









FOLLOWERS – LESSON PLAN

Age	Term	Mod.	Module Theme	Module Title	Lesson Number and Title
8	3	6	MISSION.	COMMITMENT.	29. Speaking the truth in love.

Use the syllabus framework to complete above. Infants: 20 minutes; Juniors: 30 minutes; Middles & Seniors: 45 minutes
(Mod. = Module Number, Module Theme - in the heading, Module Title - uppercase in the cell, Lesson Num [NO. column] and Title)

							
Verbal V <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Logical L <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Spatial S <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Kinaesthetic K <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Musical M	Intra - personal P1 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Inter – personal P2 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Natural N

Tick the appropriate box(es) above [copy this: ☒] for the modes of learning being used in this session.

Prayer: O God of truth, prepare our minds To hear and heed your holy word; Fill every heart that longs for you With your mysterious presence, Lord. Almighty Father, with your Son And blessed Spirit, hear our prayer. Amen.

Starter: One truth and two lies game. Each person shares with the group three things about themselves, and the rest of the group has to guess the one that is true.

Learning objectives: To understand what it means to speak the truth in love and give an example of Christ's love.

Core Activities and Learning

Introduction: The Bible tells us e.g. in **Proverbs 10:19** "When words are many, transgression is not lacking, but whoever restrains his lips is prudent.", that our mouths are to be fountains of life, but our day-to-day interactions prove otherwise.

What does the Bible say about speaking the truth in love?

Bring examples from **Ephesians 4:15-16** "Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, from whom the whole body, joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped, when each part is working properly, makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love."

And **Ephesians 4:25** "Therefore, having put away falsehood, let each one of you speak the truth with his neighbor, for we are members one of another."

Explain that we are called to love those who do not know Christ. By "speaking the truth in love", we are able to encourage people in their relationship with God. The best way we can show love is to share with them the truth of the gospel. In Christ they can receive new life and eternal salvation (Romans 10:9–15; 2 Corinthians 5:17). This is a message we must share. Peter wrote, "In your hearts revere Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect" (1 Peter 3:15). We share the gospel because we love the people for whom Christ died. We speak God's truth because of His love and in a way that clearly communicates both truth and love (1 John 4:10–12). Most importantly we should be loving without compromising the truth about God.

Group activity: Stand in a circle with your toes all touching, then take a step back. While holding hands, continue taking steps back until you are stretched to the limit. Now lean back, making the connection of the hands be the support of the circle's weight. When one person isn't balanced in their care for the group, it affects everyone and how they respond to the shift in weight and pull. Tension is good, but uneven tension causes us to fall and to break apart.

Resources: The Bible, Proverbs 10:19, Ephesians 4:15-16, Ephesians 4:25, Romans 10:9–15; 2 Corinthians 5:17, 1 Peter 3:15, 1 John 4:10–12.

Review: As Christians we need to "speak the truth in love," a command found in Ephesians 4:15, which means to share difficult truths in a gentle, kind, inoffensive manner.

Follow Up: How can you apply the teaching of today's lesson in your life. How can you be more loving to people that don't have their faith in Jesus Christ, but speak His truth and word at the same time?