

Word Aflame Teen

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Teen Teacher's Manual

Manufactured in U.S.A., September 2016, 1511611

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8855 Dunn Road, Hazelwood, MO 63042

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Editorial



by Evan Zenobia

Word Aflame curriculum is committed to the ministry of providing quality apostolic resources to serve the church. As part of our ongoing quest to improve our resources, we have slowly introduced a new kind of format driven by a fresh focus on biblical foundations with a contemporary outlook that is as relevant as it is applicable.

With the release of our all-digital curriculum, Link247, some two years ago, we have received an incredible amount of feedback regarding its layout, ease of use, and its great mix of activities and discussions. This overwhelming response along with our belief in taking a new approach to our curriculum for Teen and Youth levels has prompted us to try something similar with our printed publications.

As you have probably seen in the last three quarters, we introduced our readers to preview lessons highlighting this new style and format. Coupled with great feedback

and some further changes, we are pleased to present this Fall 2016 quarter as the flagship for the new Word Aflame. With a balanced mix of outlined material and exposition, we hope this new quarter will not only be more versatile for you and your students, but also allow for more diverse and creative teaching styles to really shine through.

It is because of your feedback that we continue to strive for quality and positive changes, and it is because of you that we feel this new material will be exactly what you have been asking for. I would like to personally thank all of you who put time in to reflect on the changes and spoke with us regarding the future of Word Aflame. We welcome your feedback and hope that you will once again share with us your thoughts on this great new direction. Thank you all for being a part of this exciting new launch!

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CUSTOMIZE THE CURRICULUM

The Teen Teacher's Manual is available as PDF and DOC documents that can be customized to fit your teaching style, classroom setting, and schedule. Cut and paste, edit material out of or into the lesson, and make it your own using the following instructions.

Downloadable resources for both the teacher's manual and the teacher's resource packet (TRP) are available through access codes.

Downloadable Resources

1. Visit www.pentecostalpublishing.com to access the download site.
2. If you are an existing customer, click *sign in* to log in to your account. If you are a new user, click *create an account* to open an account for the site.
3. Hover over the *view cart* menu link and click the *view cart* button.
4. Enter in the Coupon Code box on the screen and click *update cart*. (The file should display on the screen and reflect that the download comes at no charge.)
5. Click *continue* and then *submit order*. You will see a button with the name of the zip file. Click on this button to download the resource.
6. This coupon code will be valid for one year from the date of the first lesson.

Teacher's Resource Packet

Downloadable Resources

To access the reproducible items from the resource packet (TRP), see the resource packet instruction sheet. If you have not purchased a packet, you can do so by going to www.pentecostalpublishing.com or calling 866-819-7667.

Theme Development

Series 1: The Single Most Important Trademark

- Each lesson of this quarter features one aspect, or seed, of promise in God's Word. To communicate the importance of seeds, the decorating theme involves apple seeds, apple trees, apple orchards, and apple products.
- This series is meant to convey an understanding of essentially what defines us as Christians. Our branding and intention has a rustic feel to it as if someone were venturing out into the mountains to find themselves.
- Consider the use of rustic or repurposed woods such as pallets or old doors and windows should these be available to you.
- Consider using antique furniture as well to compliment the rustic nature of the series.
- Consider a backdrop of mountains that can be quickly created using large pieces of cardboard cut into triangles and decorated using paint or spray paint. This will help to capture the outdoor adventure feel of discovery.
- Finally, consider using old and repurposed wood with Christian characteristics painted or stenciled onto them for peripheral decoration such as wall hangings or to be leaned up against a stage.

Series 2: Counter Culture

- This series is meant to convey an understanding of a Christian's need for separation along with what actions and lifestyles actually separate us from contemporary world culture.
- Consider the use of LED tape and can lights for any stage setup. The use of arrow designs and chevrons help to communicate movement or a change of direction.
- Consider using a sheet stretched across a plywood frame as a backdrop. This can be easily spray-painted and is easy to move. Again, utilize arrows or chevrons in the paint design as the backdrop.
- Alternatively, consider using road sign designs and paper signs that can be easily bought from many supply stores. These can be used to decorate walls or backdrop.

Series 3: A Case for the Bible

- This series is meant to convey understanding of the Bible, its makeup, and the validity of what is contained within.
- Consider the use of books and bookshelves. This series is presented as one that is very legal-oriented as if it were making a literal court case for the Bible in the world.
- Consider also setting up the classroom as you would a court room, seating some students as if they were the jury or perhaps some as if they were the lawyers.
- Consider incorporating a powdered wig, judge's robe and even a gavel as props to utilize in teaching to again emphasize the "case" that you are making.
- Finally, consider the use of desks and table to emphasize the court room setup. The books and bookcases may make a great backdrop, especially with the use of more regal-looking books like encyclopedias or actual law books. Some may be purchased cheaply at local secondhand stores.

LESSON 1

CHRIST'S BUCKET LIST

SEPTEMBER 4, 2016

Unit Aim: In a world of text messages, Facebook, and artificial cyber relationships, the idea of love for one another has been diluted. With bonds only made to further agendas and commitment a shell of its former meaning, it is crucial that we get back to what Jesus considered the Christian trademark. This series is designed to draw teens into a deeper understanding of the nature of God's love and how He expects us to show it.

EMBARK

A. Option 1 — Love Is


1. What is love?
2. What does the Bible say love is?
3. Does your view of love, as a Christian, differ from a non-Christian's view of love?

B. Option 2 — A Commentary on Love

1. In today's consumer-minded culture, relationships have been cheapened to the point that people have become like products.
2. Society at large has redefined love to be something that is nothing like the biblical concept of loving one another.
3. Love has been so cheapened in today's generation that most are confused as to what it really means.
4. Is love sacrifice, sex, lust, intimacy, friendship, trust, servitude, shared experiences, emotions, feelings, selflessness, flighty, conditional, painful, lasting, fleeting, fake, or glamorous?
5. If you were to go out on the street and ask twenty people what it means to love one another, there is a good chance you would get twenty completely different answers.
6. Unfortunately, society's views of love have penetrated the hearts and minds of the church as well.

EXPLORE


A. John 13:11–15, 34–35

1. Christ chose to share His last living and free moments with His disciples.
2. **During this time, He not only taught them about servant leadership, but He also demonstrated the humility of love.** 


B. Imagine the Moment

1. Imagine what the atmosphere must have been like.

BIBLICAL PASSAGE

John 13:1–15, 34–35 

BIBLE POINT

Love is not self-serving; rather, it is humble, seeking only to serve others. 

SUPPLIES

Paper, pens or pencils, large loaf of bread or multiple loaves of bread, paper cups, miscellaneous mugs and glasses

Legend:



PowerPoint Slide






Student Handbook



Activity

2. The disciples were ignorant of the coming death of Christ, while Christ Himself was very aware of what was to come.
3. Imagine Christ washing His disciples' feet, serving them, knowing this would be their last time together.
4. Imagine having to tell your closest friends you were about to be murdered.
5. What would be the most important thing for Him to communicate in His final hours?


C. Christ's Bucket List

1. In this and the following chapters, Jesus gave His final teachings and instructions as death loomed.
2. **With only hours to live, Jesus desired to express the importance of sacrifice and love to His disciples.** 
3. Of all the teachings that He could have left with them, this was at the top of His list.
4. Jesus taught us that love is completely selfless rather than selfish, and it is humble rather than proud.
5. **He took the posture of a servant to show what would be required of His disciples.** 
 - a. They were to love one another with the type of love He had shown them.
 - b. **This type of love would be a trademark of a disciple of Christ.** 


Bucket List


1. *Provide paper and pens or pencils.*
2. *Describe the idea of a bucket list.*
3. *Instruct students to create a bucket list that includes up to twenty items.*
4. What are the top ten items on your bucket list?
5. If you only had days to live, what would you spend those days doing?

D. The Greatest Act of Love

Christ not only demonstrated love and how the disciples were to treat others, but He also began to speak of His coming death, the grand act of love that John had been building toward from the beginning (John 3:16). 



E. Love beyond Betrayal

1. Christ taught that true love is not just to be shared with those who are close to us and love us or treat us right.
2. **Love is not meant to be given only to those who can return that love, but it is also meant to be given to those who would seek to harm us.** 
3. When Jesus was washing His disciples' feet, the Gospel writer made it clear that Jesus knew one of them was going to betray Him.
4. We would think that Judas would have been excluded from Christ's love because of His betrayal, but it was not so.

- a. The love that Christ requires of us is not self-serving. It is not about our benefit; it is about the benefit of others.
- b. **Jesus washed all of the disciples' feet as an act of love. He didn't just wash the feet of those who were worthy, but also the feet of the man who would betray Him.** 



F. Stuff Jesus Taught Us about Love

He showed a posture of humility, servitude, and sacrifice that we are to follow.

- *How have you exemplified Christ's love this week by serving others?*
- *What are ways we can show love to others over this next week?*  



G. Love Is His Trademark

1. Christ emphasized how important it was for us to love one another.
 - a. It was what defined His followers.
 - b. As Christians we should be known for our love.
2. The largest complaint from society about Christians is that they are two-faced or hypocritical, saying they love others but acting to the contrary.

- *If Christ were to visit you today, would He recognize you by His trademark?*
- *If no, in a very practical sense, what can you do to change that?*  

H. Love Is for All

1. The love of Christ is for everyone.
2. The communion that took place that night was signifying the great act of love that was about to take place on Calvary.
 - a. Even Judas' feet were washed that night; that speaks to the inclusive nature of Christ's love.
 - b. Too many feel that they are unable to receive such an amazing love because of their past sins or family background.
3. This is not true; His love is available to all who are willing to receive it.

- *Have you ever felt you weren't good enough to receive Christ's love?*  

Communion

1. *Do communion with a new flavor.*
2. *Prepare a large loaf or multiple loaves of bread, paper cups, miscellaneous mugs and glasses, or other containers in proportion to group size.*
3. *Gather everyone in a large circle.*
4. *Start with yourself or a leader in your group by telling how you have seen the person to your left show Christ's love, and then break off a piece of bread and hand the remainder to the person to your left.*
5. *Continue in this fashion until you have gone full circle and everyone has expressed seeing Christ's love in his or her peers.*