

THE KNOW SERIES

Who, What, When, Where, Why, How of the Christian Experience

CLASS # 1

**“Know Why You Believe”
INTRODUCTION WEEK
FORMAT OF CLASS AND LESSON PLAN**



OBJECTIVE: This week we will spend some time getting to know each other, a little about our own personal stories and history, as well as looking at the overview for the year it will take us to complete all our lessons. We'll get a general overview of classes, material and format.

The **KNOW SERIES** is a two year study In two parts: Part 1: *“Know What You Believe”* teaches what essential Christianity is and what Christians Believe Part 2: *“Know Why You Believe”* reviews the why behind the belief. We'll look at the reasons Christians believe the essential teachings of the previous study.

A) The first week let's spend time getting to know each other, what schools we go to, where we live.

B) Talking at this point is good! Let's find out who we are!

- 1) Your favorite / worst school subject. Why?**
- 2) Your absolute most favorite spot on earth.**
- 3) Your favorite color.**
- 4) Something we wouldn't know about you unless you told us (where you were born, your father is an Elvis impersonator, whatever...)**

C) Last year many of the students completed the section of material called “Know What You Believe.” In that class they covered the basics of what Christianity is and what Christians believe.

D) YOUTH GROUP. Let's look at our Youth Group opportunities throughout the year.



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E) Any Christian stories in the room? After us leaders tell you our God story is there anybody else that would like to share theirs?

G) Let's review the schedule for the school year together. We are going to explore why Christianity is true and help us be able to answer any questions that people ask us. We will be answering the following questions:

- 1) Why Believe in God anyway and what is God like?**
- 2) How do I know the Bible is God's Word?**
- 3) How do I know Jesus is God's Son?**
- 4) Did the prophecies of the Bible come true? What about future prophecies?**
- 5) Why is Christianity the Only Way?**
- 6) What about Science and the Bible?**
- 7) What about Miracles?**
- 8) What about other religions?**
- 9) What about evil? Did God create it?**
- 10) Did Jesus rise from the dead? (We'll spend a few weeks on this and Easter related topics in the spring.)**
- 11) We'll have a session on where Thanksgiving came from**
- 12) We'll also have a session on the meaning of Christmas.**
- 13) The last two teaching sessions we will talk about salvation, how to be saved and how to lead somebody to the Lord.**
- 14) We'll have an opportunity to be baptized at the completion of the course.**

H) Bring Bibles! Bring journals to keep notes! If you need a Bible we'll get you one!

I) End every session with prayer. Last year we asked everybody to pray for the person to their left and their school. After awhile they figure this out and sit



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appropriately. At that point you might want them to pray for the person to their right.

J) This will be the guiding scripture for our time together this year:

1 Peter 3:15 (New Living Translation)

Instead, you must worship Christ as Lord of your life. And if you are asked about your Christian hope, always be ready to explain it. But you must do this in a gentle and respectful way. Keep your conscience clear. Then if people speak evil against you, they will be ashamed when they see what a good life you live because you belong to Christ.

If you still have time after you've done all of this in your first session you can discuss the following questions based on the above verse from first Peter:

1. What did Peter instruct his readers to be prepared for? (3:15)
2. How were these readers to give the reason for their hope in Christ? (3:15)
3. Why are believers to keep a clear conscience? (3:16)
4. How prepared are you to explain your hope in Christ?
5. What can you do to be better prepared for discussions about Christ with non-Christian friends?

