



# INITIATIVE SUNDAY

FEBRUARY 1 • 9 AND 11AM

# Israel + Rome

FALL 2026



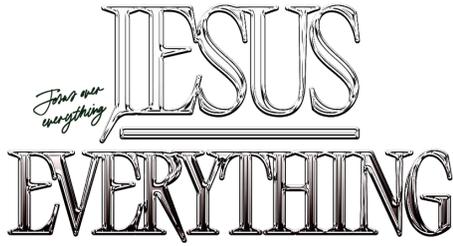
*Details Meeting - Feb. 15 after the 11am*

UCYC, LOCATED IN PRESCOTT, AZ

# YOUTH CAMP

JULY 6 - JULY 10





week 04  
**Christus Victor**  
Hebrews 2:10-15

**Total Time: 60 minutes (flexible)**

## opening prayer

**Leader Prompt (Optional):** Hebrews now shows us how Jesus saves, not from a distance, but from inside the battle. Tonight we see Jesus as our Champion, not just our example.

**Prayer:** “Father, thank You for sending Your Son into our brokenness, not just to teach us, but to rescue us. Help us see Jesus clearly as our victorious Savior and help us live from the freedom He has already won. In Jesus’ name, Amen.”

## highlights & connection

**Purpose:** Help the group emotionally connect to the idea of rescue rather than self-rescue

**Leader Prompt (Optional):** *Share briefly how God has been at work in your life this week—highs, lows, growth, or challenges. Keep space for everyone.*

### opening reflection

- When you think of the word rescue, what images come to mind?
- Have you ever been in a situation where you couldn’t fix things yourself?
- Why do we often prefer advice over rescue?

**Story Connection:** Briefly recall the Chilean miners illustration, alive, but trapped, unable to save themselves.

**Key Thought:** “Christianity isn’t God shouting instructions from heaven, it’s God entering the mine.”

## scripture focus

Read Aloud: Hebrews 2:10-15

*Invite someone to read slowly. Encourage listening for action words, destroyed, delivered, shared, freed.*

### Context (Leader Summary)

Hebrews 2 answers a crucial question: *Why did Jesus have to become human and suffer?* The author shows us that salvation required more than forgiveness, it required victory. Humanity was held under the power of death and fear, and Jesus entered fully into our condition to defeat the enemy from within

This is the heart of **Christus Victor**, Christ as the conquering Champion who liberates His people.

## main discussion focus

*Leaders: keep this grounded, hopeful, and Christ-centered*

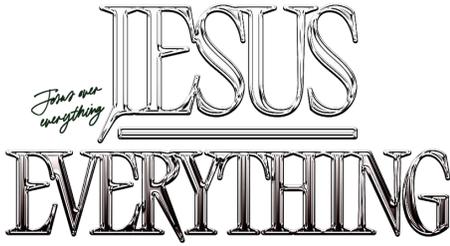
### Key Truth # 1 - Jesus Became Like Us to Rescue Us

“He himself likewise partook of the same things...” (Hebrews 2:14)

#### Discuss

- Why was it necessary for Jesus to fully share in our humanity?
- What does it mean that Jesus didn’t help us from a distance?
- How does this reshape the way we view God’s compassion?

**Key Insight:** Jesus didn’t put on flesh for convenience; He armed Himself with it for battle.



## main discussion focus

*Leaders: aim for clarity and awe, not argument.*

### Key Truth # 2 - Jesus Won Through Suffering and Death

“Through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death...” (Hebrews 2:14)

#### Discuss

- Why does the cross look like defeat before it looks like victory?
- How is Jesus’ victory different from how the world defines winning?
- What does it mean that death was defeated by death?

**Key Insight:** The cross was not an accident; it was the battlefield.

### Key Truth # 3 - Jesus Frees Us From Fear and Slavery

“Deliver all those who through fear of death were subject to lifelong slavery.” (Hebrews 2:15)

#### Discuss

- How does fear still enslave people today?
- What kinds of fear does Jesus specifically free us from?
- How does living from victory differ from living for victory?

**Key Insight:** We are not fighting for freedom; we are learning to live in it

## missional living

**Purpose:** Help the group move from fear-based living to freedom-based living by trusting in Jesus’ victory over sin, death, and the devil (Hebrews 2:10–15), and learning to share that freedom through simple, relational spiritual conversations.

**Leader Frame (Optional):** Hebrews 2 reminds us that Jesus didn’t save us from a distance. He entered our suffering, faced death, and broke its power. Christus Victor doesn’t deny pain—it reframes it in light of victory. Because Jesus has already won, we don’t live driven by fear—and we don’t need to pressure others with religious speeches.

Creating interest isn’t about giving a long religious lecture; it’s about asking simple, relational questions that show you care and open the door to spiritual conversation.

### Seeing Jesus Clearly → Living From Victory

#### Scripture Insight

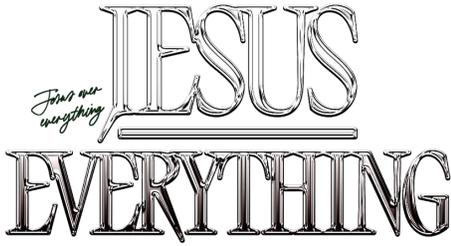
Jesus shared fully in our humanity.

Through His death, He destroyed the one who holds the power of death and freed those who lived in lifelong fear.

Freedom in Christ is not just something we believe—it’s something we live and extend to others.

#### Brief Discussion:

- Where do you still feel like you’re fighting battles Jesus has already won?
- How does fear affect the way you talk—or don’t talk—about faith with others?



## Living It Out as the Family of God

**Leader Prompt:** Think about the areas of your life where fear, shame, or defeat still speak loudly. Then think about the people God has already placed near you who may be living under those same fears.

### Group Sharing

Each person shares one area where they want to trust Jesus' victory more fully:ek

- Fear of failure
- Fear of death
- Fear of loss
- Fear of exposure
- Fear of the future

(Keep it safe and brief.)

### Guided Conversation

- How does knowing Jesus entered suffering help us approach people with empathy instead of answers?
- What might it look like to invite someone into a spiritual conversation without trying to “fix” them?
- How does living as freed people change the tone of how we speak about Jesus?

**Key Insight:** Jesus defeated fear at the cross.

When we live in that freedom, our lives—and our questions—become invitations to hope

## Weekly Practice & Shared Accountability

### This Week's Practice

- Identify **one fear** Jesus is inviting you to release.
- Identify **one person** you can be intentionally present with this week
- Ask **one simple, relational question** that shows care and opens space for faith, such as:
  - How have you been really doing lately?
  - What's been weighing on you the most?
  - Where do you find hope when things feel uncertain?

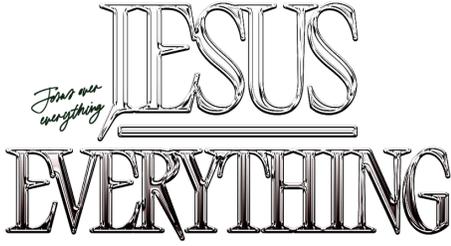
No lectures. Just presence, listening, and trust in Jesus' victory.

### Accountability Rhythm

At the start of next group, briefly share:

- the fear you named
- the question you asked or the conversation you noticed
- how trusting Jesus shaped your posture

*Victory grows through remembrance—and through loving attention*



## prayer: praying together (10 min)

### Leader Guide - Prayer Rhythm

1. **Praise the Victor:** Thank you Jesus for defeating sin, death, and the devil
2. **Release Fear** – Invite people to silently name fears they're holding
3. **Declare Freedom** - Pray Scripture-based prayers of victory and hope

**Group Prayer Prompt:** "Jesus, You are our Champion. Thank You for entering the battle, winning our freedom, and leading us into life. Teach us to live unafraid."

## final takeaways - carry this week

- **Remember** – Jesus didn't come just to forgive, He came to conquer.
- **Practice** – Fear loses power when we remember who already won.
- **Live Sent** – A free people becomes a hopeful witness.

## memory verse

"...that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil."

Hebrews 2:14 (ESV)