

YOUTH SABBATH SCHOOL IDEAS FOR JAN 28, 2023

LESSON PLAN 2: “Life-changing Intimacy” Relational Bible Study

SCRIPTURE PASSAGE

Genesis 5:21-24

LEADER’S NOTE

For a Relational Bible Study (RBS) you’ll want to get into the Scripture passage and encourage the youth to imagine participating in the story while it’s happening. Then you will be able to better apply it to your own situation today.

You will need to ask God for the Holy Spirit to be present as your small group discusses the questions (no more than 3-6 people in a group is recommended). Start with the opening question. It is a personal question and the answer is unique for each individual. There is no right answer and nobody is an expert here, so don’t be surprised when you hear different responses. You are depending on the Holy Spirit to be present and to speak through your group. Say what God prompts you to say, and listen to what others share.

Take turns reading the chapter out loud. Follow that with giving the students some time to individually mark their responses to the questions (a PDF version of the handout is available as a download). This gives each person a starting point for responding when you start to share as a group. Next, begin the discussion by asking the students to share what they marked and why on each question as you work your way through. Feel free to take more time on some questions than others as discussion warrants.

Encourage each person in the group to apply what is discussed to their personal lives and to share with the group what they believe God wants them to do. Then ask them to pray that God will help each of them to follow through in doing so. Remind them to expect that God will show them ways to live out the message of this passage in the coming week, and that they are free to ask others in the group to help hold them accountable.

DOWNLOAD THE HANDOUT

OVERVIEW

Into a narrative of birth and dreary existence and eventual death, Moses suddenly introduces a sublime character, Enoch, who pleased the Lord and lived in His immediate presence. In a deteriorating age, Enoch gave a remarkable demonstration of commendable piety. In thought, word, deed, and attitude he was in accord with the divine will of God; and he brought joy to the heart of his Maker. The Bible says regarding him: “Enoch was well-pleasing unto God.” One striking statement reveals a hint of the beginning of Enoch’s walk with God (Genesis 5:22). It may have been at the moment of the birth of his baby boy, doubtless a high moment in his life, that he set his heart on intimate communion with his God. His close association in such atmosphere brought him heavenly wisdom, which fitted him to understand and appreciate the rich things of God.

On account of his genuine piety and his apprehension of divine wisdom, he was lifted from the earth to continue his walk in the sacred regions beyond. His disappearance was sudden and totally unannounced, and death had nothing to do with it. The Scripture says: He was not found, for God translated him. “By faith Enoch was translated,” says Paul in Hebrews, “that he should not see death, and he was not found, because God had translated him” (Hebrews 11:5). A beautiful and meaningful miracle was wrought so that the one man who had learned to love God and walk with [Him](#) might continue in that fellowship without interruption.

“Life-changing Intimacy!”

Can you remember a time when life was at its best for you?

Read Genesis 5:21-24.

²¹ When Enoch had lived 65 years, he became the father of Methuselah. ²² After he became the father of Methuselah, Enoch walked faithfully with God 300 years and had other sons and daughters. ²³ Altogether, Enoch lived a total of 365 years. ²⁴ Enoch walked faithfully with God; then he was no more, because God took him away.

²⁵ When Methuselah had lived 187 years, he became the father of Lamech. ²⁶ After he became the father of Lamech, Methuselah lived 782 years and had other sons and daughters. ²⁷ Altogether, Methuselah lived a total of 969 years, and then he died.

²⁸ When Lamech had lived 182 years, he had a son. ²⁹ He named him Noah and said, "He will comfort us in the labor and painful toil of our hands caused by the ground the Lord has cursed."

³⁰ After Noah was born, Lamech lived 595 years and had other sons and daughters. ³¹ Altogether, Lamech lived a total of 777 years, and then he died.

³² After Noah was 500 years old, he became the father of Shem, Ham and Japheth.

1. How would you describe Enoch's Life?

- a. Boring.
- b. Adventurous.
- c. Morbid.
- d. Loyal.
- e. Troubled.
- f. Maddening.
- g. Awesome.
- h. Savvy.
- i. Other.

2. What do you think is the meaning of Genesis 5:22?

- a. Enoch walked with God all his life.
- b. Enoch connected with God after Methuselah's birth.
- c. His life with God was intimate.
- d. He was very silly, and life had little meaning.
- e. Enoch inspired hope in the hearts of those around him.
- f. Enoch preached with power daily.
- g. Enoch had a huge family of more than 300 people.

h. Other.

3. Why do you think it meant that Enoch walked with God?

- a. He had a great time eating lunch with God.
- b. He was experiencing facetime with God.
- c. Enoch had a relationship with God that was deep and strong.
- d. This man heard God's voice.
- e. Because God gave him a child, he was a loyal friend.
- f. Enoch had God come down to earth to visit him personally.
- g. Enoch was very happy to speak what God shared with him.
- h. Other.

4. What do you suppose Enoch and God discussed for 300 years?

- a. How He created him.
- b. The science of the unfallen worlds.
- c. What it takes to change a person's life.
- d. What made him better than all the other men on earth.
- e. The details of a covenant relationship with Him.
- f. His only discussion was about his communion with God.
- g. He gave him His law to place on his forehead and in his hands
- h. Other.

5. What do you think was the reaction of Enoch when God took him?

- a. Anxiousness.
- b. Joy and delight.
- c. Victory.
- d. "Yay! No death!"
- e. Empowerment.
- f. Excitement.
- g. "I want to dance with the angels!"
- h. Joyful tears.
- i. Other.

6. What was Enoch's greatest legacy?

- a. He came to God at the at the age of 65.
- b. His son was the oldest man to live on the earth.
- c. He was the first to be in heaven without dying.
- d. Enoch was walking with God for more than 300 years.
- e. He was more righteous than any man of his era.
- f. He lived near the time of Adam.
- g. He was able to talk face to face with God.
- h. Other.

7. What preparations are you making now to be with Jesus forever?

8. How can you offer God your best in today's world?

SUMMARY

In Enoch's case, he did not live a perfect life. He lived as close to God as any human could after 65 years. As it was with the other males in his genealogy, they lived so many years and then died. He never tasted death. The birth of his son signaled a life changing experience with God. This familiarity with God offered him a fellowship that lasted 300 years. No doubt his walk would have continued, but God took him away, he did not die. Such a walk was commanded of Israel (Leviticus 26:3, 12) and of the church.

All these things noted in scripture [are](#) for our learning and encouragement. Having a deep and abiding relationship with God is especially important because we too have an opportunity to, like Enoch, not experience death. We can live lives that will have us ready for translation when God comes to claim us as His own—just as he did for Enoch, Elijah, and others.

APPLICATION

The genealogy accounts here run on for several generations without anything remarkable, or any variation but of the names and numbers. At length there comes in one that must not be passed over so, of whom special notice must be taken, and that is Enoch, the seventh from Adam: the rest, we may suppose, did virtuously, but he excelled them all, and was the brightest star of the patriarchal age.

Below, find some application activities to interface with this lesson. These are simply to provide ideas for your usage, or to invite you to imagine and create some of your own, as you impact the lives of teens for God's glory.

1. Intimate Talk.

- Reach out to a few married couples in your church, family, or if your church has a marriage club check there too.
- Prepare questions about intimacy and relationships.
- Ask them questions about how a marriage can mimic an intimate relationship with Christ.
- Come to your class with your answers and discuss the responses you have gotten.

2. Inside Talk.

- Interview the person that you consider having the closest and deepest relationship with God.
- Ask them questions about what makes their journey so special.
- Then make notes from your connection to utilize in your own spiritual journey.
- Share those aspects of your interviewee's spiritual life that you will incorporate into yours with your class.