

Review:

Lesson 1: Life Begins w/Jesus

Lesson 2: In God's Image

Lesson 3: Abundant Life

Lesson 4: Finding Hope

Lesson 5: All About Love

Lesson 6: Future Glory

Lesson 7: Diverse Community

Disabilities

John 9:1-3

To Jesus, disabilities (like any other outward characteristic) were not his first line of engagement with people; rather, He saw people first and foremost as a _____ made in God's image and He was unapologetic about it.

Discussion 1. Can you share an example of what it means to see someone FIRST as a human created in God's image rather than seeing them first as disabled? Why do you suppose the idea of "eye contact" might play a part in that endeavor?

It is one of the most predictable human responses to anything painful: the obsession with why it happened, i.e., the need to find someone or something to blame. And as we obsess, the opportunity to actually _____ often flies past us.

Discussion 2. What is it about our efforts to assign blame for painful circumstances that makes us less capable of ministering to the person in pain? Why do you suppose the two things are often so incompatible?

There are many stated reasons why Jesus came, but taking away people's disabilities was not one of them. Jesus did not see disabilities as "wrong" or as things _____; nor should we as His followers.

Discussion 3. How would you describe to a 6-year-old the difference between a disability and an illness? Why is that distinction important?

There are no circumstances, either extraordinary or painful, which God will not use in order to draw people into a saving relationship with Him. This is a reality of the _____.

Discussion 4. Can you think of any examples of people using their disabilities to point people toward God? Has God used anyone's disability to help you personally better understand Him?