



EXPLORE THE BIBLE.

Session 2: Turn to God

Suggested Week of Use: September 11, 2022

Core Passage: Amos 4:1-13

News Story Summary

Accountability for a crime came too late for one man who killed a Pennsylvania woman, but now at least the family knows the truth. The murder of Anna Kane in 1988 had gone unsolved for more than three decades. In late August, though, law enforcement officials were able to use genetic genealogy technology to confirm that a man named Scott Grim, now deceased, was responsible for the homicide. A relatively new innovation, genetic genealogy combines DNA evidence and genealogical information to identify connections among relatives and possible suspects. In this case, DNA samples from the original crime, along with the saliva on a letter Grim sent in 1990, matched his DNA. Grim's DNA was obtained after a company called Parabon NanoLabs found relatives' DNA in a public database. From there, genealogy connected those relatives with Grim.

Kane's adult daughter reports being disappointed that the person responsible was identified too late, but the family is glad they finally know who killed the young mother in 1988.

For more about this story, search "DNA used to solve Kane cold case."

Focus Attention

To supplement the opening activity under Focus Attention, tell the story of the cold case death of Anna Kane that was solved in Pennsylvania by using genetic genealogy testing. After telling the story, ask: *How do you feel knowing Scott Grim never faced accountability for his crime? Do you think it's important to find those responsible for a crime, even after many years and even if they might be dead? Explain.* Point out that this lesson focuses on people being held accountable—not to the law or to others, but to God.

Summarize and Challenge

To supplement the idea under Summarize and Challenge, draw a two-column chart on the board or on a large sheet of paper. List one column "Similarities" and the other column "Differences." Recall the story of the cold case solved in Pennsylvania. Direct the group to think about the similarities and differences between Scott Grim being held accountable for his crime by the law, and all people being held accountable for their actions before God. Record their answers on the chart. After the discussion, say: *The good news is that all people can find forgiveness through Christ.* Briefly walk through the Plan of Salvation found on the inside front cover the Personal Study Guide. Share that if anyone wants to talk more about beginning a personal relationship with Jesus, you will be available after the small group time. Close in prayer.