



YouthBytes.org - A Powerful Tool for Youth Workers

YouthBytes is a simple, yet effective tool in the hands of those who have a passion to reach and teach this generation. The Episode Guide is designed to help you implement YouthBytes into your particular setting at whatever level you choose: from a full meeting schedule to just a small video to enhance your meeting. We encourage each worker to add his or her own stories, experiences and illustrations to make your particular scenario work. The discussion questions are also just a starting point and we encourage each group to go further and deal with local issues and topics that might be relevant.

Each YouthByte Episode will include :

- Video summary
- Icebreaker
- Primary Lesson
- Facts, figures and illustrations used in the episode
- Key Scriptures
- Discussion Questions
- Complimentary story

We look forward to getting your feedback and comments for these Episode Guides. Also let us know what subjects you would want new YouthBytes to cover. As always, testimonies are welcome. Comments, ideas, and testimonies can be sent to feedback@youthbytes.org.

1.

Disc 4 ~ Target Practice Missing the Mark



Video Summary

In this powerful 6-minute episode, Chad shows you how to hit the bulls eye in finding God's plan for your life. Shooting a bow may appear easy enough, but accurately finding the center of a target is more difficult than it seems. Chad visits a bow range with professional equipment to teach lessons on hitting God's target for your life. Do the right thing today; practice; don't give up; and you will hit God's mark for your future and destiny.



Icebreaker ~ Lazy Husband

The wife of a lazy husband got very sick. She was always the one who did all the work in the home but when she got very sick, the husband took her to the doctor. After the doctor examined her, he took the husband outside away from the wife to tell him what was going on privately. He said, "your wife will die unless you have her rest completely: no housework, no cooking, no cleaning. You must do everything for her and then she will live."

The husband went back into the room with the wife. She looked up at him and said, "What does the doctor say about my condition – am I going to make it?"

The husband replied. "The doctor says you are definitely going to die."



Primary Lesson ~ Hitting the target for your destiny

This lesson does not deal as much with missing the mark regarding sin, but more with doing what is right so you hit God's perfect plan for your future. Arriving at God's destiny is the sum of daily acts of obedience, which at times seem tedious and unimportant. Also, counsel from other people helps you to do things right. Those who have experience and know how to hit the mark can teach you to hone your skills and develop the gifts God has given you.



Facts, Figures & Illustrations

The sport of shooting with a bow and arrow is called archery.

- England's Charles II fostered archery as sport, establishing in 1673 the world's oldest continuous archery tournament, the Ancient Scorton Arrow Contest.
- Field archery (using bows without sights), flight shooting (for distance), and crossbow are all competitive sports.
- Archery took an official place in the Olympics only since 1972.
- The person who is unofficially referred to as the "World's Greatest Archer" is called Howard Hill (1899-1975). Here are some facts about him:
 - Howard Hill would perform by doing difficult trick shots like shooting an apple off of someone's head from as far as sixty feet, and then top that by shooting a prune from the same distance.
 - He is the only person to win 196 archery field tournaments in succession.
 - Howard did all the bow and arrow shooting in the feature movie Robin Hood.
 - Howard was the first white man to kill an elephant with a bow and arrow.
 - In his lifetime, Howard shot 3 elephant, 2 lions, 1 buffalo, 1 leopard and 2 cheetah plus over 2,000 other animals all with a bow and arrow.
 - He shot the farthest arrow ever with a bow which was 391 yards 1ft and 11inches.

Sources: <http://www.Wikipedia.org> and <http://people.montana.com>



Key Scriptures (From New King James Version, unless otherwise noted)

Philippians 3:12 ~ *I press on, that I may lay hold of that for which Christ Jesus has also laid hold of me.*

Philippians 3:14 ~ *I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.*

1 Corinth. 9:24-27 ~ *Do you not know that those who run in a race all run, but one receives the prize? Run in such a way that you may obtain it. And everyone who competes for the prize is temperate in all things. Now they do it to obtain a perishable crown, but we for an imperishable crown. Therefore I run thus: not with uncertainty. Thus I fight: not as one who beats the air. But I discipline my body and bring it into subjection, lest, when I have preached to others, I myself should become disqualified.*

Proverbs 24:16 ~ *No matter how often honest people fall, they always get up again; but disaster destroys the wicked. (The Good News Translation)*



Discussion Questions

1. Discuss the most important area that you personally know you have to practice if you are going to fulfill God's plan and destiny for your life.
2. Just because God has a plan for your life, it does not mean that you will automatically fulfill it. Paul wrote that he pressed towards the mark, which means he was aiming at a target. Talk about how Samson in the Bible did not fulfill God's perfect plan for his life. What caused him to get trapped and miss out on God's best for him?
3. Discuss the things that distract people from doing God's will. How do things like video games, MySpace, YouTube, TV, sports and other stuff sometimes distract people from seeking God and getting close to Him?
4. Practice and having a good coach are two things that help keep a person on track. Pray for each other that God will give each person a revelation of their purpose in life and pray God will give them people who can coach them to their full potential. If you feel you know your purpose, share it with the group.



Complimentary Story ~ Jesus in the House

Once there was this very wealthy young man. He lived in a great, elaborate house with dozens of rooms. Each room was more comfortable and more beautiful than the one before it. There were paintings and sculptures; crystal chandeliers; golden, ornate railings on the stairs. More beauty than most people have ever seen.

One day he decided to invite the Lord to come home and stay with him. When the Lord arrived, this young man offered him the very best room in the house. The room was upstairs and at the end of the hall. "This room is yours, Jesus! Stay as long as you like and you can do whatever you want to in this room. Remember Jesus, it's all yours."

That evening after he had retired for the night there came a loud knocking at the front door. The young man pulled on his robe and made his way downstairs. When he opened the door, he found that the devil had sent three of his demons to attack the man. He quickly tried to close the door, but one of the demons kept sticking his foot in. Sometime later, after a great struggle, he managed to slam the door shut and returned to his room, totally exhausted.

"Can you believe that," the man thought. "Jesus is upstairs in my very best room sleeping while I am down here battling demons. Oh, well, maybe He just didn't hear." He slept fitfully that night.

The next day things went along as normal and, being tired as he was, the young man retired early that evening. About midnight, there came such a terrible ruckus at the front door that the young man was sure that whatever it was would tear the door down. He stumbled down the stairs once again and opened the door to find dozens of demons now trying to get into his beautiful home.

For more than three hours he fought and struggled against the demons from hell and finally overtook them enough to shut the door against their attack. All energy seemed to fail him. He really didn't understand this at all. "Why won't the Lord come to my rescue? Why does he allow me to fight all by myself? I feel so alone." Troubled, he found his way to the sofa and fell into a restless sleep.

The next morning he decided to inquire of the Lord about the happenings of the last two evenings. Quietly he made his way to the elegant bedroom where he had left Jesus. "Jesus," he called as he tapped at the door. "Lord, I don't understand what is happening. For the last two nights I have had to fight the demons away from my door while you laid up here sleeping. Don't you care about me? Did I not give you the very best room in the house?"

He could see the tears building in Jesus' eyes but continued on, "I just don't understand. I really thought that once I invited you in to live with me that you would take care of me. I gave you the best room in my house and everything. What more can I do?"

"My precious child," Jesus spoke softly, "I do love and care for you. I protect all that you have released into my care. But when you invited me to come here and stay, you brought me to this lovely room and you shut the door to the rest of your house. I am Lord of this room but I am not Master of this house. I have protected this room and no demon may enter here."

"Oh, Lord, please forgive me. Take all of my house - it is yours. I am so sorry that I never offered you all to begin with. I want you to have control of everything." With this, he flung open the bedroom door and knelt at Jesus' feet. "Please forgive me, Lord, for being so selfish."

Jesus smiled and told him that He had already forgiven him and that He would take care of things from now on. That night as the young man prepared for bed, he thought, "I wonder if those demons will return. I am so tired of fighting them each and every night." But he knew that Jesus said that He would take care of things from now on.

Along about midnight the banging on the door was frightening. The young man slipped out of his room in time to see Jesus going down the stairs. He watched in awe as Jesus swung open the door, with no need to be afraid.

Satan stood at the door this time demanding to be let in. "What do you want, Satan?" the Lord asked. The devil bowed low in the presence of the Lord, "So sorry, I seem to have gotten the wrong address." And with that, he and the demons all ran away.

There is a moral to this tale. Jesus wants all of you, not just a part. He will take all that you give Him but nothing more. How much of your heart have you given to the Lord? Are you keeping a portion of it away from Him?

Perhaps the attacks are coming more and more each day. Why not let the Lord fight the battles for you? He is always victorious. I have found that God made man simple, all of man's complexities are of his own devising.

Source Unknown