

Slingshot

1. Why is it so difficult to make a decision sometimes?
2. Game: *How Would You Respond?* Groups of 3 or 4)

Faith Builder

What is the “good news” message of the New Testament...in a nutshell?

1. Sin entered the world in the Garden of Eden for the first time.
*“When the woman saw that the fruit of the tree [of knowledge of good and evil] was good for food and pleasing to the eye, and also desirable for gaining **wisdom**, she took some and ate it.” Genesis 3:6*
 2. Because of sin, spiritual death came to all men.
*“Therefore, just as sin entered the world through one man, and **death** through sin, and in this way death came to all men, because all sinned...” Romans 5:12*
 3. God made atonement (to make amends) for all sin, through Jesus.
*“This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an **atonement** sacrifice for our sins.” 1 John 4:10*
 4. We have the opportunity to live forever with God—*starting today!*
*“For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have **eternal life**.” John 3:16*
- So what makes this news “good” news?
 - What would you say keeps people from devoting their lives to God?
 - What keeps you from devoting your life to God today?

How does God want us to respond to his good news?

1. Believe that Jesus is God’s son and God’s savior for all mankind.
(Ephesians 2:4-9; Romans 3:22-25; Romans 10:9-10)
2. Pledge your heart and your life to Jesus through baptism.
(Matthew 28:19; Acts 2:38-41; Romans 6:3-11; 1 Peter 3:21)

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How Would You Respond?

1. One of your friends has been involved in drugs. Her parents have employed “tough love,” and have kicked her out of the house. Now she wants to live with you. You:
 - Take her in and give her support.
 - Tell her that you’ll be there for her, but that she can’t live with you.
 - Help her find a half-way house, then leave the decisions up to her.
2. While unpacking from a vacation, you realize that you accidentally put two hotel towels in your suitcase. You:
 - Keep them. It was an accident and the hotel won’t miss them.
 - Call the hotel and ask if they want them sent back.
 - Send the towels back anonymously.
3. You’ve been asked to the Prom by none other than the Prom King. He’s a nice guy, but you’d like to be “just friends.” If you go to Prom, you will become the Prom Queen, but you will also be sending a message that you two are an “item.” You:
 - Go to Prom and have a great time.
 - Decline the invitation.
 - Accept the invitation, but make it clear that you expect nothing more than friendship from the relationship.
4. You’re driving with two of your friends to an out-of-town basketball game, and the driver is really speeding. You’re scared, but you don’t want them to think you’re not cool. You:
 - Keep it simple, and ask the driver to SLOW DOWN!
 - Say nothing, but find another ride home after the game.
 - Make a joke about it, hoping the driver will slow down.
5. You’re at home in bed and you get a call from a 16 year-old friend. He’s really drunk, and wants you to pick him up. He’s done this to you four times! You:
 - Tell him that this time, he’s going to have to find his own ride home.
 - Pick him up, but tell him that he’ll have to find his own rides from now on.
 - Call his parents and tell them what’s going on.
6. Your parents leave on a weekend trip. You’ve agreed that you won’t have any parties in their absence. Saturday night, several groups of your friends show up uninvited. You:
 - Ask everyone to leave immediately.
 - Let everyone stay as long as they’re not drinking or making a lot of noise.
 - Suggest that you all leave and get something to eat.

(Questions taken from *WWJD The Game*)