

“What’s That Again, Jesus?” IV

by Carol Duerksen

This series of lessons is set up to be used as a day-long or overnight retreat for your youth. If you want to do a day retreat, do parts 1 and 2 in the morning, and 3 and 4 in the afternoon. For an overnight retreat, do session 1 in the evening, and 2, 3 and 4 the next day. You could also divide it up and use different lessons for youth group or Sunday school meetings.

MATERIALS AND ADVANCE PREPARATION:

- 1 **Movies:** *Hotel Rwanda* and *Mother Teresa*, and the equipment to show them to the group. Preview the clips you will be showing.
- 2 Newsprint and markers
- 3 Bibles for each student
- 4 Digital camera with video capabilities or video camera and a laptop to show the footage.
- 5 Poster board and variety of colorful markers
- 6 Prizes
- 7 Someone should be prepared to recite from memory the story “Jesus Wasn’t Normal” found at the end of session two. Second best would be to have it read dramatically.
- 8 Unique new pencils—more than one per student so they have a choice.
- 9 Paper for journaling or drawing

FORTH PART:

Begin this session by watching the entire video of *Hotel Rwanda*.

Discuss the video. What reactions did they have? What might Jesus say to them if he’d just watched it with them?

Divide the youth into groups and ask them, once again, to come up with a theme for the weekend based on everything they have seen and experienced.

Share the themes with the group.

Discuss: *If you were going to follow through on this theme, what difference would it make in your life?*

Here are three different closing options:

- 1** An anointing service. You will need a small amount of oil in a flask. Anoint each young person with a cross on their forehead, and pray for each one individually during the anointing.
- 2** Pair up to pray for each other in candlelight.
- 3** Discuss an action that your group could take to help right an injustice in your world or community. Make plans to do it!