northview students

5th/6th grade

DATE(S)

March 10/11, 2018

SERIES AND LESSON TITLE

For The Win (Week 1 - Does The Impossible)

TAKE-HOME POINT (THP)

Jesus does the impossible!

SCRIPTURE FOCUS

Mark 2:1-12

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Campus-Specific Announcements here...

Basic (Suggested) Service Flow

-Hang out and eat - (approx 10 min)
-Stupid Video of the Week (approx 1-2 min)
-Game - "The Impossible Shot" (approx 10 min)
-Opening small group time (approx 5-10 min)
-Worship (approx 15 min)
-Message (approx 15 min)
-Closing small group time (approx 15-20 min)

OPENING GAME/GROUP TIME

LARGE-GROUP GAME/ACTIVITY

"The Impossible Shot" - It's that time of the year for our annual March Madness game called "The Impossible Shot"! This will be done every week in the month of March and up until Easter weekend. Obviously, there are a variety of 5th/6th environments at each of our campuses, so you will need to think through how this will work best in your setting. The game is pretty simple: find or purchase a small nerf basketball hoop/ball and place it somewhere in your room. The shot needs to be difficult to make...so the shot should be long distance and be somewhat high. You can choose contestants a variety of ways: you can put everyone's name in a raffle and select a few, you can have first-time guests and the friend(s) who brought them, anyone who has a birthday in March or April...whatever you want to do! Each contestant gets to take one shot and if they make the shot, then they should win a really awesome prize! I would make it a little bigger than what we normally do (gift card, free breakfast for a month, pizza party for them and their group, etc.). Have fun!

OPENING SMALL GROUP

QUESTIONS	ACTIVITIES
• ATTENDANCE & HIGHLIGHTS: **o Take attendance and allow new people to share their name, their school, and what they like to do. Make them feel welcome! Make sure you write their name on your attendance sheet.** **• OPENING QUESTIONS:** **o SAY: "Let's have everyone share one highlight of their week!** **o ASK: "How many of you have seen a magic trick or an illusion that you couldn't figure out? What was it?"** **• PRAY: Prepare for worship by praying together as a group.**	

STUFF TO ASK TO UNIQUELY CONNECT THE LESSON TO KIDS' LIVES

STUFF TO DO SO THINGS AREN'T BORING

LARGE-GROUP SCRIPT

THE MESSAGE

What's up everyone?! We are kicking off a brand new series today called "For The Win." Now, I probably need to explain why we named the series this way. As you know, it's time for March Madness! For basketball fans, this is the best time of the year. For non-basketball fans, this is a time for you to totally guess on your bracket and still beat other people who know more about basketball than you do!

March Madness is so exciting! Underdogs upset higher-seeded teams. So many games get decided in the last few seconds. There's only a few seconds left and a player lets the ball go and the announcer goes, "For the win...!" If it goes in, pure joy by the winning team and pure sadness/disappointment for the losing team…or vice-versa!

During this series, we're going to look at Jesus' wins in his life! Jesus came into the world on a mission to do the impossible, reveal who He is, and forgive the unforgiveable. Essentially, we're going to look at highlights from Jesus' life and ministry just like the highlights from a March Madness basketball game.

Alright…here we go…here is our first THP: Jesus does the impossible!

I don't know if you've ever been in a situation that seemed impossible before, but if you have, it is definitely not fun. It seems like there is no way that you can figure it out.

(Leaders Note: Share a story where you faced an impossible situation and some of the emotions you experienced. It can be slightly humorous, but if it is, transition into a more serious part before moving on)

There was one time when a rich young man came up to Jesus and asked him, "How can I live forever?" Jesus told him, "Well, you need to follow the 10 Commandments, you're your neighbor as yourself…" and the man kind of interrupted him and said, "Yeah, I know all that stuff…I've done all that! Is there anything else?" Jesus looked at him and said, "If you want to be perfect, go and sell everything that you have." Well, the rich young guy didn't like that answer very much and just walked away.

I bet the disciples were probably standing there thinking, "What just happened?! Do we need to sell everything we have to be Jesus' follower? How are we supposed to that? That's impossible!" Then, in Matthew 19:26, Jesus says this: "Jesus looked at them and said, 'With man this is impossible, but with God all things are possible." Jesus was essentially saying that everyone needs God's help…even people who think they don't.

Jesus came to this earth to show us that with God's help, all things are possible. Now, this doesn't mean that God will just give you crazy amounts of money, or help you get an A on a test you didn't study for, or when your parents find an open parking spot right in front of the story when it's really cold outside so you don't have to walk very far…alright, I think you get the point! ☺

THE MESSAGE

Instead, we're going to look at Jesus doing the impossible! If you're familiar with the Bible at all, you know that Jesus did some pretty crazy stuff…like miraculous stuff. Here's just a few examples of some of the cool and seemingly impossible things that Jesus did!

Driving out demons – In Mark 5, Jesus drove out some demons from a man and he sent them into a herd of 2000 pigs. When the demons went into the pigs, they all ran down a cliff and immediately drowned themselves!

Healing a man on the Sabbath – Many of the Pharisees and religious leaders were hyper-focused on following all of the rules: 613 of them to be exact! One of those rules was to not do any work on the Sabbath…a day of rest on the last day of the week. There are at least 3 instances in the New Testament where Jesus healed people with certain physical conditions. The religious leaders were always trying to say that Jesus was breaking the law, but instead, Jesus healed these people anyway just to show God's power!

Raising Lazarus from the dead – I think the ultimate miracle would probably be raising someone from the dead. Jesus did this multiple times as well! One instance was in John 11 with one of his friends, Lazarus. He had been dead for a few days and after Jesus cried/wept upon finding out that he was dead, he went to the tomb where Lazarus was buried, told him to "Come out!" and Lazarus just walked out! Crazy!

These are just a few of the examples of Jesus doing the impossible. God used Jesus to show that God could do anything…and not only that…he showed us that with God's help, we too can overcome situations and challenges that seem impossible. I'm sure that we could go around the room today and talk about a situation in our life that seems impossible.

Here's my challenge for you today: I want you to think about a particular problem or challenge in your life right now. Maybe it seems impossible or you have no idea how it's going to get fixed or go away. Did you know that the God that we talk about here every week knows about that challenge in your life? He knows every detail about it. Not only does he know about, HE CARES ABOUT IT! He wants to help you!

We need to allow God to help us see that the IMPOSSIBLE can be POSSIBLE through Him. I encourage you today to spend some time in your groups talking about those challenges in your life (or a challenge from your past). Spend some time thinking about how God can help you or how you need to LET HIM help you.

We serve a miracle-working God and I believe He still does the impossible today just like He did in the Bible…helping real people with real problems and that includes you and me. Let's pray!

CLOSING GROUP TIME

CLOSING SMALL GROUP

QUESTIONS	ACTIVITIES
Leaders Note: Make sure to have some Bibles for your group to use! **ASK: "What was the THP today? Why was that important during the message?"** **SAY: "Let's re-read the verse from Matthew that we heard in today's message. Can I have someone read Matthew 19:26 for us?"** **"Jesus looked at them and said, "With man this is impossible, but with God all things are possible."** **SAY/ASK: "How does this verse encourage you or challenge you?"** **SAY/ASK: "Today, we looked at a few miracles that Jesus performed. Which one stood out the most to you and why?"** **SAY/ASK: "If I told you God could perform one miracle in your life, what would you pray and ask for?" (Leaders Note: Try to steer them away from silly answers like "give me a million dollars," "make me get all A's," etc.)** **ASK: "Are any of you in a situation that seems impossible right now? How do you think God can help you in that situation?"** **ASK: "How can this group pray for you this week?"**	**Spend some time praying for students who mentioned the impossible situations and requests for a miracle today as a group. Remind your students that God still does the impossible today. We just need to ask and then trust in His will! After your group is finished with your discussion questions, close in prayer together!**

PREP NEEDS

GAME SUPPLIES

"Impossible Shot" graphic

Basketball hoop and ball

Prize(s) for the winner(s)

LARGE-GROUP SUPPLIES

Stupid Video of the Week

Series graphic on TV or projection screen

Message slides

SMALL-GROUP SUPPLIES

1 or 2 Bibles for each table/group

AUDIO/VISUAL NEEDS

Pro Presenter or Power Point
TV or projector/screen