



## 2012 Theme Guide

### Daily Themes

*Hear my cry for mercy as I call to you for help, as I lift up my hands towards your Most Holy Place. Psalm 28:2*

People need mercy. Mercy is “leniency and compassion shown toward offenders by a person charged with administering justice.” Our theme is designed to help students focus on how incredible God’s mercy is in our lives. Our daily themes walk us through the idea that our situation is **Critical** because of our sins. Realizing that our sins have consequences we **Chase** and pursue mercy. Christ takes our sins away at the **Cross**. We then **Carry** our own crosses as we follow Christ and absorb the sins of others and turn the other cheek. Finally, we are **Called** to help others find the same mercy we have been given.

**Sunday...Lost**---My sin has consequences

**Monday...Look (up)**---I pursue holiness because I know the consequences of my sin

**Tuesday...Love** —Christ takes my sin and makes me holy

**Wednesday...Live** —I receive and absorb the sins of others against me

**Thursday...Lead**—I lead others to find holiness and show mercy

### 2012 Class Topics

#### 1. You’ve Got A Friend In Me

*Key Passage: 2 Samuel 9*

Not all of us are the same. We all have opportunities to receive mercy and to give mercy as friends to those who are like us and those who are very different from us.

#### 2. Walking Humbly

*Key Passage: Micah 6:8-10 Matthew 18:21-35*

Recognizing our place in relation to God helps us recognize our relationship with other people. We can show mercy easier if we don’t think of others “below” us but recognize that we are all at the mercy of God.

#### 3. Follow Me

*Key Passage: Matthew 9:9-13*

Discovering what it means to become a disciple of Jesus. How do you respond to the words “follow me”?

#### **4. Uniquely You**

*Key Passage 1 Peter 2:4-11*

God created you for a purpose. Mercy has been given for you. You are precious to Him.

#### **5. Just Justice**

*Key Passage: Isaiah 42:1-9*

Being aware of the law of love that determines what is right and just. How do we help administer justice in the community we live in. (Teaching may focus on current topics such as bullying, left out students, teen pregnancy, teen homelessness, etc.)

#### **6. Mercy to the Unmerciful**

*Key Passage: Matt 5:43-48*

We need to show mercy to everyone not just the people whom it is easy.

#### **7. Marvelous Meditation**

*Key Passage: Psalm 119:27*

In a world of chaos there is much comfort found in meditation. To be prepared to show mercy in chaos it is important to take time for yourself for rest and meditation. This class focuses on practical ways to leave chaos and focus on meditating.

#### **8. Unmerciful Parent**

*Key Passage: 2 Peter 1:3-4*

Families are far from perfect. Parents are not perfect. This class focuses on helping students cope with “unmerciful” family situations.

#### **9. Body Offering**

*Key Passage: Romans 12:1*

In response to God’s mercy we are called to offer our bodies as living sacrifices to God. (Teacher may choose to focus on full sacrifice, modesty, image, etc.)

#### **10. I’m Crying**

*Key Passage: Psalm 86:6-7*

It’s ok to cry! Prayer is good! Focus on practical ways to develop a prayer life.

#### **11. Mixed Messages**

*Key Passage: Romans 12:2 (Message)*

*“Don’t become so well-adjusted to your culture that you fit into it without even thinking. Instead, fix your attention on God. You’ll be changed from the inside out. Readily recognize what he wants from you, and quickly respond to it. Unlike the culture around you, always dragging you down to its level of immaturity, God brings the best out of you, develops well-formed maturity in you.”*

Media influences our culture. How much do they influence you? How do you guard your heart against those things? (Teacher may choose to cover any form of media influences: movies, music, gaming, etc.)

## **12. @God**

*Key Passage: Proverbs 7:1-2*

Words are powerful, written and spoken. In a world of IM, FACEBOOK, Texting, blogs, etc we see a lot of written words. By not interacting with people face to face we have the opportunity to say things we normally wouldn't say. You can use these for ungodly purposes or you can use these opportunities to demonstrate mercy in a place where people don't normally expect.

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