



Head coach's Guide

Lesson 004 – Artificial Fruit

Meeting prep:

- Props:
 - Place 1 piece real fruit and 1 piece of artificial fruit on each table.
 - Place grapes washed and ready to eat at each table.
 - Up front: Have 2 pieces of fruit that look similar. One real, one fake.
 - Touchstone: Rubber bands – wrist sized. One for every man.

1. Welcome

- Who used their GodTime devotional last week?
- Who can tell me last week's parable?
- What was in the box?
- There are props on the table. Feel free to use them as you talk – but be careful!

2. GameTime

- Simple game led from the front. Nobody comes up this week.
- 2 pieces of fruit up front. One is fake and the other is real. Say this:
 - “Guys, look closely...which one is real?”
 - Take 30 seconds to get a consensus around your table
 - Guys talk it over.
 - OK, table coaches. Show of hands: who thinks this is the real apple? How about this one?
 - Tell them which one is real.
 - Ask them, “Why was it so hard to tell?”

3. Play the parable video

- After you pause the video, point out the 5 clues in the parable text (beautiful, not cultivated, seedless) etc.

4. Table Time 1: What did it mean?

5. Top 5 interpretations.

6. Play the interpretation video

7. Part 1: Breaking Down the Parable (Large group)

- First thing out of your mouth: make sure the guys understand THIS LESSON IS NOT ABOUT PORNOGRAPHY.
- We are talking about all the desirable, clothed women we see on our screens. Give me some examples:
 1. Movie stars, news anchors, social media head turners etc.
- HOLD up 1 fake apple and 1 real apple.
- Say to the guys: “Let’s compare artificial fruit to real fruit. What are some of the disadvantages of the real thing?”
 1. What’s going to happen to this apple in a couple of weeks?
 2. It’s expensive
 3. It has to be cultivated. Watered. Weeded. Pests kept away.
 4. It has seeds
 5. It’s not always available
 6. It’s easily bruised
 7. It can poison you. Snow White. Can have a worm in it.
 8. Paradise lost. One of these cost humanity everything.
- Real fruit has just one advantage over artificial fruit. What is it?
- All right guys, it’s time for table discussions. And you are welcome to snack on the props, but leave at least 1 per man for the end of the meeting.

8. Table Time 2

- 7 minute warning, 2 minute warning, time’s up

9. Five Takeaways

10. Shareable Parable

11. Sneak Peek of next week’s parable

12. Conclusion

- Ask the guys to all pop a grape in their mouths.
 1. Then say, “Taste how sweet and lifegiving that grape is.
 2. Now, imagine biting into one of these fake grapes. How would it taste?
 3. Gentlemen, there is no substitute for the real thing.
- Touchstones
 1. Ask each man to take a rubber bands. If they linger on an image, tell them to snap their wrist. The idea: associate discomfort with lingering.
- Pass out GodTime
- Pray for the guys and dismiss