

Loving the Story

The boldness we feel toward our faith emerges from a love relationship with Jesus: the more we love God and what he has done for us, the more we are going to understand and love the good news.

In this module students will consider their relationship with Jesus as loved and forgiven disciples, and think about appropriate responses to that love in a world that is not always sympathetic to Christian faith.

Lesson 1: Come, Follow Me - Following Jesus might seem to be something we do if we feel we are ‘ready’ or ‘worthy’. That is how most teachers get their disciples. How does the traditional Jewish model of education better help us to understand our relationship with Jesus? What might ‘carrying one’s cross’ have to do with that relationship? How can your students better articulate their own relationship with God?

Lesson 2: Forgiven Much Loves Much - Those who knew they had been forgiven responded very strongly to Jesus. What does it mean to be forgiven? In light of that forgiveness, what is an appropriate response? How might others look at us when we respond genuinely to Christ’s mercy and grace?

Lesson 3: Denials and Renewals - We will often respond in order to fit in with others. How powerful is the desire to conform? How did the disciple Peter change over a few brief weeks of his own life? How might I express my own boldness in the face of opposition?

Lesson 4: Loving Means Obeying - Jesus says that if we love him, we will keep his commands. What is the importance of this connection between love and obedience? What does Jesus command?