

Transformed by Christmas:

What is Truth?

(John 18:33-38)

Opening Discussion: How do you determine if something is true? Who is the most trustworthy person you know? Have you ever been burned by believing the wrong person?

Transformational Principle: Don't miss the _____ when it's right in _____ of you.

1. _____ for _____. (John 18: ____ - ____)

For further discussion: How would you describe the exchange that took place between Pilate and Jesus? What observations can you make about Pilate's demeanor? What about Jesus' demeanor? (See John 20:30-31: What does John say is the purpose of his gospel [biography of Jesus]? How does this interaction with Pilate add to John's purpose? Where does your faith [or lack thereof] come from? Are you thinking for yourself?)

Notes:

2. _____ to be the words of _____. (John 18: ____ - ____)

For further discussion: How does Jesus answer Pilate's question about whether or not Jesus is a king? Why do you think Pilate is so fixated on Jesus' kingdom? What do you think Jesus is trying to get Pilate to see? (See John 19:7-11: What does Jesus say about Pilate's power over him? Why do you think Pilate continues to try to release Him? What do you think Pilate is scared of? How would you have responded to the words of Jesus?)

Notes:

3. Dig _____ for the _____. (John 18: ____)

For further discussion: Why do you think Jesus doesn't come right out and tell Pilate who He is? Why does Jesus so often push people to think for themselves and come to the truth on their own? Why is this so important even in our own lives today? (See John 20:26-29: What does the story of Thomas add to our understanding of the importance of digging deeper? Why is faith so important when it comes to our relationship with Jesus?)

Notes:

Response: Do you believe the _____ about Jesus? How can you help others find that _____?

Transformational Principles

Week 1: Because we are prone to conform, we must let God transform. (Romans 12:1-2)

Week 2: Because of all Jesus has done, surrender what you think you know. (Mark 8:34-37)

Week 3: If we really want to know what to do, abandon the world's ways for God's ways. (Isaiah 55:6-11)

Week 4: Accept that the world's ways are at odds with the ways of God. (1 Corinthians 1:18-30)

Week 5: If you want to be transformed, you must learn to deal with your sinful nature. (Romans 8:1-11)

Week 6: Look past what is seen and believe what is unseen. (Hebrews 11:1-6)

Week 7: Overcome the world with love and humility. (Romans 12:9-21)

Week 8: Recognize that the purpose of our transformation is not personal or private. (Mark 10:42-45)

Week 9: Individual transformation happens best in the midst of united community. (Hebrews 10:19-25)

Week 10: Some may go and some may stay: but working together, God is transforming the world through the power of the gospel. (Philippians 4:10-20)

Week 11: Transformed people do the work of God like it's second nature. (Matthew 25:31-46)

Week 12: Transformed prayer leads to a transformed mind. (Philippians 4:4-9)

Week 13: A transformed heart will change the way you talk to others. (Ephesians 4:29)

Week 14: Transformed people unite in transformed community. (Ephesians 4:1-6)

Week 15: Right attitude speaks louder than right action alone. (Philippians 2:14-18)

Week 16: Transformed people are on the go. (Romans 10:8-17)

Week 17: Recognize your need for a Savior. (Matthew 1:18-23)

Week 18: Learn to see the spiritual battle for your soul that is going on in and around you. (1 John 3:1-10)