

LEADERS GUIDE

SPOKENTRUTH

GOSPEL TRUTH • SPOKEN WORD



SESSION 6

BEAT 5 SPIRIT



INTRO

Convo kick-starter (3minutes)

Below is a convo kick-starter for Session 6. You will also find a session link for reference.

1. What would you find easier for a whole month – living on a desert island by yourself, or hosting a house party with your friends?

(What would you find helpful/hard about each option?)

SESSION LINK

We were made to be in community with others. God designed his Church to be an expression of his goodness in the world, and because God is community in himself, we need each other to express his goodness too.



ICEBREAKERS

Record breakers

The following icebreakers are 60-second challenges, often with a chance of breaking a world record (all world records are correct as of March 2024). With each icebreaker challenge there is a link to the session's theme. If you have a scoring system in your youth group, you could award an extra point if they guess how the challenge connects to the theme of the session.

.....

OPTION 1

How many 360 degree spins can you do in 60 seconds?

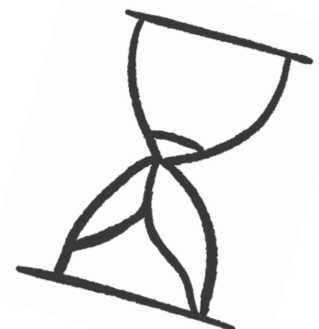
(World record of 360 degree spins = 130).

SESSION LINK

Paul isn't known for his 360 degree spins, but he probably did one of the most dramatic 180 degree turns in history!

NEED

Stopwatch.



ICEBREAKERS cont.

Vic Verbatim (5minutes)

Similar to learning a memory verse, the idea is to practise saying a verse in an expressive way. You can either use the entry level 'cannonball' option, or the 'deep dive' option depending on your group. The verse(s) for this session are:

Cannonball option

'But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you, and you will be my witnesses.'

Acts 1.8 (NIV)



Deep dive option

'But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.'

Acts 1.8 (NIV)

- Assign a 'Reverend Ref' who has the scripture verse to hand, to referee biblical accuracy!
- Give everyone 30 seconds to memorise the verse (you can use the slide for this session or find it on page 53 of *Six Beats One Story*). After the time is up, deliver the memory verse in one of the following ways:

'On the head-to-head, son' – two people take quick-fire turns to say one word each, back and forth, until the verse is complete or a mistake is made

Han Solo/Lone ranger – ask one person to share the Bible verse

'Let's circle back' – go around the room quick-fire, one word each

.....



The six selfies in 60 seconds challenge

LEADERS NOTE

This icebreaker challenge is designed to get the young people to act out six key poses that capture this part of the story. The poses can also be reused in the 60-second sum-up at the end of the session.

Split the young people into six groups and provide paper and pens, as well as a props and costumes box with different items, relevant to this part of the Bible story. Tell the young people to make it fun and capture each part of the Bible story in either selfie poses or freeze frames. They can write clues to appear in the pictures too if they want.

Ready for the 60-second sum-up at the end of the session, they can take pictures of the poses to use in the slide show (choose six). Alternatively, they can perform their freeze frames live as you go through the sum-up.

**If you don't think this task is a great fit for your young people, leaders/church members could take pictures of themselves doing the selfie-poses in advance and surprise the young people with a fun slideshow in the 60-second sum-up at the end.*

'DO'

This is a selfie freeze frame challenge. In your groups, your mission is to capture the essence of the phrase you will be given in a selfie pose/freeze frame. You can use any props and costumes you like, and you can also write clues on the paper to add to your picture. As well as the prompt/phrase, there's also a clue/suggestion of what you could act out if you're stuck.

You have 60 seconds to create your selfie freeze frame. Time's up when you hear the klaxon.

.....

Suggested place names or phrases written on paper:

#Beach, #Emmaus, #Pentecost, #Damascus, #Everywhere,

.....

#PresentDay, your local church or youth group name

Suggested props:

Disposable BBQ, tongs and chef's hat, handcuffs, Bible.

1. **Jesus appears to his friends** – (e.g. BBQ on beach, or walking with two people to Emmaus)
2. **Holy Spirit shows up** – (e.g. two or three people praying/excited, others looking on confused)
3. **Church persecuted and scatters** – (e.g. Paul searching for Christians to put in prison)
4. **Road to Damascus** – Paul blinded on the floor, meets Jesus
5. **Paul takes good news on tour** – (e.g. Paul preaches with Bible, people listening are wowed, sign #Everywhere)
6. **We join the story** – (e.g. sign #PresentDay and sign of church/youth group name)

Couplet up

Out out the six A cards and the six B cards – give them a good shuffle and then spread them around the room (alternatively, divide the cards across the group).

‘DO’

There are 12 cards – six A cards and six B cards – each with a line from Dai’s ‘Spirit’ poem (or one half of a couplet). Together they sum up Beat 5 of the Bible story through spoken word, from Holy Spirit to the birth of the Church, from Paul’s 180 and international mission trips, to the part we play today. #Church #Acts

Your mission is to match up the correct A card with the correct B card. Can you couple up the couplets? Can you find your mini poem’s perfect partner?

Hint from Dai

‘If you can’t find your poem pal, then listen now to me – listen out for rhyme, and listen to the story!’

LEADERS NOTE

Below are the answers of the coupled-up couplets, in order of the story. You can reveal the answers and order in one of two ways:

Cannonball option

Once they have matched A with B cards, ask them to stand in line in their couplets and, starting with 1A, give the correct answers and rearrange themselves to reveal the Bible story in order.

Deep dive option

Below are the answers of the coupled-up couplets, in order of the story. After they have had a go at matching up, ask them to stand in the order they think it happened in the Bible story – from beginning to end. Once in order, encourage the group to say the couplets together.

- 1. A – Risen Jesus – appeared with spear marks in his side, B – BBQ’d fish tasted sublime, said ‘Wait for the Spirit’ then ascended on high
2. A – A community consumed with a burning desire to lift God higher B – In dialects they hadn’t heard of just five minutes prior!
3. A – The Church goes on mission. B – But they’re persecuted – just take the stoning of Stephen
4. A – Church just scatters as missionaries become martyrs B – But then a game-changing moment on the road to Damascus!
5. A – Good news spreads from Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria B – Middle East to Africa, Middle East to Europe in bustling town areas
6. A – Good news has kept on spreading 2,000 years later B – We’re sealed with the same Spirit that raised up our Saviour

You’re a bit of a character

LEADERS NOTE

In this session, ask the group to read the clues and guess which Bible character they’re hinting at. Remind the group that these characters will only be from this section of the Bible story. In terms of delivery, think of a pub quiz set-up. This is best as a group activity (aim for three to four per group). You can use print-outs of the activity (one per group) or use the PowerPoint slides. Along with the clues, there is the option of giving multiple choice answers (see below). Encourage them to confer in their groups to come up with the answer. Once everyone’s ready, reveal the answer and the ‘Did you know?’ fact together.

‘DO’

Using the following clues, see if you can guess the Bible character from this beat of the story.

Character 1

- Clue 1 Had two names #SimonSays
Clue 2 Compared to a ... #Solid
Clue 3 Chopped a guy’s ear clean off #ListenUp
Is it... a. Peter b. Paul c. Andrew d. John

Answer: Peter

Did you know Peter swore that he would die for Jesus, but then denied he knew him three times. #Mark14
Still, Jesus called Peter the rock of the church. #Matthew16.18

Character 2

- Clue 1 Had a road to Damascus experience #Acts8
Clue 2 Held jackets when Stephen got stoned #CoatRack #NotThatKindOfStoned #Acts7
Clue 3 Loved a camping holiday #Tentmaker
Is it... a. Peter b. Paul c. Andrew d. John

Answer: Paul

Did you know? Most Bible nerds believe Paul wrote at least seven letters in the Bible, (some say it was thirteen). #PenPalPaul

Character 3

- Clue 1 A deacon in the early Church #Romans16
Clue 2 Travelled to Rome #WhenInRome
Clue 3 Delivered Paul’s letter #Postie
Is it... a. James b. Luke c. Phoebe d. Lydia

Answer: Phoebe

Did you know? Paul trusted Phoebe with delivering his letter to Rome. When she arrived she probably shared the letter with many underground house churches. She risked her life and we now have the Letter to the Romans in the Bible. #RomansWasntDeliveredInADay

Character 4

- Clue 1 Always the encourager #GlassHalfFull
Clue 2 Had a right Barney with Paul #FallingOut #Mark
Clue 3 Led a church in Antioch #ChurchPlant
Is it... a. Luke b. Mark c. Peter d. Barnabas

Answer: Barnabas

Did you know? Barnabas was nicknamed ‘son of encouragement’. #ThatsEncouraging #Acts4.36



Spoken word (4 minutes)

THE POEM

Watch the 'Spirit' film, or read the poem aloud from pages 55–57 of the *Six Beats One Story* book.



Response

LEADERS NOTE

Depending on your group, you can ask them to engage in a reflective way or in an active way, with the following response options.

REFLECT

(The following questions can be discussed as a group or reflected on individually.)

What stood out to you, surprised you or confused you in the poem?

- What Bible characters can you remember from the poem? If you were telling this beat of the story, would you have mentioned different characters? (If so, why?)

ACTIVE RESPONSE (5 minutes)

- Sketch a three-frame cartoon strip to sum up the story of 'Spirit'
- Film yourself performing a ten-second rap of the 'Spirit' story
- Write a spoken word sum-up of the 'Spirit' story for socials *(try getting creative with hashtags)*
- Dai's example (slide optional): 'Spirit' shows up and rubber stamps believing hearts. Equips believers with gifts and gumption to rep Jesus. Paul flips from persecutor to proclaimer – three mission trips later, ends up prisoner! [#Pentecost](#) [#RoadToDamascus](#) [#GospelGoesViral](#)

REFLECTIVE RESPONSE (5 minutes)

- Listen to the audio of the poem or watch the video again
- Using emojis, how would you express the story and how it makes you feel?



SHARING IS CARING (2–3 minutes)

- Invite the young people to share what they've done

OUTRO

Summary of the Beat 5 'Spirit' story

LEADERS NOTE

Below is a summary of each part of the story in a 60-second recap of where we've been. You can read this out as a script or encourage some of the young people to perform it. The **60-second selfie challenge** can also be revisited for this section to help bring each point to life in a playful and visually engaging way. These can be done as freeze frames performed live as you go through the story, or pictures you advance through that show on the screen.

Underneath the 60-second sum-up script is a taster for the next session.

In following sessions, these sum-ups can also be used to recap the previous session.

60-second sum-up script

1. **Risen Jesus appearances** – shows up for 40 days and appears to hundreds of his followers and friends.
2. **Holy Spirit shows up** – it was always part of the plan. Jesus had to go so the Spirit can be with us and help us be more like Jesus.
3. **Church persecuted and scatters** – it's not just the Church on a mission. While they're preaching Jesus as rescuer, and fulfilment of God's story, Paul's on a mission too – to stop the Church at all costs.
4. **Road to Damascus** – Paul swaps sides and it's 'cos he met Jesus.
5. **Paul takes good news of Jesus on tour** – he goes international with the gospel. Three mission trips, setting up churches in Greece, Rome, Ephesus (modern day Turkey) to name a few, and writes many letters we now read in the New Testament.
6. **This is where we join the story** – even though nobody is adding to the Bible, the story is unfinished because we get to be part of the story of the Church.

Next session taster

Next week we'll explore the sixth and final beat of the Bible story, Home, featuring a guy called John who had a download from God on how the whole story ends. [#Revelation](#) [#HeavenOnEarth](#) [#NoMoreTears](#)

LEADERS NOTE

Ask a volunteer to prepare to perform the spoken word poem 'Home' next session (alternatively, you can just play the video).

Pray

- Pray to close the session