

Upcoming Judgment

By Kelsey Grulke

for use as
STEP 1 

Lesson 12
Focus:

The whole world will
face judgment one day.

Lesson 12
Bible Basis:

Revelation 11:15-18;
19:11, 13, 15-16;
20:11-15

Lesson 12
Memory Verse:

He will judge the world in righteousness and
the peoples in his truth.
—Psalm 96:13b

Students will begin to think about the ins and outs of judgment through the lens of the Olympics.

Materials:

- Internet access
- Whiteboard and markers

As students enter, ask them to think about all the places that judgment comes up in their lives. When they think of an idea, allow them to write it on the whiteboard. The list could include things like the judge in a courtroom, judging someone's appearance, sports officials, grades in school, etc. You can prompt them by asking about situations where they have the opportunity to judge someone/something or about situations where they are/or feel judged by others.

Judgment comes up in our world often and in lots of different ways! Right now, the winter Olympics are in full swing. One of the most popular sports in the winter Olympics is figure skating. Do you know how they decide who gets the highest score resulting in the gold medal? Let's watch one figure skating judge share how she judges the sport.

Share this video with your students [2:43]:

How a judge watches figure skating

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JpqIc5Dg3mQ>

- **What are some of the things a figure skating judge has to watch for as they judge the skaters?** (How accurate they are, how difficult their moves are, speed, power, choreography, etc.)
- **Do you think that would be an easy job or a hard job? Why?** (Accept all reasonable answers.)

Our world is full of different kinds of judgment. Some of it is righteous judgment, like a criminal being sentenced for his crime, and some of it is wrong judgment, like a child being left out because his friends judge his clothes. The most important judge, though, is God. He can always be relied on to be a righteous judge. Let's dig into the Bible to see what it has to say about God's judgment.

(Continue on to Steps 2 and 3 in your teacher's guide; your Step 4 appears below.)

Lesson 12 / February 18, 2018

Following Good Directions

 for use as
STEP 4 
Lesson 12**Focus:**

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19:11, 13, 15-16;
20:11-15

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Materials:

- Internet access
- Battery-powered tea candles (1 per student)

Learning about God's coming judgement can seem scary. It might even make us feel anxiety over those we know who haven't accepted that Jesus came into the world and died on the cross to save them from God's righteous judgement. As Christians, we are called to pray for and witness to those who don't know Jesus. This can seem like an overwhelming task.

➤ **What are some things that worry you about sharing the Good News of Jesus with those who don't know Him?** (Answers might include: What if I do it wrong and turn them off to faith? What if they laugh at me? What if I come off as self-righteous or judgmental?)

It's important for us to remember that as we share the news of God's righteous judgment and Jesus' salvation with others, it is the Holy Spirit—not us—who that works in their hearts. Usually, someone's journey to Jesus is long and winding and includes many different influences. You have probably influenced someone's journey without even realizing it already! Let's watch this video as an example of how your witness might affect someone's eternal salvation.

Share this video with your students [4:25]:

The orchestration of salvation

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qLFexWIUabU>

Your part in God's work of saving someone from judgement might be any number of things. Maybe it's a random conversation you have, maybe it's someone seeing you pray before you eat lunch at school, maybe it's someone noticing you resisting peer pressure. Sometimes it will be a conversation that you have planned out and prayed about and scheduled, but sometimes God will use you just by the example you give by living your Christian life.

Hand out a tea light (switched off) to everyone; ask your students to leave them off until the appointed time. Turn out the lights in your room. Make the room as dark as possible.

Hell is often described as the absence of God. People on earth who don't know Jesus can feel like they're walking around in the dark. Spend some time in silent prayer, asking God

to help you see the places where He is asking you to be a light to someone who doesn't know Him. Ask God to show you how you can be a witness to His salvation in your daily life. When you're finished, light your candle.

When everyone is finished praying and has lit their candle, end in a group prayer, praying for those who don't know Jesus. End by encouraging your teens to reach out to someone who doesn't know Jesus and remind them that they can have an eternal impact on a person, through the Holy Spirit. Encourage them to keep their tea light visible where it will remind them to be a light to someone, or to pray for someone who does not know Jesus.

Close in prayer.

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