

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Lesson Plan for the 2009 – 2010 6-8<sup>th</sup> grade class (9-20-09)

### Activity: Who Am I?

#### Say:

Each of you should have a note card/half sheet of paper in front of you. I want you to think of a famous person, someone who is really famous, whether now or in the past (like a living or dead US president or Albert Einstein or something). Then write that name down, but make sure you don't tell anyone and that no one sees whose name you've written down. Now take a piece of tape and tape your piece of paper to your neighbor on your right. Once everyone's taped up, we have to guess the name of who is on our back. We do this by asking each other yes/no questions. So you go up to someone, you each look at each other's back and then you each ask each other ONE yes/no question. What this means is that you can only ask a question that can be answered with a yes or a no. When you answer, you may only say "Yes" or "No" or "That's not a yes/no question." Once you've both asked and answered your one question, then you have to go talk to/ask someone else. Any questions? (They might have trouble asking questions that help to eliminate possibilities: If this turns out to be the case, encourage them to find out if their person is alive or dead, if their person is a man or a woman, American or foreign, a movie star, a politician, a singer, etc).

#### (Optional) Review

**Class starts** after a Time with Children ends in Worship. It'll take a few minutes to get here, mostly because of the other children, but we expect you to come straight here. No bathroom breaks, no going downstairs and then back up here. You come straight here. Which you have all done today, so thank you!

**Communication** – The most important thing that will determine how well this class works is how we choose to communicate with each other. If all of us talk at the same time, the class will not go well. If one person, like me, is talking to the class, but two of you are whispering to each other, then that is disruptive to the class. If one person shares something and someone else makes fun of that person, then that is disruptive to the class. These disruptive aspects of communication are not acceptable. We will have activities in class, like what we just did, as a way to move around, but we will also have conversations. You are expected to participate in both the activities and the conversations in ways that are considerate and respectful of those around you.

**Question Box** – Sometimes during a discussion we're having, you might have a question that comes up for you that's not really in-line with what we're talking about. We'd like to answer your question, but we can't just stop class every time to answer a question that is off-topic. So, we will have a question box for you to write down your question and put in the box for later reference. There will also be a suggestion box. If you have ideas of what the class might do together that can help the class better learn or discuss the bible stories, please write those ideas down and put them in the suggestion box.

**Tell:** OK, we just finished an activity where we got to guess who we were. We did this by asking other people in the class questions to help us know who we were. In the scripture we're going to read next, see if you notice anything similar happening.

**Read:**

*The MESSAGE. MT16:13* When Jesus arrived in the villages of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "What are people saying about who the Son of Man (Son of Man is how Jesus often referred to himself) is?" **14** The disciples replied, "Some think he is John the Baptizer, some say Elijah, some Jeremiah or one of the other prophets." **15** Jesus pressed them, "And how about you? Who do you say I am?" **16** Simon Peter said, "You're the Christ, the Messiah, the Son of the living God." **17** Jesus answered back, "God bless you, Simon, son of Jonah! You didn't get that answer out of books or from teachers. My Father in heaven, God himself, let you in on this secret of who I really am. **18** And now I'm going to tell you who you are, really are. You are Peter, a rock. This is the rock on which I will put together my church, a church so expansive with energy that not even the gates of hell will be able to keep it out. **19** "And that's not all. You will have complete and free access to God's kingdom, keys to open any and every door: no more barriers between heaven and earth, earth and heaven. A yes on earth is yes in heaven. A no on earth is no in heaven." **20** Jesus then made the disciples promise they would tell no one that he was the Messiah.

**Ask:**

- In verse 18, Jesus tells Peter who Peter is. Do you think Peter believes Jesus?
- Who do you hear people say Jesus is?
- Who do *you* think Jesus is? Why?
- In verse 20, it almost sounds like Jesus has a secret identity, doesn't it?
- Can you think of people or stories, like movies, that you can think of where people have secret identities (Superman, Spiderman, Catwoman, Batman, spies (Valerie Plame), undercover cops)?
- Why do they have secret identities? (Keeps them safe. Let's them see things they normally wouldn't be able to see. In the case of superheroes, it keeps others from interfering with them. This is most likely why Jesus is keeping this secret at the time).

**Tell:** Now we're going to watch a movie clip of someone who has a secret identity. Watch for what they do with that secret identity and the reaction others have toward that person. The clip is from the movie, "Ironman." The name of the two characters you first see are "Tony Stark" and "Ms. Potts." If you've seen this movie before, do not say what is going to happen.

**Watch:**

Clip from Iron Man (Title 19 on Disc III)

### Say:

At the beginning of this clip, Tony and Ms. Potts referenced a scene that happened earlier in the movie, where Tony's secret identity caused Tony to leave Ms Potts. But Ms. Potts at that time did not know that Tony was Iron Man.

### Ask:

- What happens when Tony says, "The truth is...I am Ironman."? (Everybody goes crazy.)
- Do you think this will make it easier or harder for Tony to be Ironman and do Ironman things? Why?

### If there's time, more questions to ask:

- What makes a superhero a superhero?
- What are the requirements?
- If you could be a superhero and you could choose your superhero powers, what would they be?
- Why?
- Do you think of Jesus as a superhero? Why or why not? (Does he fit the requirements?)
- Are any of the superhero powers that you chose for your superhero self similar to the powers that Jesus has? (for example: ability to feed many people, ability to heal, ability to walk on water, ability to read thoughts, ability to always know what to say, ability to control the weather, ability to overcome death, ability to tell cool little stories to illustrate a point, ability to cast out unclean spirits)
- Jesus says in John 14: **12** The person who trusts me will not only do what I'm doing but even greater things, because I, on my way to the Father, am giving you the same work to do that I've been doing. You can count on it. **13** From now on, whatever you request along the lines of who I am and what I am doing, I'll do it. That's how the Father will be seen for who he is in the Son. I mean it. (from the Message).
- So if you do think of Jesus as a superhero, he's saying you will do even greater superhero things if you trust him and do what he does. What do you think about that? Do you believe it? Why/Why not?
- If there's still time, repeat opening activity, but have each student write down the name of a superhero and then try to guess who they are.