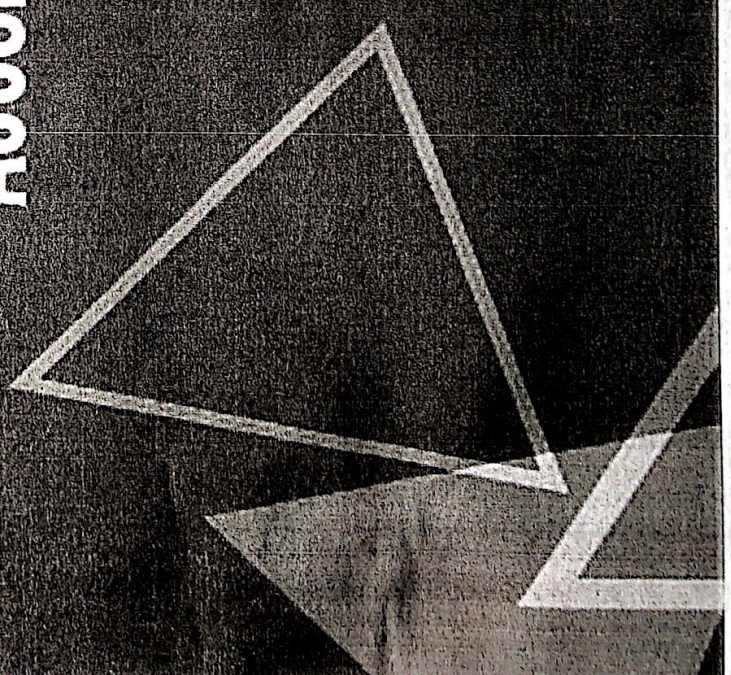


DIVERGENT FAITH

A FAITH THAT SURVIVES AT ALL COSTS



**“NOW FAITH IS CONFIDENCE IN
WHAT WE HOPE FOR AND
ASSURANCE ABOUT WHAT WE DO
NOT SEE.”**

- HEBREWS 11:1 (NIV)

DIVERGENT FAITH

A FAITH THAT SURVIVES AT ALL COSTS

DOWNLOAD: TEACHER PREP

LESSON TITLE: Dauntless

3G – THREE TEACHING GOALS THIS LESSON:

- CONTENT: Students will learn that God wants them to be fearless.
- ALERTS: Students will see how God can use a fearless faith to spread his love.
- APPS: Students will commit to developing a fearless faith.

BIBLE PLATFORM: Daniel 6 (NIV), Daniel and the Lions

LESSON OVERVIEW: In the Divergent series, the Dauntless are the fearless ones. They live on the edge, afraid of nothing, willing to stand up to the gravest challenge. God wants us to have a fearless faith, unafraid of what the world can bring against us.

LESSON CHALLENGE: The Constitution tells us we have freedom of religion in this country, but that freedom is becoming increasingly narrow. God wants us to develop a fearless faith so that we will not be ashamed to stand up for him.

YOUTH LEADER FEED: What causes you to become tight-lipped about your faith? Is it politics? Social issues? When are you bold about Jesus, and when do you hold back? Ask God to give you and your students the courage to speak God's truth in love at all times so that the gospel is proclaimed in your life.

HOW-TO PRAYER:

Dear God,

Make us fearless so that others will know that our faith is real.

*In Jesus' name,
Amen*

LESSON 1: DAUNTLESS

WEEK 1

DAUNTLESS

DIVERGENT FAITH

A FAITH THAT SURVIVES AT ALL COSTS

COMMENT AND SHARE: SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

CHAT

QUESTION #1: What's your favorite book series?

QUESTION #2: Was the book or the movie Divergent better? Why?

QUESTION #3: If you had to choose a faction, which one would it be?

READ IT

Have someone in your group read Daniel 6 (NIV).

COMMENT

QUESTION #1: Why did the king's advisors want him to pass the law forbidding prayer to God?

QUESTION #2: Why did Daniel disobey the law?

QUESTION #3: How did Daniel's courage change the heart of the king?

CONNECTION: When we believe in God, we have nothing to fear. We have already been delivered from sin, and no one can take away our salvation. When we have a fearless faith, God can use us to spread that faith to others.

SHARE

QUESTION #1: How can being fearless be a witness to others?

QUESTION #2: Are there things that scare you about speaking out for Jesus?

QUESTION #3: How can we become more fearless for God?

PRAYER:

Spend some time in quiet reflection, asking God for the courage to stand up for Him. End with:

Dear God,

Show us we have nothing to fear. Give us the courage to stand up for Jesus.

*In Jesus' name,
Amen*

LESSON 1: DAUNTLESS

DIVERGENT FAITH

A FAITH THAT SURVIVES AT ALL COSTS

POP QUIZ

FILL IN THE BLANKS TO THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS.

#1: _____ was an Israelite who served the king of the Medes and Persians.

#2:
The king's name was _____.

#3:
Darius signed a law that no one could pray to any god except _____.

#4:
Daniel's punishment for praying to God was to be thrown into _____.

#5:
_____ shut the mouths of the lions so Daniel was not harmed.

#6:
God wants us to have a _____ faith.

#7:
God can use our courage to share his love with _____.

LESSON 1: DAUNTLESS

DIVERGENT FAITH

A FAITH THAT SURVIVES AT ALL COSTS

TRENDING: SOCIAL MEDIA+ LEADER IDEAS

INSTRUCTIONS:

The following ideas will help you stay connected to your students during the week through email, Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and other social networks – and keep your students engaged in the lesson beyond your meeting time.

HASHTAGS: #Divergent, #fearlessfaith, #dauntlessfaith

VIRAL VERSE: "Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see." - Hebrews 11:1 (NIV)

PICTURE: http://vignette1.wikia.nocookie.net/divergent-roleplayin/images/b/ba/Dauntless_logo.png/revision/latest?cb=20141109011931

QUESTION: What are you afraid to do for Christ?

LINK: Read the story of the forty martyrs from this week's lesson. <http://www.christianity.com/church/church-history/timeline/301-600/40-martyrs-of-sevaste-11629648.html>

QUOTE: "No matter how long you train someone to be brave, you never know if they are or not until something real happens." — Veronica Roth

TEXT IDEA: Turn to someone close to you right now. Tell them God loves them. I dare you.

EMAIL IDEA:

Subject Line: Fearless

Veronica Roth, the author of Divergent, had this to say about being Dauntless. "Becoming fearless isn't the point. That's impossible. It's learning how to control your fear, and how to be free from it."

There will always be things that frighten us. Fear of rejection. Fear of persecution. Fear of isolation. But what do we really have to fear? God has conquered sin and death. If you are a believer, he has already saved you from the one true danger to your soul.

Ask God to help you control your fear. Ask him to free you from fear. Ask him to make you bold so you can stand up for Christ.

LESSON 1: DAUNTLESS

DIVERGENT FAITH

A FAITH THAT SURVIVES AT ALL COSTS

DOWNLOAD: TEACHER PREP

LESSON TITLE: Candor

3G – THREE TEACHING GOALS THIS LESSON:

- CONTENT: Students will learn the importance of being honest.
- ALERTS: Students will reassess the way they live out their faith.
- APPS: Students will commit to being honest about their faith.

BIBLE PLATFORM: : Job 2:1-10, 3:1-11, Job Tested (NIV)

LESSON OVERVIEW: The Christian life is not an easy one. Christians have just as many ups and downs as anyone else, but they have God to carry them through. God wants us to have an honest faith so that we can show others the difference that God makes.

LESSON CHALLENGE: We don't do ourselves or anyone else a favor by saying, "Everything's fine," when everything is not. Our challenge is to be honest about the ups and downs in our lives so that people can see how God carries us through good times and bad.

YOUTH LEADER FEED:

When someone asks how we are, the stock answer is, "I'm fine." But how often are you really fine? While we don't need to burden everyone with our problems, we do need to be real with others when it comes to matters of faith. Life is challenging, and we do ourselves and others a disservice by pretending it's not. Be honest about your life and your faith so that you can be a witness to God's power.

HOW-TO PRAYER:

Dear God,

Help us to be real and honest about our faith so that you may be glorified in our lives.

In Jesus' name,
Amen

LESSON 2: CANDOR

WEEK 2

CANDOR

DIVERGENT FAITH

A FAITH THAT SURVIVES AT ALL COSTS

CHAT

QUESTION #1: How many of you always tell your parents where you are going?

QUESTION #2: What other little white lies do we tell on a weekly basis?

QUESTION #3: When you're having a bad day, what do you tell people who ask how you are doing?

READ IT

Have someone in your group read Job 2:1-10, 3:1-11 (NIV).

COMMENT

QUESTION #1: How would an ordeal like Job's make you feel about God?

QUESTION #2: How do you think non-believers feel when they see a Christian going through suffering?

QUESTION #3: What stands out to you most about Job's response to his anguish?

CONNECTION: Job didn't sugar coat his feelings about his pain. He had already lost his wealth and his family, now his health was failing. He was in agony, but he remained faithful to God. It's tempting to put on a happy face when things are going bad, but when we are real about life, we show people just how awesome God can be in a time of suffering.

SHARE

QUESTION #1: Job's faith didn't just come to him overnight, and it didn't come when the bad times came. How do you think he came to have such faith?

QUESTION #2: What are some ways we can build a faith like Job's?

QUESTION #3: Do you think God can use suffering to strengthen our faith? Why or why not?

PRAYER:

Spend some time in quiet reflection, asking God to give you an unshakable, honest faith. End with:

Dear God,

Forgive us for the times when we doubt and when we wallow in self-pity. Help us to be real and honest about our faith, and draw us closer through your Son.

In Jesus' name,

Amen

LESSON 2: CANDOR

DIVERGENT FAITH

A FAITH THAT SURVIVES AT ALL COSTS

POP QUIZ

ANSWER TRUE OR FALSE TO THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS.

#1:

Job was a wicked man who deserved to die.

#2:

God gave permission for Satan to make Job ill.

#3:

Job's wife stopped him from cursing God.

#4:

Job wished he had never been born.

#5:

Through all his ordeals, Job was honest about his faith.

#6:

We should sugar coat what it's like to be a Christian so other people will want to follow Jesus.

#7:

Authentic faith is what draws other people to Jesus, even in hard times.

LESSON 2: CANDOR

DIVERGENT FAITH

A FAITH THAT SURVIVES AT ALL COSTS

TRENDING: SOCIAL MEDIA+ LEADER IDEAS

INSTRUCTIONS:

The following ideas will help you stay connected to your students during the week through email, Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and other social networks – and keep your students engaged in the lesson beyond your meeting time.

HASHTAGS: #Divergent, #HonestFaith, #FaithandCandor

VIRAL VERSE: "Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see." - Hebrews 11:1 (NIV)

PICTURE: http://vignette2.wikia.nocookie.net/divergent-roleplayin/images/f/fd/Candor_logo.png/revision/latest?cb=20141109012636

QUESTION: Is there something in your life holding you back from God? How can you come clean with your Savior?

LINK: When we're honest about our faith, God can use us to draw others to Christ. Just ask Lecrae. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=a5uNkFr2AWQ>

QUOTE: "Being honest doesn't mean you say whatever you want, wherever you want. It means that what you choose to say is true." - Veronica Roth

TEXT IDEA: Stop and pray. Tell God what's going on, right now. Be honest. Be open. Be real.

EMAIL IDEA:

Subject Line: Reality Check

Go to your Facebook, or your Twitter, or Google+. Read through your last few weeks' worth of posts. How often were you honest? How often did you fudge the truth? Go ahead and delete the posts that don't reveal the whole story. Then write something real. It doesn't have to be a big, huge revelation. Just be honest. Do it again tomorrow, and the next day. Try being real, every day. See what God can do through your candor.

LESSON 2: CANDOR

DIVERGENT FAITH

A FAITH THAT SURVIVES AT ALL COSTS

DOWNLOAD: TEACHER PREP

LESSON TITLE: Erudite

3G - THREE TEACHING GOALS THIS LESSON:

- CONTENT: Students will learn the importance of wisdom.
- ALERTS: Students will learn how wisdom and knowledge can help them grow their faith.
- APPS: Students will commit to seeking wisdom in the Bible and from their elders.

BIBLE PLATFORM: : 1 Kings 3 (NIV), Solomon's wisdom

LESSON OVERVIEW: We should all seek knowledge and be life long learners, but we need to seek wisdom as well. Knowledge is no good unless we apply it wisely. Both wisdom and knowledge can help us grow our faith.

LESSON CHALLENGE: The Erudites value knowledge above everything else, but they were not always wise with how they applied their knowledge. God wants us to seek wisdom and knowledge so that our faith in Him can grow. .

YOUTH LEADER FEED:

Whom do you seek out when you need wisdom? Do you have wise counselors on staff? In the church? Are there mentors from your past who are still there? Seek them out this week. Tell them that you are speaking on wisdom. Ask them to pray with you that you can instill a passion for wisdom in your youth the same as they did for you.

HOW-TO PRAYER:

Dear God,

Make us wise so that we can honor you with the choices we make.

In Jesus' name,
Amen

LESSON 3: ERUDITE

ERUDITE
WEEK 3

DIVERGENT FAITH

A FAITH THAT SURVIVES AT ALL COSTS

CHAT

QUESTION #1: Do any of you have a favorite wise saying?

QUESTION #2: Who is the wisest person you know?

QUESTION #3: What wisdom has that wise person shared with you?

READ IT

Have someone in your group read 1 Kings 3 (NIV).

COM
MENT

QUESTION #1: Why do you think Solomon asked for wisdom?

QUESTION #2: How did Solomon exercise wisdom in making his first judgment?

QUESTION #3: What value does wisdom have for people who are leaders?

CONNECTION: Knowledge can get you far, but it takes wisdom to apply that knowledge in the best way. God's wisdom can help us make good choices. Whether or not you are in a position of leadership, we all need wisdom to make choices that will honor God and help us lead a life that pleases him.

SHARE

QUESTION #1: How wise do you consider your parents to be? Is it possible they are even wiser than you think?

QUESTION #2: What other sources of wisdom can you think of in your life?

QUESTION #3: : Is there anyone who could use a little wisdom right now?

PRAYER:

Spend some time in quiet prayer, asking God for wisdom to help you through this day, this week, and your life. End with:

Dear God,

Give us access to your wisdom through your son. Teach us to make wise choices so that we will honor you in all we do.

*In Jesus' name,
Amen*

LESSON 3: ERUDITE

DIVERGENT FAITH

A FAITH THAT SURVIVES AT ALL COSTS

POP QUIZ

FILL IN THE BLANKS TO THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS.

#1:
Solomon was the son of King _____.

#2:
Solomon went to the city of Gibeon to offer _____.

#3:
_____ offered to give Solomon anything he wanted.

#4:
Solomon asked God to give him _____.

#5:
Two women came to Solomon, asking for judgment in an argument about a _____.

#6:
Solomon knew the true mother was the one who _____.

#7:
We can gain wisdom by reading the Bible and listening to our _____.

LESSON 3: ERUDITE

DIVERGENT FAITH

A FAITH THAT SURVIVES AT ALL COSTS

TRENDING: SOCIAL MEDIA+ LEADER IDEAS

INSTRUCTIONS:

The following ideas will help you stay connected to your students during the week through email, Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and other social networks – and keep your students engaged in the lesson beyond your meeting time.

HASHTAGS: #Divergent, #Seekwisdom, #wisebeyondayoureyears

VIRAL VERSE: "Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see." - Hebrews 11:1 (NIV)

PICTURE: <http://divergentguide.com/wp-content/uploads/2012/06/Erudite.jpg>

QUESTION: If someone younger asked you for wisdom about entering high school, what one thing would you tell him?

LINK: Wear sunscreen. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FCuEEf4mGsk>

QUOTE: "Knowledge speaks, but wisdom listens." - Jimi Hendrix

TEXT IDEA: Whatever decision you're about to make, ask God before you do. Unless it's fries or onion rings. That's all you.

EMAIL IDEA:

Subject Line: Wisdom Listens

Sit down tonight with Mom or Dad, and ask them what life was like when they were your age. What lessons did they learn through the choices they made and the experiences they had? What wisdom did they gain? Listen to what they have to say, and apply their wisdom to your own life. Follow their advice. Don't repeat their mistakes. Be wise, and honor God by the choices you make.

LESSON 3: ERUDITE

DIVERGENT FAITH

A FAITH THAT SURVIVES AT ALL COSTS

DOWNLOAD: TEACHER PREP

LESSON TITLE: Amity

3G – THREE TEACHING GOALS THIS LESSON:

- CONTENT: Students will learn the importance of being a peacemaker.
- ALERTS: Students will recognize the need to go against the flow and seek peace instead of conflict.
- APPS: Students will commit to being peacemakers with friends and others.

BIBLE PLATFORM: : Matthew 5:9-12, 38-47, Blessed Are The Peacemakers (NIV)

LESSON OVERVIEW: Amity is the faction of peace. The people of Amity reject all manner of conflict, and they seek peace at all times. God wants us to be people who look to mend fences and make peace, bringing people together instead of tearing them apart.

LESSON CHALLENGE: People like conflict. They like drama. But drama creates animosity. It leads to hurt feelings and broken relationships. Instead of giving in to the temptation to stir up trouble, God wants us to be peacemakers.

YOUTH LEADER FEED:

Is there someone you haven't spoken to in a long while? What happened? Why did the relationship sever? Do you still have contact information for that person? Pray about it, then reach out to him. Practice making peace in preparation for this week's message.

HOW-TO PRAYER:

Dear God,

Please teach us to pursue peace, so that we can be a people who bring others together.

*In Jesus' name,
Amen*

AMITY

WEEK 4

LESSON 4: AMITY

DIVERGENT FAITH

A FAITH THAT SURVIVES AT ALL COSTS

COMMENT AND SHARE: SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

CHAT

QUESTION #1: When someone makes fun of you, what is your usual first response?

QUESTION #2: Has anyone ever made fun of you for being a Christian?

QUESTION #3: How hard is it to control your anger when someone does something cruel to you?

READ IT

Have someone in your group read Matthew 5:9-12, 38-47 (NIV).

COM
MENT

QUESTION #1: How does Jesus define being a peacemaker?

QUESTION #2: Why does Jesus want us to love our enemies?

QUESTION #3: What should we do when our kindness only causes people to become crueler?

CONNECTION: Being a peacemaker means doing our best to live at peace with everyone. It means asking forgiveness when we've wronged someone. It means answering cruel words with words of kindness. Making peace goes against our sinful nature, but with God's help, we can do it.

SHARE

QUESTION #1: How can we prepare ourselves to respond to cruelty with love?

QUESTION #2: What can we do to train ourselves to stop and pray before we lash out at someone online?

QUESTION #3: How can we prepare ourselves to stop and think before we respond to someone who is cruel to our face?

PRAYER:

Spend some time in prayer, asking for forgiveness for the times we fail at peace making and asking God to make us peacemakers. End with:

Dear God,

Teach us how to make peace so we may live at peace with everyone. Use us to put an end to hurt and bring love to those who need it.

In Jesus' name,

Amen

LESSON 4: AMITY

DIVERGENT FAITH

A FAITH THAT SURVIVES AT ALL COSTS

POP QUIZ

FILL IN THE BLANKS TO THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS.

#1: _____ are the peacemakers.

#2: For they will be called the _____ of God.

#3: If anyone slaps you on the right cheek, turn to them the _____.

#4: If anyone wants to sue you and take your shirt, hand over your _____ as well.

#5: Love your _____.

#6: _____ for those who persecute you.

#7: The _____ can help us to become peacemakers, even with those who persecute us.

LESSON 4: AMITY

DIVERGENT FAITH

A FAITH THAT SURVIVES AT ALL COSTS

TRENDING: SOCIAL MEDIA+ LEADER IDEAS

INSTRUCTIONS:

The following ideas will help you stay connected to your students during the week through email, Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and other social networks – and keep your students engaged in the lesson beyond your meeting time.

HASHTAGS: #Divergent, #MakePeace, #LoveMyEnemy

VIRAL VERSE: "Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see." - Hebrews 11:1 (NIV)

PICTURE: http://img4.wikia.nocookie.net/__cb20120208230946/divergent/images/5/52/Tumblr_lyjq7MgT81rorhaa.jpg

QUESTION: Is there someone you need to make peace with today?

LINK: What does a world at peace look like? McDonalds may have the answer. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EShRCWOtNJ4>

QUOTE: "The greatest honor history can bestow is that of a peacemaker." - Richard Nixon

TEXT IDEA: Don't let anger control your actions. Stop. Pray. Be a peacemaker. Share love.

EMAIL IDEA:

Subject Line: A Time for Peace

Who is making it hard for you to keep your cool right now? Who is making it difficult to live at peace? Stop right now and pray for that person. Remember that God loves him and created him, just as he created you. Ask God to give you a love for that person. Ask him for the words to say when others speak evil to you.

If people don't respond kindly to your words, stop and pray again. Pray that God will continue to make you a person of peace. Ask God to use you to be an example of what it means to live in peace.

LESSON 4: AMITY

DIVERGENT FAITH

A FAITH THAT SURVIVES AT ALL COSTS

DOWNLOAD: TEACHER PREP

LESSON TITLE: Abnegation

3G – THREE TEACHING GOALS THIS LESSON:

- CONTENT: Students will learn how Jesus wants us to love others.
- ALERTS: Students will see the difference between the world's way and God's way when it comes to serving.
- APPS: Students will commit to developing a servant's mindset.

BIBLE PLATFORM: : Mark 10:35-45 (NIV)

LESSON OVERVIEW: Members of the Abnegation faction believe selfishness is the root of society's ills. They put others first, and they make themselves subservient to others. Jesus taught us that if we want to be his disciples, we have to put ourselves last and become like servants.

LESSON CHALLENGE: We live in a selfie culture, where everyone looks to exalt himself. Jesus calls us to put others ahead of ourselves, to serve as he served.

YOUTH LEADER FEED:

Does someone on staff need a hand this week? Does a neighbor need help in the yard? Step in and lend a hand. Do it once a day if you can. Ask God to show you how you can be a blessing to others, and live this week putting the needs of others ahead of yourself.

HOW-TO PRAYER:

Dear God,

I want to be more like you. Show me the way to become a servant to those around me.

*In Jesus' name,
Amen*

LESSON 5: ABNEGATION

ABNEGATION

WEEK 5

DIVERGENT FAITH

A FAITH THAT SURVIVES AT ALL COSTS

CHAT

QUESTION #1: Do any of you have selfies on your phone right now? Anyone want to share?

QUESTION #2: How many of you have a job that requires you to serve others?

QUESTION #3: How does it feel when you are asked to serve others, especially those who are not nice?

READ IT

Have someone in your group read Mark 10:35-45 (NIV).

COMMENT

QUESTION #1: What do you think John and James had in mind when they asked this question?

QUESTION #2: What cup was Jesus talking about in his response?

QUESTION #3: How does Jesus expect us to live?

CONNECTION: Jesus told the disciples that the way to become great was to make yourself a servant to all. That's exactly what Jesus did. He left his throne in Heaven to become human, and he made his life a sacrifice. He sacrificed wealth, power, and riches for dinner with sinful people and the company of the poor, then he laid down his life for us. A true follower of Christ is willing to follow in these footsteps and serve others.

SHARE

QUESTION #1: What would the world be like if everyone took the mindset of a servant?

QUESTION #2: Why is it hard sometimes to put others ahead of yourself?

QUESTION #3: How can we support one another as we strive to become servants to others?

PRAYER:

Spend some time in prayer, allowing students to pray aloud if they like. End with:

Dear God,

Thank you for all Jesus has done for us. Make us worthy to be called his disciples, and teach us to serve the way he served.

In Jesus' name, Amen

LESSON 5: ABNEGATION

DIVERGENT FAITH

A FAITH THAT SURVIVES AT ALL COSTS

POP QUIZ

FILL IN THE BLANKS TO THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS.

- #1:
James and his brother, _____, were disciples of Jesus.
- #2:
James and John asked _____ if they could sit by his side in his kingdom.
- #3:
"Can you drink the _____ I drink?"
- #4:
Whoever wants to be great among you must become your _____.
- #5:
The Son of Man did not come to be served but to _____.
- #6:
We must think of others as _____ than ourselves.
- #7:
God wants us to follow the example of Jesus, who gave his life as a _____ for many.

LESSON 5: ABNEGATION

DIVERGENT FAITH

A FAITH THAT SURVIVES AT ALL COSTS

TRENDING: SOCIAL MEDIA+ LEADER IDEAS

INSTRUCTIONS:

The following ideas will help you stay connected to your students during the week through email, Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and other social networks – and keep your students engaged in the lesson beyond your meeting time.

HASHTAGS: #Divergent, #ServeSomebody, #LasttoFirst

VIRAL VERSE: "Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see." - Hebrews 11:1 (NIV)

PICTURE: http://img4.wikia.nocookie.net/__cb20120208224147/divergent/images/3/3b/Tumblr_lyjqdnMlwi1rorhaa.jpg

QUESTION: When was the last time you gave up something you wanted to do so you could help someone else?

LINK: There are still heroes of the faith willing to leave fame and fortune behind to serve others. Read the amazing story of Olympic champion Eric Liddell.
<http://blog.truthforlife.org/eric-liddell-olympic-athlete-and-missionary>

QUOTE: "When I look at the Abnegation lifestyle as an outsider, I think it's beautiful. When I watch my family move in harmony; when we go to dinner parties and everyone cleans together afterward without having to be asked; when I see Caleb help strangers carry their groceries, I fall in love with this life all over again." - Veronica Roth

TEXT IDEA: Look around. Right now. Do you see someone who needs a hand?

EMAIL IDEA:

Subject Line: I Am Second

As Christians, we have to constantly remind ourselves to put others before us. We must put God ahead of everything, and we must put others ahead of ourselves.

Pray that God will open your eyes to the opportunity to serve. Pray for a willing heart at home, at school, at work, and everywhere you go. Live every moment looking for the opportunity to serve. Live with your eyes wide open so you never miss a chance to serve someone whom God has placed in your path.

LESSON 5: ABNEGATION

DIVERGENT FAITH

A FAITH THAT SURVIVES AT ALL COSTS

DOWNLOAD: TEACHER PREP

LESSON TITLE: Factionless

3G – THREE TEACHING GOALS THIS LESSON:

- CONTENT: Students will learn that God does not want them to have a limited faith.
- ALERTS: Students will feel a desire to have a boundless faith.
- APPS: Students will commit to going deeper with Jesus and giving him all of their hearts.

BIBLE PLATFORM: : Acts 7:54-60 (NIV), The Stoning of Stephen

LESSON OVERVIEW: The people in the world of Divergent want everyone to fit into one of five categories, but not everyone fits into one faction. God doesn't want us to allow ourselves to be bound either. He wants us to have a faith without boundaries or limits.

LESSON CHALLENGE: There are people who want to put Christians in a box, to contain them and keep them bound within a church. God wants us to have a faith that cannot be contained, that is boundless.

YOUTH LEADER FEED:

How would you hold up under persecution? If you were put on trial for your faith, would you stand up under the pressure? Now more than ever, God needs believers who are bold and fearless, who will not let themselves be boxed in by social pressures. Ask God to give you and your students a boundless faith so that you can take a stand for Jesus.

HOW-TO PRAYER:

Dear God,

Set us free from the confines of this world, and give us a faith that is boundless.

*In Jesus' name,
Amen*

LESSON 6: FACTIONLESS

FACTIONLESS

WEEK 6

DIVERGENT FAITH

A FAITH THAT SURVIVES AT ALL COSTS

CHAT

QUESTION #1: Which faction in the Divergent series best describes you?

QUESTION #2: Is there a faction you wish you could be more like?

QUESTION #3: If you had to describe your faith, which faction would you use to describe it?

READ IT

Have someone in your group read Acts 7:54-60 (NIV).

COMMENT

QUESTION #1: Why did the Sanhedrin put Stephen on trial?

QUESTION #2: How do you think the religious leaders felt when they saw this young man would not break?

QUESTION #3: How does it make you feel to know that Stephen died simply for refusing to be silenced?

CONNECTION: Stephen refused to have his faith contained. It cost him his life, but it helped to ignite the spread of Christianity. A limitless faith can be a powerful influence on others. It reveals the strength God gives us, and it inspires others to believe.

SHARE

QUESTION #1: Have you ever felt persecuted or picked on for your faith?

QUESTION #2: What scares you about standing up for Jesus?

QUESTION #3: Having fellow believers by your side makes it easier to take a stand. What can we do to grow our faith together?

PRAYER:

Spend some time in prayer, allowing students to pray if they feel led. Pray for courage and for a willingness to be used by God. End with:

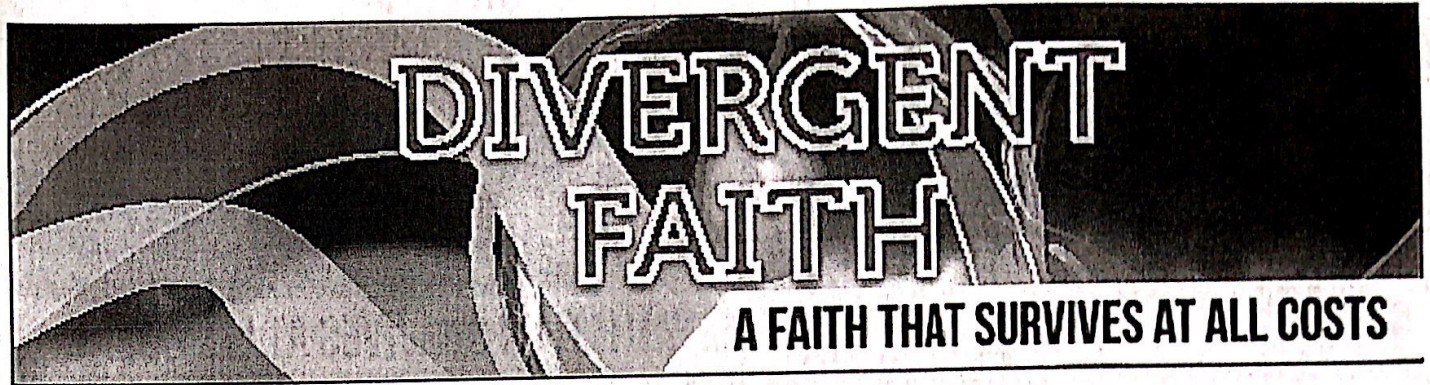
Dear God,

Do not let us be conformed to this world. Help us to stand up for you, and to live a faith that is limitless.

In Jesus' name,

Amen

LESSON 6: FACTIONLESS



POP QUIZ

ANSWER TRUE OR FALSE TO THE FOLLOWING STATEMENTS.

#1:

Stephen was arrested because of his faith in Christ.

#2:

The Sanhedrin thought they could silence Stephen by intimidating him.

#3:

Stephen agreed to be silent and keep his faith to himself.

#4:

Stephen's faith moved the Sanhedrin, and they let him go free.

#5:

God wants us to be willing to stand for him, no matter the cost.

#6:

Martyrdom is a thing of the past that doesn't happen any more.

#7:

God can use our boundless faith to draw other people to Jesus.

LESSON 6: FACTIONLESS

DIVERGENT FAITH

A FAITH THAT SURVIVES AT ALL COSTS

TRENDING: SOCIAL MEDIA+ LEADER IDEAS

INSTRUCTIONS:

The following ideas will help you stay connected to your students during the week through email, Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and other social networks – and keep your students engaged in the lesson beyond your meeting time.

HASHTAGS: #Divergent, #Boundless, #Factionless

VIRAL VERSE: "Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see." - Hebrews 11:1 (NIV)

PICTURE: http://img4.wikia.nocookie.net/__cb20140527094107/divergent/images/d/d4/Factionless.png

QUESTION: Have you ever held back from speaking out your faith?

LINK: Jim Elliot was not bound by anything or anyone except God. God used him and his friends to open the way for a people who never heard the gospel to receive Christ. <http://www.inspirationalchristians.org/biography/jim-elliott/>

QUOTE: "He is no fool who gives what he cannot keep to gain what he cannot lose."
- Jim Elliot

TEXT IDEA: If someone outed you as a Christian where you are right now, would you be ashamed to admit it?

EMAIL IDEA:

Subject Line: Factionless

Christians are peacemakers. They seek knowledge and make wise choices. They strive to serve others. They are honest about their faith, and they are fearless in sharing that faith.

Christians are not meant to be silent. They are not meant to be God's ambassadors, sharing the good news that Christ has come in both words and actions. Ask God right now to give you a faith that is boundless. Don't let the world silence the good news you have to share.

LESSON 6: FACTIONLESS