trade the reality of God for fake versions of His truth and then we can truly Get Real!

### THE POINTS [An overview of the main point for each week of the series]

**JAN 13** REAL COMMUNITY – Wake up and be the Church!

**JAN 20** REAL RELATIONSHIP – Hurt people, hurt people.

**JAN 27** REAL DIRECTION – Get into God's Word and get it into you.

**FEB 03** REAL PURITY – Pursue purity, not passable.

**FEB 10** REAL COMPASSION – Live out love, not warm fuzzies.

### QUESTIONS?

As always, if you have any questions about the theme, the teachings we have, or anything else youth ministry related please contact me, Joel Brigham at [joel@beulah.ca](mailto:joel@beulah.ca). Also, please make use of your coach if you need help. If you don't know who your coach is, contact Marlene Koning [marlkon@telus.net](mailto:marlkon@telus.net) if you're a girl and me, if you are a guy. Thanks so much for your investment in the lives of students. Your impact in youth goes beyond just today - it drifts into eternity.





## DEVOTIONAL TEACHING GUIDE – JANUARY 13 REAL COMMUNITY – Wake up and be the Church!

**WAKE UP** [An idea to catch students' attention. Use these or make your own.]

- Use video or just talk about the legacy of *American Idol* as they move into the last one and what it means for people. Transition into what our youth ministry and the Church has been about since its inception
- Tell the story of the Loch Ness monster and how people were duped into believing that it was actually real
- Ask for a number of volunteers and put them in positions in front of everyone that depicts what the church and the youth ministry should be (like Keith Taylor at Staff Retreat)

**WORD UP** [The key Scriptures and what God is saying through them.]

### **Acts 2:42-47**

These verses in Acts 2 describe what the original Church looked like and should also describe the real community in our youth ministry. Here are a few things to highlight in the verses:

Devoted to teaching

Devoted to fellowship... had everything in common

Devoted to breaking of bread and prayer

Gave what they had... generous

God added to their number

**WHAT'S THE POINT?** [The main point that we need to get across in this devotional.]

**Wake up and be the Church!** – We need to start being the real community God has called us to be!

**WHY DO I CARE?** [Some whys to give students reasons to move forward.]

- Living a fake version of Church harms my witness and isn't helpful for God's mission for us
- We find true, fulfilling life when we live out God's purpose as a community
- There is real love, real mission, real community in being the Church

**WHAT DO I DO?** [What students should know and do from this devotional.]

1. Figure out what's lacking in their "being the Church" community? Is it receiving teaching? Is it good friendship? Is it worship and prayer? Is it giving of their gifts? Is it in telling others about Jesus?
2. Set one specific goal for changing one area.
3. Pray for God's help to make that happen.



## SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION – JANUARY 13 REAL COMMUNITY – Wake up and be the Church!

### 1. INWARD PRAYER

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### 2. UPCOMING [Are you coming to the next event, serving, inviting someone?]

**FRI JAN 15** – All Youth, Parent, Leader Teach Night with Julie Parr. Is your family coming?

**FRI JAN 22** – Survivor: Moala for Senior High, are you signed up? Any friends you could invite?

**FRI FEB 05** – Activate Junior: Civilization, Junior Highs are you coming, Senior High serving?

### 3. STRONGER [How are you growing with God?]

A. Over the Christmas break, what have you learned from the Bible or your experiences?

B. What questions do you have about God, Jesus, life or faith?

C. On a scale of 1 to 10 where would you put yourself in your relationship with God? Why? (1) being I'm completely disconnected from God and I don't even care. (10) being God and I are super tight and I really feel I'm daily living out the life He's called me to.

### 4. DEEPER [What does the Scripture really say?]

A. What is one thing you faked your way through before? "Fake it till you make it."

B. Re-read Acts 2:42-47 and answer: How do we know people aren't faking community in this passage? What real things are they doing that reveal real community?

C. What is the most surprising thing to you about this community in Acts 2?

### 5. FRUITFUL [What does this mean to you and how are you going to live it out?]

A. Joel described real community, being the Church, as five things: 1. Being taught 2. Having good friendships 3. Worship and Prayer 4. Giving 5. Telling others about Jesus

i. Which one or two are you good at? Explain if you can.

ii. Which one do you feel is your specific area of challenge and needs the most work?

A. What one thing are you going to do to grow in real community in that specific area of challenge?

### 6. OUTWARD PRAYER

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## DEVOTIONAL TEACHING GUIDE – JANUARY 20 REAL RELATIONSHIP – Hurt people, hurt people.

**WAKE UP** [An idea to catch students' attention. Use these or make your own.]

- Tell the story of Rwanda of the Hutus and the Tutsis. You can find an article at: <http://www.bbc.com/news/world-africa-13431486> or look for a video that tells the story. The back and forth of hurt between these tribes leads to the ultimate genocide of 800,000 people. Hurt people, hurt people for decades of history in this story
- Tell a story of your own hurt (not using names or people that your students may recognize) and how not being able to forgive can hurt you
- Ultimately we need to communicate that real relationship has conflict, but how conflict is resolved is so important

**WORD UP** [The key Scriptures and what God is saying through them.]

### **Matthew 5:23-24**

Another Christ follower has something against you, or you've wronged them... this is what you do.

### **Matthew 18:15-17**

When another Christ follower has wronged you... this is what you do. You can use this statement to simplify this verse: "When we are at odds with someone we go Promptly (right away), Personally (face to face), and Privately (not including others in the problem) to address the issue."

**WHAT'S THE POINT?** [The main point that we need to get across in this devotional.]

**Hurt people, hurt people.** – Find healing through reconciliation.

**WHY DO I CARE?** [Some whys to give students reasons to move forward.]

- We will all deal with conflict in our relationships and we can choose to respond to it in a way that is healthy and life giving or in a way that will paralyze and end the relationship
- Not being willing to forgive often destroys the person holding on to it more than the person who hasn't been forgiven by them
- God's way for our relationships is through reconciliation (making things right)

**WHAT DO I DO?** [What students should know and do from this devotional.]

1. Ask the Holy Spirit to highlight anybody I need to make things right with
2. Go and make things right, according to how Matthew 5 and 18 direct
3. Ask God for help releasing forgiveness



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## SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION – JANUARY 20 REAL RELATIONSHIP – Hurt people, hurt people.

### 1. INWARD PRAYER

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### 2. UPCOMING [Are you coming to the next event, serving, inviting someone?]

**FRI JAN 22** – Survivor: Moala for Senior High, are you signed up? Any friends you could invite?

**END OF JAN** – Senior High, Ecuador Missions Trip applications due.

**FRI FEB 05** – Activate Junior: Civilization, Junior High are you coming, Senior High serving?

### 3. STRONGER [How are you growing with God?]

A. Since we last met, what have you learned from the Bible or your experiences?

B. What questions do you have about God, Jesus, life or faith?

C. On a scale of 1 to 10 where would you put yourself in your relationship with God? Why? (1) being I'm completely disconnected from God and I don't even care. (10) being God and I are super tight and I really feel I'm daily living out the life He's called me to.

### 4. DEEPER [What does the Scripture really say?]

A. Have you ever been upset at someone or has someone been upset with you? (Don't need to know names) How did you respond?

B. Matthew 18:15-17 tells us what our responsibility is when another Christ follower has wronged us. In the direction it gives, where do you think people mess it up the most? Explain.

C. In Matthew 5:23-24 it tells us to actually leave worship and make things right with someone if we've wronged them. Why do you think it's so important to God? Explain.

### 5. FRUITFUL [What does this mean to you and how are you going to live it out?]

A. When someone hurts you, what is your natural or first response?

B. Is there someone you're at odds with right now, who you are hurt by, who you have hurt, or both? (Again, no names.) How has your response followed or not followed Matthew 18 & 5? If you're okay with people now, how have your previous conflicts lined up or not with these verses?

C. What one area are you going to try to get better at when it comes to relationship with people?

### 6. OUTWARD PRAYER

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## DEVOTIONAL TEACHING GUIDE – JANUARY 27

### REAL DIRECTION – Get into God's Word and get it into you.

#### WAKE UP [An idea to catch students' attention. Use these or make your own.]

- Play the "Say What?" game which is found at the end of the curriculum. When the game is over, talk about the stats of Biblical literacy. Here are some Canadian stats from 2013:
  - o 18% of Canadians strongly agree the Bible is the Word of God (35% in 1996).
  - o 23% of Christian Canadians agree that the Bible is relevant to modern life.
  - o 21% of Christian Canadians reflect on the meaning of the Bible a few times a week.
  - o 14% of Christian Canadians read the Bible at least once a week.
  - o 11% of Christian Canadians talk to others about the Bible outside of church.
- Tell a story of when the Bible gave you very specific direction for your circumstance. Tell how following what the Bible taught you or not influenced your life
- Share how often students in church, especially those in grade 11 and 12 are asking, "What is God's will for my life?" They are talking about His pinpoint will. Often God wants us to read and live out his revealed will in the Scriptures. He wants us to open our Bibles.

#### WORD UP [The key Scriptures and what God is saying through them.]

##### Psalm 119:105

A light is to guide, to help to walk in darkness. The Bible helps us find our way.

##### 2 Timothy 3:16-17

Scripture is for: 1. Teaching 2. Rebuking and correcting 3. Training 4. Equipping and preparing for the work of God.

2 Kings 21:24-23:25 Story of King Josiah who found the Book of the Law and reformed a nation

#### WHAT'S THE POINT? [The main point that we need to get across in this devotional.]

**Get into God's Word and get it into you.** – Our lives are directed best by God's Word found in the reading and applying of the Bible.

#### WHY DO I CARE? [Some whys to give students reasons to move forward.]

- God created me and knows how best to lead my life
- Following God's direction may be difficult but it is the most fulfilling
- The Bible is relevant for today's challenges and situations

#### WHAT DO I DO? [What students should know and do from this devotional.]

- Read the Bible daily (if you're starting new, maybe start with one of the Gospels)
- Write down what you're learning (so you think about what God is saying)
- Talk to others about you're learning (so you can encourage them and hear their thoughts)



## SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION – JANUARY 27

**REAL DIRECTION** – Get into God's Word and get it into you.

### 1. INWARD PRAYER

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### 2. UPCOMING [Are you coming to the next event, serving, inviting someone?]

**END OF JAN** – Senior High, Ecuador Missions Trip applications due.

**FRI FEB 05** – Activate Junior: Civilization, Junior High are you coming, Senior High serving?

**SAT FEB 06** – CYW Fuel Conference at Beulah. Are you signed up? Great for youth and leaders

### 3. STRONGER [How are you growing with God?]

A. Since we last met, what have you learned from the Bible or your experiences?

B. What questions do you have about God, Jesus, life or faith?

C. On a scale of 1 to 10 where would you put yourself in your relationship with God? Why? (1) being I'm completely disconnected from God and I don't even care. (10) being God and I are super tight and I really feel I'm daily living out the life He's called me to.

### 4. DEEPER [What does the Scripture really say?]

A. What is the funniest thing you've heard about or read in the Bible?

B. King Josiah in 2 Kings 22:8-20 finds the book of the law (probably the first 5 books of the Bible) and responds to it. What about his response is God pleased with? (key: verse 19) Explain.

C. In Psalm 119:105 and 2 Timothy 3:16-17 it tells us that the Bible is more than just an old book. What do they tell us the Bible is for? Are people using the Bible today for those purposes?

### 5. FRUITFUL [What does this mean to you and how are you going to live it out?]

A. How often do you read the Bible for 5 minutes or more? Is this important to you? Why?

B. Have you ever done or not done something because of what you learned in the Bible? Explain.

C. What are you going to do this week, this month and/or this year to make sure that God's Word is a priority in your life? (If "read it more" is an answer, ask for specifics.)

### 6. OUTWARD PRAYER

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## DEVOTIONAL TEACHING GUIDE – FEBRUARY 3 REAL PURITY – Pursue purity, not passable.

**WAKE UP** [An idea to catch students' attention. Use these or make your own.]

- The Brownie Object Lesson, bring some brownies and ask who would like to eat them? Then tell them that instead of the ingredient of milk, you used urine. Then ask them who would like the brownies. Then joke and say "ok, I didn't swap out the milk for urine... well it's mostly milk." Then ask them who wants it. Then tell them the truth that you just used milk and offer it to them. Some may still not want them. This lesson highlights how even a little bit of impurity can ruin the whole
- Tell a story where something small or seemingly insignificant corrupted something much larger
- Areas of purity we can highlight: sexual (what we see, think and do), integrity or honesty, money, words, etc.

**WORD UP** [The key Scriptures and what God is saying through them.]

### **Psalm 119:9-11**

A young man (and woman) pursues purity by following God with all their heart.

### **1 Thessalonians 4:7-8**

**Joshua 7** - Story of Achan's sin. Achan disobeyed God, so all of Israel lost their next battle due to the impurity in the camp.

**WHAT'S THE POINT?** [The main point that we need to get across in this devotional.]

**Pursue purity, not passable.** – Yes, we are not perfect, we are forgiven, but our goal is ultimate purity to reflect and honour God. Jesus makes purity possible by defeating sin and giving us the Holy Spirit.

**WHY DO I CARE?** [Some whys to give students reasons to move forward.]

- When my life is pure, I'm able to live at my full potential for God
- When my life isn't pure, it can drastically effect everything in my life

**WHAT DO I DO?** [What students should know and do from this devotional.]

1. Ask the Holy Spirit what area of my life needs purity? Wait and listen for that.
2. Have the guts to tell someone what area needs purity.
3. Pray with people for that and then pursue purity.



**SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION – FEBRUARY 03**  
**REAL PURITY – Pursue purity, not passable.**

**1. INWARD PRAYER**

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**2. UPCOMING** [Are you coming to the next event, serving, inviting someone?]

**FRI FEB 05** – Activate Junior: Civilization, Junior High are you coming, Senior High serving?

**SAT FEB 06** – CYW Fuel Conference at Beulah. Are you signed up? Great for youth and leaders

**FRI FEB 19** – Senior High, Winterfest! Are you coming? Inviting friends?

**3. STRONGER** [How are you growing with God?]

A. Since we last met, what have you learned from the Bible or your experiences?

B. What questions do you have about God, Jesus, life or faith?

C. On a scale of 1 to 10 where would you put yourself in your relationship with God? Why? (1) being I'm completely disconnected from God and I don't even care. (10) being God and I are super tight and I really feel I'm daily living out the life He's called me to.

**4. DEEPER** [What does the Scripture really say?]

A. What ingredients could really mess up a dessert like brownies or another baked dessert? Have you ever eaten any weird mixes of food like that before? Explain.

B. In the story of Achan in Joshua 7, there is just one man that is greedy and steals. This ruins it for the whole nation of Israel. Why do you think God cares so much about purity?

C. 1 Thessalonians 4:7-8 tells us how serious God treats purity as well. What is the difference between a call to purity/holiness and perfection? How does God help us in this pursuit?

**5. FRUITFUL** [What does this mean to you and how are you going to live it out?]

A. Do you feel pure today? Why or why not?

B. What benefits do you see from living a life that pursues purity?

C. What specific area of purity in your life can we pray for as a small group? (i.e. thoughts, honesty, language, sex, handling of money, etc.)

**6. OUTWARD PRAYER**

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## DEVOTIONAL TEACHING GUIDE – FEBRUARY 10 REAL COMPASSION – Live out love, not warm fuzzies.

**WAKE UP** [An idea to catch students' attention. Use these or make your own.]

- A great little blog on real love vs. the way the world describes it can be found at <http://letspleasegod.com/2012/05/what-is-love/> ... Under Love defined he gives the world's definition for love. You could start off by asking how the world defines love, then sum it with this definition
- In contrast to the World's definition of Love, show the Samaritans Purse "Cute Kids Answer—What is Love?" video on YouTube: [https://youtu.be/BcYIA58E\\_ss](https://youtu.be/BcYIA58E_ss)
- Share a story when you or someone you know experienced real love and how that impacted you or them

**WORD UP** [The key Scriptures and what God is saying through them.]

### 1 Corinthians 13:4-6

These verses are popular "love" verses for weddings, but they're actually more than just "warm fuzzies". These verses contain action words that are challenging things to do, especially when there is a cost to us to living them out.

### Matthew 9:36 and Mark 6:34

Jesus' compassion for people goes beyond just "warm fuzzies", he does something; he feeds them, heals them, teaches them, and ultimately dies for them.

### John 15:13

**WHAT'S THE POINT?** [The main point that we need to get across in this devotional.]

**Live out love, not warm fuzzies** – Love is not just about emotion, it's about real self sacrificing action.

**WHY DO I CARE?** [Some whys to give students reasons to move forward.]

- Jesus laid His life down for me so I should give of my life for others.
- When I live out real love, it changes the quality and effectiveness of my life, it can transform situations, people, and eternity
- It's the one thing I'm called to do as a Christ follower

**WHAT DO I DO?** [What students should know and do from this devotional.]

1. Examine how and who I love
2. Pray that God would grow in me his character of love
3. Do something loving this week that I wouldn't normally do



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## SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION – FEBRUARY 10

### REAL COMPASSION – Live out love, not warm fuzzies.

#### 1. INWARD PRAYER

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#### 2. UPCOMING [Are you coming to the next event, serving, inviting someone?]

**WED FEB 17** – Illuminate next week all together at West Campus

**FRI FEB 19** – Senior High, Winterfest! Are you coming? Inviting friends?

**FRI MAR 04** – Activate Junior: Code Red, Junior High are you coming, Senior High serving?

#### 3. STRONGER [How are you growing with God?]

A. Since we last met, what have you learned from the Bible or your experiences?

B. What questions do you have about God, Jesus, life or faith?

C. On a scale of 1 to 10 where would you put yourself in your relationship with God? Why? (1) being I'm completely disconnected from God and I don't even care. (10) being God and I are super tight and I really feel I'm daily living out the life He's called me to.

#### 4. DEEPER [What does the Scripture really say?]

A. What is a good moment or memory that you have of someone loving you? What did they do to show their love to you?

B. When we read about "real love" in the Scriptures (1 Corinthians 13:4-6, Matthew 9:36 and John 15:13), how does it compare to marketing campaigns and popular "love" movies?

#### 5. FRUITFUL [What does this mean to you and how are you going to live it out?]

Today our serve project is for each person to write 5-10 encouragement cards. You can write things on them like "you're beautiful", "you are loved", "you have value", etc. Then take these cards to school the next day and secretly put them in peoples' desks or lockers. The goal is to take action that communicates love to others.

#### 6. OUTWARD PRAYER

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## SAY WHAT? GAME

### THE POINT

The object of this game is to highlight Biblical Literacy, how well people know their Bibles. This isn't for shaming people, it's to lead into the topic.

### HOW IT'S PLAYED

There are two sections to the game. The **first section** of the game, groups try and put together 7 jumbled popular phrases as fast as they can. The jumbled phrases are on a cut out sheet on the next page. **This page will need to be copied for the number of groups and cut out beforehand.** You can jumble all 7 sets of words together or just within their own phrases depending on how long you want the game to go and how smart you think people are. The answers to this section are as follows:

1. BITES THE DUST
2. LAND OF THE LIVING
3. A DROP IN THE BUCKET
4. THE BLIND LEADING THE BLIND
5. LEOPARD CAN'T CHANGE ITS SPOTS
6. GO THE EXTRA MILE
7. BY THE SKIN OF YOUR TEETH

Whoever completes this first is the winning team. When they have completed this ask them what book each saying was found in first. (You can even tell them they'll get extra points if they guess right.) The answer to each one is "The Bible"... I know, very Sunday school of us.

The **second section** of the game is when they actually use their Bibles. Give them the Bible verse cut outs. They need to pair the verses with the phrases as fast as they can. The team that gets all them right the quickest wins. Here are the answers:

1. BITES THE DUST – PSALM 72:9
2. LAND OF THE LIVING – PSALM 27:13
3. A DROP IN THE BUCKET – ISAIAH 40:15
4. THE BLIND LEADING THE BLIND – MATTHEW 15:14
5. LEOPARD CAN'T CHANGE ITS SPOTS – JEREMIAH 13:23
6. GO THE EXTRA MILE – MATTHEW 5:41
7. BY THE SKIN OF YOUR TEETH – JOB 19:20

When the game is over celebrate the winning team however you chose and then head back to share what some of the Canadian Biblical Literacy stats are.

# GET REAL

[ Resonate | Gravitate | Illuminate ]



## SECTION 1

1 BITES THE DUST

2 LAND OF THE LIVING

3 A DROP IN THE BUCKET

4 THE BLIND LEADING THE BLIND

5 LEOPARD CAN'T CHANGE ITS SPOTS

6 GO THE EXTRA MILE

7 BY THE SKIN OF YOUR TEETH

## SECTION 2

PSALM 72:9 ISAIAH 40:15

PSALM 27:13 MATTHEW 15:14

JEREMIAH 13:23 MATTHEW 5:41

JOB 19:20