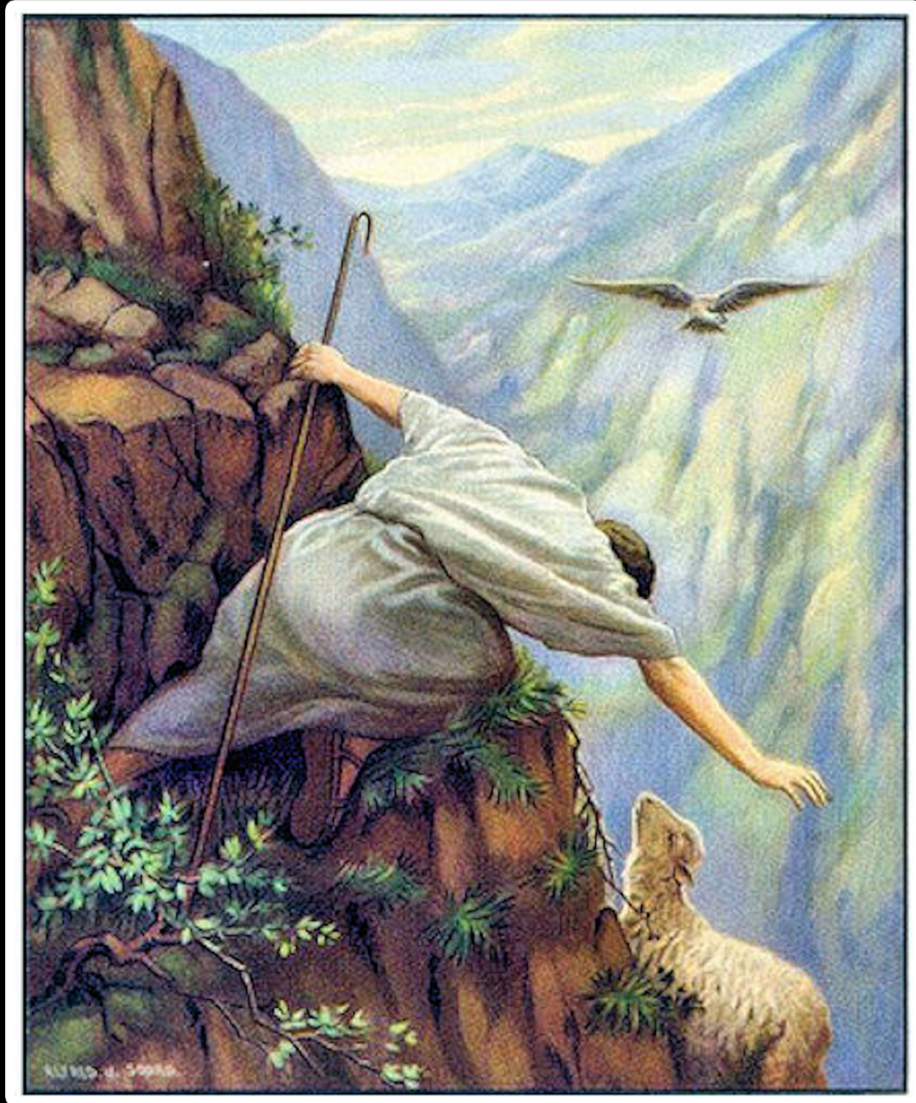


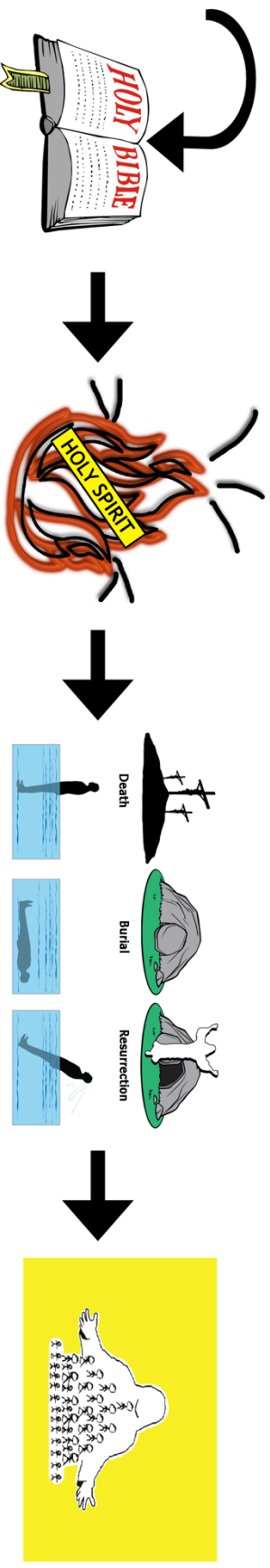
God's Plan for Young Disciples



God's Plan for Young Disciples will lay a solid foundation to help young people develop a good spiritual beginning for life.

Teacher's Edition

God's Plan for Young Disciples

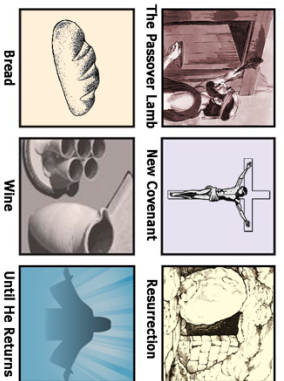


Word of God - Authority

Holy Spirit - Power

Water Baptism

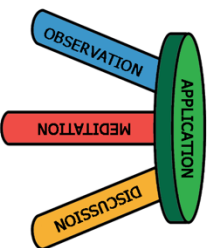
Members of One Another



Lord's Supper



Prayer



How to Study the Bible



Staked



Established

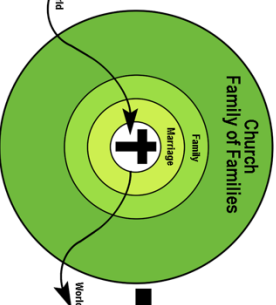


Your Life IN Christ

Your Life WITH Christ



Quiet Time with the Lord



Family of Families



Growing Disciples

God's Plan for Young Disciples

Teacher's Edition

God's Plan for Young Disciples: Teacher's Edition is designed to be used in conjunction with *God's Plan for Young Disciples: Young Disciples' Workbook*. This material is prepared with lessons, activities and applications for children and youth of all ages to promote and encourage young followers of Christ in their spiritual growth using biblical principles that are not limited by culture and time.

Tim W. Bunn and Virginia J. Dickens

Second Edition, 2022

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God's Plan for Young Disciples

Teacher's Edition

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Book Front Cover:

Alford Usher Soord (1868-1915) was a British painter whose most famous work is a painting of *The Parable of The Lost Sheep*, depicting a sheep stranded halfway down a steep cliff and the shepherd hanging perilously over the edge, risking his own life to save it. *The Lost Sheep* was exhibited in 1898 in the Royal Academy and by 1916, over 300,000 reproductions of it had been sold in England and America; the work continues to be extremely popular more than a century after its creation.

First Edition, 2021

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ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The inspiration for this book came from parents in Central America teaching *God's Plan for His Disciples* to children. Thank you to Martha Dickens Evans for her assistance with the curriculum content. We want to recognize Danielle Nash, who helped us with the graphics, making them easy for children to color and remember the Bible truths that go along with the lessons. We also thank Sherman Driver for his encouragement and help in formatting this project into a usable workbook.

INTRODUCTION

This is a tool to lay a solid foundation and help children develop a good spiritual beginning by exposing them to the Word of God, the Bible, through pictures, stories, and activities. Whether you are training your own children or other children to be disciples of Jesus to their generation, starting with these lessons will help them grow into devoted followers of Christ.

God's Plan for Young Disciples (GPYD) is designed to be used under the oversight of someone who has already completed *God's Plan for His Disciples* (GPHD). GPYD is to be used with and alongside GPHD. We would encourage you, as the trainer and mentor of the information in this book, to become familiar with the stories in each lesson so you can tell and explain them in a simple story format. You can adjust or tailor your storytelling, teaching methods, visuals, discussion, and questions to what is suitable for the young disciples' comprehension and ability levels. Although the page numbers will be different from GPHD, the lesson numbers and headings will be the same.

OVERVIEW FOR TEACHING CHILDREN AND YOUTH

Solomon gives those who train children some good advice: *“Train a child how to live the right way. Then even when he is old, he will still live that way”* (Proverbs 22:6). Training children, according to this proverb, means that the training begins with the Bible. According to 2 Timothy 3:16-17, *“All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching and for showing people what is wrong in their lives. It is useful for correcting faults and teaching how to live right. Using the Scriptures, the person who serves God will be ready and will have everything he needs to do every good work.”*

Since children are born self-centered, it might surprise them that the Bible is not all about them. If you want children to understand the Bible, you must help them see that Christ is the Living Word made flesh; He is God. *“Before the world began, there was the Word. The Word was with God, and the Word was God”* (John 1:1).

“The Word became a man and lived among us. We saw his glory—the glory that belongs to the only Son of the Father. The Word was full of grace and truth” (John 1:14). Jesus is the Hero!

Another thing to remember is that children do not think about the *big picture* of scripture. They can know many Bible stories without understanding the big or main story which is the Gospel that holds all scripture together. No passage or story in the Bible stands alone; each one in context is about the Gospel story which is Christ.

You should review the resource entitled **Tips for Teaching Children and Youth** on page 5 before beginning the course with a child or group. It is vital that the manner in which the information is presented be in line with sound teaching and learning principles and compatible with the ways in which a diversity of children learn.

In addition, when preparing to teach and disciple children and youth, we must not assume that the ones we are about to teach have all come to know Christ personally as their Savior. It is important, as much as possible, to ensure that the children and youth beginning this study have trusted Christ to forgive their sins and desire to follow Him.

You may choose to use the resources entitled **Salvation through Jesus Christ** on pages 7 to 9 to help you lead any in your group to salvation.

TIPS FOR TEACHING CHILDREN AND YOUTH

- **Recognize the God-sized task you have been given: to teach children God’s words and His ways:** *“You should tell them the laws and teachings. Tell them the right way to live and what they should do”* (Exodus 18:20). *“Train a child how to live the right way. Then even when he is old, he will still live that way”* (Proverbs 22:6).
- Stay prepared and organized. Order and discipline are easier to maintain when lessons and activities are presented orderly with no lag time.
- Keep the pace of the lessons moving and the activities varied. Children have short attention spans.
- Keep the interest level high. Children like to play. The material is serious, but the presentations should be fun and enjoyable with games and other activities.
- Include physical activities in the lessons. Children learn by moving their bodies.
- Provide for follow-up and review of content. Repetition aids retention.
- Allow for real-life practice of skills (how to study the Bible, how to pray, etc.). Don’t assume children can do it until they demonstrate it.
- Modify the lesson content to the age, academic, and social levels of the children. Not one size fits all. Be flexible with the teaching methods and materials.
- Consider the needs of children and youth who are primarily oral and visual learners or who have low basic literacy skills. [For additional information, see **Help for Teaching Oral and Visual Learners** on page 6].
- Be sensitive to any disabilities among the children that need special modifications. Adapt lessons as necessary. Individualize where possible and remember that more is not always better.
- Make a positive discipline plan up front. Emphasize rewards for good behaviors, while working to replace inappropriate behaviors.
- Remember these truths: *“...if you do anything, do everything for the glory of God”* (1 Corinthians 10:31b). *“But without me [you] can do nothing”* (John 15:5b). *“I can do all things through Christ because he gives me strength”* (Philippians 4:13).

Help for Teaching Oral and Visual Learners

Many children and youth across the world are primarily oral and visual learners. Some have below basic literacy skills or, due to learning challenges, may learn more efficiently from an approach with a strong oral and visual emphasis. Others may come from cultures that do not teach with books but emphasize conversations, narratives, music, and visual arts for their learning. Most children and youth from unreached people groups in the world are oral and visual learners.

Oral and visual learners may struggle to understand the written word and may prefer to learn by listening and seeing. They may remember up to 75 percent of what they hear, see, or say. Teachers and mentors must be careful not to rely too heavily on reading-based learning activities, but also include the use of visuals, discussions and questions. Oral learners make connections in their learning when they can talk through concepts with others. Allow sufficient time for one-on-one and group discussions. Visuals are useful but should always be explained to the children. Avoid total reliance on visuals to communicate concepts. You may also use the graphics from *God's Plan for His Disciples* (GPHD) and *God's Plan for Young Disciples* (GPYD) to assist with teaching oral and visual learners (see inside front and back covers).

Here is a basic format that might be useful in helping oral and visual learners to understand scripture. This format is similar to the Four Step Bible Study method introduced in Lesson 6 and is drawn from the story of Philip and the Ethiopian Man from Acts 8:26-38.

1. Read the Word of God together, and have the learners recite or say out loud their **observations**. Use the visuals to support what you have read and what they have observed. (See Acts 8:28.)
2. Ask the learners to **meditate** or **think** about and to explain what they have observed from the Word of God and the visuals. (See Acts 8:30.)
3. **Discuss** together by asking and answering questions about what God is saying and what the visuals mean. Question and discuss what the key principles of the passage are and how they are relevant today in the learners' lives. (See Acts 8:31-35.)
4. Challenge the learners by asking, "Now what? How and when will you **apply** what you have learned to your life?" (See Acts 8:36-38.)

To start your journey through this workbook, see the inside of the front cover of this workbook for a color visual overview of GPYD.

We are praying for you as you use this resource to establish and strengthen your faith and that of the children and youth you disciple.

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God's Plan for Young Disciples - Part One



*“But Jesus said,
Let the little children come to me.
Don’t stop them, because the kingdom of heaven
belongs to people who are like these children.”
Matthew 19:14*

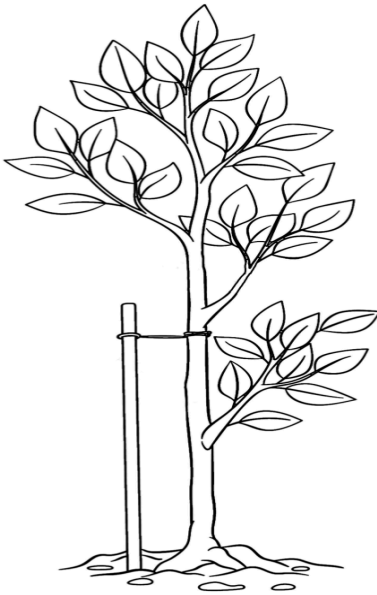
Review the information covered on page 7 in GPHD as you prepare to mentor children and youth in the biblical principles in this study.

The purpose of this study course is to train children and youth in the timeless principles put forth and used in the Early Christian Church that changed the world for Christ and the Gospel during its time. Our goal is to develop the knowledge and desire in children and youth to become today’s disciples that will impact their world for the same reasons.

The Apostle Paul had two important goals. **One was to preach the Gospel so that the Gospel could make disciples of those who received the salvation of Jesus Christ.** Paul said, *“I always want to preach the Good News in places where people have never heard of Christ. I do this because I do not want to build on the work that someone else has already started. But it is written in the Scriptures: ‘Those who were not told about him will see, and those who have not heard about him will understand’”* (Romans 15:20-21).

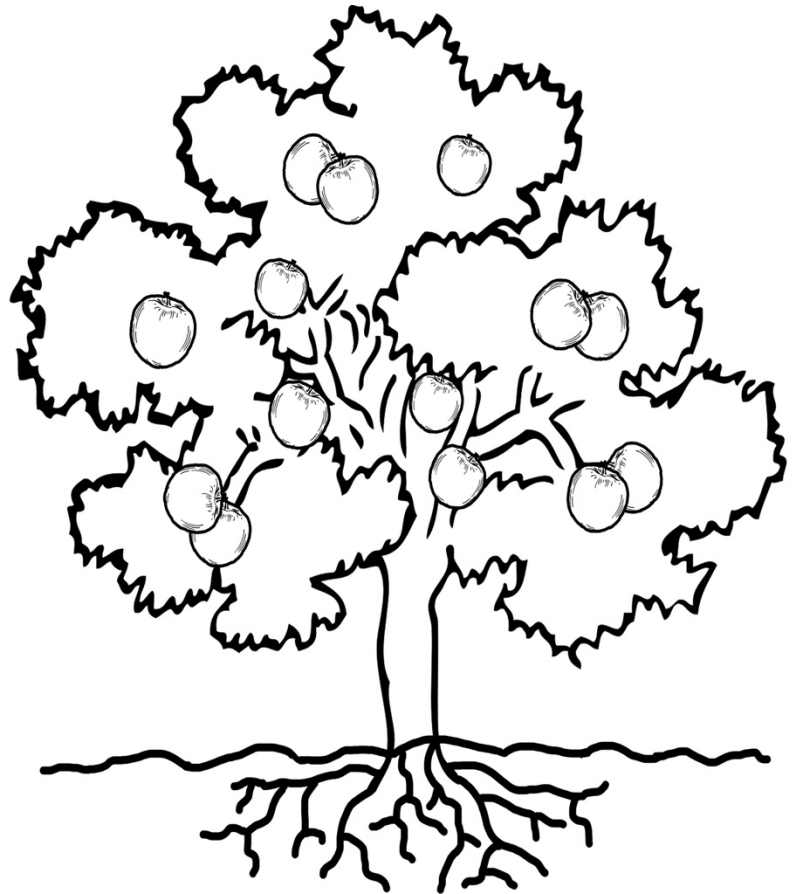
After Paul had preached the gospel, which made disciples, **his second goal was to establish or strengthen those new disciples or learners.** Paul wanted the new believers to grow stronger in the truths about their faith and not be easily led away from these truths. He *“...helped them to stay in the faith”* (Acts 14:22b).

Paul preached the Gospel of Jesus Christ every time he had an opportunity. He took dangerous journeys to bring the Gospel to those who had never heard it. As he preached, people believed and became disciples or followers of Jesus Christ. He wanted to ensure that the new disciples grew in their faith and became strong Christians. To accomplish this, he took more journeys and also wrote letters to young churches. Sometimes he took others with him as he traveled to teach believers how to become mature in their new beliefs.



New or Weak Tree

Discipleship Training for New Believer



An Established Strong Fruitful Tree

Mature Believer Can Stand Strong

Helping new believers to become strong in their faith is called discipleship training. Our objective in the study is to come alongside new disciples and “stake them up” with an understanding of their faith so that they can become mature believers and stand strong on their own (as in the diagrams above).

I. DISCIPLES' AUTHORITY AND SUFFICIENCY

Lesson 1

The Authority and Sufficiency of the Word [God's Word is True and I Can Trust It]



We should follow and build our lives on the Word of God (Scripture). If you build your life on anything else besides God's Word, it will fail. God's Word is true, trustworthy, and complete. He gave us His Living Word to provide everything we need to live the life God wants us to live.

Prepare to Tell the Story:

Review pages 8-10 in GPHD. Study Genesis 1:1-31, John 1:1-4, 14, and 2 Timothy 3:16-17.

- Be able to tell the story of what God's Word is.
- Explain why we can trust God's Word in the Bible.
- Explain that Jesus is The Word who became a man.
- Explain what God's Word (the Bible) can do for us.
- Prepare visuals and activities.
- Write the Memory Verse(s) for Lesson 1 on a poster to show the children.

Memory Verse(s):

2 Timothy 3:16-17

"All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching and for showing people what is wrong in their lives. It is useful for correcting faults and teaching how to live right. Using the Scriptures, the person who serves God will be ready and will have everything he needs to do every good work."

- Read the Memory Verse(s) that you have written on the poster several times out loud for/with the children, using hand motions to illustrate each main section of the verses (ex. *teaching* might be a forefinger to the head; *showing* might be palms up; etc.).
- Make it a game. See who can say the verse(s) from memory.

Tell the Story 1.1:

- You will tell the story of Creation and why we can trust God's words from Genesis 1.
- Use the Days of Creation visual located in the Visual Aid(s) section of Lesson 1 to illustrate.

Say:

- The Book of Genesis tells us how God created our whole world and everything in it out of nothing. We can trust what God does and says.
- Listen while I read from Genesis 1.

Read Genesis 1:1-31:

"In the beginning God created the sky and the earth. The earth was empty and had no form. Darkness covered the ocean, and God's Spirit was moving over the water. Then God said, 'Let there be light!' And there was light. God saw that the light was good. So he divided the light from the darkness. God named the light 'day' and the darkness 'night.' Evening passed, and morning came. This was the first day.

Then God said, 'Let there be something to divide the water in two!' So God made the air to divide the water in two. Some of the water was above the air, and some of the water was below it. God named the air 'sky.' Evening passed, and morning came. This was the second day.

Then God said, 'Let the water under the sky be gathered together so the dry land will appear.' And it happened. God named the dry land 'earth.' He named the water that was gathered together 'seas.' God saw that this was good. Then God said, 'Let the earth produce plants. Some plants will make grain for seeds. Others will make fruit with seeds in it. Every seed will produce more of its own kind of plant.' And it happened. The earth produced plants. Some plants had grain for seeds. The trees made fruit with seeds in it. Each seed grew its own kind of plant. God saw that all this was good. Evening passed, and morning came. This was the third day.

Then God said, 'Let there be lights in the sky to separate day from night. These lights will be used for signs, seasons, days and years. They will be in the sky to give light to the earth.' And it happened. So God made the two large lights. He made the brighter light to rule the day. He made the smaller light to rule the night. He also made the stars. God put all these in the sky to shine on the earth. They are to rule over the day and over the night. He put them there to separate the light from the darkness. God saw that all these things were good. Evening passed, and morning came. This was the fourth day.

Then God said, 'Let the water be filled with living things. And let birds fly in the air above the earth.' So God created the large sea animals. He created every living thing that moves in the sea. The sea is filled with these living things. Each one produces more of its own kind. God also made every bird that flies. And each bird produces more of its own kind. God saw that this was good. God blessed them and said, 'Have many young ones and grow in number. Fill the water of the seas, and let the birds grow in number on the earth.' Evening passed, and morning came. This was the fifth day.

Then God said, 'Let the earth be filled with animals. And let each produce more of its own kind. Let there be tame animals and small crawling animals and wild animals. And let each produce more of its kind.' And it happened. So God made the wild animals, the tame animals and all the small crawling animals to produce more of their own kind. God saw that this was good.

Then God said, 'Let us make human beings in our image and likeness. And let them rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky. Let them rule over the tame animals, over all the earth and over all the small crawling animals on the earth.' So God created human beings in his image. In the image of God he created them. He created them male and female. God blessed them and said, 'Have many children and grow in number. Fill the earth and be its master. Rule over the fish in the sea and over the birds in the sky. Rule over every living thing that moves on the earth.' God said, 'Look, I have given you all the plants that have grain for seeds. And I have given you all the trees whose fruits have seeds in them. They will be food for you. I have given all the green plants to all the animals to eat. They will be food for every wild animal, every bird of the air and every small crawling animal.' And it happened. God looked at everything he had made, and it was very good. Evening passed, and morning came. This was the sixth day."

Ask the Children these Questions:

- Who does the Bible say created everything? _____
- How did He create it? _____
- How many days did it take to create everything? _____
- What is your favorite animal? _____
- Can you create your favorite animal out of nothing? _____
- Could you make all of the things that God made in six days? _____
- Does God sound like He has great power? _____
- Can you trust a God who can do all of this creation? _____
- Do we need to listen to the words of a God like this? _____

Tell the Story 1.2:

- You will tell the story of Jesus the Word from John 1.

Say:

- The Bible is God's Word to us. God spoke through men who wrote down His words. We can trust the Bible because we can trust our all-powerful God and what He says.
- Jesus was there with God when the world was created. He is God. John 1:1 calls Jesus the Word. The Word later became a man, lived on earth, died, and rose again to save us from our sins.
- Let's see what John wrote about Jesus being The Word.

Read John 1:1-4,14:

“Before the world began, there was the Word [Jesus]. The Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. All things were made through him. Nothing was made without him. In him there was life. That life was light for the people of the world.”

“The Word became a man and lived among us. We saw his glory—the glory that belongs to the only Son of the Father. The Word was full of grace and truth. From him we all received more and more blessings.”

Ask the Children these Questions:

- When John talks about the Word, who is He talking about? _____
- Who is Jesus? _____
- Was Jesus there and participating when the world was created? _____
- The Word later became _____ and lived _____. What does that mean?

- Who is our Living Word written about in 1 John 1:1 who provides eternal life for us if we trust Him? _____

1 John 1:1 “We write you now about something that has always existed. We have heard. We have seen with our own eyes. We have watched, and we have touched with our hands. We write to you about the Word that gives life.”

- Listen to find out more about the Bible and what God’s Word can do for us.

Tell the Story 1.3:

- You will tell the story of what the Bible does for us from 2 Timothy 3:16-17.

Say:

- God’s Word can be trusted and is very powerful. We must read, respect, and obey it.
- Listen for the ways in which God’s Word can help us.

Read 2 Timothy 3:16-17:

“All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching and for showing people what is wrong in their lives. It is useful for correcting faults and teaching how to live right. Using the Scriptures, the person who serves God will be ready and will have everything he needs to do every good work.”

Ask the Children these Questions:

- What is the Bible? _____
- The Bible is written in whose words? _____
- 2 Timothy 3:16-17 tells us four things the Bible does for us. What are the four things the Bible does for us?
 1. _____
 2. _____
 3. _____
 4. _____

Wrap Up and Apply:

Say:

- God made everything, and we can trust Him.
- The Bible is God’s Word, and Jesus is our Living Word.
- We can trust that the Bible (God’s Word) is true.
- The Bible teaches us about God; shows us right from wrong; corrects us when we do wrong; and teaches us to do right.
- Thank you, God, for the Bible.

Discuss:

How can the Bible help you in your life today and tomorrow?

(Help children think of practical ways the Bible can help them, such as decision making, obeying parents, etc., in their daily lives.)

Follow Up Activities/Crafts:

- Activity 1: Days of Creation Visual/Activity and Coloring Page. Use the Days of Creation Visual/Activity and Coloring Page located in the Visual Aid(s) section of Lesson 1 as a visual aid and activity for the lesson. Children may color the page.
- Activity 2: Fill in the Blank Sheet: What Else Does the Word of God Do? Located in the Visual Aid(s) section of Lesson 1.

Visual Aid(s) for Lesson 1:

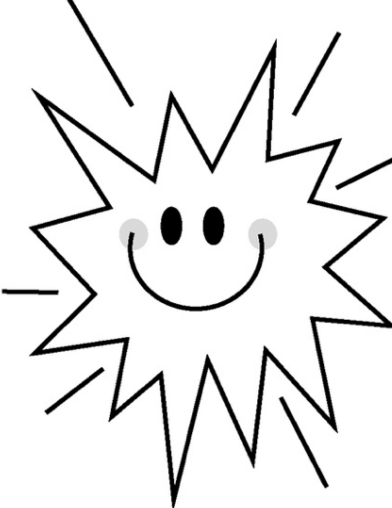
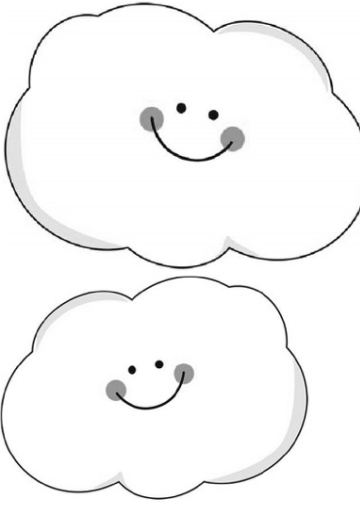

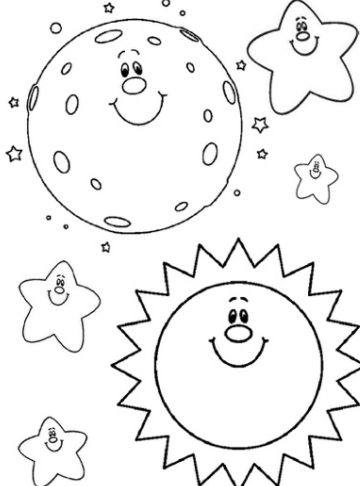


- Days of Creation Visual/Activity and Coloring Page
- Fill in the Blanks Sheet: What Else Does the Word of God Do?

Activity 1: Days of Creation Visual/Activity/Coloring Page

Instructions:

- Give each child a sheet to label the Days of Creation and color.
- Alternative—Teacher can cut out Days of Creation pictures and place them face down on a table. One-by-one, the children will select pictures and recall the correct day of Creation represented by each picture.

Days of Creation

<p>Day ____ God made light!</p> 	<p>Day ____ God made the sky!</p> 	<p>Day ____ God made land and sea, plants and trees!</p> 
<p>Day ____ God made the sun, moon and stars!</p> 	<p>Day ____ God made the birds and fish!</p> 	<p>Day ____ God made animals and people!</p> 

Activity 2: Fill in the Blanks Sheet

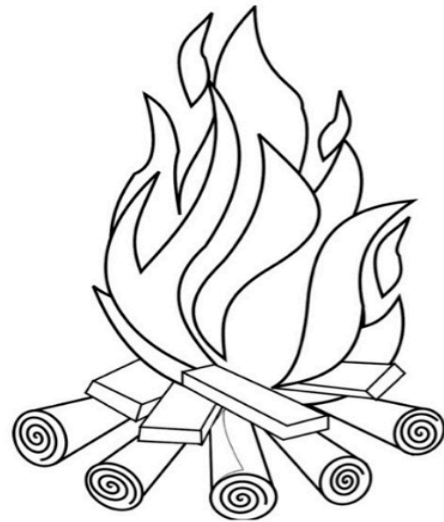
Instructions:

- Read each verse. Fill in the missing words in the blanks.
- Children may color the pictures.

What Else Does the Word of God Do?



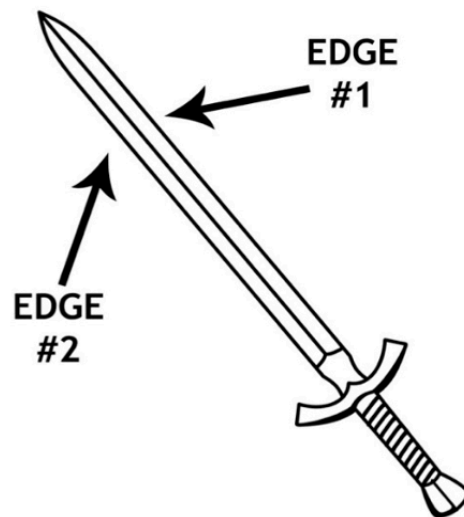
In Psalm 119:105, what is God's Word to your feet: _____



In Jeremiah 23:29, what two things is God's Word like? _____ and _____



In Jeremiah 23:29, what does God's Word do? _____

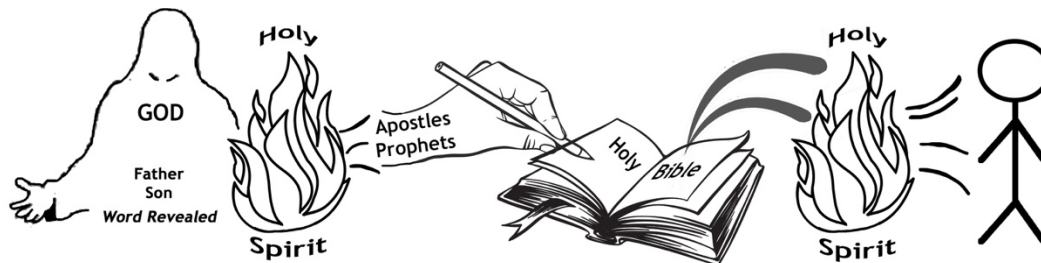


In Hebrews 4:12, God's Word is like a sharp _____, and it "*judges the thoughts and feelings in our* _____."

Lesson 2

The Authority and Sufficiency of the Spirit

[The Holy Spirit Gives Us Power]



Pentecost marked the coming of the Holy Spirit into the lives of followers of Jesus Christ. God the Father sent His Son, Jesus, as the Word Revealed in human form. When Jesus returned to heaven, He promised to send believers a helper which was The Holy Spirit. God inspired apostles and prophets to write His Holy Word, the Bible. The Holy Spirit gives believers the power to understand and obey God's Word and live as He wants them to live. [Briefly explain, in simple terms, the above graphic to the children or youths with whom you are working. More understanding will come as they work through Lesson 2.]

Prepare to Tell the Story:

Review pages 11-13 in GPHD. Study Acts 1:6-11, Acts 2:1-4, and Galatians 5:16-17, 22-25.

- Be able to tell the story of the coming and importance of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost.
- Explain Jesus' promise to send the Holy Spirit to His followers.
- Explain what happened at Pentecost and its importance.
- Explain when believers receive the Holy Spirit.
- Explain the role of the Holy Spirit in the lives of believers.
- Prepare visuals, activities and craft.
- Write the Memory Verse for Lesson 2 on a poster to show the children.

Memory Verse(s):

Galatians 5:16

"So I tell you: Live by following the Spirit. Then you will not do what your sinful selves want."

- Read the Memory Verse(s) that you have written on the poster several times out loud for/with the children.
- Make it a game. Have the children erase one word of the verse at a time, and each time, see if they can say the verse with the missing words.

Review:

- Briefly review Lesson 1. Ask the children these questions:
 - Who created the world and everything in it?
 - Can the Creator/God be trusted?
 - Can God’s words in the Bible be trusted?

Tell the Story 2.1:

- You will tell the story of Jesus’ ascension and promise to send the Holy Spirit from Acts 1:6-11.
- Use the visual of Jesus’ ascension located in the Visual Aid(s) section of Lesson 2 to illustrate.

Say:

- Jesus was leaving the earth to return to His Father. He promised that He would send a special helper called the Holy Spirit in His place to be with His followers.
- As we read Acts 1:6-11 together, pay special attention to Jesus’ promise.

Read Acts 1:6-11:

“The apostles were all together. They asked Jesus, ‘Lord, are you at this time going to give the kingdom back to Israel?’ Jesus said to them, ‘The Father is the only One who has the authority to decide dates and times. These things are not for you to know. But the Holy Spirit will come to you. Then you will receive power. You will be my witnesses—in Jerusalem, in all of Judea, in Samaria, and in every part of the world.’

After he said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up. A cloud hid him from their sight. As he was going, they were looking into the sky. Suddenly, two men wearing white clothes stood beside them. They said, ‘Men of Galilee, why are you standing here looking into the sky? You saw Jesus taken away from you into heaven. He will come back in the same way you saw him go.’”

Ask the Children these Questions:

- Where was Jesus going in this story? _____
- Who did Jesus promise He would send in His place after He was gone? _____

- What would the Holy Spirit give to His followers? _____

Tell the Story 2.2:

- You will tell the story of Pentecost when the Holy Spirit came to the disciples from Acts 2:1-4.
- Use the visual of Pentecost located in the Visual Aid(s) section of Lesson 2 to illustrate.

Say:

- Jesus' followers felt very sad to see Him go away.
- I'm thinking they were happy to know that Jesus would send them a special helper called the Holy Spirit.
- I'm sure they were waiting eagerly for the Holy Spirit to come to them.
- Listen to the first time that the Holy Spirit came to Jesus' followers.

Read Acts 2:1-4.

“When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. Suddenly a noise came from heaven. It sounded like a strong wind blowing. This noise filled the whole house where they were sitting. They saw something that looked like flames of fire. The flames were separated and stood over each person there. They were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and they began to speak different languages. The Holy Spirit was giving them the power to speak these languages.”

Ask the Children these Questions:

Think about that special day of Pentecost when Jesus' disciples received the Holy Spirit. Pretend you are one of the disciples. Tell and write about that day:



- What did you hear?
-



- What did you see?
-



- What were you filled with?
-

Say:

- Today Jesus’ followers get the Holy Spirit when they trust Christ to forgive their sins and choose to follow Him. Acts 2:38: *“Peter said to them, ‘Change your hearts and lives [repent] and be baptized, each one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.’”*
- Jesus said that the Holy Spirit would give us power.
- Listen to find out what kind of power the Holy Spirit gives believers.

Tell the Story 2.3:

- Explain the role of the Holy Spirit from Galatians 5:16-17; 22-25.

Say:

- Jesus sent us the Holy Spirit to take His place when He went back to His Father in Heaven. The Holy Spirit does many wonderful things for us.
- Let’s read some of the things that the Holy Spirit does for His followers.

Read Galatians 5:16-17, 22-25:

“So I tell you: Live by following the Spirit. Then you will not do what your sinful selves want. Our sinful selves want what is against the Spirit. The Spirit wants what is against our sinful selves. The two are against each other. So you must not do just what you please.”

“But the Spirit gives love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control. There is no law that says these things are wrong. Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified their own sinful selves. They have given up their old selfish feelings and the evil things they wanted to do. We get our new life from the Spirit. So we should follow the Spirit.”

Ask the Children these Questions:

- What does the Holy Spirit help you not to do? _____
- What nine good things does the Holy Spirit give to believers? _____

- Galatians 5:25: *“We get our new life from the Spirit. So we should follow the Spirit.”*
 From where do we get new life? _____ We should follow _____ .

Wrap Up and Apply:

Say:

- Jesus promised the Holy Spirit would come to followers, and He kept His promise.
- Without the coming of the Holy Spirit, we would not have the power to stop sinning and do good works.
- Believers receive the Holy Spirit when they trust Christ to forgive their sins and choose to follow Him.
- Without the coming of the Holy Spirit, we would not have the power to tell others about Jesus.
- Thank you, God, for the Holy Spirit.

Discuss:

What are some things that you can ask the Holy Spirit to help you with in your life today? (Help children think of practical ways the Holy Spirit can help them, such as practicing the behaviors from Galatians 5:22-23, helping them with a particular sin, etc.)

Follow Up Activities/Crafts:

- Activity 1: Ascension and Pentecost Visual/Coloring Page
Use the Ascension and Pentecost Coloring Page as a Visual Aid for the Lesson.
Children may also color the page.
- Activity 2: Headband Craft- Holy Spirit
Have children make headbands using the template located in the Visual Aid(s) section of Lesson 2.
- Activity 3: Fill in the Blanks--What Else Does the Holy Spirit Do? Located in the Visual Aid(s) section of Lesson 2.

Visual Aid(s) for Lesson 2

- Ascension and Pentecost Visual/Coloring Page
- Pentecost Headband Craft
- Fill in the Blanks: What Else Does the Holy Spirit Do?

Ascension Visual Aid

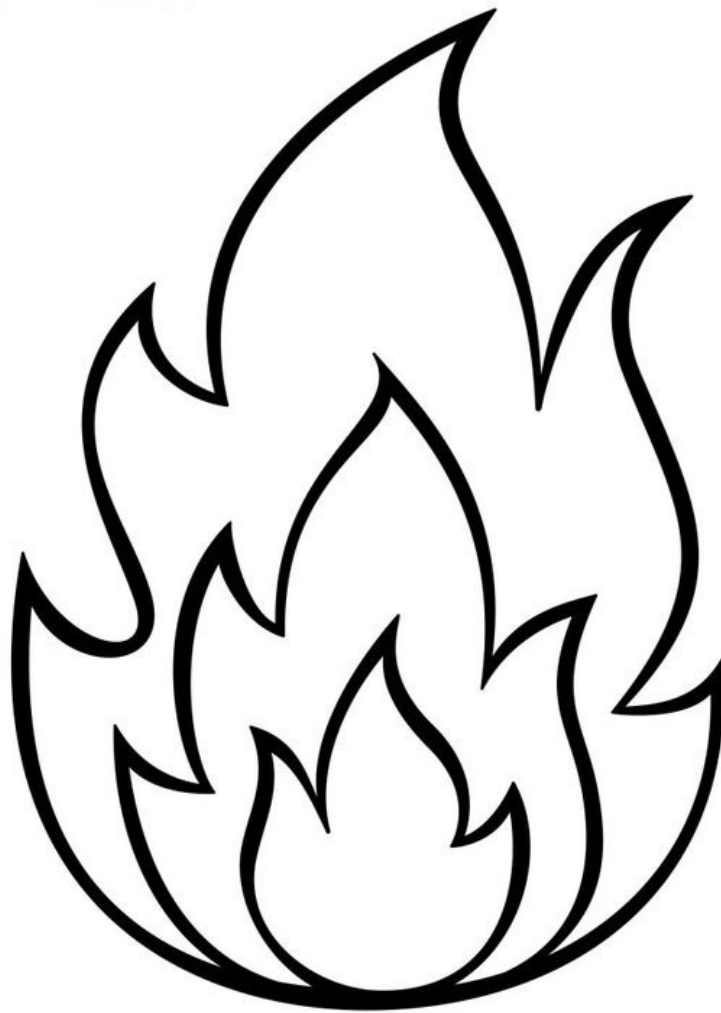


Pentecost Visual Aid



Activity 2: Headband Craft

Pentecost Headband Craft



Instructions:

- Help each child to make a headband using the template of a flame above.
- Color and cut out the flame.
- To make the band, cut two strips of construction paper (approximately 1” width, 12” length each). Tape the ends of the strips together to make one circular band. Fit it to the child’s head before taping. Attach the flame to the front of the headband.

Activity 3: Fill in the Blanks

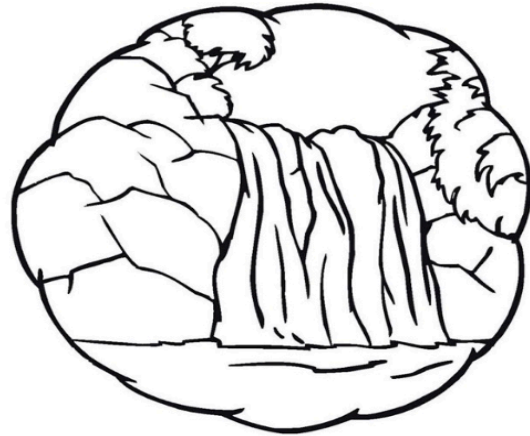
Instructions:

- Read each verse. Fill in the missing words in the blanks or answer the questions.
- Children may color the pictures.

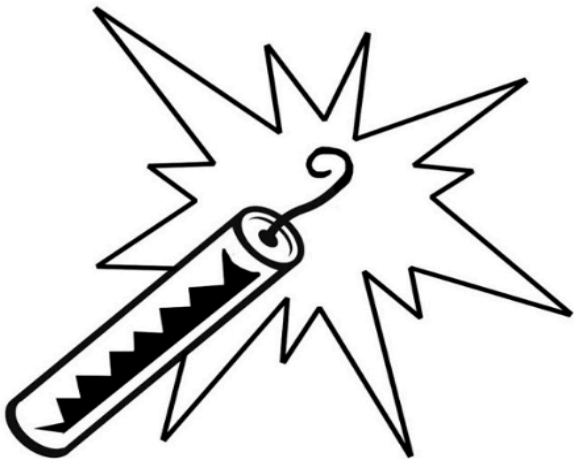
What Else Does the Holy Spirit Do?



In John 1:32-33, to what did John compare the Holy Spirit? _____
What does this mean? _____



In John 7:37-39, "If a person _____ in me, rivers of living _____ will flow out from his heart." Jesus was talking about _____



For Acts 1:8, explain the picture and power the Holy Spirit gives to believers



In Galatians 5:22-23, what does the Holy Spirit help believers to have in their lives? _____,
_____, _____, _____,
_____, _____, _____, _____

II. DISCIPLES' OBEDIENCE, MEMBERSHIP AND MEMORIAL

Lesson 3

Water Baptism



Death



Burial



Resurrection



When a believer follows Jesus' example in water baptism, it is an outward symbol that the believer has participated in the death, burial, and resurrection of Christ. Jesus was baptized, and God wants believers to be baptized also in remembrance of what Jesus and the Holy Spirit did for them. Baptism does not save people from their sins. Only trusting Christ to forgive their sins saves them.

Prepare to Tell the Story:

Review pages 14-15 in GPHD. Study Matthew 3:13-17 and Romans 6:3-11.

- Be able to tell the story of what baptism means to a believer.
- Explain Jesus' baptism and why we should follow Jesus' example for our baptism.
- Prepare visuals and activities.
- Write the Memory Verse for Lesson 3 on a poster to show the children.

Memory Verse(s):

Romans 6:4

"So when we were baptized, we were buried with Christ and shared his death. We were buried with him so that we could live a new life, just as Christ was raised from death by the wonderful power of the Father."

- Read the Memory Verse(s) that you have written on the poster several times out loud for/with the children,
- Make it a game. Use hand motions to show the 3 parts of baptism (ex. baptized=arms like a cross; buried=arms down by side; raised=arms above head).
- See who can say the verse(s) from memory.

Review:

- Briefly review Lesson 2.
- Ask the children these questions:
 - Who is the Holy Spirit?
 - How do believers receive the Holy Spirit?
 - How does the Holy Spirit help us?

Tell the Story 3.1:

- You will tell the story of Jesus' Baptism from Matthew 3:13-17.
- Use the visual/coloring page of the Baptism of Jesus located in the Visual Aid(s) section of Lesson 3 to illustrate.

Say:

- John the Baptist was a preacher who was sent by God to prepare the way for the coming of God's Son, Jesus.
- One day he was preaching out in the desert, and Jesus came to John to ask him to do something that surprised John.
- Let's read Matthew 3:13-17 and see what happened.

Read Matthew 3:13-17:

“At that time Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan River. He came to John and wanted John to baptize him. But John tried to stop him. John said, ‘Why do you come to me to be baptized? I should be baptized by you!’ Jesus answered, ‘Let it be this way for now. We should do all things that are right.’ So John agreed to baptize Jesus. Jesus was baptized and came up out of the water. Heaven opened, and he saw God’s Spirit coming down on him like a dove. And a voice spoke from heaven. The voice said, ‘This is my Son and I love him. I am very pleased with him.’”

Ask the Children these Questions:

- What did Jesus want John to do for Him? _____
- Why did Jesus say He wanted to be baptized? _____
- How did John baptize Jesus? _____
- What did God say after Jesus was baptized? _____

Tell the Story 3.2:

- You will explain what baptism means to a believer from Romans 6:3-11.
- Use the visuals of the Death, Burial and Resurrection in the Visual Aid(s) section of Lesson 3 to illustrate.

Say:

- Jesus wanted to be baptized because God thought it was good, and He wanted to obey His Father.
- Jesus was baptized by dipping under the water.
- Baptism symbolizes (means) much to believers.
- Our repentance of sin symbolizes (stands for) Jesus' death on the cross.
- Our going under the water symbolizes Jesus' burial.
- Our coming up from the water symbolizes Jesus' resurrection (coming alive again).
- Listen to Paul's writings about what baptism symbolizes to a believer.

Read Romans 6:3-11:

“Did you forget that all of us became part of Christ when we were baptized? We shared his death in our baptism. So when we were baptized, we were buried with Christ and shared his death. We were buried with him so that we could live a new life, just as Christ was raised from death by the wonderful power of the Father.

Christ died, and we have been joined with Christ by dying too. So we will also be joined with him by rising from death as he did. We know that our old life died with Christ on the cross. This was so that our sinful selves would have no power over us, and we would not be slaves to sin. Anyone who has died is made free from sin's control.

If we died with Christ, we know that we will also live with him. Christ was raised from death. And we know that he cannot die again. Death has no power over him now. Yes, when Christ died, he died to defeat the power of sin one time—enough for all time. He now has a new life, and his new life is with God. In the same way, you should see yourselves as being dead to the power of sin and alive with God through Christ Jesus.”

Ask the Children these Questions:

- Does water baptism save us from our sins? _____
Why not? _____
What does save us? _____
- Water baptism shows our becoming _____ in Christ.
- Why should believers be baptized like Jesus was? _____

Wrap Up and Apply:

Say:

- Baptism is an act of obedience to God.
- Baptism does not save you from sin. Trusting Christ to forgive your sins does that.
- Baptism is an outward act showing that you have already trusted Christ and repented of your sins.
- Thank you, God, for baptism.

Discuss:

Have you repented of your sins, trusted Christ as your Savior, and been baptized? If not, what next steps do you need to take?

Follow Up Activities/Crafts:

- Activity 1: Baptism of Jesus Visual/Coloring Page.
Use the Baptism of Jesus Visual/Coloring Page located in the Visual Aid(s) section of Lesson 3 as a visual aid for the lesson. The children may color the page.
- Activity 2: Fill in the Blanks: Death, Burial, and Resurrection located in the Visual Aid(s) section of Lesson 3.

Visual Aid(s) for Lesson 3:

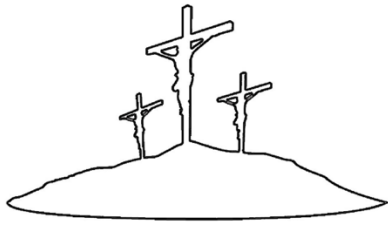
- Baptism of Jesus Visual/Coloring Page
- Fill in the Blanks: Death, Burial, and Resurrection

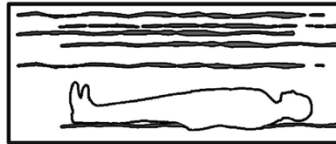
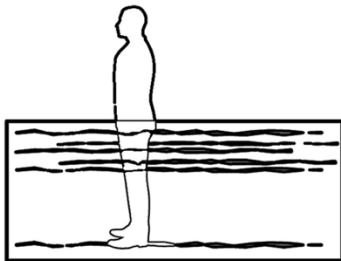
The Baptism of Jesus



Activity 2: Fill in the Blanks

Death, Burial and Resurrection





In this lesson you learned that:

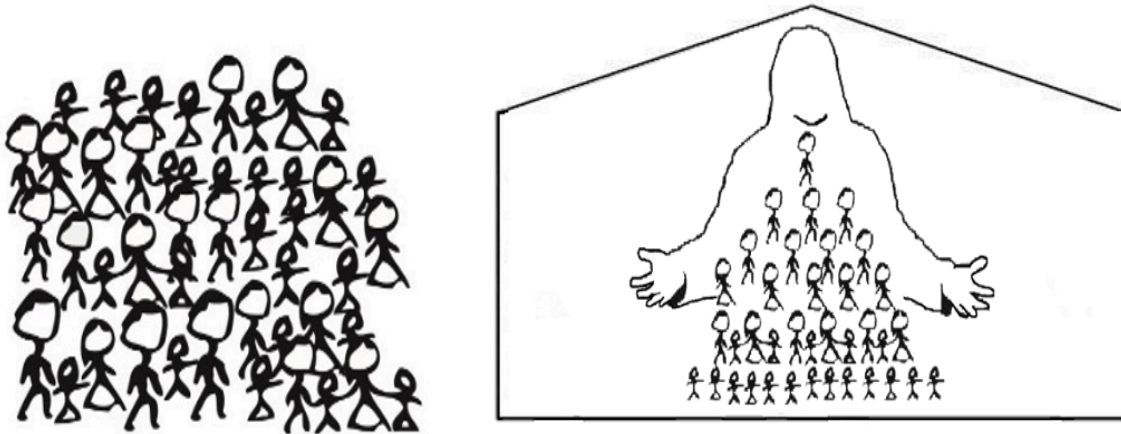
- Our repentance of sin symbolizes (stands for) Jesus' death on the cross.
- Our going under the water symbolizes Jesus' burial.
- Our coming up from the water symbolizes Jesus' resurrection (coming alive again).

Instructions:

- Place the number of the statement that matches each picture on the line under its picture.
 1. Our repentance of sin
 2. Jesus' death on the cross
 3. Our going under the water
 4. Jesus' burial
 5. Our coming up from the water
 6. Jesus' resurrection (coming alive again)

Lesson 4

Members of One Another



When we trust Christ to forgive our sins and receive the Holy Spirit to help us, we also get another wonderful gift. **We become part of the Body of Christ which is also called the family of God, the Household of God, or the Church.** This group is made up of all of those who are followers of Christ around the world. We are not alone. We are now part of God's family of believers.

Prepare to Tell the Story:

Review pages 16-17 in GPHD. Study 1 Corinthians 12:12-27.

- Be able to tell the story of membership in the family of God (the Body of Christ, the Household of God, or the Church).
- Explain how our physical bodies are a picture of our membership in the larger family of all believers.
- Explain our responsibilities to other members of the family or Body of Christ.
- Prepare visuals and activities.
- Write the Memory Verse for Lesson 4 on a poster to show the children.

Memory Verse(s):

2 Corinthians 12:12

"A person's body is one thing, but it has many parts. Yes, there are many parts to a body, but all those parts make only one body. Christ is like that too."

- Read the Memory Verse(s) that you have written on the poster several times out loud for/with the children.
- Use the Body of Christ visual located in the Visual Aid(s) section of Lesson 4 to assist.
- Make it a game. See who can say the verse(s) from memory.

Review:

- Briefly review Lesson 3
- Ask the children these questions:
 - What is baptism?
 - Is baptism necessary for salvation?
 - Why do believers need to be water baptized?

Tell the Story 4.1:

- You will tell the story of membership in the larger group of all believers called the Family or Body of Christ from 2 Corinthians 12:12-27.
- Use the Body of Christ visual/coloring page located in the Visual Aid(s) section of Lesson 4 to illustrate.

Say/Ask:

- Show me your hands. Show me your feet. Touch your ears. Blink your eyes. (Have children demonstrate.)
- Is your body made up of one part only or does your body have many different parts?
_____ Name as many parts of your body as you can in the space below.

- Which parts of your body are more important, your hands or your feet? Your eyes or your ears? _____

- Just like your body is made up of many parts, churches all over the world are made up of many believers that are part of the larger Body of Christ.
- The Bible also says that believers should participate as members in a local church family with other believers. Hebrews 10:25: “*You should not stay away from the church meetings, as some are doing. But you should meet together and encourage each other. Do this even more as you see the Day coming.*”
- Let’s read from 1 Corinthians 12 together to understand more about what our responsibilities are as members of the body of Christian believers.

Read 1 Corinthians 12:12-27:

“A person’s body is one thing, but it has many parts. Yes, there are many parts to a body, but all those parts make only one body. Christ is like that too. Some of us are Jews, and some of us are Greeks. Some of us are slaves, and some of us are free. But we were all baptized into one body through one Spirit. And we were all made to share in the one Spirit.

And a person’s body has more than one part. It has many parts. The foot might say, ‘I am not a hand. So I am not part of the body.’ But saying this would not stop the foot from being a part of the body. The ear might say, ‘I am not an eye. So I am not part of the body.’ But saying this would not make the ear stop being a part of the body. If the whole body were an eye, the body would not be able to hear. If the whole body were an ear, the body would not be able to smell anything. If each part of the body were the same part, there would be no body. But truly God put the parts in the body as he wanted them. He made a place for each one of them. And so there are many parts, but only one body.

The eye cannot say to the hand, ‘I don’t need you!’ And the head cannot say to the foot, ‘I don’t need you!’ No! Those parts of the body that seem to be weaker are really very important. And the parts of the body that we think are not worth much are the parts that we give the most care to. And we give special care to the parts of the body that we want to hide. The more beautiful parts of our body need no special care. But God put the body together and gave more honor to the parts that need it. God did this so that our body would not be divided. God wanted the different parts to care the same for each other. If one part of the body suffers, then all the other parts suffer with it. Or if one part of our body is honored, then all the other parts share its honor.

All of you together are the body of Christ. Each one of you is a part of that body.”

Ask the Children these Questions:

- Believers must care for each other and think of others before _____ .
- If you hit your thumb with a hammer, what does your other hand do that makes your thumb feel better? (Act out by wrapping the other hand around the hurt thumb. Have children respond in their own words.) _____
- In the same way, if one person in the body suffers, all the members should _____ . If one member is honored, all the other members should be _____ for that person.

Wrap Up and Apply:

Say:

- Membership in a church is often confused with salvation. Salvation is accepting God's forgiveness of your sins and choosing to follow Christ with your life. Baptism shows others you are now a believer in Christ and a member of the family of God. This family or Body of Christ is made up of all believers, whether close to you or all over the world.
- Your membership or participation in the Body of Christ is your commitment to join and meet with other believers because God said to do that. Christ is the leader of this family of believers. The Holy Spirit, along with God's Word, helps and teaches believers how to follow Christ.
- Thank you, God, for our membership with other believers in the Body of Christ.

Discuss:

How can meeting with other believers in a church family help you in your life today and tomorrow?

(Help children think of practical ways church membership or meeting with local believers can help them and how they can help other members.)

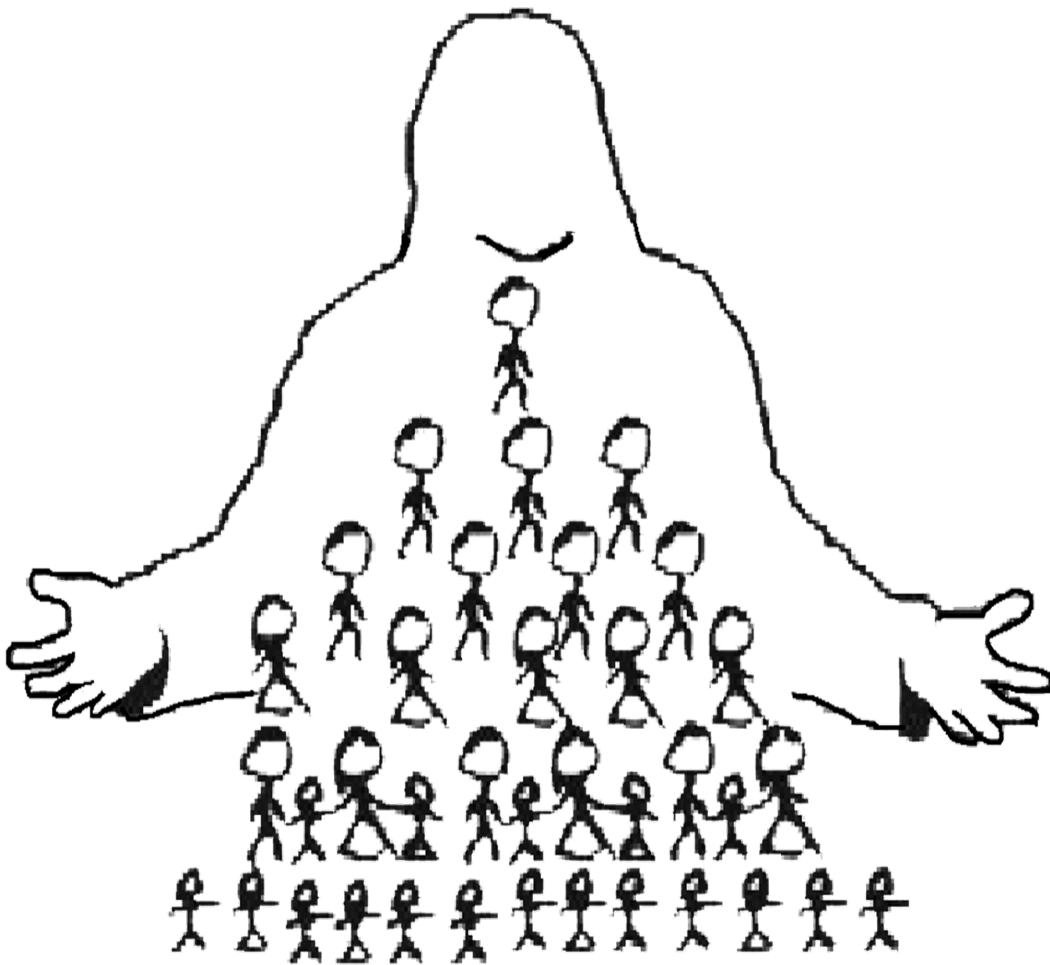
Follow Up Activities/Crafts:

- Activity 1: The Body of Christ Visual/Coloring Page.
Use the Body of Christ Visual/Coloring Page located in the Visual Aid(s) section of Lesson 4 to illustrate the lesson. Children may color the picture.
- Activity 2: The Body of Christ Worksheet located in the Visual Aid(s) section of Lesson 4.

Visual Aid(s) for Lesson 4:

- The Body of Christ Visual/Coloring Page
- The Body of Christ Worksheet

The Body of Christ
One Body/Many Members



1 Corinthians 12:12

*“A person’s body is one thing, but it has many parts.
Yes, there are many parts to a body, but all those parts make only one body. Christ is
like that too.”*

Activity 2: The Body of Christ Worksheet

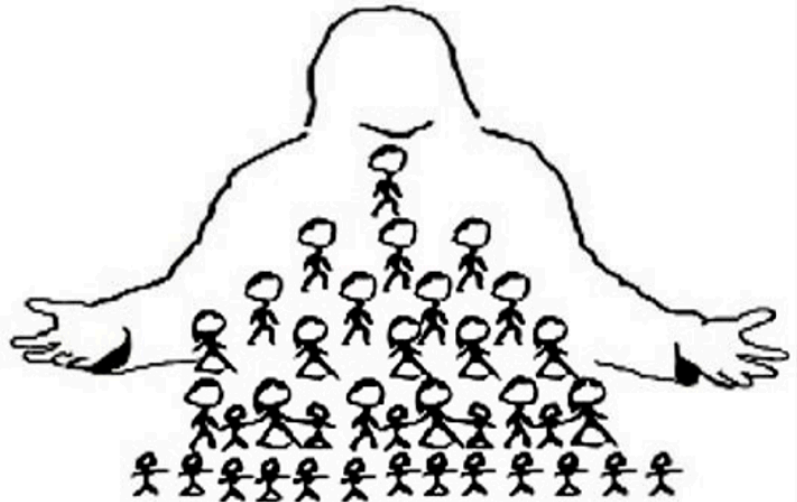
Instructions:

- Read the verses under each picture.
- Answer the questions for each passage.

The Body of Christ Worksheet



Read Ephesians 2:12-19



Read 1 Corinthians 12:12-14; 27

1. Write in your own words what you learned about the lost ones outside of the Body of Christ from Ephesians 2:12-19.

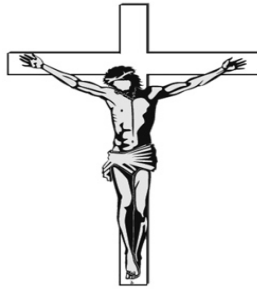
2. Write in your own words what you learned about the Body of Christ from 1 Corinthians 12:12-14, 27.

Lesson 5

Lord's Supper



The Passover Lamb



New Covenant



Resurrection



Bread



Wine



Until He Returns

The last evening Jesus spent with His disciples, He served them a special meal. It is called the Lord's Supper. He gave His disciples bread and wine to remember His body and blood He was about to sacrifice when He died for our sins. We who are followers of Christ are to take part in the Lord's Supper to remember and proclaim what Jesus did for us on the cross until His return. He is our Passover Lamb. He shed His blood on the cross, died and arose to give us a New Covenant, or new promise from God, that we will be made new creations in Him.

Prepare to Tell the Story:

Review pages 18-19 in GPHD. Study Exodus 12:21-30; Matthew 26:26-28.

- Be able to tell the story of the Lord's Supper.
- Explain the Passover Lamb.
- Explain why we celebrate the Lord's Supper and what it means.
- Prepare visuals and activities.
- Write the Memory Verse for Lesson 5 on a poster to show the children.

Memory Verse(s):

Luke 22:19 - "Then Jesus took some bread. He thanked God for it, broke it, and gave it to the apostles. Then Jesus said, 'This bread is my body that I am giving for you. Do this to remember me.'"

- Read the Memory Verse(s) that you have written on the poster several times out loud for/with the children.
- Use hand motions to help children remember the verse (ex.: pick up motion, prayer motion, breaking motion, arms outstretched, thinking motion, etc.).
- Make it a game. See who can say the verse(s) from memory.

Review:

- Briefly review Lesson 4.
- Ask the children these questions:
 - Who is the Body of Christ?
 - When do I become a member of God’s family (the Body of Christ)?
 - Does God want believers to be part of a local church family?

Tell the Story 5.1:

- You will tell the story of the Passover Lamb at the Exodus of the Israelites from Egypt (Exodus 12:21-30).
- Use the Blood on the Doorpost picture on the Fill in the Blank: The Lord’s Supper activity located in the Visual Aid(s) section of Lesson 5 to illustrate.

Say:

- Christians all around the world celebrate a special time of remembrance that we call the Lord’s Supper (or Communion).
- There are two events in the Bible, one in the Old Testament and one in the New Testament, that help us to understand what the Lord’s Supper is and why we celebrate it.
- Let’s read the story from the Old Testament that helps us understand the beginning of the Lord’s Supper. It starts when God’s people, the Israelites, were living as slaves in the land of Egypt. It tells how God allowed the death angel to pass over Israelite homes with lamb’s blood on the doorposts. The night that happened, they also ate a special meal.

Read Exodus 12:21-30:

“Then Moses called all the elders of Israel together. He told them, ‘Get the animals for your families. Kill the animals for the Passover. Take a branch of the hyssop plant and dip it into the bowl filled with blood. Wipe the blood on the sides and tops of the doorframes. No one may leave his house until morning. The Lord will go through Egypt to kill the Egyptians. He will see the blood on the sides and tops of the doorframes. Then the Lord will pass over that house. He will not let the one who brings death come into your houses and kill you.

You must keep this command. This law is for you and your descendants from now on. Do this when you go to the land the Lord has promised to give to you. When your children ask you, ‘Why are we doing these things?’ you will say, ‘This is the Passover sacrifice to honor the Lord. When we were in Egypt, the Lord passed over the houses of Israel. The Lord killed the Egyptians, but he saved our homes.’” So now the people bowed down and worshiped the Lord. They did just as the Lord commanded Moses and Aaron.

At midnight the Lord killed all the firstborn sons in the land of Egypt. The firstborn of the king, who sat on the throne, died. Even the firstborn of the prisoner in jail died. Also all the firstborn farm animals died. The king, his officers and all the Egyptians got up during the night. Someone had died in every house. So there was loud crying everywhere in Egypt.”

Ask the Children these Questions:

- Why did Moses tell the Israelites to put lamb’s blood around the doorposts of their homes? That seemed like a strange thing to do. _____

- What happened to the Egyptians who did not have the blood around their doors?

- What happened to the Israelite families who did put the blood around their doors?

Tell the Story 5.2:

- You will explain that Christ is our sacrificial Passover Lamb from Matthew 26:26-28.
- Use the Jesus: Our Passover Lamb Visual/Coloring Page and the pictures of Christ on the cross and the Passover Lamb on the Fill in the Blank: Lord’s Supper activity located in the Visual Aid(s) section of Lesson 5 to illustrate.

Say:

- The blood of the Passover lamb on the doorposts of the Israelites kept their sons safe from the death angel who saw the lamb’s blood and passed over the home without killing the firstborn son. This reminds us of the blood that Christ shed on the cross to save us from eternal separation from God for our sins.
- If we repent of our sins, believe and accept what Jesus did for us on the cross, Jesus’ shed blood cleanses us from our sins. Jesus is our Passover Lamb.
- God gave us a special way to remember what Jesus did for us. The Bible tells about this in the New Testament. Listen while we read about what Jesus did one night while He and His disciples were eating together not long before He died.

Read Matthew 26:26-28:

“While they were eating, Jesus took some bread. He thanked God for it and broke it. Then he gave it to his followers and said, ‘Take this bread and eat it. This bread is my body.’ Then Jesus took a cup. He thanked God for it and gave it to the followers. He said, ‘Every one of you drink this. This is my blood which begins the new agreement that God makes with his people. This blood is poured out for many to forgive their sins.’”

Ask the Children these Questions:

- What did Jesus say the bread represents (stands for)? _____
- What did Jesus say the cup represents (stands for)? _____
- Read Luke 22:19. Why did Jesus tell believers to take the Lord’s Supper?
“Then Jesus took some bread. He thanked God for it, broke it, and gave it to the apostles. Then Jesus said, ‘This bread is my body that I am giving for you. Do this to remember me.’” _____

- Taking the Lord's Supper helps us to remember that Jesus is our Passover Lamb who died in our place. The Lord's Supper does not save us, just as baptism does not save us. What saves us? _____
- God wants us to continue taking the Lord's Supper as believers so we will not _____

Wrap Up and Apply:

Say:

- The Passover story helps us to understand Christ who is our sacrifice for our sins.
- Christ gave us the Lord's Supper to help us remember and proclaim what He did for us on the cross when He shed His blood so that our sins could be forgiven.
- Taking the Lord's Supper represents us tasting how wonderful the Gospel of salvation is to us.
- Thank you, God, for the Lord's Supper.

Discuss:

How can taking the Lord's Supper help you in your life today and tomorrow?
(Help children think of practical ways participating in the Lord's Supper can help them.)

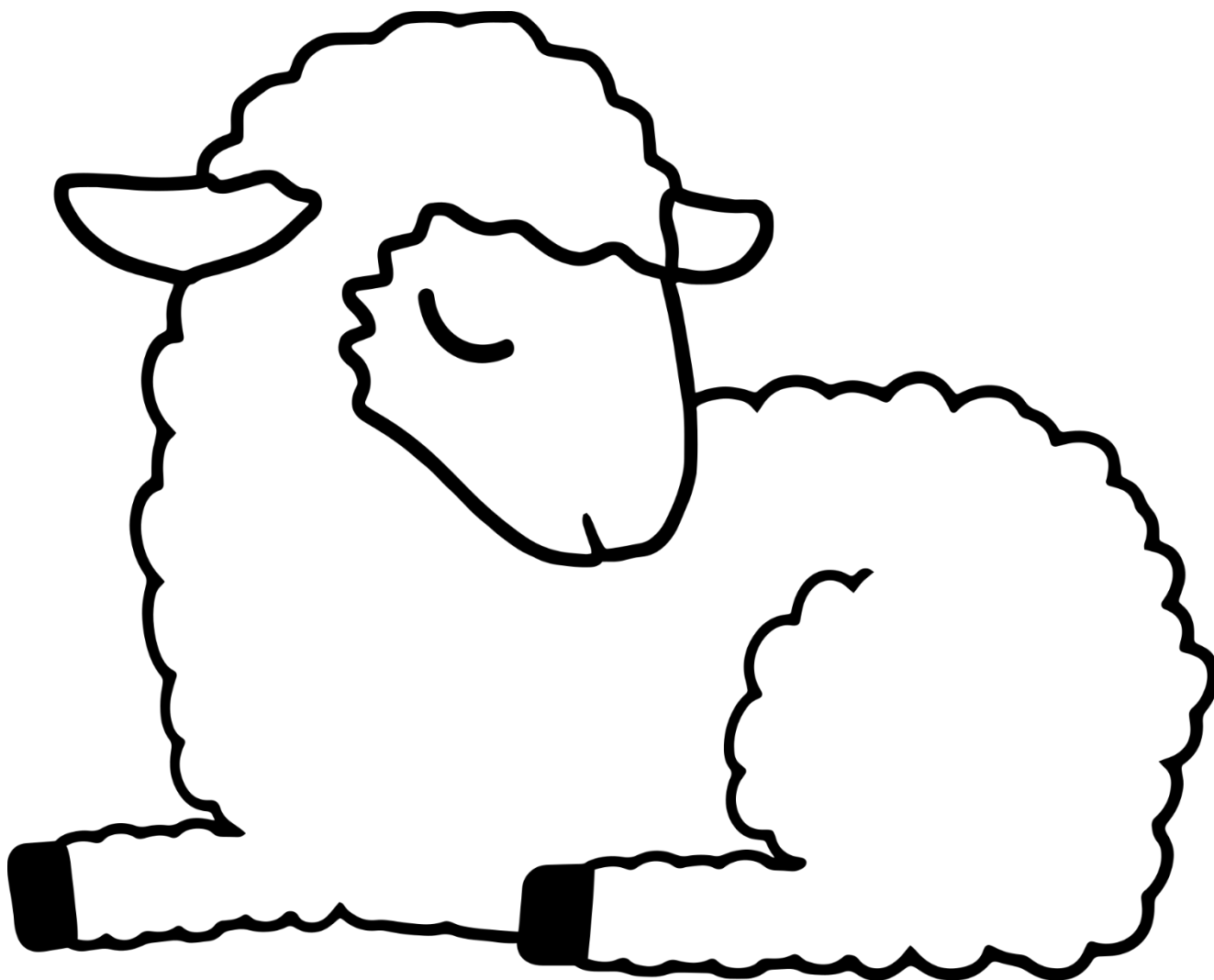
Follow Up Activities/Crafts:

- Activity 1: Jesus, Our Passover Lamb Visual/Coloring Page
Use the Jesus, Our Passover Lamb Visual/Coloring Page located in the Visual Aid(s) section of Lesson 5 as a visual aid and activity for the lesson. Children may color the page.
- Activity 2: Fill in the Blanks: The Lord's Supper located in the Visual Aid(s) section of Lesson 5.

Visual Aid(s) for Lesson 5:

- Jesus, Our Passover Lamb Visual/Coloring Page
- Fill in the Blanks: The Lord's Supper

Jesus, Our Passover Lamb



*“Look, the Lamb of God. He takes away the sins of the world!”
John 1:29b*

Activity 2: Fill in the Blanks: The Lord's Supper

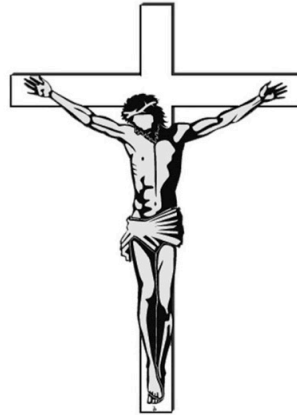
Instructions:

- Read the verses for the pictures. Fill in the blanks for each passage.

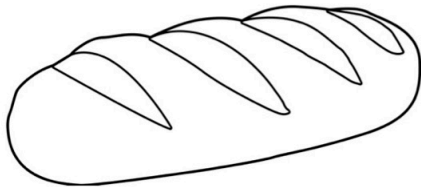
The Lord's Supper



Exodus 12:23: “[The Lord] will see the blood on the sides and tops of the door frames.” Then the Lord will _____.



1 Corinthians 5:7b: “For Christ, our _____ was killed to cleanse use.”



1 Corinthians 11:23-24: “On the night when Jesus was handed over to be killed, he took bread and gave thanks for it. Then he broke the bread and said, ‘This is my _____.’”



1 Corinthians 11:25b: “Jesus took the cup. He said, ‘This cup shows the new agreement begins with the _____ of My death.’”



1 Corinthians 11:23-25: “Jesus gave His disciples the bread and the cup to eat and drink and told them to ‘Do this in _____.’”

III. DISCIPLES ESTABLISHED IN BIBLE STUDY

Lesson 6

How to Study the Bible



We learned that God gave us His words in the Bible to help us live for Him. In order to do that, we must know how to study the Bible to learn what God wants us to do. There are four important steps we can use to study passages in the Bible. These steps are: Observation, Meditation, Discussion and Application.

Prepare to Tell the Story:

Review pages 20-21 in GPHD. Study Acts 8:26-38.

- Be able to tell the story of how we can study the Bible.
- Use the object lesson (described below) using a plastic bottle of water to introduce the Bible study method.
- Explain that the story of Philip and the Ethiopian shows how we can study the Bible.
- Prepare visuals and activities. Acquire plastic bottle of water.
- Write the Memory Verse for Lesson 6 on a poster to show the children.

Memory Verse(s):

John 14:26 - *“But the Helper will teach you everything. He will cause you to remember all the things I told you. This Helper is the Holy Spirit whom the Father will send in my name.”*

- Read the Memory Verse(s) that you have written on the poster several times out loud for/with the children.
- Make it a game. See who can say the verse(s) from memory.

Review:

- Briefly review Lesson 5.
- Ask the children these questions:
 - What is the Lord’s Supper?
 - Who can take the Lord’s Supper?
 - What do the bread and wine mean?
 - Why do we have the Lord’s Supper?

Teach Object Lesson:

Say:

- (Hold up plastic bottle of water.) What is this?
- Let's look at it closely. What do you see?
(Allow children to describe the bottle. Lead them to tell if empty or full and describe label.)
- Let me read some parts of the label to you. (Read description of product, such as: Purified with added minerals for flavor; BPA free; etc. Read ingredients; read name of distributor; etc.) As you read, briefly discuss what you read with the children and explain the meaning; for example: "Did you know that plain bottled water had calcium chloride and sodium bicarbonate in it? What do you think these are for? Did you know that calcium chloride is a salt? It is added to water to make it taste better and to help with your hydration." Etc.
- Now that you know what this is (hold up the bottle) and know more about it, what do you think you are supposed to do with this?
- Yes, drink it. (Drink the water.)
- This object lesson actually makes me think of one way that we can study the Bible. When we read a passage in the Bible (one or more verses):
 - First, we want to observe what we can by reading the passage carefully, as we observed the water bottle. We ask ourselves questions like: What does the passage say? Who is writing or speaking? What is happening? Who is in the passage? Etc.
 - Second, we think about what the passage means, like we found out what sodium chloride in the water is. We try to find out word meanings we don't know. We think about what God might be telling us in the passage.
 - Third, we talk about the passage to other people we trust to find out what they know or think. [We combined the second and third steps as we talked about what the water label means together.]
 - Fourth, we use or apply what we have learned about the passage. When we finished talking about the water bottle, what did I do? Yes, I drank it. I used the information I learned to know I could drink the water. I applied it by drinking the water. We learn to use God's words to us by applying them to our lives.
 - We will learn more about the Four Step Method of Bible Study as we continue with this lesson.

Tell the Story 6.1:

- You will tell the story of Philip and the Ethiopian Man from Acts 8.
- Explain that this story shows us how to study the Bible.
- Use the Visual/Coloring Page of Philip and the Ethiopian Man in the Visual Aid(s) section of Lesson 6 to illustrate.

Say:

- Philip, one of Jesus’ disciples, was walking along a road when he saw a man from Ethiopia sitting in his chariot trying to read Scriptures. The Holy Spirit told Philip to go to the man.
- Let’s read the story from the Book of Acts and see how Philip helped the man. We will also learn from this story how we can study God’s Word.

Read Acts 8:26-38:

“An angel of the Lord spoke to Philip. The angel said, ‘Get ready and go south. Go to the road that leads down to Gaza from Jerusalem—the desert road.’ So Philip got ready and went. On the road he saw a man from Ethiopia, a eunuch. He was an important officer in the service of Candace, the queen of the Ethiopians. He was responsible for taking care of all her money. He had gone to Jerusalem to worship, and now he was on his way home. He was sitting in his chariot and reading from the book of Isaiah, the prophet. The Spirit said to Philip, ‘Go to that chariot and stay near it.’

So Philip ran toward the chariot. He heard the man reading from Isaiah, the prophet. Philip asked, ‘Do you understand what you are reading?’ He answered, ‘How can I understand? I need someone to explain it to me!’ Then he invited Philip to climb in and sit with him. The verse of Scripture that he was reading was this:

‘He was like a sheep being led to be killed. He was quiet, as a sheep is quiet while its wool is being cut. He said nothing. He was shamed and was treated unfairly. He died without children to continue his family. His life on earth has ended.’

The officer said to Philip, ‘Please tell me, who the prophet is talking about? Is he talking about himself or about someone else?’ Philip began to speak. He started with this same Scripture and told the man the Good News about Jesus.

While they were traveling down the road, they came to some water. The officer said, ‘Look! Here is water! What is stopping me from being baptized?’ Philip answered, ‘If you believe with all your heart, you can.’ The officer said, ‘I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God.’ Then the officer commanded the chariot to stop. Both Philip and the officer went down into the water, and Philip baptized him.”

Ask the Children these Questions:

- When Philip found the Ethiopian man, what was the man doing? _____

- Did the man understand what he was reading? _____
- Whom did the man ask to help him understand what he read? _____
- What did Philip tell the man? _____
- What did the man do after he heard the Good News? _____

Say/Explain:

- What a wonderful story of sharing the Good News (the Gospel of Jesus Christ) and helping another person become a believer in Christ.
- This story also shows us **four important instructions about how to study the Bible** that you can use when you study your Bible. We will practice using them in Lesson 7 of the workbook.

The Four Steps of Bible Study are:

1. **“Look at it” (Observation)**--What does it say?
(verse 28—*“now he [Ethiopian man] was on his way home. He was sitting in his chariot and reading from the book of Isaiah, the prophet.”*)
Read the passage several times. Ask yourself: What is happening? Who is involved? Where and when is this taking place? Etc.
2. **“Think about it” (Meditation)**—What does it mean?
(verse 30— *“So Philip ran toward the chariot. He heard the man reading from Isaiah, the prophet. Philip asked, ‘Do you understand what you are reading?’”*)
Ask yourself: What does God want me to know about this passage?
3. **“Talk about it” (Discussion)**—What do others say?
(verses 31-35— *“He [Ethiopian man] answered, ‘How can I understand? I need someone to explain it to me!’ Then he invited Philip to climb in and sit with him. The verse of Scripture that he was reading was this: ‘He was like a sheep being led to be killed. He was quiet, as a sheep is quiet while its wool is being cut. He said nothing. He was shamed and was treated unfairly. He died without children to continue his family. His life on earth has ended.’ The officer said to Philip, ‘Please tell me, who is the prophet talking about? Is he talking about himself or about someone else?’ Philip began to speak. He started with this same Scripture and told the man the Good News about Jesus.”*)
Talk about the passage with other trusted believers.
4. **“Do it!” (Application)**—How can I apply it to my life?
(verses 36-38— *“While they were traveling down the road, they came to some water. The officer said, ‘Look! Here is water! What is stopping me from being baptized?’ Philip answered, ‘If you believe with all your heart, you can.’ The officer said, ‘I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God.’ Then the officer commanded the chariot to stop. Both Philip and the officer went down into the water, and Philip baptized him.”*)
Make changes in your life according to what the passage says.
 - Remember the Four Steps Motion Activity
 - Assign hand motions for each of the four Bible study steps: 1. “Look at it” (point to eyes); 2. “Think about it” (point to head); 3. “Talk about it” (point to mouth); 4. “Do it!” (extend hands out).
 - Have children practice reciting the steps using the motions.

Wrap Up and Apply:

Say:

- This story of Philip and the Ethiopian man gives us a clear and simple picture of how to study the Bible.
- Remember the four ways you can study the Bible: “Look at it; think about it; talk about it; do it!”
- Re-read the memory verse for Lesson 6 with the children. It is very important for you to pray each time you study the Bible for the Holy Spirit (the Helper sent by Jesus) to help you understand and remember what you study.
- Thank you, God, for teaching us how to study the Bible.

Discuss:

How can knowing how to study your Bible help you in your life today and tomorrow? (Help children think of practical ways Bible study can help them.)

Follow Up Activities/Crafts:

- Activity 1: Philip and the Ethiopian Man Visual/Coloring Page.
Use the Philip and the Ethiopian Man Visual/Coloring Page located in the Visual Aid(s) section of Lesson 6 as a visual aid for the lesson. Children may also color the page.
- Activity 2: Four Steps for How to Study the Bible - Write the Words on the Stool activity located in the Visual Aid(s) section of Lesson 6.
- Activity 3: Study the Bible Steps from Acts 8 - Fill in the Blanks sheet located in the Visual Aid(s) section of Lesson 6.

Visual Aid(s) for Lesson 6:

- Philip and the Ethiopian Man Visual/Coloring Page
- Four Steps for How to Study the Bible-Write the Words on the Stool
- Study the Bible Steps from Acts 8

Philip and the Ethiopian Man



Acts 8:30-31

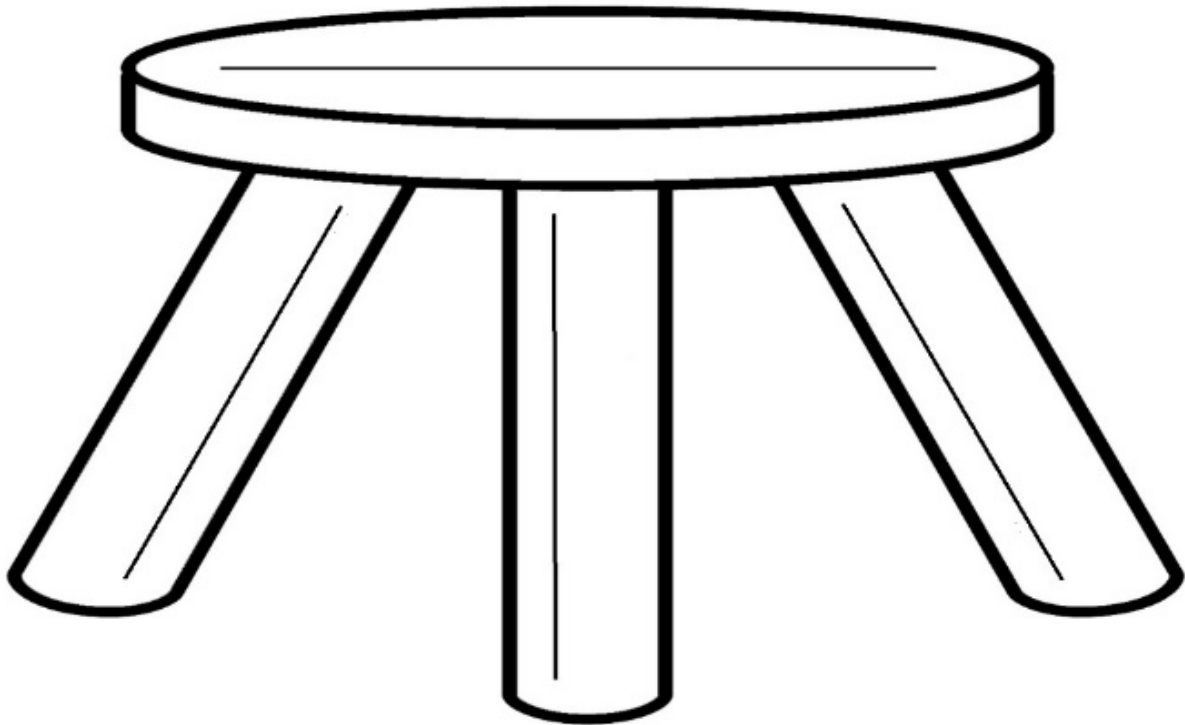
*“So Philip ran toward the chariot.
He heard the man reading from Isaiah, the prophet.
Philip asked, ‘Do you understand what you are reading?’
He answered, ‘How can I understand? I need someone to explain it to me!’ Then he
invited Philip to climb in and sit with him.”*

Activity 2: Four Steps for How to Study the Bible

Instructions:

- Review the 4 Steps of Bible Study.
- Write each of the 4 steps of Bible Study into the blank spaces on the stool.
- Color each part of the stool according to the directions below. (Optional)

Four Steps for How to Study the Bible Write the Words on the Stool



Leg #1 is **Observation (Look at it)**—Write Observation on a leg and color that leg Blue.

Leg #2 is **Meditation (Think about it)**—Write Meditation on a leg and color that leg Red.

Leg # 3 is **Discussion (Talk about it)**—Write Discussion on a leg and color that leg Green.

The Seat is **Application (Do it)**—Write Application on the seat and color the seat Yellow.

Activity 3: Study the Bible Steps

Instructions:

- Read each verse(s) below the pictures. Fill in the blanks after the questions.
- Children may color the pictures.

Study the Bible Steps from Acts 8



Acts 8:28 - Look At It: The Ethiopian man was looking at what? _____



Acts 8:30-31 - Think About It: What did the Ethiopian man need? _____



Acts 8:26-29 - Talk About It: If you can, talk with someone else about this story. Write down an idea that they had. _____



Acts 8:36-37 - Do It! The Ethiopian man believed and wanted to be baptized right away. How can you apply these verses and this story to your life now? _____

Lesson 7

Practicing How to Study the Bible

We need the Bible to know how to obey God in our daily lives. We need to know how to read and study the Bible so that God can speak to us through His words.

Prepare to Tell the Story:

Review page 22 in GPHD. Study Mark 1:35.

- Be able to tell the story of how we can use a Bible study method to help us study what the Bible means and apply it to our lives.
- Explain how to practice using the Four Steps of Bible Study method.
- Prepare visuals and activities.
- Write the Memory Verse for Lesson 7 on a poster to show the children.

Memory Verse(s):

Mark 1:35

“Early the next morning, Jesus woke and left the house while it was still dark. He went to a place to be alone and pray.”

- Read the Memory Verse(s) that you have written on the poster several times out loud for/with the children.
- Make it a game. See who can say the verse(s) from memory.

Review:

- Briefly review Lesson 6.
- Ask the children this question:
 - “What are the four steps for studying the Bible?”

Tell the Story 7.1:

- You will tell the story of how to use the Four Steps of Bible Study method to understand a passage of Scripture (Mark 1:35).
- Use the Four Steps of Bible Study method template below to illustrate.

Say:

- We are going to practice using our Four Steps of Bible Study method to understand one verse from the Bible.
- Read Mark 1:35 with me. We will use this verse to practice using our study method.

Read Mark 1:35:

“Early the next morning, Jesus woke and left the house while it was still dark. He went to a place to be alone and pray.”

Say/Explain:

- I will explain each step of the Four Steps of Bible Study method for you. [Explain to the children the use of each step of the Four Steps of Bible Study. You will model, ask questions and assist the children in applying the method to the study of Mark 1:35, using the template provided.]

FOUR STEPS OF BIBLE STUDY

1 - “LOOK AT IT” (OBSERVATION) - What does it say?

- Read what the Bible says and pray the Holy Spirit will help you to see what God is saying as you read.
- **Observation:** Read Mark 1:35 and see what is happening, who is involved, where it is happening and when it is happening. Now, write your answers about what you have seen below:

2 - “THINK ABOUT IT” (MEDITATION) - What does this passage in the Bible mean?

- Think about what this part of the Bible means and pray the Holy Spirit will help you understand it. (Remember, if you are doing this with others, step 2 and step 3 will go together.)
- **Meditation:** Based on what you read (your observations) from Mark 1:35, what do you think the author wanted readers to know? Why is this passage written in God’s Word? Now, write what you think about these questions below:

3 - “TALK ABOUT IT” (DISCUSSION) - What do others say?

- Find out what others think and say about the passage and pray the Holy Spirit will help you learn from others. (Remember, if this is your personal study, you might not use step 3.)
- **Discussion:** Compare what you learned from Mark 1:35 with your life experience and that of others today. What is the same or different from your understanding and theirs? What is the same or different from your actions and those of Jesus? Write the answers to these questions below:

4 - “DO IT!” (APPLICATION) - How can I apply it to my life?

- Decide how you can use the ideas in this passage in your life and pray the Holy Spirit will help you do this.
- **Application:** God’s Word can show us how to live every day to be more like Christ. God uses the Holy Spirit to help us understand His Word and apply it to our lives. How can you use what you learned from Mark 1:35 to help you be more like Christ? What changes do you need to make in your life? Now, write your answers to these questions below:

Wrap Up and Apply:

Say:

- Psalm 119:11 says, “*I have taken your words to heart so I would not sin against you.*” We must be able to study and learn from God’s Word how to live the way God wants us to live.
- Thank you, God, for being able to study Your Word, the Bible.

Discuss:

How can studying God’s Word help you in your life today and tomorrow?

(Help children think of practical ways studying and applying God’s Word can help them.)

Follow Up Activities/Crafts:

- Activity 1: Draw Yourself Studying Your Bible and Color It Activity Page located in the Visual Aid(s) section of Lesson 7.

Visual Aid(s) for Lesson 7:

- Draw Yourself Studying Your Bible and Color It

Activity 1: Draw Yourself Studying Your Bible/Coloring Page

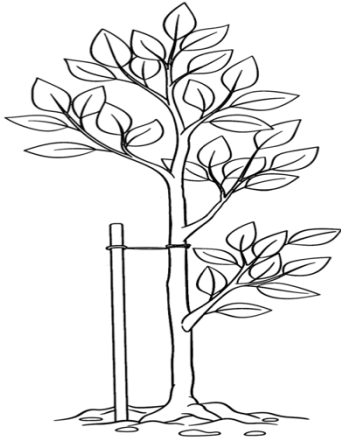
Instructions: [The mentor may need to assist children as they begin this activity.]

- Jesus wants us to spend time studying God's Word and learning how to live as a follower of Jesus Christ.
- Draw a picture of yourself studying your Bible, and color your picture.

Draw Yourself Studying Your Bible

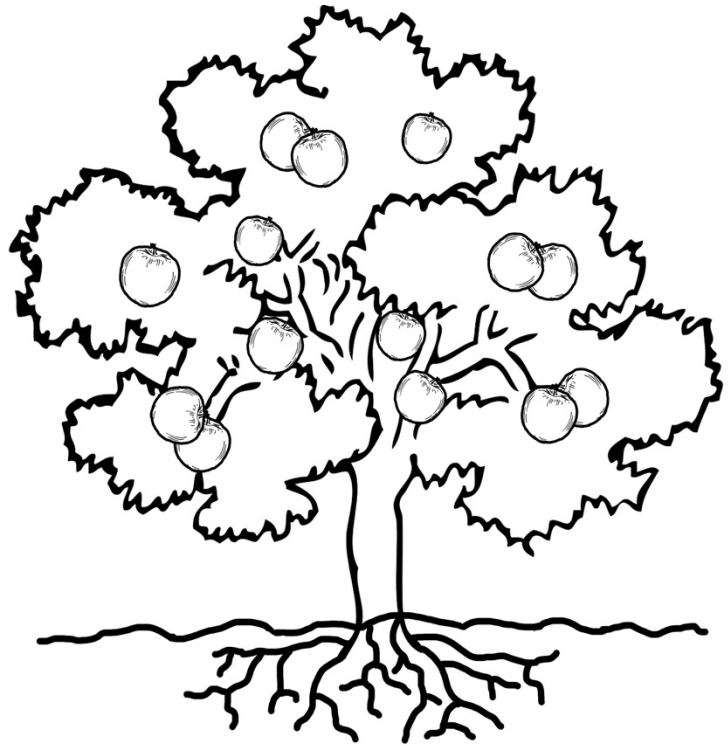


God's Plan for Young Disciples - Part Two



A New or Weak Tree

Discipleship Training for New Believer



An Established Strong Fruitful Tree

Mature Believer Can Stand Strong

Review the information and principles covered on pages 23-25 in GPHD as you prepare to apply these principles to the children and youth you will mentor.

The Apostle Paul wrote 13 letters to young churches that are now part of the New Testament. He wrote these letters to help believers in these churches, members of the Household of God, to be strong in their faith, strong in God's Word, and strong enough to stand against false teachers.

Paul wrote his letters throughout his ministry from the early part, through the middle part and into the latter part of his work for Christ. The letters were written in order and for different purposes:

- The Early Letters are used to establish and defend the Gospel of Pure Grace.
Galatians, 1 & 2 Thessalonians, 1 & 2 Corinthians, Romans
- The Middle Letters are used for churches to be single-minded in the Purpose and Eternal Plan of God.
Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians, Philemon
- The Latter Letters are used to put in proper order the Household of God.
1 Timothy, Titus, 2 Timothy

The Bible calls Paul “*an expert builder*” (1 Corinthians 3:10). His letters are like tools a builder would use to build a house. Paul’s tools are meant to “*build up*” or strengthen new believers in the Household of God. They are useful for building disciples for Christ.

For example, Paul’s Early Letter to the Galatians might be a saw. Ephesians, a Middle Letter, might be a hammer. Latter Letters, 1 & 2 Timothy, might be a square.



Each of these letters (or New Testament books) has a purpose to build up the foundation for the family and Household of God. Just as a carpenter must know how to use his tools to build a strong house, so a young disciple must learn to use the tools of God’s words to grow strong and established in the faith and help others to do so.

Galatians is one of Paul’s **Early Letters** and is a biblical tool to help teach disciples the Gospel of Pure Grace in Jesus Christ (see Chapter 8). **Ephesians**, one of Paul’s **Middle Letters**, is a tool to help teach disciples the Purpose and Plan of God (see Chapter 9). **1 Timothy** is one of the **Latter Letters** that will help teach disciples the Proper Order of the Household of God (see Chapter 10).

The remaining chapters in this study continue to provide content and resources to help young disciples mature in the Lord and become fruitful witnesses to others for Him.

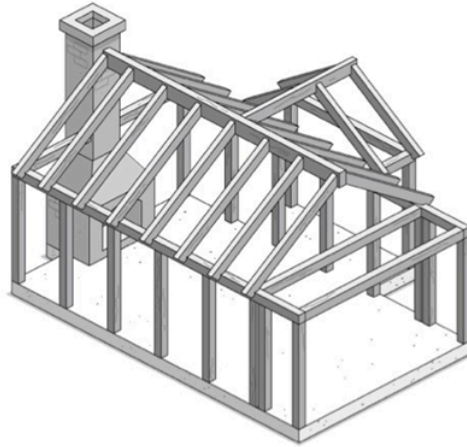
IV. Disciples Established in the Gospel of Pure Grace

Lesson 8

Disciples Established in the Gospel of Pure Grace

Household of God

Galatians
Teaches the
Gospel of Pure Grace
[Early Letter]



We are given our salvation and freedom in Christ by God's grace alone through faith. We are saved by trusting in Jesus Christ alone to forgive our sins and not by doing good works, keeping the law, or any other things. We join the Household of God by God's Pure Grace alone. We must also live by grace every day and not by works or by following the law. We must ask the Holy Spirit to help us live for Jesus Christ by the grace we have been given.

Prepare to Tell the Story:

Review pages 26-31 in GPHD. Study Galatians 3:1-5; 2:16; 3:11-12; 4:4-7; 5:16-18, 24-25; 6:14; and 1:5.

- Be able to tell the story of how Paul taught the Early Church believers that we come to salvation and freedom by pure grace alone through faith.
- Explain that we do not receive pure grace by following the law or by our good works.
- Explain how Paul taught Christians in the Early Church to become strong believers and live by the grace they have received (see pages 23-25 in GPHD).
- Explain that we should follow the leading of the Holy Spirit, pray, and give God the glory.
- Prepare visual and activities.
- Write the Memory Verse for Lesson 8 on a poster to show the children.

Memory Verse(s):

Galatians 4:4-5

"But when the right time came, God sent his Son. His Son was born of a woman and lived under the law. God did this so that he could buy freedom for those who were under the law. His purpose was to make us his children."

- Read the Memory Verse(s) that you have written on the poster several times out loud for/with the children.
- Make it a game. Allow children to erase words one by one, and see if they can remember the verse(s) without the words.
- See who can say the verse(s) from memory.

Review:

- Briefly review Lesson 7.
- Ask the children these questions:
 - What have you learned about a good plan for studying the Bible? (List Four Steps)
 - Have any of you used the Four Steps of Bible Study method to help you understand how to live more like Christ? Can you tell us about it? (Allow children to respond; guide their responses.)

Tell the Story 8.1:

- You will tell the story of Pure Grace from Galatians 3:1-5.
- Use the Pure Grace visual in the Visual Aid(s) section of Lesson 8 to illustrate.

Say:

- Paul taught the Early Church believers that we come to salvation and freedom by grace alone through faith (putting our faith in and trusting in Jesus Christ alone to forgive our sins) and not by any good works, keeping the law, or any other things that we can do.
- That is pure grace. Pure grace is the only way we can know Christ and live in His freedom and salvation.
- Let's read about the Gospel of Pure Grace.

Read Galatians 3:1-5 (The Gospel of Pure Grace):

“You people in Galatia were told very clearly about the death of Jesus Christ on the cross. But you were very foolish. You let someone trick you. Tell me this one thing: How did you receive the Holy Spirit? Did you receive the Spirit by following the law? No! You received the Spirit because you heard the Good News and believed it. You began your life in Christ by the Spirit. Now, do you try to continue it by your own power? That is foolish. You have experienced many things. Were all those experiences wasted? I hope not! Does God give you the Spirit because you follow the law? No! Does God work miracles among you because you follow the law? No! God gives you his Spirit and works miracles among you because you heard the Good News and believed it.”

Ask the Children these Questions:

- How did the Galatian Christians become believers? _____
- Did they try to live by following the law in their own strength after being saved? _____

- Should we try to live as believers using our own strength and power? _____

Tell the Story 8.2:

- Tell the story of Grace and Law and Grace and Works from Galatians 2:16; 3:11-12.

Say:

- Let's see what Paul wrote about Grace and the Law and Grace and Good Works. They are not what saves us!

Read Galatians 2:16 (Grace and the Law):

“Yet we know that a person is not made right with God by following the law. No! It is trusting in Jesus Christ that makes a person right with God. So we, too, have put our faith in Christ Jesus, that we might be made right with God. And we are right with God because we trusted in Christ—not because we followed the law. For no one can be made right with God by following the law.”

Read Galatians 3:11-12 (Grace and Works):

“So it is clear that no one can be made right with God by the law. The Scriptures say, ‘He who is right with God by faith will live.’ The law does not use faith. It says, ‘A person who does these things will live forever because of them.’”

Ask the Children these Questions:

- Do we come to Christ because we followed the law? _____
- Can we follow the law of God by ourselves? _____
- The law says that we can do something on our own (do good works) to be saved and live forever. Is that true? _____
What does it mean to “live forever” or have eternal life? _____

- According to this passage, we can only be made right with God by _____

Tell the Story 8.3:

- You will tell the story of Grace and Salvation and Grace and the Holy Spirit from Galatians 4:4-7 and Galatians 5:16-18; 24-25.

Say:

- Listen to what Paul said about Grace and Salvation.
- Our salvation is possible because God sent His Son, Jesus, to die in our place.

Read Galatians 4:4-7 (Grace and Salvation):

“But when the right time came, God sent his Son. His Son was born of a woman and lived under the law. God did this so that he could buy freedom for those who were under the law. His purpose was to make us his children. And you are God’s children. That is why God sent the Spirit of his Son into your hearts. The Spirit cries out, ‘Father, dear Father.’ So now you are not a slave; you are God’s child, and God will give you what he promised, because you are his child.”

Ask the Children these Questions:

- Who bought our freedom from sin for us? _____
- Believers are now whose children? _____

Say:

- Paul also wrote about Grace and the Holy Spirit.
- As believers, we must follow the Holy Spirit and not our sinful desires.

Read Galatians 5:16-18; 24-25 (Grace and the Holy Spirit):

“So I tell you: Live by following the Spirit. Then you will not do what your sinful selves want. Our sinful selves want what is against the Spirit. The Spirit wants what is against our sinful selves. The two are against each other. So you must not do just what you please. But if you let the Spirit lead you, you are not under the law.”

“Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified their own sinful selves. They have given up their old selfish feelings and the evil things they wanted to do. We get our new life from the Spirit. So we should follow the Spirit.”

Ask the Children these Questions:

- If we are followers of Christ, what have we given up? _____
- Our new life comes from whom, and whom should we follow in our new lives? _____

Tell the Story 8.4:

- You will tell the story of Grace and the Glory from Galatians 6:14 and Galatians 1:5.

Say:

- Let’s listen to what Paul said about Grace and who should get the glory.

Read Galatians 6:14 (Grace and the Glory):

“I hope I will never brag about things like that. The cross of our Lord Jesus Christ is my only reason for bragging. Through the cross of Jesus my world was crucified, and I died to the world.”

Read Galatians 1:5 (Grace and the Glory):

“The glory belongs to God forever and ever. Amen.”

Ask the Children these Questions:

- Can I brag about anything that I have done to save myself? _____
- Who should get all of the glory in my life? _____

Say:

- Pure Grace means that we were given our salvation and freedom in Christ by God's grace alone through faith (trusting in Jesus Christ alone to forgive our sins) and not by any good works, keeping the law, or any other things that we can do.
- We cannot live as strong Christian believers by trusting in our own thinking and power after we trust Christ. We must get our strength and wisdom from the Holy Spirit who now lives in us to help us live new lives in Christ and understand and obey God's Word.
- The devil will try to trick people by telling them there is another Good News to receive salvation, such as following laws and doing good things. We can't listen to the devil's tricks. We must come to Christ and follow Him by receiving Pure Grace, and then ask the Holy Spirit to help us live like Christ every day.

Wrap Up and Apply:

Say:

- Pure Grace is God's free gift to those who trust Christ to save them from their sins. We cannot do anything to earn our salvation.
- Thank you, God, for Your Pure Grace.

Discuss:

How can knowing about Pure Grace help you in your life today and tomorrow?
(Get children to think of practical ways that knowing about Pure Grace can help them live their everyday lives for God.)

Follow Up Activities/Crafts:

- Activity 1: Pure Grace Visual/Activity located in the Visual Aid(s) section of Lesson 8. Use this visual to help explain Pure Grace. Allow individual children to explain the visual to you and others.
- Activity 2: Pure Grace Fill in the Blanks/Coloring Page located in the Visual Aid(s) section of Lesson 8.

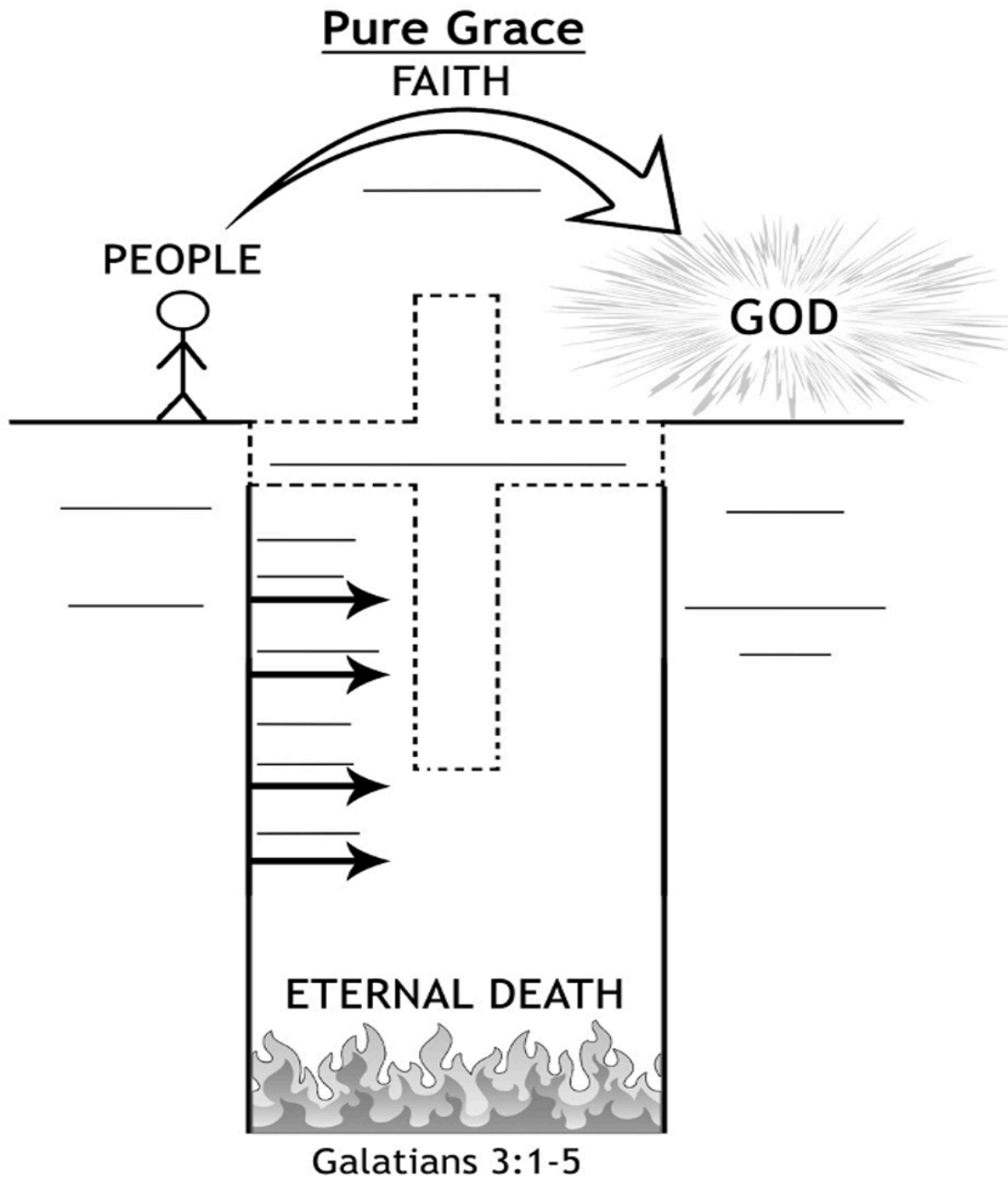
Visual Aid(s) for Lesson 8:

- Pure Grace Visual/Activity 1
- Pure Grace Fill in the Blanks/Coloring Page

Activity 1: Pure Grace Visual/Activity

Instructions:

- Use this visual to help children understand the gospel of Pure Grace and be able to explain it to others.
- Ask children to fill in the blanks using the visual on page 7 to assist them.
- Have individual children explain the visual to you.
- Ask children to write the name of one friend at the bottom of this activity to whom they could explain Pure Grace.



Friend's Name: _____

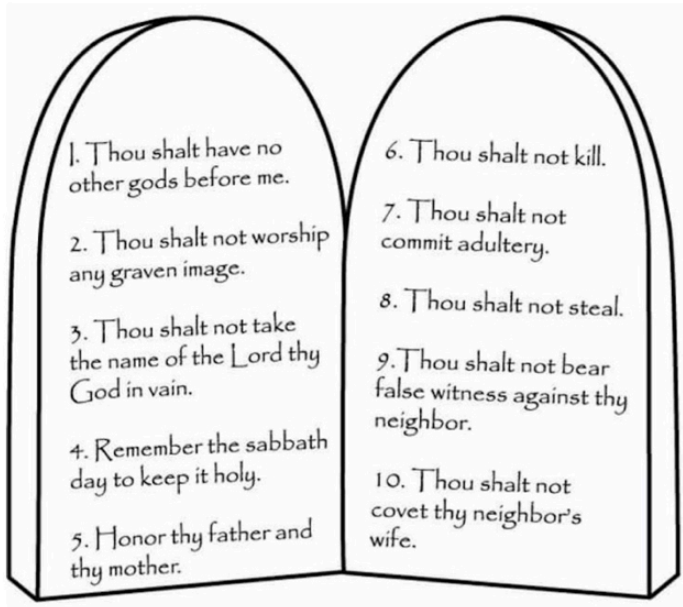
Activity 2: Pure Grace Fill in the Blanks / Coloring Page

Instructions:

- Read each of the questions below. Answer each question in the blanks provided.
- Children may color the pictures.

Pure Grace Fill in the Blanks

The Ten Commandments

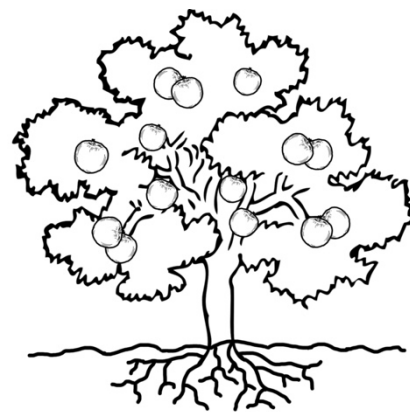


If you follow every one of the 10 Commandments, is that good enough to have your sins forgiven?

Why or Why not?



If we do not want to be slaves to sin, who is the only One who can give us freedom?



What good things does the Holy Spirit give us when we follow Christ?

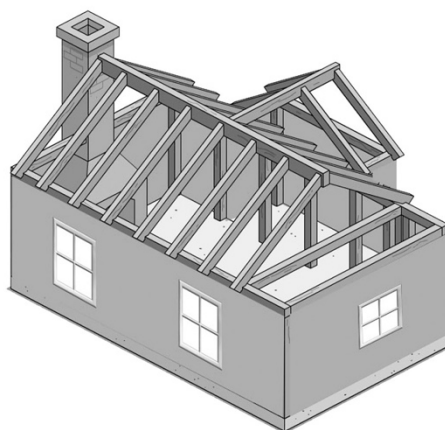
V. DISCIPLES ESTABLISHED IN THE ETERNAL PLAN OF GOD

Lesson 9

Disciples Established in the Eternal Plan of God

Household of God

Galatians
Teaches the
Gospel of Pure Grace
[Early Letter]



Ephesians
Teaches the
Purpose & Plan of God
[Middle Letter]



God has chosen those who follow Him to be a part of His Eternal Plan, which is His Church of believers with Christ as the Head. God has blessed us with a new position in Him and with wonderful possessions as His followers. He shows us through His Word how we are supposed to act and live.

Prepare to Tell the Story:

Review pages 32-36 in GPHD. Study Ephesians 1:7-10; 19-23; 1:3-14; 2:1-6; and 3:16-19.

- Be able to tell the story of the Church as God's Eternal Plan.
- Explain God's Eternal Plan with its blessings and position for His followers.
- Prepare visuals/activities.
- Write the Memory Verse for Lesson 9 on a poster to show the children.

Memory Verse(s):

Ephesians 1:22-23

"God put everything under his power. And God made him the head over everything for the church. The church is Christ's body. The church is filled with Christ, and Christ fills everything in every way."

- Read the Memory Verse(s) that you have written on the poster several times out loud for/with the children.
- Make it a game. See who can say the verse(s) from memory.

Review:

- Briefly review Lesson 8.
- Ask the children these questions:
 - What is the Pure Grace of God?
 - Who gives us Pure Grace to believe in Christ?
 - Is there any other way to have our sins forgiven except by God's Pure Grace?

Tell the Story 9.1:

- You will tell the story of God's Eternal Plan revealed from Ephesians 1:7-10, 19-23.

Say:

- **Ephesians** was a letter Paul wrote while he was in prison for preaching the Gospel. He wrote the letter to make early Christian believers strong in their faith and unite them because of their knowledge of Christ and His **Eternal Plan**.
- The plan of Christ was hidden before Paul's time, but then God showed what it is. **God's Eternal Plan is that Christ is the Head of the whole body of His believers, called the Church. We who are believers are members of His Church along with other believers all over the world.**
- The Gospel of grace allows all believers (individuals, families, and His whole Church) to show God's glorious plan to others by His power at work in us.
- Let's read more about God's Eternal Plan in Ephesians 1.

Read Ephesians 1:7-10, 19-23 (God's Eternal Plan):

"In Christ we are set free by the blood of his death. And so we have forgiveness of sins because of God's rich grace. God gave us that grace fully and freely. God, with full wisdom and understanding, let us know his secret purpose. This was what God wanted, and he planned to do it through Christ. His goal was to carry out his plan when the right time came. He planned that all things in heaven and on earth would be joined together in Christ as the head."

"And you will know that God's power is very great for us who believe. That power is the same as the great strength God used to raise Christ from death and put him at his right side in heaven. God made Christ more important than all rulers, authorities, powers, and kings. Christ is more important than anything in this world or in the next world. God put everything under his power. And God made him the head over everything for the church. The church is Christ's body. The church is filled with Christ, and Christ fills everything in every way."

Ask the Children these Questions:

- Because of Christ's blood and God's grace, we are _____ and set _____ from our sins.
 - God's plan is that everything in heaven and on earth would be joined together in _____ with _____ as the head.
 - What group is Christ's body? _____
 - Who can join Christ's body of believers called His Church? _____
-

Tell the Story 9.2:

- You will tell the story of our Blessings and Possessions in the Plan of Christ from Ephesians 1:3-14.

Say:

- God's Eternal Plan for His Church of believers with Christ at the head includes blessings and possessions for the believers.
- Let's read from Ephesians 1:3-14 to see what those blessings and possessions are. [They are in **bold** in this passage.]

Read Ephesians 1:3-14 (Blessings and Possessions in the Plan of Christ):

*"Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. In Christ, God has given us **every spiritual blessing in heaven**. In Christ, **he chose us before the world was made**. In his love **he chose us to be his holy people**—people without blame before him. And before the world was made, **God decided to make us his own children** through Jesus Christ. That was what he wanted and what pleased him. This brings praise to God because of his wonderful grace. **God gave that grace to us freely, in Christ**, the One he loves. **In Christ we are set free by the blood of his death**. And so we have **forgiveness of sins** because of God's rich grace. God gave us that grace fully and freely. God, with full wisdom and understanding, **let us know his secret purpose**. This was what God wanted, and he planned to do it through Christ. His goal was to carry out his plan when the right time came. **He planned that all things in heaven and on earth would be joined together in Christ as the head**.*

*In Christ we were chosen to be God's people. God had already chosen us to be his people, because that is what he wanted. And God is the One who makes everything agree with what he decides and wants. **We are the first people who hoped in Christ**. And we were chosen so that we would bring praise to God's glory. So it is with you. **You heard the true teaching—the Good News about your salvation**. When you heard it, you believed in Christ. And in Christ, **God put his special mark on you by giving you the Holy Spirit that he had promised**. That Holy Spirit is the guarantee that we will get what God promised for his people. This will bring **full freedom to the people who belong to God**, to bring praise to God's glory."*

Ask the Children these Questions:

- In Christ, God has given His followers every _____
- Review with your leader the many blessings and possessions [in bold above] that we have in God’s Eternal Plan. Write three of these in the blanks:

Tell the Story 9.3:

- You will tell the story of our New Position in the Plan of Christ from Ephesians 2:1-6 and Paul’s Prayer for the Eternal Plan of Christ from Ephesians 3:16-19.

Say:

- Believers in Christ have a new position in the Eternal Plan of Christ.
- Ephesians 2 tells us about that new position. Let’s read what it says.

Read Ephesians 2:1-6. (New Position in the Plan of Christ)

“In the past your spiritual lives were dead because of your sins and the things you did wrong against God. Yes, in the past you lived the way the world lives. You followed the ruler of the evil powers that are above the earth. That same spirit is now working in those who refuse to obey God. In the past all of us lived like them. We lived trying to please our sinful selves. We did all the things our bodies and minds wanted. We should have suffered God’s anger because we were sinful by nature. We were the same as all other people.

But God’s mercy is great, and he loved us very much. We were spiritually dead because of the things we did wrong against God. But God gave us new life with Christ. You have been saved by God’s grace. And he raised us up with Christ and gave us a seat with him in the heavens. He did this for those of us who are in Christ Jesus.”

Ask the Children these Questions:

- We were dead in our sinful selves before we followed Christ. What is our new position now? _____
- One day, when we die, we will have a seat with Christ where? _____

Say:

- Ephesians 3 has a prayer for the eternal Plan of Christ. Let’s see what that prayer says.

Read Ephesians 3:16-19 (Prayer for the Eternal Plan of Christ):

“I ask the Father in his great glory to give you the power to be strong in spirit. He will give you that strength through his Spirit. I pray that Christ will live in your hearts because of your faith. I pray that your life will be strong in love and be built on love. And I pray that you and all God’s holy people will have the power to understand the greatness of Christ’s love. I pray that you can understand how wide and how long and how high and how deep that love is. Christ’s love is greater than any person can ever know. But I pray that you will be able to know that love. Then you can be filled with the fullness of God.”

Ask the Children this Question:

- What are some of the things Paul prays that God will give to His believers? _____

Wrap Up and Apply:

Say:

- God has chosen those who follow Him to be a part of His Eternal Plan, His Church of believers with Christ as the Head.
- God has blessed us with a new position in Him and with possessions as His followers. He shows us through His Word how we should act and live. Thank you, God, for Your Eternal Plan.

Discuss:

How can knowing God’s Eternal Plan help you in your life today and tomorrow?
(Help children think of practical ways knowing God’s Plan can help them.)

Follow Up Activities/Crafts:

- Activity 1: Matching-- Characteristics of Members in God’s Eternal Plan located in the Visual Aid(s) section of Lesson 9.
- Activity 2: God’s Eternal Plan Blessings-Fill in the Blanks located in the Visual Aid(s) section of Lesson 9.
- Activity 3: Armor of God Activity

Visual Aid(s) for Lesson 9:

- Matching—Characteristics of Members in God’s Eternal Plan
- Fill in the Blanks--God’s Eternal Plan Blessings
- Armor of God Activity

Activity 1: Matching—Characteristics of Members in God’s Eternal Plan

Instructions:

- Read each of the passages below. Review the list of Characteristics of Members in God’s Eternal Plan below.
- Match each characteristic to the passage that describes it.
- Write the matching characteristic in each blank.

Characteristics of Members in God’s Eternal Plan

Ephesians Chapters 4, 5 and 6 tell us how Christian believers are supposed to act and live in God’s Eternal Plan and Purpose. Some of these characteristics are:

Purity Light Love Unity Harmony Victory with Care

- Walk in _____ (Ephesians 4:16)
“The whole body depends on Christ. And all the parts of the body are joined and held together. Each part of the body does its own work. And this makes the whole body grow and be strong with love.”
- Walk in _____ (Ephesians 4:22-24)
“You were taught to leave your old self—to stop living the evil way you lived before. That old self becomes worse and worse because people are fooled by the evil things they want to do. But you were taught to be made new in your hearts. You were taught to become a new person. That new person is made to be like God—made to be truly good and holy.”
- Walk in _____ (Ephesians 5:1-2)
“You are God’s children whom he loves. So try to be like God. Live a life of love. Love other people just as Christ loved us. Christ gave himself for us—he was a sweet-smelling offering and sacrifice to God.”
- Walk in the _____ (Ephesians 5:8-11)
“In the past you were full of darkness, but now you are full of light in the Lord. So live like children who belong to the light. Light brings every kind of goodness, right living, and truth. Try to learn what pleases the Lord. Do not do the things that people in darkness do. That brings nothing good. But do good things to show that the things done in darkness are wrong.”

- **Walk _____ (Ephesians 5:15-17)**

“So be very careful how you live. Do not live like those who are not wise. Live wisely. I mean that you should use every chance you have for doing good, because these are evil times. So do not be foolish with your lives. But learn what the Lord wants you to do.”

- **Walk in _____ (Ephesians 5:33, 6:1-2)**

“But each one of you [husbands] must love his wife as he loves himself. And a wife must respect her husband.”

“Children, obey your parents the way the Lord wants. This is the right thing to do. The command says, ‘Honor your father and mother.’ This is the first command that has a promise with it.”

- **Walk in _____ (Ephesians 6:10-13)**

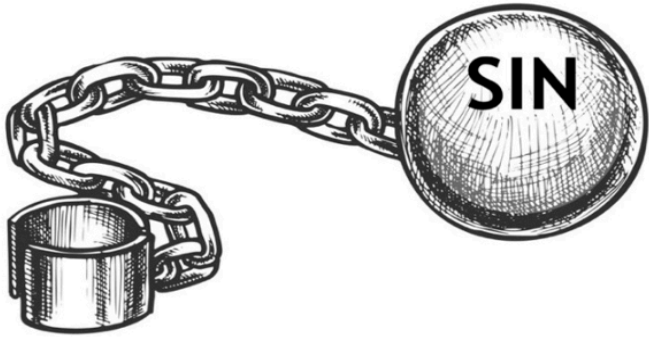
“Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his great power. Wear the full armor of God. Wear God’s armor so that you can fight against the devil’s evil tricks. Our fight is not against people on earth. We are fighting against the rulers and authorities and the powers of this world’s darkness. We are fighting against the spiritual powers of evil in the heavenly world. That is why you need to get God’s full armor. Then on the day of evil you will be able to stand strong. And when you have finished the whole fight, you will still be standing.”

Activity 2: Fill in the Blanks— God’s Eternal Plan Blessings

Instructions:

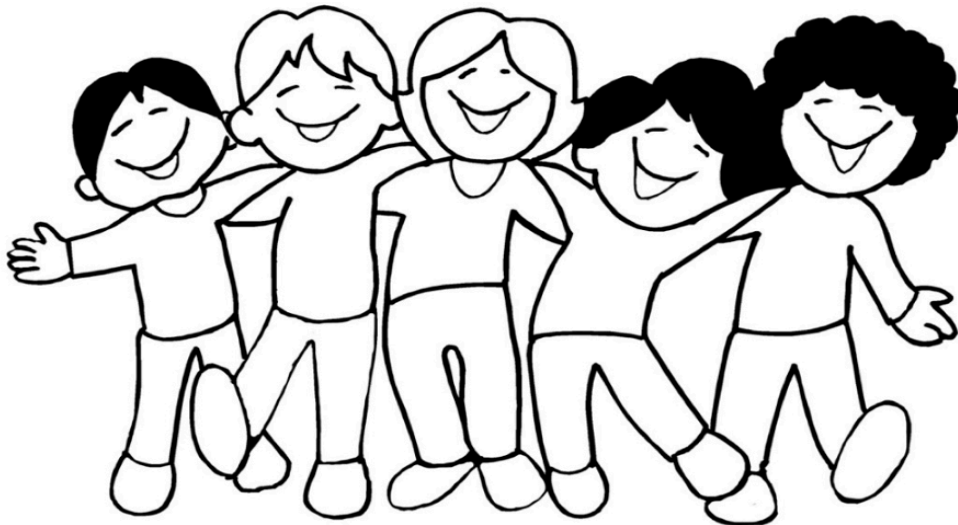
- Read the verses for the pictures. Fill in the missing words in the blanks.
- Children may color the pictures.

God’s Eternal Plan Blessings



Two blessings from God in Ephesians 1:7
are _____ and _____

One blessing is mentioned 6 times in
Ephesians 3:14-21. It is _____



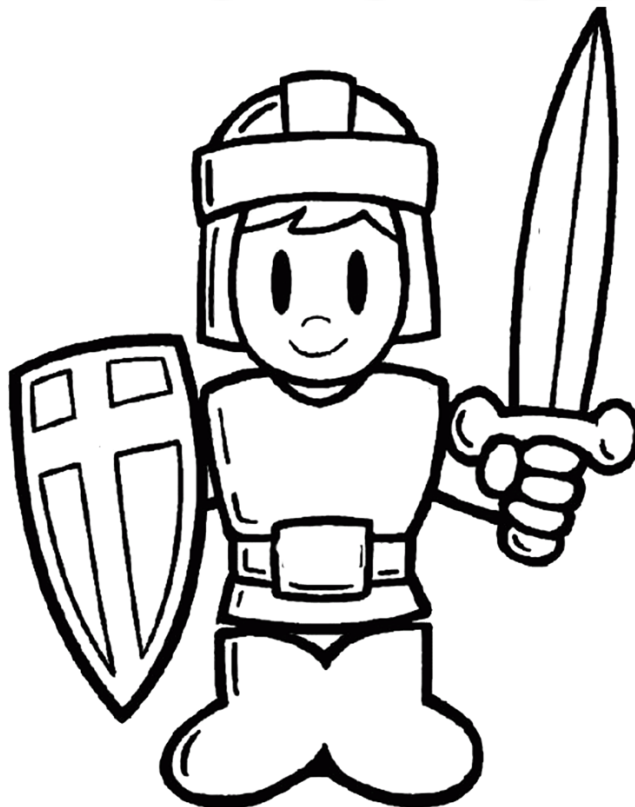
Two blessings mentioned over and over in Ephesians 3:18-19 and 5:8-10 are:
_____ and _____

Activity 3: The Armor of God

Instructions:

- God's armor in Ephesians 6:11-18 is a blessing to help us fight against evil. It has 7 pieces. Read Ephesians 6:11-18.
- Place the number of the piece of armor in the correct place on the soldier where the armor would go.

Armor of God



Ephesians 6:11-18

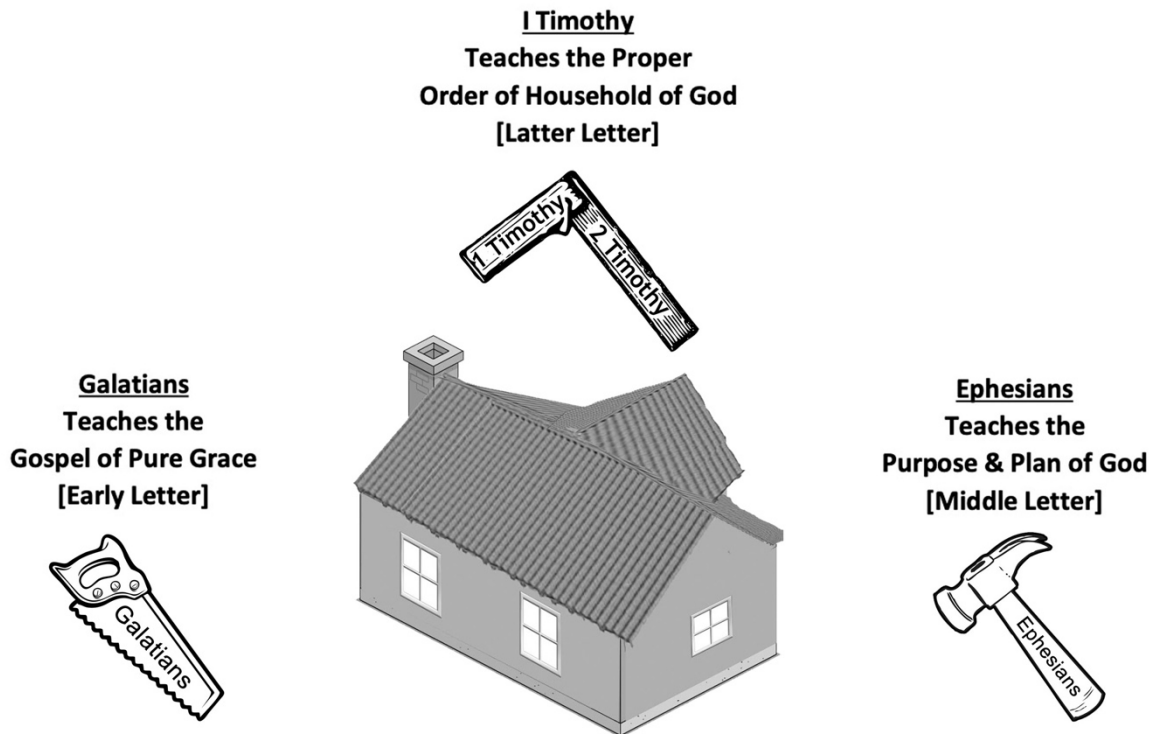
1. Belt of Truth
2. Breastplate of Righteousness
3. Shoes of the Gospel of Peace
4. Shield of Faith
5. Helmet of God's Salvation
- 6 & 7. Sword of the Spirit (Word of God) and Praying in the Spirit at all times.

VI. DISCIPLES ESTABLISHED IN THE HOUSEHOLD OF GOD

Lesson 10

Disciples Established in the Household of God

Household of God



The Household of God, the Church made up of all believers in and followers of Jesus Christ, should work properly. Paul wanted to be sure that His young friend, Timothy, understood how the Church should operate. He passed on his knowledge from God to Timothy and the Early Churches about the importance of sound teaching, godliness with contentment, choosing spiritual leaders, and right family order. Paul's teachings are important for us in the Household of God today. As we learn them, we must pass them on to others through training and discipleship.

Prepare to Tell the Story:

Review pages 37-41 in GPHD. Study 1 Timothy 3:14-15; 2:4-6; 1:19; 2:1-3; 4:1-16; 5:1-3, 8; 6:8-10; Ephesians 5:22-25; 6:4; Titus 2:4; and Colossians 3:20-21.

- Be able to tell the story of believers as members of the Household of God.
- Be able to explain how Paul taught Timothy and how we should teach others.
- Prepare visuals and activities.
- Write the Memory Verse for Lesson 10 on a poster to show the children.

Memory Verse(s):

1 Timothy 4:12

“You are young, but do not let anyone treat you as if you were not important. Be an example to show the believers how they should live. Show them with your words, with the way you live, with your love, with your faith, and with your pure life.”

- Read the Memory Verse(s) that you have written on the poster several times out loud for/with the children,
- Make it a game. See who can say the verse(s) from memory.

Review:

- Briefly review Lesson 9.
- Ask the children these questions:
 - What is God’s Eternal Plan?
 - What are some of the ways in which we should act and live according to God’s Eternal Plan?

Tell the Story 10.1:

- You will tell the story of The Household of God from I Timothy 3:14-15, 1 Timothy 2:4-6, 1 Timothy 1:19, and 1 Timothy 2:1-3.
- Use the Paul and Timothy Visual/Coloring page located in the Visual Aid(s) section of Lesson 10 to illustrate.

Say:

- Paul wrote letters to his young friend, Timothy. He wanted him to understand what it meant to be a member of the Household of God and how to be a good member.
- Paul said that the family or Household of God is God’s church. You are a member of that family if you are a believer. Paul is very clear about how to live as a member of the family or Household of God.

Read 1 Timothy 3:14-15:

“I hope I can come to you soon. But I am writing these things to you now. Then, even if I cannot come soon, you will know about the things that people must do in the family of God. That family is the church of the living God, the support and foundation of the truth.”

Read 1 Timothy 2:4-6:

“God wants all people to be saved. And he wants everyone to know the truth. There is only one God. And there is only one way that people can reach God. That way is through Jesus Christ, who is also a man. Jesus gave himself to pay for the sins of all people. Jesus is proof that God wants all people to be saved. And that proof came at the right time.”

Ask the Children these Questions:

- Paul said that the family of God is the _____. (It is also called the Household of God.)
- Whom does God want to be saved? _____
- Paul is very clear about how people can be saved (in order to join the family or Household of God). There is only one way. What is it? _____

Say:

- The Apostle Paul wanted Timothy to build his life and household on sound teaching from God’s Word and not false teaching. He wanted Timothy to learn to become a good leader in the early Christian Church.
- Paul took Timothy on journeys and wrote two letters to him (1 & 2 Timothy). He taught Timothy the things he should know about being a Christian leader by spending time with him. This is called discipleship training.
- You are having discipleship training now if you are working on this workbook with a leader. Someday you can pass on what you have learned to others who need this training to become strong Christians.
- Let’s see what Paul told Timothy about how to live in the Household of God.

Read 1 Timothy 1:19 (Build on Sound Teaching from God’s Word):

“Continue to have faith and do what you know is right. Some people have not done this. Their faith has been destroyed.”

Read 1 Timothy 2:1-3 (Pray):

“First, I tell you to pray for all people. Ask God for the things people need and be thankful to him. You should pray for kings and for all who have authority. Pray for the leaders so that we can have quiet and peaceful lives—lives full of worship and respect for God. This is good, and it pleases God our Savior.”

Ask the Children these Questions:

- What was Paul’s advice to Timothy? _____
- What is the danger of not following Paul’s advice? _____
- Paul told Timothy, first it is important to _____
- Can you make a list of those for whom Paul told Timothy to pray?
 - _____
 - _____
 - _____
 - _____

Tell the Story 10.2:

- You will tell the story of Training for Godliness in the Household of God from 1 Timothy 4:1-16, 1 Timothy 5:1-3, 8, and 1 Timothy 6:8-10.

Say:

- Paul tells us there are things we need to be aware of and things we need to do right in the Household of God.
- He also makes it clear that young people are important in the Household of God.

Read 1 Timothy 4:1-16 (Train for Godliness in the Household of God):

“The Holy Spirit clearly says that in the later times some people will stop believing the true faith. They will obey spirits that lie and will follow the teachings of demons. Such teachings come from hypocrites, men who cannot see what is right and what is wrong. It is as if their understanding were destroyed by a hot iron. They tell people that it is wrong to marry. And they tell people that there are some foods that must not be eaten. But God made those foods, and the people who believe and who know the truth can eat those foods with thanks. Everything that God made is good. Nothing that God made should be refused if it is accepted with thanks to God. Everything God made is made holy by what God has said and by prayer.

Tell these things to the brothers. This will show that you are a good servant of Christ Jesus. You will show that you are made strong by the words of faith and good teaching that you have been following. People tell silly stories that do not agree with God’s truth. Do not follow what those stories teach. But teach yourself only to serve God. Training your body helps you in some ways, but serving God helps you in every way. Serving God brings you blessings in this life and in the future life, too. What I say is true, and you should fully accept it. For this is why we work and struggle: We hope in the living God. He is the Savior of all people. And in a very special way, he is the Savior of all who believe in him.

Command and teach these things. You are young, but do not let anyone treat you as if you were not important. Be an example to show the believers how they should live. Show them with your words, with the way you live, with your love, with your faith, and with your pure life. Continue to read the Scriptures to the people, strengthen them, and teach them. Do these things until I come. Remember to use the gift that you have. That gift was given to you through a prophecy when the group of elders laid their hands on you. Continue to do those things. Give your life to doing them. Then everyone can see that your work is progressing. Be careful in your life and in your teaching. Continue to live and teach rightly. Then you will save yourself and those people who listen to you.”

Ask the Children these Questions:

- Name three things Paul says **to do** from this passage: _____

- Name three things Paul says **not to do**: _____

- Just because you are young, are you still important in the family or Household of God?

- Paul says, in 1 Timothy 4:7-8, to “*teach yourself only to _____.*” He says that “*_____ helps you in every way.*”
- Because you are important, God wants you to be an _____ of the right way to live for Christ to others (1 Timothy 4:12).

Read 1 Timothy 5:1-3, 8:

“Do not speak angrily to an older man but talk to him as if he were your father. Treat younger men like brothers. Treat older women like mothers, and younger women like sisters. Always treat them in a pure way.

Take care of widows who are all alone.”

“A believer should take care of his own relatives, especially his own family. If he does not do that, he has turned against the faith. He is worse than a person who does not believe in God.”

Read 1 Timothy 6:8-10:

“So, if we have food and clothes, we will be satisfied with that. Those who want to become rich bring temptation to themselves. They are caught in a trap. They begin to want many foolish things that will hurt them, things that ruin and destroy people. The love of money causes all kinds of evil. Some people have left the true faith because they want to get more and more money. But they have caused themselves much sorrow.”

Ask the Children these Questions:

- 1 Timothy 5:1-2 says that we should always treat four groups of people “*in a pure way.*” For each group, write how we should treat them.

<u>Group</u>	<u>Treatment</u>
Older men	As _____
Younger men	As _____
Older women	As _____
Younger women	As _____

- Who should take care of widows who are alone? _____
- Who should take care of relatives of believers? _____
- The love of money is good/evil. Which one? _____

- 1 Timothy 6:8-10 tells us not to pursue riches to make us happy but to be _____
_____ with what we have.

Tell the Story 10.3:

- You will tell the story of Family Order in the Household of God from Ephesians 5:22-25, Ephesians 6:4, Titus 2:4, and Colossians 3:20-21.

Say:

- It is important to God, and it was important to Paul, to let those he taught know what the right order of authority in families should be within the Household of God.
- God is the Creator of everything and is in charge of everything. He has established an order within families. It is to be a loving and respectful order that works to the good of everybody within the family. No one should take advantage or mistreat others within the family, but all should be obedient to God’s commands about how we should treat each other.
- Let’s find out what God’s order for the family should be within the Household of God from two of Paul’s other letters.

Read Ephesians 5:22-25 (Family Order in the Household of God):

“Wives, be under the authority of your husbands, as of the Lord. The husband is the head of the wife, as Christ is the head of the church. The church is Christ’s body—Christ is the Savior of the body. The church is under the authority of Christ. So it is the same with you wives. You should be under the authority of your husbands in everything.

Husbands, love your wives as Christ loved the church. Christ died for the church.”

Read Ephesians 6:4:

“Fathers, do not make your children angry, but raise them with the training and teaching of the Lord.”

Read Titus 2:4:

“In that way they can teach younger women to love their husbands and children.”

Read Colossians 3:20-21:

“Children, obey your parents in all things. This pleases the Lord.

Fathers, do not nag your children. If you are too hard to please, they may want to stop trying.”

Ask the children these Questions:

- Who is the Head of the Church? _____
- Who should be the head of the family? _____
- How should husbands love their wives? _____

- How should parents treat their children? _____
- How should children treat their parents? _____

Wrap Up and Apply:

Say:

- Paul wrote I Timothy to teach his young friend, Timothy, how the Household of God, the Church made up of believers, should work properly. He wanted Timothy to continue Paul’s work after Paul was gone. He wanted Timothy to understand the importance of sound teaching, godliness with contentment, choosing spiritual leaders, and right family order.
- Paul’s teachings to Timothy are important for us in the Household of God today. As we learn them, we must pass them on to others.
- Thank you God for Your Words about the Household of God.

Discuss:

- How can Paul’s teaching about the Household of God and how it should work help you in your life today and tomorrow?
(Help children think of practical ways Paul’s writings from this lesson can help them.)

Follow Up Activities/Crafts:

- Activity 1: Paul and Timothy Visual/Coloring Page
Use the Paul and Timothy Visual/Coloring page located in the Visual Aid(s) section of Lesson 10 as a visual aid for the lesson. Children may color the page.
- Activity 2: Building the Household of God located in the Visual Aid(s) section of Lesson 10.
- Activity 3: Family Order in the Household of God located in the Visual Aid(s) section of Lesson 10.

Visual Aid(s) for Lesson 10:

- Paul and Timothy Visual/Coloring Page
- Building the Household of God
- Family Order in the Household of God

Paul and Timothy



Activity 2: Building the Household of God




Instructions:

- Paul is called an expert builder in 1 Corinthians 3:10. He wanted to “build up” the Household of God (God’s Church) and help its members to be strong in the Lord.
- His preaching and writings in his letters are like tools a builder would use to “build up” new believers in the Household of God.
- For each New Testament letter (“tool”) shown in the chart below, write the matching purpose Paul wanted to accomplish in his letter. [You can use the graphics in Lessons 8-10 to help you.]

Match these Purposes to Paul’s letters below:

- An early letter teaching the Gospel of Pure Grace
- A middle letter teaching the Purpose & Plan of God
- A latter letter teaching the Proper Order of the Household of God

Building the Household of God

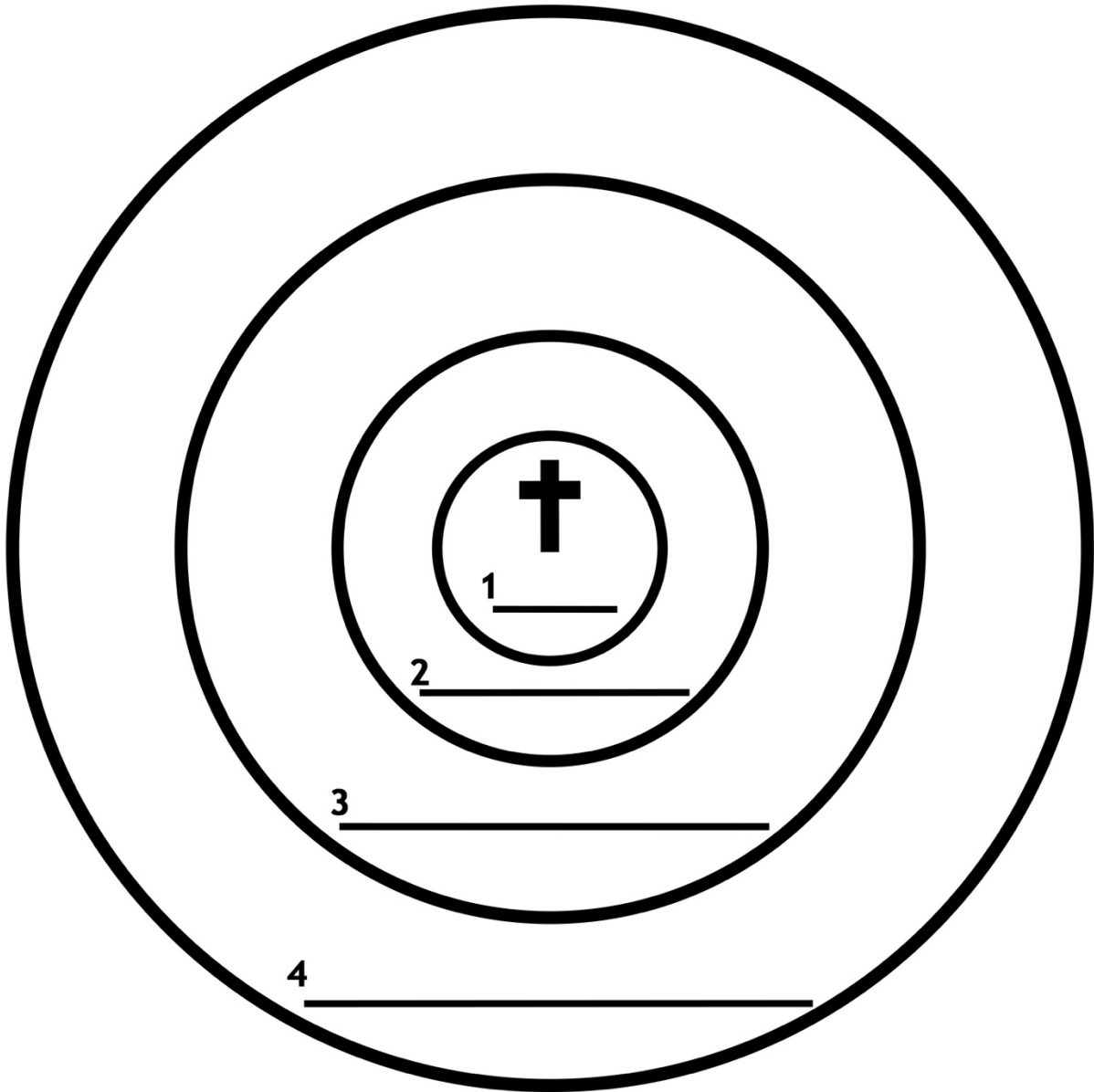
		
Book: <u>Galatians</u>	Book: <u>Ephesians</u>	Book: <u>1 Timothy</u>
Purpose:	Purpose:	Purpose:
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

Activity 3: Family Order in the Household of God

Instructions:

- **Re-read Ephesians 5:22-24, Ephesians 6:4, Titus 2:4, Colossians 3:20-21, and 1 Timothy 5:1-3.** These passages talk about the correct order of the family in the Household of God according to the Bible. **God has designed His Household so that there is an order of leadership and respect.** For example, we are to respect those whom God has placed in leadership over us, such as our parents or caretakers and church leaders.
 - The circles in the **Family Order in the Household of God** activity that follows can help you to understand your place in the Household of God.
 - **Fill in the blanks and color the circles below. Discuss the activity with your group or individual leader.**
1. The cross in the center circle stands for Christ. Who should be at the center of every **individual life** and family? As a young person, a son or daughter who is a believer in Jesus Christ, you are in the middle circle with Christ. Put your name in the small middle circle with the cross. Color the individual circle **yellow**. **Your relationship with Jesus Christ is very important because knowing and obeying Christ helps you to be a good family member and church member.**
 2. The second circle from the center stands for **marriage** between one man (husband) and one woman (wife). Write the names of your mother and father in this circle. If you do not know the names of both parents, you may write the name of the one you know, or you may leave this circle blank. Color the marriage circle **blue**.
 3. The third circle from the center stands for a **family**. This circle includes parents and children in a family. Write your name again in this circle and the names of any brothers and sisters you have. Not all families are alike. Instead of parents living with you, you may have grandparent(s), other adult family members, or other **adults who take care of you**. You may write the name(s) of this person(s) in this circle also. Color the family circle **green**.
 4. The fourth circle from the center stands for the **Church, the Household of God**. This circle contains all believers all around the world, including older men, younger men, older women, and younger women. Young people who are believers in Jesus Christ would be in this circle too. Write the name of one believer you know who is older than you or the name of your local church. Color the Church circle **purple**.

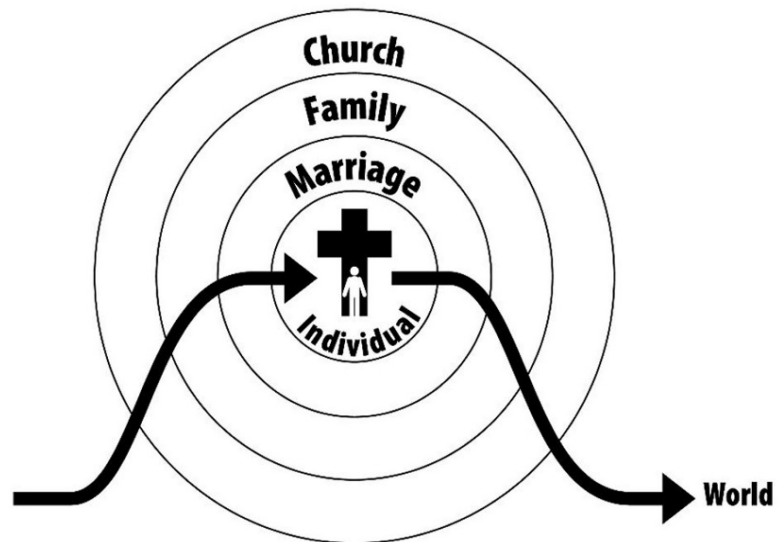
Family Order in the Household of God



VII. DISCIPLES ESTABLISHED IN AND WITH CHRIST

Lesson 11

Your Life in Christ



God gives his followers riches in Christ, through faith in His Son, that are wonderful beyond our understanding and last forever! Not only do we have salvation and eternal life, but we also have peace, a new life, nearness to God, and many other blessings.

Prepare to Tell the Story:

Review pages 42-44 in GPHD. Study Matthew 13:44-46 and other verses cited in Lesson 11.

- Be able to tell the story of the great riches available to us in Christ.
- Prepare Treasure Hunt introductory activity. Create a simple treasure hunt for the children by hiding some things that would be “valuable” to them (treats, small toys, books, etc.). Prepare a simple map.
- Prepare other visuals and activities. You will need a small pad of washable ink for Activity 2.
- Write the Memory Verse for Lesson 11 on a poster to show the children.

Memory Verse(s):

Philippians 4:19

“My God will use his wonderful riches in Christ Jesus to give you everything you need.”

- Read the Memory Verse(s) that you have written on the poster several times out loud for/with the children.
- Make a game of it. See who can say the verse(s) from memory.

Review:

- Briefly review Lesson 10.
- Ask the children this question:
 - What does it mean to be a part of the family or Household of God?

Tell the Story 11.1:

- You will tell the story of the treasure of the kingdom of heaven from Matthew 13:44-46.

Say:

- Today we are going to have a little treasure hunt. Here is a map to follow. If you find the treasure, you will be able to keep it and share with each other. [Give time for the treasure hunt.]
- Did you have fun searching for the hidden treasure? Our lesson today is about treasures we have in Christ that are much more valuable than any “things” we can find on earth.
- Jesus taught two short parables (stories) that help us understand the valuable treasures or riches we find in God’s kingdom when we follow Him. Listen to see if you can hear what the two treasures are.

Read Matthew 13:44-46:

[Jesus said,] “The kingdom of heaven is like a treasure hidden in a field. One day a man found the treasure, and then he hid it in the field again. The man was very happy to find the treasure. He went and sold everything that he owned to buy that field.

“Also, the kingdom of heaven is like a man looking for fine pearls. One day he found a very valuable pearl. The man went and sold everything he had to buy that pearl.”

Ask the Children this Question:

- Matthew compares the kingdom of heaven to two valuable items. What are they?

_____ , _____

Say:

- To be a member of the kingdom of God is like getting a hidden treasure or a fine pearl.
- There are riches in Christ that are too great for us to understand. They have no limits or end. Ephesians 3:8 tells us that is true.
Ephesians 3:8 - “I am the least important of all God’s people. But God gave me this gift—to tell the non-Jewish people the Good News about the riches of Christ. Those riches are too great to understand fully.”

- The riches in Christ and the blessings of God are more valuable than anything else that we could ever have. These riches in Christ are not things (like money or jewels or toys). They are spiritual blessings (like salvation, joy, love, peace, and eternal life).
- We can't earn or buy these riches. We can only find them in Christ Jesus. He gives them to us as we live a life for Him. His treasures never run out and last forever.

Tell the Story 11.2:

- You will tell the story of our riches in Christ from verses in Paul's letters to the people in the early churches found in the books of Ephesians, Colossians, and Thessalonians.

Say:

- In Paul's letters to the early churches, he lists many of the riches you have in Christ Jesus.
- Read the verses from Ephesians below. Within each of the verse(s), there is a treasure God has given us.
- On the Treasure Matching activity below, draw a line from the verse(s) to the correct "treasure in Christ" revealed in the verse.

Verses		Treasures in Christ
Ephesians	1:5	Love
	1:7	Hope and Comfort
	1:13	A Full and True Life
	1:19	Forgiveness for Sins
	2:5	Peace
	2:6	New Life
	2:7	Salvation
	2:13	Great Power/Spiritual Strength
	2:14	Heaven
	3:19	Nearness to God
Colossians	2:9-10	Grace
2 Thessalonians	2:16-17	Become God's Children

- Colossians 2:9-10 says, “*All of God lives fully in Christ (even when Christ was on earth). And in him you have a full and true life. He is ruler over all rulers and powers.*” What does it mean to have Christ living in you? _____
-

- 2 Thessalonians 2:16, says, “*We pray that the Lord Jesus Christ himself and God our Father will comfort you and strengthen you in every good thing you do and say. God loved us. Through his grace he gave us a good hope and comfort that continues forever.*” What did our Lord Jesus Christ and God our Father give us?
-
-

Wrap Up and Apply:

Say:

- God’s riches given to us through faith in His Son are wonderful beyond our understanding, and they never run out!
- Thank you, God, for our riches and treasures in Christ.

Discuss:

How can knowing about the riches we have in Christ help you in your life today and tomorrow?

(Help children think of practical ways knowledge of Christ’s riches can help them.)

Follow Up Activity/Crafts:

- Activity 1: Draw the Treasure Chest located in the Visual Aid(s) for Lesson 11.
- Activity 2: “In Christ” Fingerprint

Visual Aid(s) for Lesson 11:

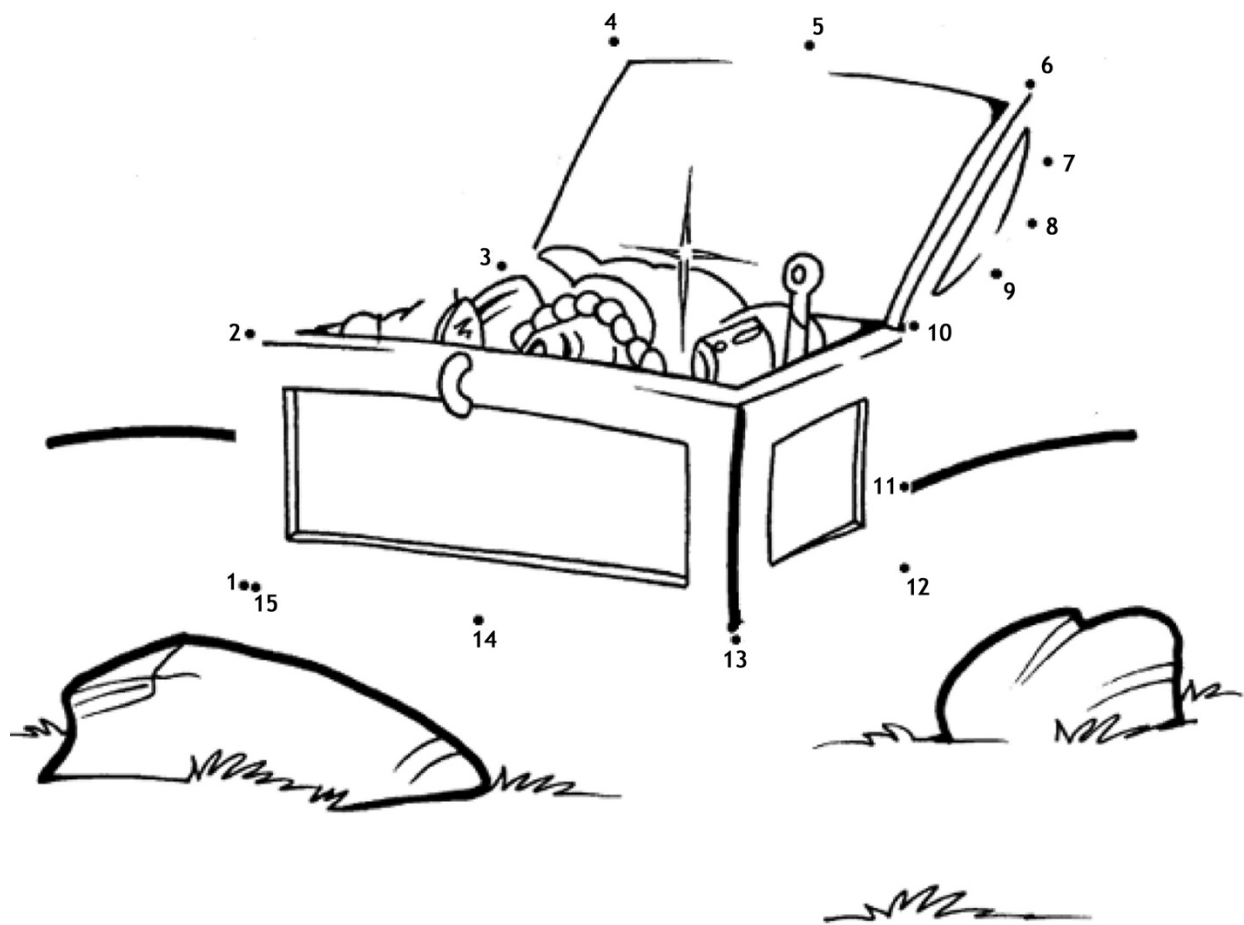
- Draw the Treasure Chest
- “In Christ” Fingerprint

Activity 1: Draw the Treasure Chest

Instructions:

- Follow the numbers to draw the treasure chest.

Draw the Treasure Chest



Activity 2: “In Christ” Fingerprint

Instructions:

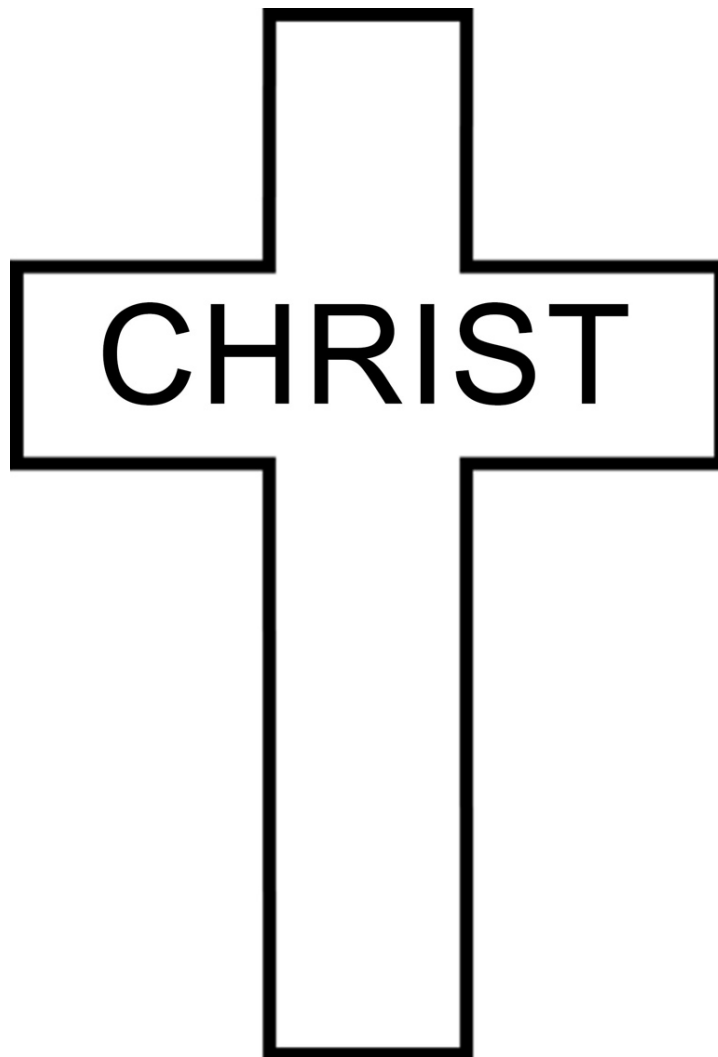
- **The Cross stands for Jesus Christ.** When you trust Christ to forgive your sins, you become a new creature “in Christ” with its many blessings. If you have trusted Jesus and are now a member of the family and Body of Christ, complete the picture below to show your new position.
- Place your forefinger on the ink pad provided, and press your finger into the cross.

[Example:



]

“In Christ” Fingerprint



Lesson 12

Your Life with Christ



One of the greatest privileges a believer has is to walk personally in the presence of the living God. Spending time daily with God is very important to your spiritual life and walk with Christ. And a beautiful thing is that God wants us to spend time and have a relationship with Him. 1 Corinthians 1:9 says, “God is faithful. He is the One who has called you to share life with his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.” Sharing life with Christ means to become friends with Him. When you spend time alone with the Lord, you are in contact with the One who matters most.

Prepare to Tell the Story:

Review pages 45-47 in GPHD. Study Luke 24:13-32; Galatians 5:16; Colossians 2:6; Romans 6:4; Ephesians 5:2; Joshua 1:8; Matthew 6:33; and John 15:4-6, 10 .

- Be able to tell the story of how wonderful it is for believers to have a new life with Christ. God wants us to have a close relationship with Him.
- Explain how we can live this new life we have with Christ.
- Prepare visuals and activities.
- Write the Memory Verse for Lesson 12 on a poster to show the children.

Memory Verse(s):

Revelation 3:20

“Here I am! I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with him. And he will eat with me.”

- Read the Memory Verse(s) that you have written on the poster several times out loud for/with the children,
- Make it a game. See who can say the verse(s) from memory.

Review:

- Briefly review Lesson 11.
- Ask the children these questions:
 - The Bible tells us we have riches which God gives us. What are some of those riches?
 - How do we get those riches in Christ?
 - When do the riches end?

Tell the Story 12.1:

- You will tell the story of Christ's Resurrection and appearances to His followers from Luke 24:13-32.
- Use the Jesus on the Road to Emmaus Visual/Coloring page in the Visual Aid(s) section of Lesson 12 to illustrate.

Say:

- Jesus died and was buried. On the third day, He arose from the grave. He was alive again!
- After He arose, He began to appear to some of His followers. He walked and talked with them, ate with them, and let them see that He was no longer in the grave.
- It took time for some of His followers to understand what was going on. Jesus was patient with them. He opened their minds so they could understand what the scriptures said about Him.
- We will read about some of the times that Jesus met with His followers after the resurrection.

Read Luke 24:13-32:

“That same day two of Jesus’ followers were going to a town named Emmaus. It is about seven miles from Jerusalem. They were talking about everything that had happened. While they were discussing these things, Jesus himself came near and began walking with them. (They were not allowed to recognize Jesus.) Then he said, ‘What are these things you are talking about while you walk?’ The two followers stopped. Their faces were very sad. The one named Cleopas answered, ‘You must be the only one in Jerusalem who does not know what just happened there.’

Jesus said to them, ‘What are you talking about?’

The followers said, ‘It is about Jesus of Nazareth. He was a prophet from God to all the people. He said and did many powerful things. Our leaders and the leading priests gave him up to be judged and killed. They nailed him to a cross. But we were hoping that he would free the Jews. It is now the third day since this happened. And today some women among us told us some amazing things. Early this morning they went to the tomb, but they did not find his body there. They came and told us that they had seen a vision of angels. The angels said that Jesus was alive! So, some of our group went to the tomb, too. They found it just as the women said, but they did not see Jesus.’

Then Jesus said to them, ‘You are foolish and slow to realize what is true. You should

believe everything the prophets said. They said that the Christ must suffer these things before he enters his glory.’ Then Jesus began to explain everything that had been written about himself in the Scriptures. He started with Moses, and then he talked about what all the prophets had said about him.

They came near the town of Emmaus, and Jesus acted as if he did not plan to stop there. But they begged him, ‘Stay with us. It is late; it is almost night.’ So he went in to stay with them.

Jesus sat down with them and took some bread. He gave thanks for the food and divided it. Then he gave it to them. And then, they were allowed to recognize Jesus. But when they saw who he was, he disappeared. They said to each other, ‘When Jesus talked to us on the road, it felt like a fire burning in us. It was exciting when he explained the true meaning of the Scriptures.’”

Ask the Children these Questions:

- Why were Cleopas and his friend sad as they walked on the road to Emmaus? _____

- Who was the stranger walking along with the two men? _____
- What did the stranger talk to the two men about that day? _____

- When did they understand who the stranger really was? _____

Say:

- The men and women to whom Jesus appeared after His resurrection knew Him personally. They were His followers. How happy they must have been when they understood their Friend, whom they loved, was alive.
- Something was different about Jesus. They saw that He was not just a human man. He was also the Son of God.
- When we trust Christ to take our sins away and follow Him, we become different too. We become “*new creatures*” in Christ. 2 Corinthians 5:17 tells us that: “*If anyone belongs to Christ, then he is made new. The old things have gone; everything is made new!*”
- We can now have a personal relationship with the living God. It is something God wants for us to have. Spending time daily with God is important to your spiritual life and walk with Christ. When you spend time alone with the Lord reading His Word and talking to Him in prayer, you are doing the most important thing you can do to draw closer to Him and get to know Him better.
- Jesus also made it clear that His followers should tell others about this new life Christ can give them.

Tell the Story 12.2:

- You will tell the story of what your new life with Christ should be like from Galatians 5:16; Colossians 2:6; Romans 6:4; Ephesians 5:2; Joshua 1:8; Matthew 6:33; and John 15:4-6, 10.

Say:

- We are going to read some verses from Paul's letters to the early churches and other passages in the Bible to find out more about how we should live as people "made new" in Christ.
- As we read and talk about the verses, please put a check(s) beside all of the correct answer(s) below for each verse(s):

Read Galatians 5:16:

"So I tell you: Live by following the Spirit. Then you will not do what your sinful selves want."

If we live by following the Spirit which is now in us, we will no longer:

___ belong to Satan

___ want to follow the way of sin

___ listen to what God wants for us

Read Colossians 2:6:

"As you received Christ Jesus the Lord, so continue to live in him."

After we receive Christ, in Whom do we live (to Whom do we belong)?

___ Satan

___ ourselves

___ Christ

Read Romans 6:4:

"So when we were baptized, we were buried with Christ and shared his death. We were buried with him so that we could live a new life, just as Christ was raised from death by the wonderful power of the Father."

What kind of life does God want us to live in Christ?

___ same as before we knew Christ

___ new life in Christ

___ a selfish one to do what I want

Read Ephesians 5:2:

“Live a life of love. Love other people just as Christ loved us. Christ gave himself for us—he was a sweet-smelling offering and sacrifice to God.”

This new life in Christ will give us the choice to live a life of:

- love
- fear
- doubt

Read Joshua 1:8:

“Always remember what is written in the Book of the Teachings. Study it day and night. Then you will be sure to obey everything that is written there. If you do this, you will be wise and successful in everything.”

How often should we meditate on (think about) the Word of God?

- when we feel like it
- sometimes
- all the time (day and night)

Read Matthew 6:33:

“The thing you should want most is God’s kingdom and doing what God wants. Then all these other things you need will be given to you.”

What should believers want most in life?

- the Kingdom of God
- what God wants
- to have a good, happy time

Read John 15:4-6, 10:

“Remain in me, and I will remain in you. No branch can produce fruit alone. It must remain in the vine. It is the same with you. You cannot produce fruit alone. You must remain in me.

I am the vine, and you are the branches. If a person remains in me and I remain in him, then he produces much fruit. But without me he can do nothing. If anyone does not remain in me, then he is like a branch that is thrown away. That branch dies. People pick up dead branches, throw them into the fire, and burn them.”

“I have obeyed my Father’s commands, and I remain in his love. In the same way, if you obey my commands, you will remain in my love.”

What does it mean to “remain” (or abide) in Christ?

- do what I think is best
- obey God’s commands
- live in Christ’s love

Wrap Up and Apply:

Say:

- You need to be a follower of Christ who desires to spend time with Him in reading His Word and in prayer. You need to “remain” with Him, stay close to Him every day. You also need to be ready to tell others about Him.
- Thank you, God, for our lives with Christ.

Discuss:

How can knowing more about your life with Christ help you today and tomorrow?
(Help children think of practical ways knowing about life with Christ can help them.)

Follow Up Activities/Crafts:

- Activity 1: Jesus on the Road to Emmaus Visual/Coloring Page
Use the Jesus on the Road to Emmaus Visual/Coloring Page located in the Visual Aid(s) section of Lesson 12 as a visual for this lesson. Children may color the picture.
- Activity 2: Your Life with Christ Activity Sheet in the Visual Aid(s) section of Lesson 12.

Visual Aid(s) for Lesson 12:

- Jesus on the Road to Emmaus Visual/Coloring Page
- Your Life with Christ Activity Sheet

Jesus on the Road to Emmaus



Activity 2: Your Life with Christ Activity Sheet

Instructions:

- God wants us to have a close relationship with Him.
Read the verses for each set of pictures below. For each set, write and talk about how the verse(s)/picture show what we mean to God, our Heavenly Father.
- You may also complete the maze and color the pictures.

Your Life with Christ

1. Read Luke 15:3-7 - The Lost Sheep



2. Read Luke 15:8-10 - The Lost Coin



3. Read Luke 15:11-32 - The Son Who Left Home

Help the Prodigal Son Get Home



4. Read John 15:4-10 - The Vine and the Branches



Lesson 13

Daily Quiet Time with the Lord



Having a daily Quiet Time, spending time with the Lord, is not just a good practice. It is vital to having an abundant, full, and joyful life in Christ. As we learned in Lesson 12, we need to become close to Christ, to become friends with Him (1 Corinthians 1:9). We do this by spending real time with Him daily.

Prepare to Tell the Story:

Review page 48 in GPHD. Study selected scripture verses cited in the lesson.

- Be able to tell what it means to have a Quiet Time with God.
- Prepare visuals and activities.
- Write the Memory Verse for Lesson 13 on a poster to show the children.

Memory Verse(s):

Psalm 119:9-11

“How can a young person live a pure life? He can do it by obeying your word. With all my heart I try to obey you, God. Don’t let me break your commands. I have taken your words to heart so I would not sin against you.”

- Read the Memory Verse(s) that you have written on the poster several times out loud for/with the children.
- Make it a game. Use the Jesus Praying in the Wilderness Visual/Coloring Page located in the Visual Aid(s) section of Lesson 13 to help children remember the verse(s).
- See who can say the verse(s) from memory.

Review:

- Briefly review Lesson 12.
- Ask the children these questions:
 - What does it mean to “remain” in Jesus?
 - What are some of the “riches” we have in Jesus?

Tell the Story 13.1:

- You will tell the story of having a Quiet Time with the Lord using selected verses.
- Explain what a Quiet Time is.
- Use the Jesus Praying in the Wilderness Visual/Coloring Page located in the Visual Aid(s) section of Lesson 13 to illustrate.

What is a Quiet Time?

Say:

- Having a Quiet Time means that you will spend time each day reading and studying God's words in the Bible and praying to Him.

Read James 4:8a:

"Come near to God, and God will come near to you."

Read Ephesians 6:18:

"Pray in the Spirit at all times. Pray with all kinds of prayers and ask for everything you need. To do this you must always be ready. Never give up. Always pray for all God's people."

Read Jeremiah 29:12:

"Then you will call my name. You will come to me and pray to me. And I will listen to you."

Read Colossians 4:2:

"Continue praying and keep alert. And when you pray, always thank God."

Read Psalm 1:2-3:

[A person is happy if] *"He loves the Lord's teachings. He thinks about those teachings' day and night. He is strong, like a tree planted by a river. It produces fruit in season. Its leaves don't die. Everything he does will succeed."*

Ask the Children these Questions:

- James 4:8 is an invitation for us to come _____. If we do that, what will God do? _____
- When does Psalm 1 tell us it is good to think about the Lord's teachings in Scripture and to think about what He teaches us? _____
- How can we come near to God and learn about His teachings every day? _____

Tell the Story 13.2:

- You will tell the story of why, when, where, and how we should have a Quiet Time with the Lord using selected verses.

Why should we have a Quiet Time?

Say:

- We should have a Quiet Time because the Bible tells us to do it.
- Jesus spent time alone with His Heavenly Father while He was a man here on earth. We need to obey what the Bible says and do as Jesus did.
- By spending time with Christ, we get to know what He wants us to do in our lives.

Read Joshua 1:8.

“Always remember what is written in the Book of the Teachings [Scripture]. Study it day and night. Then you will be sure to obey everything that is written there. If you do this, you will be wise and successful in everything.”

Read John 15:14-15.

“You are my friends if you do what I command you. I don’t call you servants now. A servant does not know what his master is doing. But now I call you friends because I have made known to you everything I heard from my Father.”

Read Luke 6:12.

“At that time Jesus went off to a mountain to pray. He stayed there all night, praying to God.”

Ask the Children these Questions:

- Moses told Joshua (in Joshua 1:8) to do three things with the Scripture. What are these three things? _____, _____, _____
That’s what God wants us to do also.
- In John 15:14, if we want to be called “friends” of Christ, we must do what He _____

Having a Quiet Time is a way God can let us know what He wants us to know and do.

- At least six times the Bible talks about Jesus going to a quiet place to pray. If Jesus needed to spend time with His Heavenly Father, and He was God, do we need to spend time daily with God? Why or why not? (Discuss with the children.) _____

- Why would Jesus need to spend time with His Heavenly Father? _____

Read Matthew 4:4:

Jesus “answered, “*It is written in the Scriptures, ‘A person does not live only by eating bread. But a person lives by everything the Lord says.’*”

Read 1 Peter 2:2:

“As newborn babies want milk, you should want the pure and simple teaching. By it you can mature in your salvation.”

Ask the Children these Questions:

- We know we need food to live. Jesus said that we need something **more than food** to live the right way. We need to live by _____
- By learning the pure and simple teaching in the Bible, what does it help you to do?

When should we have a Quiet Time?

Say:

- Some people like to have a Quiet Time with the Lord before their day begins, to help them get started correctly.
- Some people like to have a Quiet Time in the evening at the end of their day.
- What matters most is that you have some special time each day that you can spend with Christ, getting to know Him better.

Read Matthew 6:11:

“Give us the food we need for each day.”

Read Psalm 5:3:

“Lord, every morning you hear my voice. Every morning, I tell you what I need. And I wait for your answer.”

Read Mark 1:35:

“Early the next morning, Jesus woke and left the house while it was still dark. He went to a place to be alone and pray.”

Read Matthew 14:23:

“After he [Jesus] said good-bye to them, he went alone up into the hills to pray. It was late, and Jesus was there alone.”

Ask the Children these Questions:

- We eat physical food for life every day. We also need spiritual food, the Bread of Life from scripture, to live the right way. How often should we “eat” (study God’s Word and pray) spiritual food? _____
- King David, in the Old Testament, liked to talk to God in the morning. We know that Jesus sometimes talked to His Father in the morning and sometimes in the evening. Does the time of day matter when you have your Quiet Time? _____ The important thing is that you _____

Where should we have a Quiet Time?

Say:

- It is difficult to have a good Quiet Time if things around you are so busy and noisy that you can’t concentrate.
- It’s best if you can find some quiet place where you can be alone to study, think about, and pray on the things of God each day.

Read Matthew 6:6:

“When you pray, you should go into your room and close the door. Then pray to your Father who cannot be seen. Your Father can see what is done in secret, and he will reward you.”

Read Luke 5:16:

“But Jesus often slipped away to other places to be alone so that he could pray.”

Ask the Children this Question:

- Think about where you live now. Where are some quiet, private places where you can have your Quiet Time? _____

How should we have a Quiet Time?

- See Activity 3: A Quiet Time Plan at the end of this lesson for an answer.

Wrap Up and Apply:

Say/Ask:

- Having a daily Quiet Time (spending time with the Lord in Bible reading and study and in prayer) is not just a good thing to do. It is very important for having an abundant, full, and joyful life in Christ.
- Jeremiah 15:16 says: *“Your words came to me, and I listened carefully to them. Your words made me very happy. I was happy because I am called by your name. Your name is the Lord God of heaven’s armies.”*

What did Jeremiah do when he found the words of God? _____

_____ We should do the same in our lives.

- Thank you, God, for being able to spend time with You in Prayer and in Your Word.

Discuss:

How can having a Quiet Time in prayer and Bible study help you in your life now?
(Help children think of practical ways spending time with God can help them.)

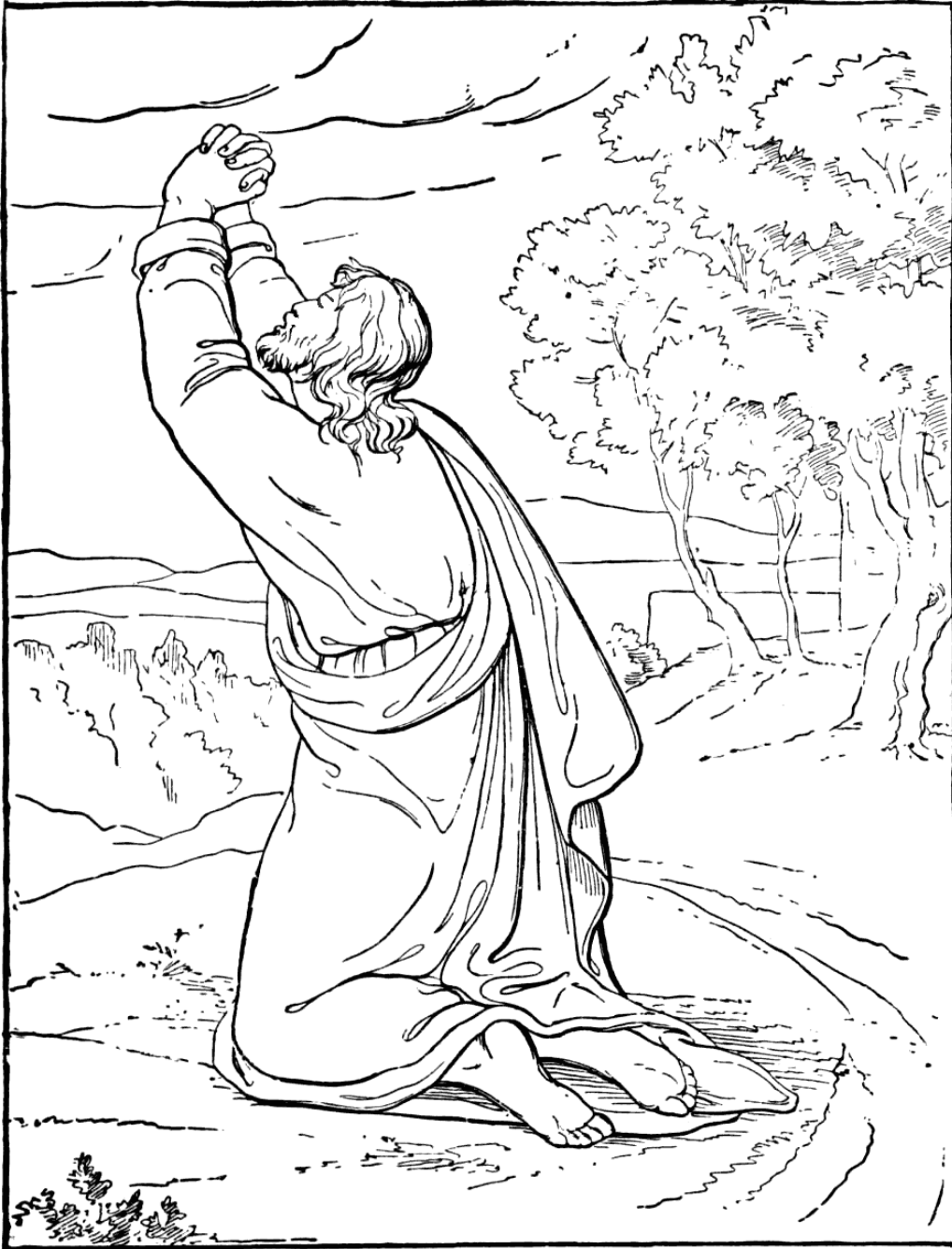
Follow Up Activities/Crafts:

- Activity 1: Jesus Praying in the Wilderness Visual/Coloring Page located in the Visual Aid(s) section of Lesson 13. Have children view the visual as you discuss Jesus spending time with His Father. Children may color the page.
- Activity 2: What Do I Need to Have a Quiet Time?
- Activity 3: A Quiet Time Plan

Visual Aid(s) for Lesson 13:

- Jesus Praying in the Wilderness Visual/Coloring Page
- What Do I Need to Have a Quiet Time?
- A Quiet Time Plan

Jesus Praying in the Wilderness



Memory Verse: Psalm 119:9-11

*“How can a young person live a pure life? He can do it by obeying your word.
With all my heart I try to obey you, God.
Don’t let me break your commands.
I have taken your words to heart so I would not sin against you.”*

Activity 2: What Do I Need to Have a Quiet Time?

Instructions:

Below is a list of some familiar things. Read each item.

- If you think the item is helpful and is a good item to have with you when you have your Quiet Time, put a Check ✓ beside the item.
- If you think the item is not a good item to have with you when you have your Quiet Time, put an X beside the item.

Your Bible _____

Cookies/cakes _____

Pencil/pen/journal _____

Notebook/paper _____

Toys _____

Video games/telephone _____

Personal Prayer List _____

Younger brother/sister _____

Bible Study Guide _____

Be able to explain your answers.

Activity 3: A Quite Time Plan

Instructions:

- Read the Quiet Time Plan below carefully. It is one idea for how to begin having your Quiet Time with Christ.
- There is no set time to spend on each section. You must decide what is right for you. You can make changes as needed.

A Quite Time Plan

Opening prayer— ask God to bless your Quiet Time and to have the Holy Spirit help you understand what He wants you to learn.

Bible reading----- read specific parts of the Bible according to a plan like the **31 Day Encounter with Jesus Plan** presented in Lesson 14.

Bible study----- use the **Four Step Bible Study Method** presented in Lessons 6 and 7 to help you understand and apply what you are reading. Write what you learned in a daily journal. Write questions you still have.

Prayer time----- talk to God often about anything. Pray for your needs and those of others. He hears you and wants you to come to Him. Don't forget to praise and thank Him for all He has done.

[The **ACTS** acrostic and the **Personal Prayer List** presented in Lesson 14 will give more guidance to you as you talk to God.]

Get help----- think about any questions you have about what you read. Ask the Holy Spirit to show the meaning to you. If you still have questions, you may choose to use a Bible Study Guide or Commentary to look up more information or ask an adult that you trust to help you.

REMEMBER

- Stay on track. Keep to your schedule daily. Be consistent!
- Review what you have learned often.
- Ask for help when you need it to understand what you study.
- Pray for wisdom and understanding of what you read and learn.
- Make changes in your life as God moves you to do so.
- If you miss a day, don't give up!

Lesson 14

Practical Helps for Prayer and Worship



When we pray and worship, we are communicating directly with the same God Who created all things. Imagine being able to talk with God directly, thanking Him, praising Him, and asking Him. He desires for us to do that! He wants close fellowship with us as our Heavenly Father. Lesson 13 talked about the importance of having a daily Quiet Time. That includes Bible study and prayer. This lesson tells us more about prayer and worship, which are part of our Quiet Time, but can happen any time.

Prepare to Tell the Story:

Review pages 49-59 in GPHD. Study selected scripture verses cited in this lesson.

- Be able to tell the story of how God wants us to pray and worship Him daily.
- Explain that the Bible contains great prayers, answers to prayers, and guidance about how to pray and praise God.
- Prepare visuals and activities.
- Write the Memory Verse for Lesson 14 on a poster to show the children.

Memory Verse(s):

Psalm 7:17

“I praise the Lord because he does what is right. I sing praises to the name of the Lord Most High.”

- Read the Memory Verse(s) that you have written on the poster several times out loud for/with the children.
- Use the Children Praying and Worshipping Visual/Color Page located in the Visual Aid(s) section of Lesson 14 to help children with the Bible verse.
- Make it a game. See who can say the verse(s) from memory.

Review:

- Briefly review Lesson 13.
- Ask the children these questions:
 - Why do we need to have a personal Quiet Time every day?
 - What should we do during our Quiet Time?

Tell the Story 14.1:

- You will tell the story of the importance of prayer in the life of a believer.
- Use the Children Praying and Worshipping Visual/Coloring Page located in the Visual Aid(s) section of Lesson 14 to illustrate.

Say:

- Did you know there are about 650 prayers recorded in the Bible?
Did you know there are about 450 answers to prayers recorded in the Bible?
Did you know that the Bible talks 25 times about Jesus praying?
Did you know that the Apostle Paul talks about prayer 41 times in the Bible?
- So much is said in the Bible about prayer and praying because God shows us how important prayer is to Him. He wants us to talk to Him. He wants to communicate with us through His Spirit. Prayer is a good way to spend time with our Heavenly Father.

Say:

- What a wonderful privilege it is to be able to talk directly to our Heavenly Father any time we want to, day or night. Prayer is an important part of our Quiet Time with Him.
- The Bible says much about prayer. We must take our prayer time seriously.

Read 1 Thessalonians 5:17:

“Never stop praying.”

Read Philippians 4:6:

“Do not worry about anything. But pray and ask God for everything you need. And when you pray, always give thanks.”

Ask the Children these Questions.

- When is it a good time to pray? (Choose one answer below. Circle it.)
Once a month/ Once a day/ All the time
- What can we talk to God about? (Choose one answer below. Circle it.)
Everything/ What I want Him to give me/ Only things that worry me

Say:

- Sometimes we need help knowing how to pray. Here is a set of four categories of things to pray for that might help you to pray better.

A - ADORATION—Think about the power, majesty, and glory of God.

All praise and honor and glory and power forever and ever to the One who sits on the throne and to the Lamb! (Revelation 5:13b)

C - CONFESSION—Tell God you are sorry for recent sins you may have done.

But if we confess our sins, he will forgive our sins. (1 John 1:9a)

T - THANKSGIVING - Thank God for all He has done and does for you every day.

Let's come to him with thanksgiving. Let's sing songs to him. (Psalm 95:2)

S - SUPPLICATION - Ask God for things that you or other people may need.

Do not worry about anything. But pray and ask God for everything you need. And when you pray, always give thanks. (Philippians 4:6)

Tell the Story 14.2:

- You will tell the story of what worship is and how we can worship God.
- Use the Children Praying and Worshipping Visual/Coloring Page located in the Visual Aid(s) section of Lesson 14 to illustrate.

Say:

- Part of communicating with God in our Quiet Time is worshipping Him. Worshipping God is praising Him, telling Him how great and wonderful He is, thanking Him for all He has done for us and others, and letting Him know how much we love Him.
- Did you know that more than 250 Bible verses talk about praising God?
- We can worship God in many ways.

Ask the Children these Questions:

- Complete the Bible Verses about Praising and Worshipping God exercise below. Look up the verses. Write down the different ways to praise and worship God given in the verses.

Bible Verses about Praising and Worshipping God

Read each verse below. Write the ways we can praise and worship God.

Psalm 95:6 - _____

Psalm 46:10 - _____

Hebrews 13:15 - _____

Psalm 149:3 - _____

Psalm 95:1 - _____

Psalm 150:4 - _____

Psalm 47:1 - _____

John 13:34-35 - _____

Nehemiah 8:6 - _____

How many different ways did you find to praise and worship God? _____

Can you think of other ways to praise and worship God? _____

Wrap Up and Apply:

Say:

- The same God Who created all things cares about spending time with you and me. He wants you and me to practice getting to know Him and loving Him more and more.
- Thank you, God, for the privilege of spending time with you in Bible reading, prayer, and worship every day.

Discuss:

How can practicing prayer and worship help you in your life today and tomorrow?
(Help children think of practical ways praying and worshipping God can help them.)

Follow Up Activities/Crafts:

- Activity 1: Children Praying and Worshipping Visual/Coloring Page. Use the Children Praying and Worshipping Visual/Coloring Page located in the Visual Aid(s) section of Lesson 14 as a visual for this lesson. Children may color the coloring page.
- Activity 2: Personal Prayer Request List/Prayer Hand located in the Visual Aid(s) section of Lesson 14.
- Activity 3: Practical Helps for Quiet Time in the Word guidelines located in the Visual Aid(s) section of Lesson 14.
- Activity 4: A 31 Day Encounter with Jesus Bible reading schedule located in the Visual Aid(s) section of Lesson 14.

Visual Aid(s) for Lesson 14:

- Children Praying and Worshipping Visual/Coloring Page
- Personal Prayer Request List/The Prayer Hand
- Practical Helps for Quiet Time in the Word
- A 31 Day Encounter with Jesus

Activity 1: Visual/Coloring Page

Children Praying



Children Worshipping



Memory Verse

Psalm 7:17

"I praise the Lord because he does what is right. I sing praises to the name of the Lord Most High."

Activity 2: Personal Prayer Request List/Prayer Hand

Instructions:

- Children may use the Personal Prayer Request List as an aid in helping them pray.

Personal Prayer Request List

1. Family/Friends (parents, other family members, people closest to you, etc.)

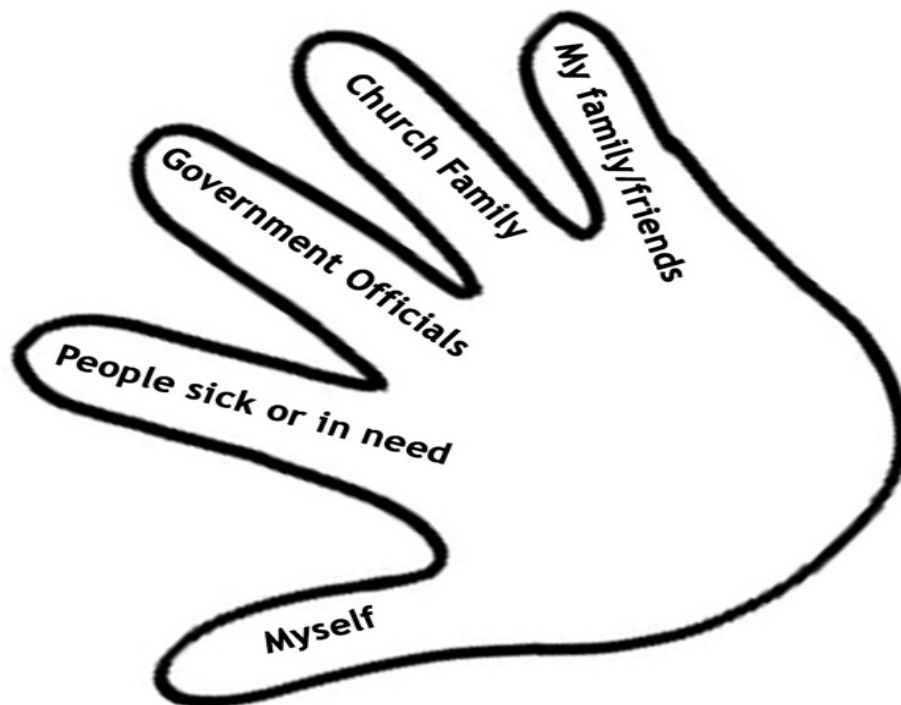
2. Church family/Missions (pastor, teachers, missionaries, etc.)

3. Government Officials (Leaders such as President, Governor, Mayor, Judges, Congress, etc.) _____
4. People sick or in need (physical or spiritual problems)

5. Myself (spiritual growth, wisdom, physical safety, school, work, etc.)

The Prayer Hand

- Children may use this Prayer Hand to help them remember to pray for the people on the Personal Prayer Request List.
- Each finger stands for a group to pray for from the Personal Prayer List



Activity 3: Practical Helps for Quiet Time in the Word

Instructions:

- Review the steps for studying the Bible with the children.
- If time, have them practice using the steps to study a passage.

Practical Helps for Quiet Time in the Word

To help you get started in the Word daily, go back and review Lessons 6 and 7 on How to Study the Bible. Next, take a piece of paper or a notebook and write in the Three Steps below to record your journey in the Bible. For example, study Psalm 23:1-9 and follow these steps. You will need more lines in your notebook than we have included below. Since this is your personal Quiet Time study, you will not include the Discussion step (from Lessons 6 and 7). You can discuss your thoughts with others later. Remember to pray as you begin your Quiet Time.

1 - OBSERVATION - “LOOK AT IT” - What does it say? _____

2 - MEDITATION - “THINK ABOUT IT” - What does it mean? _____

3 - APPLICATION - “LIVE IT - DO IT” - Now what? _____

Please note:

For a month-long Bible Study, you might use the **31-day Encounter with Jesus** Bible reading and study schedule presented with this lesson. You can take each theme and scripture passage and use the above method for studying the passage. After the **31 Day Encounter with Jesus**, you can start reading the whole Bible or certain Bible books or letters as the Spirit leads you. An additional Bible reading aid is available to help you at the end of Lesson 14, **Year-Long Bible Reading Schedule**.

Activity 4: A 31 Day Encounter with Jesus

Instructions:

- Children can follow this month-long Bible reading schedule to assist with their daily Quiet Time as they learn more about Jesus, the Living Word.

A 31 Day Encounter with Jesus

<u>Day</u>	<u>Theme</u>	<u>Scripture</u>
Day 1	Jesus is Predicted	Isaiah 53
Day 2	The Birth of Jesus	Matthew 1:18-25
Day 3	John the Baptist Prepares the Way	Matthew 3:1–4:11
Day 4	Jesus Meets the Samaritan Woman	John 4:1-26
Day 5	Jesus is Rejected at Home	Luke 4:14-30
Day 6	Jesus Calls His Disciples	Luke 5:1-11
Day 7	The Sermon on the Plain	Luke 6:17-46
Day 8	The Widow’s Son and a Sinful Woman	Luke 7:11-17; 7:36-50
Day 9	Jesus Encounters the Pharisees	Matthew 12:1-13; 22-45
Day 10	Parable of the Sower	Matthew 13:1-43
Day 11	Jesus Calms the Storm	Luke 8:22-25
Day 12	Jesus Heals a Man, Woman and Girl	Mark 5:1-43
Day 13	Jesus Feeds the 5000	John 6:1-14
Day 14	Peter Knows Jesus Christ	Luke 9:18-27
Day 15	Healing by Faith	Mark 9:14-32
Day 16	More Teachings and Parables	Matthew 17:24–18:20
Day 17	More Teachings and Parables	Matthew 18:21–19:15
Day 18	The Rich Young Ruler	Mark 10:17-31
Day 19	The Disciples Sent Out	Luke 10:1-24
Day 20	The Great Commandment	Mark 12:28-44
Day 21	The Parable of the Good Samaritan	Luke 10:25-37
Day 22	The Lord’s Prayer	Luke 11:1-13
Day 23	Jesus Raises Lazarus from the Dead	John 11:1-44
Day 24	The Triumphal Entry into Jerusalem	Matthew 21:1-27
Day 25	The Last Supper	John 13:1-17
Day 26	The Love of Jesus for the Disciples	John 14-15
Day 27	Jesus Arrested and Betrayed	Matthew 26:36-75
Day 28	Jesus’ Unfair Trial	John 18:19–19:16
Day 29	Jesus’ Crucifixion and Death	John 19:17-42
Day 30	Jesus’ Resurrection and Appearances	John 20-21
Day 31	The Great Commission of Jesus	Matthew 28:16-20

Additional Resource for Studying God’s Word on Next Two Pages

Year-Long Bible Reading Schedule

Remember, as you read through the Word of God, that it is Truth. Truth is a Person, Jesus Christ, the Living Word of God and all Scripture points to Him. Note that this activity is part of your personal Quiet Time. You may divide each week's assignment and read it across all 7 days. While you will not be discussing the readings with others at the time you read them, you may later want to talk about what you learned through your personal study of the Word.

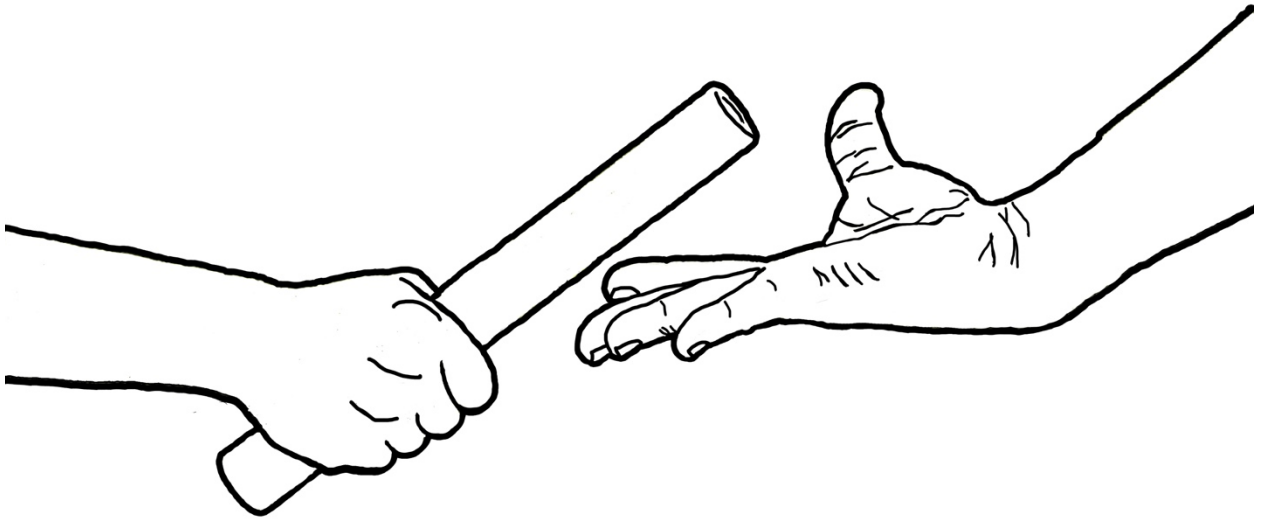
BIBLE READING SCHEDULE

WEEK	TITLE	SCRIPTURE	READ
1	God's Creation Adam & Eve	Genesis 1 - 2:24	
2	The Snake	Genesis 3	
3	Noah's Story	Genesis 6:9 - 9:17	
4	Abram's Story	Genesis 15	
5	Sarah's Story	Genesis 18:1-15; 21:1-6	
6	Jacob's Story	Genesis 27; 32 - 33	
7	Joseph's Story	Genesis 37; 39 - 42; 44 - 45	
8	Miriam's Story	Exodus 2:1-10	
9	God Rescues the Israelites	Exodus 12:1-42; 14:5-31	
10	Moses and the Ten Commandments	Exodus 20:1-21	
11	Aaron's Story	Exodus 32:1-29	
12	Caleb's Story	Numbers 13	
13	Balaam's Story	Numbers 22:21-41	
14	Rahab's Story	Joshua 2	
15	Joshua's Story	Joshua 6	
16	Deborah's Story	Judges 4	
17	Gideon's Story	Judges 6 - 7	
18	Ruth and Naomi's Story	Ruth 1 - 2	
19	Hannah's Story	1 Samuel 1:9-28	
20	Samuel's Story	1 Samuel 16:1-13	
21	Young David's Story	1 Samuel 17	
22	Abigail's Story	1 Samuel 25:2-38	
23	Solomon's Story	1 Kings 3; Proverbs 1:1-7; 2:1-22	
24	Elijah's Story	1 Kings 18:1-40	
25	Elisha's Story	2 Kings 4:1-7	
26	Josiah's Story	2 Kings 22:1 - 23:25	

BIBLE READING SCHEDULE - Continued

WEEK	TITLE	SCRIPTURE	READ
27	The Temple of God	Ezra 3:1-13; 7:1-10; 9:6 - 10:17	
28	Nehemiah's Story	Nehemiah 3 - 4; 6	
29	Esther's Story	Esther 5:1-8; 8:1-17	
30	Job's Story	Job 1 - 2; 13; 40; 42	
31	King David Speaks	Psalm 23	
32	Jeremiah's Story	Jeremiah 1:3-19	
33	Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego's Story	Daniel 3	
34	Daniel's Story	Daniel 6	
35	Jonah's Story	Jonah 1 - 4	
36	The Shepherd's Story	Luke 2:1-20	
37	Mary's Story	Matthew 2:13-23	
38	John the Baptist's Story	John 1:19-34	
39	Nicodemus' Story	John 3:1-21	
40	The Apostles	Matthew 10	
41	The Rich Man's Story	Matthew 19:16-30	
42	The Pharisees	Matthew 22:34-40; 23:1-36	
43	Mary and Martha's Story	John 12:1-8	
44	Jesus' Great Sacrifice	Matthew 27:27 - 28:10	
45	Thomas' Story	John 20:24-30	
46	The Early Christians	Acts 2	
47	Peter's Story	Acts 3	
48	Stephen's Story	Acts 7	
49	Philip's Story	Acts 8:26-40	
50	Saul's Story	Acts 9:1-19	
51	Silas' Story	Acts 16:16-40	
52	Timothy's Story	Acts 16:1-4; 1 Timothy 4:6-16; 6:11-21; 2 Timothy 1:3-14	
BONUS	John Sees the Future	Revelation 21 - 22	

Pass It On!



- The purpose of this workbook study is to train you in the Biblical principles used by the Early Christian Church that spread and changed the world for Christ and the Gospel during its time.
- Our goal is to develop the knowledge and desire in you, as a participant in this study, to become one of today's disciples that will impact your world for the Gospel.
- We say to you what Paul said to Timothy:

*"You and many others have heard what I have taught.
You should teach the same thing to some people you can trust.
Then they will be able to teach it to others."*

2 Timothy 2:2

- It is time for you to pass on to others what you have learned about being a member of the Household of God.
- Write the names of two people to whom you would like to pass on what you know about the Household of God in the spaces below:

- Begin to pray for opportunities to ***pass it on!***



Certificate of Completion

*“God’s Plan for Young Disciples”
This is to Certify that*



Has successfully completed all the lessons and training for God’s Plan for Young Disciples.

This includes the introduction and personal study, discussion, and application in the following fourteen lessons:

1. The Authority and Sufficiency of God’s Word
2. The Authority and Sufficiency of the Holy Spirit
3. Water Baptism
4. Members of One Another
5. Lord’s Supper
6. How to Study the Bible and (7) Practice
8. Galatians: Spirit, Faith and Pure Gospel
9. Ephesians: Revealing the Plan of Christ
10. 1 Timothy: Order in the Household of God
11. Your Life in Christ
12. Your Life with Christ
13. Spending Quiet Time with the Lord
14. Practical Helps for Prayer and Worship

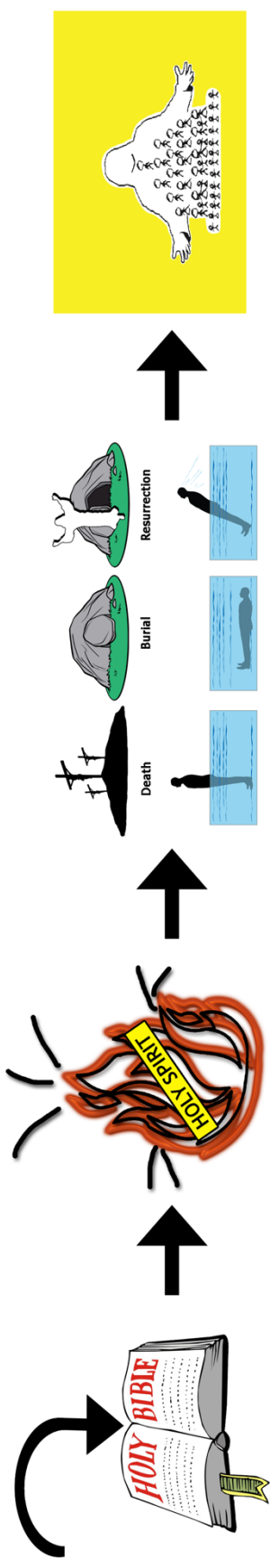
*This certificate is presented to the above student by New Foundations International and a local church leader,
desiring that the student grows as a fruitful disciple for the glory of God.*

Date: day of in the year

New Foundations International

Local Church Leader

God's Plan for His Disciples

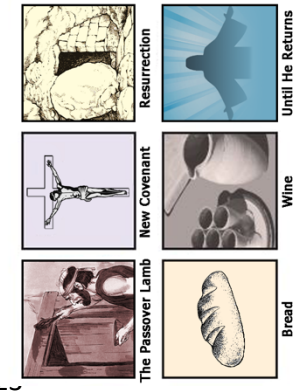


Word of God - Authority

Holy Spirit - Power

Water Baptism

Members of One Another



Lord's Supper

Prayer

How to Study the Bible

Staked

Established



Your Life IN Christ

Your Life WITH Christ

Quiet Time with the Lord

Family of Families

Leadership

So your child has chosen to follow Christ. Now what?
What are the critical Biblical principles they need to know in order to
grow into mature disciples of Jesus?

Teaching those principles to children does not have to be complicated. The discipleship lessons in this manual do not have to be taught by professional educators. They are set up to be presented by parents, Sunday School teachers or other mentors who themselves are disciples. Each lesson provides guidance for the presenter, Scripture, memory verses, and hands on activities for children.

Children are important to God. This is so true that Matthew 18:10 states: *“Be careful. Don’t think these little children are worth nothing. I tell you that they have angels in heaven who are always with my Father in heaven.”*

When children come to Christ early, they have all of their lives to live for Him, grow as His disciples and share with others. This manual is a valuable tool for helping them to do that. (Martha D. Evans, Director of Children’s Ministries, Fellowship Bible Church)



“You and many others have heard what I have taught. You should teach the same thing to some people you can trust. Then they will be able to teach it to others.”

2 Timothy 2:2



God’s Plan for
Young Disciples:
Teacher’s Edition