

# Jesus (one-on-one format)

**FACILITATOR:** Welcome to the Fusion one-on-one module for your cells. This format is designed to be used for individuals who may join your cell after you have already gone through the Fusion starter packs (Jesus and Core Values). Because it is important to keep the cell values central to cell life, we recommend that new individuals who join your group later in the semester go through these modified starter packs with a cell member, who we will call a “support member,” in a one-on-one setting outside the cell time.

**SUPPORT MEMBER:** As defined by the word “support”, your role is to provide assistance and give active help and encouragement to the new member. As you work through this material with the new member, keep in mind the following things:

- 1) Where this person is in his walk with the Lord (new in the Lord vs. grew up in the church vs. mature believer, etc.). Make adjustments in the material accordingly.
- 2) Time constraints you may have when meeting together. Do not feel bound to cover every scripture passage or question. The goal is to simply introduce the new member to the core cell values.
- 3) Though the goal is for everyone to contribute and be involved, remain sensitive to the diverse Christian backgrounds contained within the cell (especially in the area of prayer) and make adjustments in the lesson as necessary.

## introduction

**SUPPORT MEMBER:** As you can see, we are kicking straight off with Jesus. It is so important right from the start that we understand the basics of being a Christian - who Jesus is, what he has done for us and how that affects our lives. These first four cell meetings, therefore, - our first ‘four pack’!- are key for laying foundations in the lives of our cell members.

This first meeting’s material looks at the incarnational Jesus as he lived on the earth. The aim of the material is to gain some understanding of what it means for Jesus to be human; to learn more about how he lived his life and to be inspired by him for ourselves as we aim to be Jesus in the student world.

## 1: who is Jesus? – his humanity

### welcome

**SUPPORT MEMBER:** Spend time getting to know the new cell member. Create an environment that is comfortable and casual and be prepared to initiate conversation. One suggestion would be to briefly spend time “F.A.R.M.ing”. (See page 51 in the Fusion Training Manual.)

### worship

**SUPPORT MEMBER:** Describe to each other, in two words, who Jesus is to each of you today. After you have both responded, take time to pray based on your responses, praising and worshipping God for who he is and for his ability to minister to each one of us individually. (example...Jesus is forgiveness, joy, salvation, compassion, friend, strength...)

Again be mindful of the spiritual maturity of the new member...does he feel comfortable praying aloud? Adjust accordingly.

### witness

**SUPPORT MEMBER:** Share Luke 19:10 with the new member. Discuss briefly, based on the scripture, God’s heart for the lost. Emphasize the importance for each cell member to take ownership of reaching out to friends who don’t know Jesus.

### word

**SUPPORT MEMBER:** Try to use the following scripture and question as an initial discussion starter to look at what it actually means that Jesus became a human and what the implications are of this. (You might explain that the word translated “made his dwelling” is literally “tabernacled”: he “pitched his tent” among us.)

John 1: 14 says, "The word became flesh and made his dwelling among us." What does this mean?

**SUPPORT MEMBER:** *Have a piece of paper ready. Divide it down the middle into two columns and title the first column, "Jesus' humanity" and the second, "Jesus' lordship". Together make a list of at least five things (if not more!) that describe Jesus when he lived on the earth. Examples can be things such as loving, homeless, great teacher, tempted, etc. (Keep the paper for next week when you can fill in the other column.)*

Read Hebrews 4:14-16. Verse 14 says that Jesus "has been tempted in every way, just as we are – yet was without sin."

- What does Jesus' humanity mean to us personally?
- What are the implications for us?

Jesus has experienced everything that we are going through. Therefore we are able to have an intimate relationship with him.

**SUPPORT MEMBER:** *Ask the cell member how he feels his relationship with Jesus is at the moment using the following illustration:  
(As the support member, be sure to take note of the individual's response so you will better know how to pray and encourage him.)*

If your relationship with Jesus was paralleled to a child playing on a playground, which one of the following would describe where your relationship with Jesus is at this moment and why?

- a. The scared child sliding down the slide for the first time.
- b. The child struggling to cross the monkey bars.
- c. The excited child playing tag with others.
- d. The sad child slouched by a tree not playing at all.
- e. The child triumphantly sitting at the top of the monkey bars.
- f. The happy child swinging as high as possible.
- g. Other

*Based on the individual's response, take the opportunity to pray for this new cell member.*

*Finish this section by thanking Jesus for everything we have learned about him and asking for strength to help us live like him.*

## **what now?**

This week commit either Luke 19:10 or Hebrews 4:14 to memory.

## 2: who is Jesus? – his lordship

### **introduction**

**SUPPORT MEMBER:** *In this second cell on Jesus we look at the flip-side to last week – Jesus' lordship. The aim again is to come to an understanding as to what this means and then, from there, to look at the implications that this has for our own lives. In this meeting we will do the worship section after the word.*

### **welcome**

**SUPPORT MEMBER:** *Have a piece of paper and a pen ready for you and the new cell member. Each of you print your name vertically from top to bottom on the page. After each letter, write a descriptive phrase about yourself that begins with that letter of your name. Share it with each other.*

(example:) J – Juggles tennis balls  
O – Outgoing personality  
E – Enjoys golf

### **word**

**SUPPORT MEMBER:** *Read Matthew 16:13-17 with the new cell member.*

*Here we see Jesus lifted out of the realm of being only human and the beginning indication of his divinity. (The word 'Christ' is the Greek translation of the Hebrew word 'Messiah' (meaning anointed) and points to Jesus as the fulfillment of the Old Testament hope.)*

*Have your piece of paper with the two columns on it from last week ready. Read through Col. 1:15-20 verse by verse, and write down under the heading "Jesus' lordship" all the key words that describe Jesus (i.e. Image of God, creator, etc.).*

*Based on those things you have listed under Jesus' lordship, ask the new cell member the following questions and then read Colossians 3:17 and discuss.*

Now that we have a fuller picture of who Jesus is...

-What does he mean to you personally?

-What response do you want to make to him?

-Are there any areas of your lives that you know immediately you need to make him Lord over?

### **worship**

**SUPPORT MEMBER:** *After looking at the lordship of Jesus, spend some time worshipping him! Use the different things you have discussed and written down to spend time praising Jesus for who he is.*

*(This new cell member may have never fully recognized Jesus' lordship and may want to do that now. As he talks, be sensitive to the Holy Spirit. He may want to be led through a prayer acknowledging Jesus' lordship over his life and may want to commit himself more deeply to him. Do not be afraid to do this!)*

### **witness**

**SUPPORT MEMBER:** *Take time to go over the cell's purpose statement or slogan that sums up its desire to do evangelism out of this group. Pray together that God would strengthen the group as it reaches out.*

*Review the memory verses from last week (Luke 19:10 and Heb. 4:14).*

### **what now?**

Take time this week to commit Colossians 3:17 to memory. As you hide God's word in your heart, pray and ask the Lord to reveal any specific areas you have not made him Lord over. As he reveals areas to you, take time to repent, ask for his forgiveness and then commit the areas to him as Lord.

# 3: what has Jesus done for us?

## **introduction**

**SUPPORT MEMBER:** Here we get to the center of Christianity. This cell meeting focuses on the gospel message - the problem with humanity and God's solution through Jesus. Our first objective is to ensure that everyone knows and understands the basics of the gospel. Our second is to move beyond understanding to application and response in our lives.

## **welcome**

**SUPPORT MEMBER:** Spend a few minutes finding out how your newest cell member's week has been. Last week you challenged your new cell member to memorize Colossians 3:17. Ask if he would like to recite it from memory. If he was unable to memorize it, take some time now to review it in a very casual way.

## **worship**

**SUPPORT MEMBER:** Take time to pray and worship God using Colossians 3:16-17 as a "launching pad". Having an attitude of thankfulness toward God, be specific in giving thanks to Him.

## **word**

**SUPPORT MEMBER:** Together discuss the following:  
(Remember, your new cell member may not have a clear understanding of what Jesus has done for him so keep checking that there is understanding in what is being said. A few Bible verses have been given at the end of each point in case you need help. As you discuss these things, make notes on what is said and then feed back at the end, giving a summary of the gospel message.)

An explanation of what Jesus has done for us would contain these elements:

- the problem with humanity, our selfishness, living for ourselves (Romans 1: 21-23)
- why Jesus came into the world and died for us, what happened on the cross (2 Corinthians 5: 21; 1 Timothy 1: 15; Romans 5: 18-19)
- what his resurrection achieved (Colossians 2: 15; 1 Corinthians 15: 12-19)
- the implications for us, how we should respond to him and live as we are waiting for him to return (1 Thessalonians 5:1-11; most of Romans 6-8!)

**SUPPORT MEMBER:** It would be good at this point to move away from the theoretical and make it more personal. Use the following questions as a starting place:

- What are some of the things that can stop us living for Jesus?
- How does this apply to the student world?
- The question God is asking us is 'who are we living for?'
- Is there anything in our lives that is in the way of our living for God?

**SUPPORT MEMBER:** It is important when asking such personal questions to remind one another that the cell exists to support and help each other and build community. Therefore, encourage the cell member to be open and not to worry about what others will think if he shares a weakness. As always be sensitive to the Holy Spirit and be aware of any needs or difficulties that are being expressed. Be prepared to pray for the cell member who opens up about such things.

## **witness**

**SUPPORT MEMBER:** Take this time to pray for your college. Identify two key issues on your college campus (i.e. pride, apathy, materialism) and pray for these things.

## **what now?**

**SUPPORT MEMBER:** *In recognizing what Jesus has done for us, it is important that we be able to communicate that with others. If you feel it is suitable, ask the new member if he would briefly share how he became a Christian - maybe start off with yourself to set the tone.*

*Encourage the new member to take time this week to **write out** how he became a Christian. Recommend that this be something he could share in 2 minutes or less explaining that many times when there is an opportunity to share with someone we may only have 2 - 5 minutes (i.e. before or after class), and it is important that we prepare ourselves to be ready to share with intention and purpose, skipping unnecessary details.*

*If he needs help getting started, recommend that he asks himself questions like...*

*-What was I like before I asked Jesus to be my Savior?*

*-Why did I ask Jesus to be my Lord and Savior?*

*-What did I learn that made me realize I needed the Lord's forgiveness and salvation?*

*-How has my life changed since making Jesus my Lord and Savior?*

# 4: living for Jesus – our response

## **introduction**

**SUPPORT MEMBER:** *This is the final material in our 'four-pack' on Jesus. By now we should have a good understanding of who Jesus is and what he has done for us. We want to finish by looking further at the implications that this has for our lives and what our response should be.*

## **welcome**

**SUPPORT MEMBER:** *Last week your new cell member was challenged to write out his testimony explaining how he became a Christian. Begin by sharing your testimony in 2 minutes or less and then ask if he would like to share his testimony in two minutes or less.*

## **worship/witness**

**SUPPORT MEMBER:** *Use this time to pray and thank the Lord for the testimonies of our salvation. Ask for open opportunities to share this good news with our fellow students. Finish this time by praying for the campus at large (maybe including the issues you identified last week).*

## **word**

**SUPPORT MEMBER:** *Take a few moments to review the progression of the past 3 cell meetings. Remind your new cell member that you have looked at Jesus' humanity, his lordship and what he has done for us. Introduce that we will now be focusing on our response to Jesus.*

*Our response to Jesus will require and include sacrifice, blessing, lifestyle change and social responsibility. Together spend time discussing the areas below.*

*\*\*\*Do not feel the need to work through every scripture and question posed. Simply spend a brief amount of time discussing each area for general understanding. You can use 1 or 2 questions as a starting point.*

### **SACRIFICE** - Luke 14: 25-35

Before we look at anything else, we need to realize that the Christian life involves sacrifice.

- What does v.26 mean?
- Are we to take v.26 literally? If not, why not?
- How does this compare with v.33 and Matthew 19: 21? What do these verses mean?
- If we say that these are not to be taken literally, are we copping out of a radical lifestyle and bending what Jesus has said in order to suit ourselves?
- Have you considered the cost of being a disciple of Jesus?
- What sacrifices will you need to make as a student?
- Most importantly, God will call many of us to live sacrificial lives when we leave college. In what ways may this happen? What can we learn from this discussion that will help us when we leave college?

### **BLESSING** - Ephesians 1:3

Along with the sacrifices come the privileges.

Discuss what it means to be 'blessed with every spiritual blessing'. What are the blessings that we receive as Christians? Maybe make a list and try to come up with Bible verses for some of the things said. Of the things discussed, is there anything that you feel you lack or struggle with?

### **LIFESTYLE CHANGE** - Romans 6:11-14

God is calling us to a radical lifestyle that will stand out in college as of a different quality to others.

- What does it mean to live a radical lifestyle in college?
- Is there more to being a Christian student than just not getting drunk and sleeping with your partner or working hard to get a good job?
- Repentance is an important part of responding to God - are there any areas in your life that you need to repent of and change?

## **SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY - Matthew 25: 31-46**

Discuss that as followers of Jesus we are becoming increasingly aware that being a Christian does not just mean an individualized walk with God, personal holiness and regular quiet times. As Christians in the western world we cannot ignore the fact that the majority of the world's population does not live like us. This means more than just helping people out (as important as that is) - we have to become aware of the larger issues and of our social and global responsibilities.

-Do you agree? Why? Read Isaiah 58:6-10.

-How can we outwork this Matt. 25 passage in our own lives as students?

-There is a saying, "if you're not a part of the solution, you're a part of the problem." Are you aware of how you are a part of the global problem?

-Do you know how you can start being a part of the solution?

-How can you find out?

### **what now?**

Pray together and ask the Lord to open a door for you both to share your two minute testimonies with one person this week...maybe a co-worker, fellow student or friend.