

LESSON 7
OCTOBER 18, 2026

FAMILY THEME

What Good Is Christianity?

LESSON AIM

Understand how Christianity provides the foundation for truth, goodness, and beauty, and why it leads to human flourishing.

STUDY TEXT

[John 14:6; Luke 6:43–44](#)



Scan to access
handouts and
digital materials
or visit
d6.family/6939



BIG IDEAS

1. **Christianity Provides the Foundation for Truth About Reality**
([Romans 1:18–20](#); [Isaiah 1:18](#))
2. **Christianity Provides the Foundation for Goodness and Righteous Living**
([Psalm 34:8](#); [Romans 2:14–15](#))
3. **Christianity Provides the Foundation for Beauty and a Beautiful Life**
([Psalm 27:4](#); [John 10:10](#))

Encourage learners to memorize the Family Scripture of the Month (**Colossians 2:6–7**) along with family members.

Preview videos in advance. Ads may appear and are not controlled by D6.



AH 7-1



AH 7-2

Leader Lens

This lesson covers big ideas, but don't feel pressured to explain everything in depth.

Focus on the big picture:

Christianity provides truth, goodness, and beauty. Use clear, simple examples rather than technical explanations.

Consider bringing visual or cultural illustrations, such as images of hospitals, Christian charities, the Sistine Chapel, or works like *The Lord of the Rings*, to help learners see the real-world impact of Christianity.

The goal is to help group members understand the difference Christianity makes in everyday life.

Connect

Choose the option that best fits your group.

VIDEO: Consider showing this video that illustrates the good that Christianity is doing in the world: tinyurl.com/D6BigLeague. Discuss the video with group members. Can they think of other ways the love of Jesus is changing the world? After discussion, say, *Christianity has changed the world. Today we'll examine its effect on truth, goodness, and beauty.*

CONVERSATION STARTER: Ask your group, *If you had to define a "good life," what would you include?* Write a few responses on the board (truth, relationships, purpose, beauty, etc.). After discussion, say, *The ideas of truth, goodness, and beauty are central to Christianity. Today we'll explore why.*

STORY: Briefly tell a short story about a historical figure like William Wilberforce (abolition of slavery) or a missionary who made a difference through faith. Then ask, *What motivated this person to do what they did?* After discussion, say, *Today we'll explore how Christian belief has shaped actions like these, and what that reveals about truth, goodness, and beauty.*

Teaching the Truth

Distribute copies of the *Adult Member Outline* (AH 7-2).

Gospel Connection

This lesson highlights the goodness in the world that has often resulted from Christianity. The Bible reminds us that true goodness ultimately comes from God, and none of us perfectly live up to His standard. Jesus not only taught what is good, but He lived it perfectly. Through His death and resurrection, He makes a way for us to be forgiven and restored. The life we were created for is found not in human effort, but in a relationship with Him.

Jesus is the way, the truth, and the life ([John 14:6](#)). He taught that we would know a tree by its fruit ([Luke 6:43–44](#); cf. [Matthew 7:15–20](#); [12:33](#)). One way to test the truth claims of Christianity is to evaluate its fruit over time. Where Christianity has been genuinely believed and practiced, it has produced more fruit reflecting the ideals of truth, goodness, and beauty for human flourishing than any other historical phenomenon.

✧ BIG IDEA 1 ✧

Christianity Provides the Foundation for Truth About Reality

[Romans 1:18–20](#); [Isaiah 1:18](#)

Christianity establishes the foundation for the intellectual ideal of truth. *God is truth*, and all truth is God's truth. God shows Himself to humanity as Creator. The heavens declare the glory of God ([Psalm 19:1](#)), and creation provides a visible witness to His existence and divine nature (**Romans 1:18–20**).

The incredible growth of scientific knowledge over the past century has not weakened belief in a Creator but has, in many ways, strengthened it. Fields such as cosmology, microbiology, and biochemistry continue to reveal the complexity and order of the universe. The Bible teaches that all reality was created out of nothing (creation *ex nihilo*; [Genesis 1:1](#)), a concept consistent with modern scientific understanding of the universe's beginning.

Live It Out: Recognize that Christianity provides a reliable foundation for truth, helping people understand reality and live with clarity and confidence.

Discuss Together:

- *Why does it matter that truth is rooted in God rather than personal opinion or culture?*
- *How does confusion about truth affect the way people make decisions or live their lives?*

The New Testament provides us with a further revelation of God's truth in the person of Jesus Christ. There is overwhelming historical evidence not only that Jesus existed, but that He was who He claimed to be—the Messiah, the Son of God, and God in the flesh ([Matthew 16:16](#); [John 1:14](#); [John 20:31](#); [Colossians 2:9](#)). Using the same historiographical methods applied to other ancient figures, we can examine the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus through the eyewitness testimony preserved in the New Testament documents. In addition, Jewish, Roman, and early Christian sources outside the Bible provide further support for the reliability of these accounts. Based on this historical evidence, we can have strong confidence in the Bible's testimony about Jesus. If the historical evidence about Jesus is not acceptable, the standard of proof would be so high no other person from ancient history could pass the test.

God invites us to reason together with Him (**Isaiah 1:18**) and calls us to be prepared to give a reason for our hope ([1 Peter 3:15](#)). Christianity is not some radical religion, blind faith, or irrational belief. It is a worldview grounded in truth that welcomes hard questions, encourages thoughtful investigation, and stands

Apologetics

Christianity teaches that truth is grounded in the nature of God. Because God is truth, reality is knowable and consistent, making reason, science, and logic possible. A world grounded in truth allows people to pursue knowledge, make wise decisions, and live with clarity and purpose.

Discussion questions are also included on the *Adult Teaching Outline* (AH 7-1) and PowerPoint 7 (editable).



PowerPoint 7

up to careful examination. The Bible has been studied, tested, and examined more than any other ancient book. Through textual study, archaeology, and historical research, its reliability has been consistently affirmed. Thus, the Bible remains the foundational text of Western civilization despite its critics.

Taken together, the witness of creation, the person of Jesus Christ, and the truth of Scripture provide a strong foundation for understanding reality. These truths also help explain why modern science developed within a culture shaped by a belief in a rational Creator.

Live It Out: Be prepared to explain how Christianity not only claims truth but has shaped the world in meaningful and lasting ways.

Discuss Together:

- *How has Christianity's view of truth influenced areas like science, education, and culture?*
- *Why does it matter that Christianity encourages both faith and reason?*

✧ BIG IDEA 2 ✧

Christianity Provides the Foundation for Goodness and Righteous Living

[Psalm 34:8; Romans 2:14–15](#)

Not only is Christianity true, but it is also *good*. Christianity provides a foundation for the moral ideal of goodness because God Himself is good. Here we not only learn what is true, but we also experience the *goodness* of God. Scripture invites us to *taste* and see that the Lord is good (**Psalm 34:8**).

While the sciences describe how the world works, our human *conscience* reveals the moral law and how we ought to live. Every person has an awareness of right and wrong and a sense of moral responsibility. Scripture teaches that God has written His moral law on the human heart, and our conscience bears witness to Him (**Romans 2:14–15**). Human laws may be written on paper, but only a perfectly good God could inscribe a moral law within every person. This moral law is universally binding on all peoples, cultures, and nations regardless of time or place. This shared awareness points to God as the source of goodness.

Live It Out: Recognize that God's standard of right and wrong provides a foundation for how people live, make decisions, and relate to one another.

Discuss Together:

- *Why is it important for people and societies to have a shared understanding of right and wrong? What does Romans 2:15 tell us about that shared understanding?*
- *How does God's standard of goodness shape the way people treat one another in everyday life?*

God's goodness is most clearly seen in Jesus Christ, who perfectly embodies the standard of righteousness for humanity. Through His life and teaching—and through the work of the Holy Spirit—Christians are called to live out goodness in the world as people of God.

Across history, Christianity has produced more moral good for the world than any other system of belief or practice. People all over the world, even those who do not profess Christianity, look to the character and teachings of Jesus as the ultimate ideal for humanity. Consider what the world would be like without the following biblical moral principles:

- Love your neighbor as you love yourself ([Matthew 22:39](#)).
- Treat others as you would want them to treat you ([Luke 6:31](#)).
- Consider others as more important than yourself and look to their interests ([Philippians 2:3–4](#)).
- Care for the poor, the sick, and those in need ([Matthew 25:35–36](#)).
- Defend the widow and the orphan ([James 1:27](#); [Psalm 82:3](#)).
- Forgive those who wrong you ([Matthew 6:14–15](#); [Colossians 3:13](#)).

These ethical ideals were not conceived in the heights of ancient Greek philosophy, Roman law, or Enlightenment treatises and secular humanist manifestos. Rather, they originated from the Judeo-Christian worldview, exemplified first in Jesus Christ, and then emulated by His followers through the Holy Spirit.

It is due to the incomparable goodness of Christ that Christianity has been responsible for uniquely gifting to the world hospitals, orphanages, missions, charitable organizations, universities, education for all, the abolition of slavery, the uplifting of women, the special status and protection of children, individual freedom, democracy, the equality of all humans as created in the image of God, among many other tangible moral goods. The uniqueness of Christianity's contributions to the world for good is a fact so well established that it is even acknowledged by many nonbelieving intellectuals and scholars, including notable thinkers like Jordan Peterson and Ayaan Hirsi Ali, the latter of whom recently converted to the Christian faith!

What about the bad things Christians have done? At times, people point to the failures of Christians as evidence against Christianity. Examining things



AH 7-3

The AH 7-3 Handout (*What Good Has Christianity Done?*) gives group members an overview of this lesson and the contributions Christianity has made to society.

Go Deeper

Atheist and author Richard Dawkins recently called himself a “cultural Christian.” While he made it clear he is not a Bible-believing Christian, he explained that society functions better when Christian principles like kindness and decency are foundational. While Dawkins continues to miss the bigger picture of an all-powerful God, his words show that the tenets of Christianity and the fruit of the Spirit make our world a better place. This should not be surprising to the Christian for we know God's ways are best.

like religious wars and slavery, it is true that many have done terrible things in the name of Christ. What all these tragic cases share in common is that they fundamentally cut against the grain of the perfect example and teachings of Jesus Himself. The perpetrators acted contrary to, not in accordance with, Jesus' teachings. Those failures do not reflect the goodness of Christ but our failure to follow Him.

Here is the ironic twist for the skeptic: it is only by the perfect standard of the goodness of Christ that we can recognize injustice and call it wrong. Even the evil of the world reveals the goodness of God for it requires the goodness of God to judge that these things are evil. Critiques of Christianity borrow from the moral teachings of Christianity to condemn evil. This counts in Christianity's favor, not against it. In addition, in nearly all the cases of Christians behaving badly, it was Christians behaving in Christlike fashion who stood up and spoke out, eventually bringing an end to the bad behavior.

In Christ alone, we see a moral goodness that we all fail to live up to. When we hunger and thirst for righteousness, justice, and goodness for mankind, we must look to Christ and His moral influence on individuals and society. The moral outcry we feel against the pain, suffering, and evil in the world finds a consoling voice crying out from the cross: *My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?* ([Mark 15:34](#)). On the cross, we see the goodness of God on full display in Christ's atonement for the sins of the world ([John 3:16](#)).

Live It Out: Reflect the goodness of Christ by intentionally showing compassion, justice, and care to others.

Discuss Together:

- *What would everyday life look like if the moral teachings of Jesus were ignored or removed from society? How does this show us that God's ways are best?*
- *As Christians, what is our responsibility when it comes to reflecting God's goodness and responding to injustice?*

✧ **BIG IDEA 3** ✧

**Christianity Provides the Foundation for
Beauty and a Beautiful Life**

[Psalm 27:4; John 10:10](#)

Finally, not only is Christianity true and good, but it is also *beautiful*. Christianity provides the basis for the ideal of beauty, for *God is the source of all beauty*. Scripture speaks of the beauty of the Lord and invites us to behold it (**Psalm 27:4**). Genuine Christian belief and practice make for a beautiful life, for the individual and for society.

The cultural fruit of Christianity is unparalleled in terms of the beauty it has inspired and cultivated. Whereas the thief comes only to steal, kill, and destroy, Jesus came that we might have an abundant life ([John 10:10](#)), reflecting the beauty and order God has woven into creation ([Ecclesiastes 3:11](#)). Christianity has made exceptional contributions to the development of human life and culture, including contributions to science, health and medicine, education and literacy, freedom and democracy, civil rights, economics and industry, marriage, sexuality, the family, and the arts. Christianity has been the rising tide that lifts all boats.

Consider just one brief example—*the arts*. Whether it be literature, poetry, music, sculpture, or painting, the greatest works of art have been either created by Christians or motivated by Christian themes and motifs. Christianity raised the aesthetic bar, breathing new life and inspiration into arts and artists, creating a level of beauty unlike anything humanity has ever experienced. A world without Christianity is a world without Michelangelo's *David* or *Sistine Chapel*, da Vinci's *The Last Supper*, Bach's cantatas, the works of Shakespeare or Dante, Tolkien's *The Lord of the Rings*, etc. Christianity has touched all aspects of the world and culture. From the poetry of the Psalms to the wisdom of Proverbs, Scripture itself reflects a beauty that has shaped the human imagination for centuries, giving us the greatest story ever told.

Live It Out: Recognize that true beauty is rooted in God and shapes how we understand meaning, purpose, and the fullness of life.

Discuss Together:

- *What are some examples of beauty in the world that point beyond themselves to something greater? Why are people drawn to beauty, meaning, and purpose in life?*
- *How does a biblical understanding of beauty differ from the idea that "beauty is in the eye of the beholder"?*

Truth, goodness, and beauty are ideals universally desired by mankind. In actuality, they represent attributes of the Triune God, revealed in Jesus Christ who declares Himself to be the way, the truth, and the life ([John 14:6](#)). Jesus is God *in the flesh*, the incarnation or embodiment of God, and this is evident in all the ways He continues to transform lives and shape the world. Looking through the lens of Christianity, we see Christ's matchless impact and the real difference faith in Him makes for people's lives and communities. Wherever the gospel of Jesus Christ has taken root in the human heart, Christianity—through the power of the Holy Spirit—has uniquely exemplified these ideals and promoted human flourishing more so than any other phenomenon in the history of the world.

D6 Discipleship Journals

Remind group members to bring their *D6 Discipleship Journals* each week for lesson notes, sermon notes, journaling, and class discussion. These journals are designed to support discipleship both at church and at home.

D6

Principle

As you encounter "as you go" moments, help your children recognize God's truth, goodness, and beauty in the world around them. Point out moments of kindness, justice, and beauty, and connect them to God's character. These conversations help children see that faith is not just something we believe, but something that shapes how we live.

Bible Engagement

Encourage your group members to complete the daily devotions in the *D6 Discipleship Journals* this week and use the journaling pages to reflect on what God is teaching them through personal study, class discussion, and Sunday sermons.



AH 7-4



AYG-7

As You Go (AYG-7) is a resource to help parents discuss the truths of this lesson with their children at home. Give copies of this page to those who will benefit from it and encourage them to use it at home this week. As You Go is also available for FREE download at D6curriculum.com/bonus. (No password required.)

Live It Out: Pursue a beautiful life by reflecting Christ's character in your attitudes, actions, and relationships this week.

Discuss Together:

- *How does following Jesus reshape what we see as meaningful or fulfilling in life?*
- *What is one practical way you can bring beauty, hope, or restoration into someone's life this week?*

Respond

Use one of these options to help your group put this lesson into practice this week.

SHARING ONE'S FAITH: Encourage group members to share with a friend, coworker, or family member one way Christianity brings truth, goodness, or beauty into the world. Challenge them to look for an opportunity this week to explain how their faith in Jesus shapes how they see life and gives hope. Remind them that sharing their faith can be as simple as starting a conversation and pointing to what Christ has done.

FAITH IN ACTION: Challenge group members to identify one practical way they can reflect the goodness of Christ this week—showing compassion, meeting a need, or standing for what is right. Encourage them to think of a specific person they can serve and take intentional action. At your next gathering, invite them to share how they saw God use that step of obedience.

REFLECTION: Encourage group members to reflect on how following Jesus brings meaning, purpose, and beauty to life. Ask them to spend time this week noticing where God's goodness and beauty are evident—in creation, relationships, or everyday moments. Then challenge them to intentionally bring encouragement, hope, or restoration into someone's life in a tangible way. The AH 7-4 Handout (*The Goodness and Beauty of God*) provides ten ideas for noticing the goodness and beauty of God in everyday life.

Notes: