

Elementary 2

Year 1 Book 4

Be Strong in the Lord



Teacher's Guide and Student Worksheets

ELEMENTARY 2 YEAR 1 BOOK 4

BE STRONG IN THE LORD

INTRODUCTION

The main objectives for this quarter are:

- To gain an in-depth understanding of the Ten Commandments.
- To learn about the various sections and components of the tabernacle and their spiritual significance.
- To learn about the different feasts in the Bible and the reasons they were held.
- To understand that as workers of God, we must offer to Him willingly and with a sincere heart.
- To learn how Joshua displayed great faith in his journey as leader of the Israelites.

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LESSON GUIDE

The E2 lessons can be separated into 3 sections with several subsections that, as a whole, are aimed to provide a comprehensive Bible study of the selected topic.

The first section is an **introduction** to the lesson and includes the Objectives, Memory Verse, Prayer, Overview, Background Knowledge for the Teachers, and Reaching Out to Your Students sections. This section is meant for the teacher to study while preparing the lesson so that the teacher will know in which direction to guide the students while teaching.

The second section includes the **main content** of the lesson that will be taught to the students during class. Here the teacher will find the Opener, Vocabulary, Bible Discovery & Spiritual Teaching, Linking to the Ten Basic Beliefs, Check for Understanding, Life Application, and Activity sections.

Lastly, the students will have a homework assignment to take home and complete after class as a **review** of the lesson. The students are expected to bring back the homework assignment to the next class completed and with a parent signature.

This lesson guide will list each subsection and explain its purpose, as well as how teachers should use the information in that subsection.

I. Introduction to the Lesson

1. Objectives

These are the objectives that the lesson aims to fulfill. The teacher should always remember to reinforce ideas and teachings that will fulfill these objectives.

2. Memory Verse

The teacher should go over the memory verse at the beginning of class and ask the students to have it memorized by the end of class.

3. Prayer

Go over these points with the students before beginning prayer so that they will know what they should pray for, in addition to their own prayer requests.

4. Overview

A simple lesson overview that emphasizes the important points of the lesson.

5. Background Knowledge for Teachers

Relevant biblical background knowledge that can aid the teachers in understanding the lesson.

6. Reaching Out to Your Students

This section provides an insight into how the students might react to the lesson and how to help the students understand the lesson.

II. Main Lesson Content

1. Opener // 5 Minutes

The purpose of the Opener is to ease the students into the lesson by bringing up relevant topics that will relate to the Bible study. This will give students time to calm down before the teacher goes into the main content.

2. Vocabulary

The vocabulary is provided to explain some of the more difficult terms. The teacher can choose to go over the terms before beginning the Bible study or as the terms come up during the lesson.

3. Bible Discovery & Spiritual Teaching // 30-35 Minutes

This is the main section of each lesson. It will provide an in-depth study of the selected topic and the students will also be provided worksheets to fill in as the teacher conducts the lesson. The teacher should look at the worksheets while preparing the lesson and print out a copy to use as an answer key during class. The aim of the worksheets is to keep the students focused and to let them actively participate instead of passively listen.

4. Linking to the Ten Basic Beliefs // 2-5 Minutes

It is important to tie each lesson back to the Ten Basic Beliefs to reinforce the students' knowledge of the Beliefs; therefore, this section will briefly tie back the lesson to the Basic Belief to which it relates.

5. Check for Understanding // 5 Minutes

This section tests the students' comprehension of the teachings they just learned in the Bible Discovery & Spiritual Teaching section.

6. Life Application // 10 Minutes

The Life Application section aims to make the lesson content more life applicable and will allow the students to relate the lesson's teachings to events that happen in their daily lives. The goal is to give the students a chance to apply what they have learned in the lesson to their daily lives.

7. Activity // 10-15 Minutes

Each lesson will include one or two activities that relate back to a teaching or story in the Bible Discovery & Spiritual Teaching section.

III. Homework Assignment

Students are to take this home and return it the next week completed. There are four elements to the homework assignment: (1) Bible reading and prayer chart, (2) what they learned from the Bible, (3) memory verse, (4) and a lesson-specific assignment. The Bible reading and prayer chart is provided to track the students' progress during the week. In addition, the students will have to write down the memory verse and two things they learned from the Bible during that week. The last part of the homework assignment is specific to that week's lesson. It is advised that the students obtain a parent signature to make sure that the parents know what the students are learning each week.

IV. Suggested E2 Class Timeline

5 min.	Opening Prayer
5 min.	Opener
30-35 min.	Bible Discovery & Spiritual Teaching
2-5 min.	Linking to the Ten Basic Beliefs
5 min.	Check for Understanding
10 min.	Life Application
10-15 min.	Activity
5 min.	Ending Prayer

Total: 1 hr. 12 min. - 1 hr. 20 min.

UNDERSTANDING YOUR STUDENTS

Upper Elementary/Primary Stage (Ages 9-11)

Characteristics	Pedagogic Application
<p>Body</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Generally healthy 2. Active 3. Begin to step into puberty stage, get hungry easily 4. Girls become taller than boys toward later stage 5. Increase in stamina 	<p>Encourage healthy eating habits Can plan for outdoor activities/fellowships sometimes Prepare snacks if their time in church is especially long Teach them how God values their character; build healthy self-esteem Have challenging and difficult activities</p>
<p>Mind</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Like to collect things 2. Very creative 3. Begin to think and deduce 4. Like asking questions 5. Have good memory 6. Limited understanding of profound/abstract matters 7. Increased reading ability and comprehension 	<p>Include more challenging activities Provide creative and Bible-related activities Use pedagogy that enhance critical thinking Provide satisfactory and biblical answers Encourage memorization of Bible verses Need to explain abstract terms Nurture interest in reading the Bible/Christian materials</p>
<p>Mood</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Express emotions easily 2. Short-tempered; lose patience easily 3. Like humor 4. May have feelings of withdrawal (may be scared, anxious, etc.) 	<p>Provide routines that help students to quiet down and get ready to focus Teach students how to control emotions and appropriate ways to express emotions Include some humor while teaching Show more care and concern; teach them the importance of relying on God</p>
<p>Social Skills</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Loyal toward friends of the same age more than parents or teachers 2. Like to make friends of the same gender 3. Loyal to groups or teams 4. Enjoy competitive games or activities 5. Like to joke around; may make fun of others 6. Admire favorite teachers and classmates 	<p>Encourage friendship, but stress the importance of respecting parents and elders Can separate into girls and boys for group discussion Teach students how to discern negative peer pressure Provide competitive games where everyone can participate Encourage healthy jokes without hurting others' feelings; teach mutual respect Suggest some Christian biographies for students to read; set good examples for the students; share your personal faith and convictions</p>
<p>Spirituality</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Express maturity in accepting the way of salvation 2. Worship heroes 3. Can study the Bible and pray 4. Can accept a deeper level of Bible teaching 5. Show concern over the souls of others 	<p>Talk about salvation seriously; share with them how God changed your life Teach stories of Bible heroes and spiritual characters; provide good Christian living examples Encourage daily spiritual cultivation (pray/read the Bible) Help the students to discover the teachings from the Bible Encourage students to pray and/or bring family members or friends to the Lord</p>

MEMORY VERSES

1. "Now therefore, if you will indeed obey My voice and keep My covenant, then you shall be a special treasure to Me above all people; for all the earth is Mine." (Exodus 19:5)
2. "Then all the people answered together and said, 'All that the LORD has spoken we will do.'" (Exodus 19:8a)
3. "And let them make Me a sanctuary, that I may dwell among them." (Exodus 25:8)
4. "Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need." (Hebrews 4:16)
5. "In the same manner He also took the cup after supper, saying, 'This cup is the new covenant in My blood. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.'" (1 Corinthians 11:25)
6. "He has made the earth by His power, He has established the world by His wisdom, and has stretched out the heavens at His discretion." (Jeremiah 10:12)
7. "But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light." (1 Peter 2:9)
8. "But who am I, and who are my people, that we should be able to offer so willingly as this? For all things come from You, and of Your own we have given You." (1 Chronicles 29:14)
9. "Only be strong and very courageous that you may observe to do according to all the law which Moses My servant commanded you." (Joshua 1:7a)
10. "There is an accursed thing in your midst, O Israel; you cannot stand before your enemies until you take away the accursed thing from among you." (Joshua 7:13b)
11. "Test all things; hold fast what is good." (1 Thessalonians 5:21)
12. "For all the promises of God in Him are Yes, and in Him Amen, to the glory of God through us." (2 Corinthians 1:20)

LESSON 1

THE TEN COMMANDMENTS (PART 1): THE FIRST FIVE COMMANDMENTS



OBJECTIVES

1. To understand that keeping God's commandments allows us to abide in God's love and gain eternal life.
2. To understand that God commands us to worship Him, the one and only God, to observe His holy Sabbath day, and to honor our parents.

MEMORY VERSE

"Now therefore, if you will indeed obey My voice and keep My covenant, then you shall be a special treasure to Me above all people; for all the earth is Mine."

(Exodus 19:5)

PRAYER

1. Thank God for the commandments He has given us so that we may learn to love Him and those around us.
2. We ask God to help us live by and obey His teachings so that we may enter His kingdom. We also pray that we can help other people come to know who God is.



Overview

1. **Moses receives the Ten Commandments from God**
 - a. The entrustment and responsibility to the Commandments
 - b. The first five commandments
2. **Linking to the Ten Basic Beliefs—One True God**
3. **Life Application**
 - a. What Did I Do with My Time?
 - b. What would YOU do?
4. **Activity—Learning about Love**



Background Knowledge for Teachers

After Adam and Eve disobeyed God's commandment in the garden of Eden, the relationship between God and man became marred by the presence of sin. The Spirit of God could no longer remain with mankind in the same manner as before. Consequently, sin grew and continued from one generation to the next, as seen by Cain murdering Abel, Lamech having two wives, and the sons of God marrying the daughters of men. Later on, Jacob also had more than one wife, and hatred and jealousy arose among brothers (Esau toward Jacob, Joseph's brothers toward Joseph). These and other offenses grieved the heart of God. Yet, He still wanted His people to turn to and remain in Him. God gave the Israelites the Ten Commandments to remind them of who He is to them and what He expects from them, namely, to love God and to show love toward other people.



Reaching Out to Your Students

Your students may not understand what it means to pursue actively after eternal life or the kingdom of God. Although they may wish to go to heaven someday, the concept of pursuing the heavenly kingdom may be abstract. The dialogue between Jesus and the rich young ruler (Mk 10:17-20) offers a way to help your students recognize the role of keeping God's commandments at a young age as a starting place in their pursuit of God's kingdom. Emphasize this teaching with your students as you review relevant passages with them. Help your students see that obeying God's commandments is a basic requirement for God to decide whether we can enter the kingdom of heaven.

Beyond their role as a gateway into God's kingdom, the commandments of God are also a reflection of God's love. At this age, your students may not comprehend how rules could relate to love. To your students, rules at school and at home are about rewards and punishments, depending on whether the rules are followed or broken. Help your students gain a deeper appreciation of God's teachings. Help them understand that God gave the Israelites His commandments so that they could know what they need to do in order to maintain their status as God's special treasure. God's loving wish is to have the Israelites remain His holy nation, protected by God Himself. The same goes for His believers today. God's rules are a clear roadmap for His believers so that they know what is necessary to be worthy of God's kingdom. Without this roadmap, which is given out of God's love for us, we would not know what we would need to do to qualify for and enter God's kingdom.

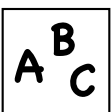


Opener

5 Minutes

What do you think is the ultimate hope of being a Christian? If a friend asks you why you're a Christian, what would you say? That's right, the most common answer is so that we can enter God's kingdom after we depart from this life. Did you know that we can actually enter God's kingdom now, while we are still alive? This happens when God considers us His children and abides with us in our day-to-day life. We can get a taste of what eternal life in heaven will be like, even while we are alive now. So, how is this achieved? What does a Christian need to do to obtain eternal life?

Let us read Mark 10:17-20. Jesus plainly tells the rich young ruler that keeping the commandments is the starting point for obtaining eternal life. Notice here that the rich ruler has known this and done it from a young age. Likewise, we should all strive to keep God's commandments, no matter how old or young we are. This pleases God and is the first step toward obtaining eternal life and entering God's kingdom.



Vocabulary

eternal life: life in the heavenly kingdom

covenant: a binding agreement with God to pledge one's willingness to obey God

children of Israel: the chosen people of God



Bible Discovery & Spiritual Teaching

30-35 Minutes

Throughout the Bible, we see that God has given His believers many instructions to keep. In particular, the Ten Commandments were given directly by God to instruct the Israelites while they were in the wilderness of Sinai. We will focus on the first five commandments in today's lesson.

First, let us learn about how the Ten Commandments came about. God wanted the Israelites to remember what He did for them in Egypt, so He made a **covenant** with them. As long as they kept this covenant, the people would be a "special treasure" to God. What an amazing status to have! Did you know that today, as God's children, you have already become God's special treasure?

God's message to the Israelites back then is the same as the one to us today—we need to firmly remember the covenant we made with God when we first became His through water baptism, which is to keep God's instructions and commandments.

God gave Moses the Ten Commandments on Mount Sinai. God wanted the Israelites to learn and keep these commandments. But the Ten Commandments aren't simply rules for us to follow; they are a reflection of God's holy nature—by following these commandments, we can draw closer to God and begin to understand Him more. Let us study the first five commandments in detail.

Commandment #1

You shall have no other gods before Me (Ex 20:3)

God confirms that there is no other God besides Him. He says this because He is the creator of heaven and earth. Isaiah 44:6 records what the Lord says: "I am the First and I am the Last; Besides Me there is no God."

We know that the Lord is the only true God, but what about these other "gods"? What or who may they be? Various religions often claim an actual object or natural thing to be a god, like the sun, moon, or a statue. Today, our "gods" could even be mundane things in our everyday lives, such as our computer or a celebrity. These things have no power of any sort and are not gods. However, they may become gods in our hearts. Do you know what it means to allow something to become a god in our heart? It means that we grow to love or respect something more than the Lord and treat it as the most important thing in our daily lives. A "god" in our hearts is something we constantly think about and pursue more than the Lord. If this happens, we have allowed something man-made to become a god in our hearts. We have placed other gods before the Lord.

What are some possible "gods" in our lives? [Allow the students to answer and discuss. Examples may be video games, popular actors/actresses, characters in books or certain TV series, or something on the computer/Internet.]

Commandment #2

You shall not make or worship images (Ex 20:4-6)

The second commandment is closely related to the first. Where the first forbids us from prioritizing other things in our hearts, this commandment explains the importance of avoiding the physical worship of idols or man-made images. What is an "image"? That's right, it can be a sculpture, a painting, or any physical object that you bow down to, pray to, serve, or worship (Ex 32:31-35; Judg 8:23-27). Can you think of an example of idolatry in the Old Testament? (The golden calf, Baal, Nebuchadnezzar, etc.) If we pray to or worship any objects, we are treating these objects as idols. Did you know that worshipping a

statue or a picture of Jesus Christ is wrong because it is also a form of image worshipping or idolatry?

God strictly forbids His people from worshipping images and idols. The commandment also states that God is a jealous God. You might wonder, "How can God be jealous?" In actuality, God does not get jealous in the same way we do. This is a different kind of jealousy. We get jealous about things that do not belong to us and we envy other people because of them. Godly jealousy is about something that already belongs to God—that is, the worship of God belongs to Him alone. Do you see the difference? He is the One True God. He does not want to see us worshipping other gods. God is our heavenly Father and we are His children. We belong to Him. Therefore, He does not want us to worship other gods and tarnish this exclusive bond with Him.

Commandment #3

You shall not take the name of the LORD your God in vain (Ex 20:7)

God deserves our utmost respect and honor, since He is the one and only God. We must always speak of Him respectfully. This is the attitude we should have at all times, whether we are in a chapel worshipping God, at school talking with friends, or relaxing at home. Our actions and words ought to reflect this respect towards God all the time. This means that we must never speak of God in an untrue, boastful, demeaning, or joking way.

You may not realize it, but using God's name as an exclamation without any real meaning or good purpose is also taking the Lord's name in vain. Have you ever said, "Oh, my God" simply as a way to express a feeling of surprise or dismay? When you use this phrase, God's name is not uttered out of respect or honor, but simply as a catchy, popular saying. Therefore, this kind of saying is actually an act of disrespect toward God. We should take extra care to avoid such empty phrases, and be sure that we are never using God's name lightly.

Commandment #4

Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy (Ex 20:8-11)

God requires His believers to set aside the seventh day of each week as a special day that is dedicated solely to honoring and worshipping Him. This means that all of our actions on the Sabbath need to be centered on God. Let's read Isaiah 58:13-14:

"If you turn away your foot from the Sabbath, from doing your pleasure on My holy day, and call the Sabbath a delight, the holy day of the Lord honorable, and shall honor Him, not doing your own ways, nor finding your own pleasure, nor speaking your own words, then you shall delight yourself in the LORD; and I will cause you to ride on the high hills of the earth."

So, what are three ways we can honor God on the Sabbath? We can:

- 1) not do our own ways,
- 2) not do our own pleasures, and
- 3) not speak our own words.

FOR TEACHERS

Write these 3 ways on the board to reinforce the points. Then ask, "What would some examples of these 'ways' be?" Give students time to think and answer. Examples might be: not bringing toys to church, waiting until the day is over before playing with friends, or avoiding excessive talk about games or TV shows.

God will bless us if we dedicate the Sabbath day to God. How do we "delight in the Lord," as recorded in Isaiah? We can experience the joys and blessings of keeping the Sabbath day when we worship God in truth and in our heart. For example, His teachings may help us to make peace with someone we've had an argument with. Singing hymns could comfort us if we are feeling nervous about a big test at school. Prayer might give us the strength to tell the truth to our parents, even if it might get us in trouble. Sabbath may also simply be a day of rest and of reminder—a day where we don't have to think about school, tests, or anything at all. It should be a day where we remember that, although each day might have its own difficulties and problems, our primary goal is to seek God and His heavenly kingdom.

Commandment #5

Honor your father and your mother, that your days may be long upon the land which the LORD your God is giving you (Ex 20:12; Eph 6:1-3)

Honoring our parents is so important to God that He included it as one of the Ten Commandments. Not only that, He included a blessing with this commandment! So, how do we honor our parents?

1. Respect

How would you treat a friend whom you admire and like a lot? You wouldn't speak to them in an offensive or rude manner, and you would naturally

behave as if their actions or opinions mean a great deal to you. This is what it means to respect someone, and this is one of the ways we should treat our parents. For example, if we are angry or upset, we should try not to speak hurtful words to them, or if we dislike something, we should not be irritated at our parents.

2. Obey

We honor God by listening to His commandments and obeying them. Honoring our parents should be no different. What does it mean to be obedient? Obedience isn't simply listening to what they say. It also means actually doing what they ask, even if you don't feel like doing it. If your parents have to nag you for hours to clean up your room because you won't stop playing a video game, then you aren't reflecting obedience.

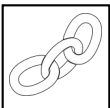
We respect and obey God because we know that He knows what is best for us, and because we know that He is wiser than us. In the same way, our parents are also wiser than us, and they know what is best for us, even if sometimes it doesn't feel like they do. It is because of this that we must do our best to honor them. Let's turn to Ephesians 6:1-3. As long as we try, God promises to reward us. This shows the importance of the fifth commandments.

Conclusion

What did we learn today? We learned the importance of worshipping the one true God. That means to place God first in our life, above everything else, and to use our time wisely to worship God. Also, we need to give God our highest respect and to keep the Sabbath day holy. Finally, we learned that we should honor our parents.

FOR TEACHERS

Hand out the Bible Discovery worksheet and give students time to fill in the blanks on their own. After the students have finished the worksheet, review the answers as a class. The answers are provided on page 9.



Linking to the Ten Basic Beliefs

2-5 Minutes

One True God

Of the Ten Commandments that God gave to Moses to instruct the people of Israel, the first three commandments either directly state or reinforce the important truth about worshipping only the divine God as the one true God. To truly respect and honor God, His children (believers) should not use His name in vain at any time, but regard God as Lord in their everyday lives. We should also observe God's commandment to honor the seventh day of each week as the holy Sabbath day.



Check for Understanding

5 Minutes

1. **How many commandments did we cover today and what were they?** Today, we studied five commandments. The first commandment is to have no other god before the Lord God. The second commandment is not to make for yourself nor bow down to a carved image. The third commandment is not to take the Lord's name in vain. The fourth commandment is to remember the Sabbath, to keep it holy for God. The fifth commandment is to honor your father and your mother so that you may live a long life.
2. **Why should we honor our parents?** We should honor our parents because it is the commandment of God. If we honor our parents, God promises that we will live a long life on the land that He has given us.
3. **What should you do if one of your friends invited you to attend his birthday party on Sabbath day?** You should thank him for inviting you but then say that you are going to church with your parents. We always go to church on Saturday because it is the commandment of God, and we can be blessed on that day.
4. **What does Exodus 19:5 say?** "Now therefore, if you will indeed obey My voice and keep My covenant, then you shall be a special treasure to Me above all people; for all the earth is Mine."



Life Application

10 Minutes

1. What Did I Do with My Time?

[Hand out Life Application Worksheet #1 and ask the students to complete it. After they have finished completing the worksheet, they can think about the questions that follow, and then share their answers with the class. Lastly, go over the testimonies with the students and emphasize the importance of spending time with God.]

Complete the worksheet, and then think about the following questions.

1. How much time each day do you spend on activities related to God or on building up your faith?
2. What do you think you spend most of your time on?
3. A. Do you love God:
 - a. More than the different forms of entertainment at home?
 - b. More than your friends at school and church?
- B. If so, how do you show your love toward God? If not, what improvements can you make?

Testimony #1: There was a brother who enjoyed playing the clarinet. He attended lessons at school and, later on, was chosen to be part of a band with other students in the area that he lived. This gave him a dilemma. The band rehearsals took place on Saturday mornings from 10:30 am until lunchtime. If he attended the rehearsals, he would be late to church service. He thought long and hard about what he should do. He really wanted to be at church, worshipping God and having fellowship with other brothers and sisters. So, in the end, he quit the band because he thought it was more important to worship God.

This brother wanted to draw close to God, and he believed it was necessary to obey God's commandment of keeping the Sabbath day holy by not putting his personal activities before God.

Testimony #2: The brother we just mentioned faced another problem. As the end of the school term approached, there were exams to take. He wanted to do well on these tests so he stopped attending church services on Saturdays and studied for the tests instead. He found out that his test results were not as good as he had hoped for. Brothers and sisters invited him to return to church and attend RE classes. Later on, he did. He resumed attending the Sabbath day services and the RE classes. Shortly after, he received the Holy Spirit and ended up getting better grades.

God blesses us for making the more difficult choice and worshipping on the Sabbath day. God is willing to show His love to us whenever we decide to obey His word. He also knows our needs and can help and strengthen us better than any personal studying can.

2. What Would YOU Do?

It is important to know what the Ten Commandments are. It is equally important to know how to apply God's teachings behind the commandments to our everyday lives. For each of the different scenarios described in the Life Application worksheet: 1) identify which of the Ten Commandment pertains to it, and 2) discuss what you would do in that situation. Think about God's teachings as decide what God would want you to do in the situation.

Scenario #1

Ethan has friends who always say, "OH, my GOD!" at school. At first, he feels very uncomfortable hearing this phrase, but then he notices that everyone says it so casually and it seems like a hip thing to say. After a while, Ethan finds himself saying it, too. One day, his older sister notices him saying "OH, my GOD!" at home and she voices her disapproval. Ethan's sister explains to Ethan that Christians should not say these kinds of phrases. Ethan doesn't agree though. "It's just a phrase!" he says. "There's no harm being done. Besides, everyone at school says it!"

1. Which commandment is Ethan breaking? Explain your answer.

He is breaking the third commandment of not taking God's name in vain. God's name should never be taken lightly or in a manner that isn't honoring Him. By using His name as "just a phrase" or because it is a "hip" thing to say, we are disrespecting God Himself.

2. Think about what Ethan should do.

Ethan should try to make sure he doesn't say the phrase anymore, perhaps by giving himself penalties whenever he catches himself saying it. Only by being conscious of what he is saying and thinking before he speaks will he be able to prevent himself from breaking the commandment.

3. If you were in this situation, what else would you do that is in line with God's teaching?

God wants us to draw closer to Him, and only by obeying His commandments can we do so. It's very easy to forget this, however, when we are surrounded by so many "cool" trends that lead us to break God's commands or disrespect Him. If we spend more time drawing closer to God, then respecting Him will become a natural action in our lives.

Scenario #2

Lately, 11-year-old Zach has been feeling unhappy because he is not getting along with his friends at school. He hasn't told anyone about his troubles, but he has been acting out his frustrations at home. When he gets home from school, he throws his jacket on the floor. Later, when his parents ask him to pick it up, he raises his voice and talks back. The same goes for the piles of dirty clothes in his room. He doesn't feel like listening to his parents, and he acts as if he is the boss at home. Zach is really preoccupied with his own problems, and he believes that his parents should be more understanding and not make so many demands on him! "Don't they see that I'm already upset and that telling me what to do will just make me angrier?" Zach fumes. "Besides, I'm old enough now to do things my own way!"

1. Which commandment is Zach breaking? Explain your answer.

He is breaking commandment number five, which is to honor your parents. Zach is venting out his anger on his parents and refusing to do simple things that his parents request of him. He is also expecting them to be understanding of a situation they are unaware of, and he believes that he is wiser and smarter than them.

2. Think about what Zach should do.

Zach should calm down and realize that his parents know nothing about his life at school. Instead of venting out his anger at them, he should apologize to them and explain why he is so grumpy when he gets home. Perhaps they will even be able to give him some advice.

3. If you were in this situation, what else would you do that is in line with God's teaching?

God wants us to honor our parents, and He proves this by promising a long life for those who do so. Believing that we are smarter or wiser than them is one step away from disobedience; instead, we should try to learn more about our parents and about their past. In this way, we can grow to see them as a loving mother or father, instead of just people who tell us what to do and restrict our lives.

Scenario #3

Ben loves video games. He loves to talk about them with his friends. If he could, he would spend all of his free time playing them. He just can't seem to get enough of the games! Car games, combat games, sports games, or strategy games, it doesn't matter—Ben loves whatever is new and popular. Last month, an amazing new game console came out and a lot of his friends are getting it. If only his parents would allow him to buy it, plus some of the new games that go with it! Ben can't understand why his parents are so callously against his request! He gets straight A's at school and does his chores without complaining. Shouldn't they reward him for his efforts? Lately, Ben finds himself thinking about the new games all the time. Then it hits him—why not pray for his parents to change their minds and allow him to buy the new games? This one desire is becoming the sole purpose of his prayers.

1. Which commandment is Ben in danger of breaking? Explain your answer.

He is in danger of breaking commandment number two. By thinking more and more about the game or console that he wants, Ben is slowly thinking less and less about God. Moreover, prayer should always be a form of drawing closer to God, not of demanding one's wishes of Him. By praying for such a materialistic thing, Ben is proving to God that he cares more about his games than about God.

2. Think about what Ben should do.

Ben should be thankful for the many games he already has, as there are probably many children who don't even have a game console at all, much less the newest, most expensive one. He should learn to be content with what he has and, instead of praying for more, thank God for the blessings that He has given him.

3. If you were in this situation, what else would you do that is in line with God's teaching?

God wants us to strive for holiness and to seek to draw closer to Him at all times. If we spend so much time on something that we become obsessed with it, we should try to cut down on that time, and instead spend more time with God. By spending more time with God, we can learn to be content with what we have and learn to do His will.

Scenario #4

Julie has a dilemma. Her friend Abby has just invited all of her good friends to her house tomorrow. Abby has a huge, sparkling pool in her backyard. There will be pizza, swimming, and other exciting activities. It would be so much fun if Julie could be with her friends! Julie knows that Sabbath is tomorrow. But she wonders, "I go to church every Saturday. Maybe I could just skip church service this one time. God would understand, right?"

1. Which commandment is Julie in danger of breaking? Explain your answer.

She is in danger of breaking commandment number four. The Sabbath day is a day focused on God and God alone. The Bible teaches us that we need to put aside our personal desires and instead do things that are for the sake of worshipping God.

2. Think about what Julie should do.

Julie should tell her friend that she can't go because she has church on Saturdays. Maybe next time they have a party on Sunday, she'll be able to join them.

3. If you were in this situation, what else would you do that is in line with God's teaching?

The Sabbath day was set aside not just for God's sake, but also for our sake. By having a day of rest where we can focus on God's love, we are constantly reminding ourselves that the things on this earth are not as important as seeking God's kingdom. One important factor in this is having fellow brothers and sisters to walk with on this path of faith. Perhaps instead of going to a school friend's party after church, we can fellowship with our classmates to build up our faith together and learn to rely on one another.

Scenario #5

For the past few months, all of the 6th graders have been obsessed with this teenage singer. Lily is no exception. Lily follows all the news about the singer and admires everything about her. Whenever she sees the singer's picture in a magazine or on the Internet, she clips it and saves it because she wants to look just like her. Lily also tries to imitate her singing and her dance moves. "It would be so great if I could look and act like this singer!" Lily often thinks to herself.

1. Which commandment is Lily breaking? Explain your answer.
Lily is breaking commandment number two. An idol isn't just something we bow down to worship, but also a person or thing we fill our lives and thoughts with, and even seek to imitate. The only one we should be imitating is God Himself.
2. Think about what Lily should do.
Lily should realize that the singer is beginning to replace God and immediately start to remove the singer from her heart. She can start by removing posters, throwing away her clippings, and avoiding gossip or magazines that are all about the singer.
3. If you were in this situation, what else would you do that is in line with God's teaching?
God wants us to strive to be like Him, because He wants us to obtain eternal life. The things of this world will pass away—including celebrities or artists that we like—and, in the end, all that will matter is whether we enter His heavenly kingdom or not. Instead of placing clippings of celebrities on our walls, we should be placing Bible verses on our wall; instead of imitating a singer, we should be imitating God. That way we can draw closer to Him and learn to love Him in our hearts.



Activity

Learning About Love

10-15 Minutes

Objective: To learn about “love” and apply it to our everyday lives.

Description of love – 1 Corinthians 13:4-7

- ⁴ Love suffers long and is kind;
 love does not envy;
 love does not parade itself,
 is not puffed up;
⁵ does not behave rudely,
 does not seek its own,
 is not provoked,
 thinks no evil;
⁶ does not rejoice in iniquity, but rejoices in the truth;
⁷ bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

1. First, have the students read 1 Corinthians 13:4-7 to themselves.
2. Then, have students pair up and alternate reading lines from the passage, while looking at their neighbor.
3. Ask the students to say each sentence again to each other, mentioning the name “Jesus” first, followed by the remainder of the sentence (e.g., “Jesus’ love suffers long and is kind”).
4. Ask, “What do you think you can learn about the love of Jesus?”
5. Say, “When you consider the love of Jesus toward people, how can you improve your relationship with _____?”

A. God

- Keep His Commandments
- Know who the Lord is (Acts 9:5)
- Know what the Lord wants us to do (Acts 9:6)

B. Parents

- Show respect to parents in the Lord (Eph 6:1-3)
- Identify how to help them as they advance in age
- Pray for them

C. Siblings

- Identify how to help them
- Pray for them

D. Other people

- Identify how to help them
- Pray for them

HOMWORK ANSWER KEY

1. True
2. False; commandment number two is not to worship or bow down to idols.
3. True
4. We should acknowledge the divine God as our one true God and live out our daily life in a manner that reflects this knowledge. That means not to love or treat anything else in our life as more important than God.
5. Our actions and words must reflect an utmost respect toward God at all times. This means not speaking of God in an untrue, boastful, demeaning, or joking way. It also means not to use the word "god" or "Jesus" carelessly in phrases that have no true meaning, such as to express a feeling of surprise or dismay.
6. We should cherish the day that God has sanctified because He cares about our welfare and well-being. God wants us to obtain rest from our normal day-to-day bustle and dedicate a day to focus on Him and spiritual matters. We should see His day as a day to give our respect to Him. This is how we can experience goodness from God.
7. We honor them by obeying them and respecting them in our attitudes and words. We should try to act and use words that would bring delight, rather than grief or anguish, to them. When we have different opinions from our parents, we should seek to communicate them in a respectful manner and work toward reaching a harmonious resolution, with their wishes and intentions in mind. We should pray for our parents and dutifully take care of them when they need us later in their lives.

BIBLE DISCOVERY WORKSHEET ANSWER KEY**Teaching**

gods
 image, worship
 God, vain, name
 Sabbath, pleasure, doing, speaking
 days, long

Meaning

first
 object, idols
 respectfully, joking, vain
 four, holy, pleasure, words
 respect, obey, long

THE FIRST FIVE COMMANDMENTS

Fill in the blanks.

Teaching	Meaning
<p style="text-align: center;">Commandment #1</p> <p>Ex 20:3 "You shall have no other _____ before Me."</p>	<p>The Lord God is the first and last; besides Him there is no other God. This means that in our heart and in our life, God should be _____, above everything else that we may love or wish to have.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Commandment #2</p> <p>Ex 20:4-6 "You shall not make yourself a carved _____ [...] you shall not bow down to them nor _____ them."</p>	<p>An image is any _____ made by humans, such as a picture or a sculpture. God strictly forbids us to worship images or _____.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Commandment #3</p> <p>Ex 20:7 "You shall not take the name of the LORD your _____ in _____, for the Lord will not hold him guiltless who takes His _____ in vain."</p>	<p>The third commandment tells us to always speak _____ of God. This means not using God's name in an untrue, boastful, demeaning, or _____ way, and also not using His name in _____.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Commandment #4</p> <p>Is 58:13-14 "If you turn away your foot from the _____, from doing your _____ on My holy day, and call the Sabbath a delight, the holy day of the Lord honorable, and shall honor Him, not _____ your own ways, nor finding your own pleasure, nor _____ your own words, then you shall delight yourself in the Lord."</p>	<p>God has given us commandment number _____, which is to honor the Sabbath Day, to keep it _____. God will bless us on this day, both physically and spiritually, when we keep His commandment. We should make an effort not to do our own ways or _____, nor speak our own _____.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Commandment #5</p> <p>Ex 20:12 "Honor your father and your mother, that your _____ may be _____ upon the land which the LORD your God is giving you."</p>	<p>To honor our parents is to _____ and _____ them. When we obey this commandment, our days on earth may be _____, as a promise from God.</p>

What Did I Do with My Time?

Think about a typical weekday and Sunday. What do you spend your time doing on these days? Look at each activity already listed and write down how much time you usually spend on each activity. Add additional activities you do that are not already listed.

Weekday Activities	Time Spent
1. Sleep	_____ Hours _____ Minutes
2. Homework	_____ Hours _____ Minutes
3. Chores	_____ Hours _____ Minutes
4. Dinner	_____ Hours _____ Minutes
5. Entertainment (TV, video games, etc.)	_____ Hours _____ Minutes
6. Bible reading	_____ Hours _____ Minutes
7. Praying	_____ Hours _____ Minutes
8.	_____ Hours _____ Minutes
9.	_____ Hours _____ Minutes
10.	_____ Hours _____ Minutes
11.	_____ Hours _____ Minutes
12.	_____ Hours _____ Minutes

Sunday Activities	Time Spent
1. Sleep	_____ Hours _____ Minutes
2. Homework	_____ Hours _____ Minutes
3. Chores	_____ Hours _____ Minutes
4. Dinner	_____ Hours _____ Minutes
5. Entertainment (TV, video games, etc.)	_____ Hours _____ Minutes
6. Bible reading	_____ Hours _____ Minutes
7. Praying	_____ Hours _____ Minutes
8.	_____ Hours _____ Minutes
9.	_____ Hours _____ Minutes
10.	_____ Hours _____ Minutes
11.	_____ Hours _____ Minutes
12.	_____ Hours _____ Minutes

Now that you've completed the worksheet, think about the following questions.

1. How much time each day do you spend on activities related to God or on building up your faith?

2. What do you think you spend most of your time on?

3. A. Do you love God:

a. More than the different forms of entertainment at home?

b. More than your friends at school and church?

B. If so, how do you show your love toward God? If not, what improvements can you make?

Read the following testimonies and think about the choices this brother made.

Testimony #1: There was a brother who enjoyed playing the clarinet. He attended lessons at school and, later on, was chosen to be part of a band with other students in the area that he lived. This gave him a dilemma. The band rehearsals took place on Saturday mornings from 10:30 am until lunchtime. If he attended the rehearsals, he would be late to church service. He thought long and hard about what he should do. He really wanted to be at church, worshipping God and having fellowship with other brothers and sisters. So, in the end, he quit the band because he thought it was more important to worship God.



Testimony #2: The brother we just mentioned faced another problem. As the end of the school term approached, there were exams to take. He wanted to do well on these tests so he stopped attending church services on Saturdays and studied for the tests instead. He found out that his test results were not as good as he had hoped for. Brothers and sisters invited him to return to church and attend RE classes. Later on, he did. He resumed attending the Sabbath day services and the RE classes. Shortly after, he received the Holy Spirit and ended up getting better grades.

What Would YOU Do?

It is important to know what the Ten Commandments are. It is equally important to know how to apply God's teachings behind the commandments to our everyday lives. For each of the different scenarios described in the Life Application worksheet: 1) identify which of the Ten Commandment pertains to it, and 2) discuss what you would do in that situation. Think about God's teachings as you decide what God would want you to do in the situation.

Scenario #1

Ethan has friends who always say, "OH, my GOD!" at school. At first, he feels very uncomfortable hearing this phrase, but then he notices that everyone says it so casually and it seems like a hip thing to say. After a while, Ethan finds himself saying it, too. One day, his older sister notices him saying "OH, my GOD!" at home and she voices her disapproval. Ethan's sister explains to Ethan that Christians should not say these kinds of phrases. Ethan doesn't agree though. "It's just a phrase!" he says. "There's no harm being done. Besides, everyone at school says it!"

1. Which commandment is Ethan breaking? Explain your answer.

2. Think about what Ethan should do.

3. If you were in this situation, what else would you do that is in line with God's teaching?



Scenario #2

Lately, 11-year-old Zach has been feeling unhappy because he is not getting along with his friends at school. He hasn't told anyone about his troubles, but he has been acting out his frustrations at home. When he gets home from school, he throws his jacket on the floor. Later, when his parents ask him to pick it up, he raises his voice and talks back. The same goes for the piles of dirty clothes in his room. He doesn't feel like listening to his parents, and he acts as if he is the boss at home. Zach is really preoccupied with his own problems, and he believes that his parents should be more understanding and not make so many demands on him! "Don't they see that I'm already upset and that telling me what to do will just make me angrier?" Zach fumes. "Besides, I'm old enough now to do things my own way!"

1. Which commandment is Zach breaking? Explain your answer.

2. Think about what Zach should do.

3. If you were in this situation, what else would you do that is in line with God's teaching?



Scenario #3

Ben loves video games. He loves to talk about them with his friends. If he could, he would spend all of his free time playing them. He just can't seem to get enough of the games! Car games, combat games, sports games, or strategy games, it doesn't matter—Ben loves whatever is new and popular. Last month, an amazing new game console came out and a lot of his friends are getting it. If only his parents would allow him to buy it plus some of the new games that go with it! Ben can't understand why his parents are so callously against his request! He gets straight A's at school and does his chores without complaining. Shouldn't they reward him for his efforts? Lately, Ben finds himself thinking about the new games all the time. Then it hits him—why not pray for his parents to change their minds and allow him to buy the new games? This one desire is becoming the sole purpose of his prayers.

1. Which commandment is Ben in danger of breaking? Explain your answer.

2. Think about what Ben should do.

3. If you were in this situation, what else would you do that is in line with God's teaching?

**Scenario #4**

Julie has a dilemma. Her friend Abby has just invited all of her good friends to her house tomorrow. Abby has a huge, sparkling pool in her backyard. There will be pizza, swimming, and other exciting activities. It would be so much fun if Julie could be with her friends! Julie knows that Sabbath is tomorrow. But she wonders, "I go to church every Saturday. Maybe I could just skip church service this one time. God would understand, right?"

1. Which commandment is Julie in danger of breaking? Explain your answer.

2. Think about what Julie should do.

3. If you were in this situation, what else would you do that is in line with God's teaching?



Scenario #5

For the past few months, all of the 6th graders have been obsessed with this teenage singer. Lily is no exception. Lily follows all the news about the singer and admires everything about her. Whenever she sees the singer's picture in a magazine or on the Internet, she clips it and saves it because she wants to look just like her. Lily also tries to imitate her singing and her dance moves. "It would be so great if I could look and act like this singer!" Lily often thinks to herself.

1. Which commandment is Lily breaking? Explain your answer.
2. Think about what Lily should do.
3. If you were in this situation, what else would you do that is in line with God's teaching?



E2 Year 1 Book 4 Lesson 1—The Ten Commandments (Part 1)

Homework Assignment

Name: _____ Parent signature: _____ Date: _____

Bible Reading: Please put a check mark in the space when you complete the reading each day.

Prayer: Please put a check mark in the space on the days you prayed to God.

What I Learned from the Bible This Week

	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Read							
Pray							

1. _____

2. _____

Memory Verse

Please write down this week's memory verse. **(Exodus 19:5)**

True or False

- God promises us that if we obey Him and keep His covenant, we will be special treasures to Him. _____
- Commandment number two is not to take the Lord's name in vain. _____
- Keeping the Sabbath day holy is a commandment that comes with a promise. _____

Short Answer

- What do we need to do to show God that we worship Him and have no other gods before Him?

- What does it mean, in practical terms, not to "take God's name in vain"?

- How can we delight in the Sabbath of the Lord?

- How do we honor our parents?

LESSON 2

THE TEN COMMANDMENTS (PART 2): THE LAST FIVE COMMANDMENTS



OBJECTIVES

1. To understand that keeping God's commandments allows us to abide in God's love and gain eternal life.
2. To understand that God commands us not to murder, commit adultery, steal, bear false witness, or covet other people's possessions.

MEMORY VERSE

"Then all the people answered together and said, 'All that the LORD has spoken we will do.'"

(Exodus 19:8a)

PRAYER

1. Thank You, Lord, for giving us the commandments so that we may learn to love You and the people around us.
2. With a thankful heart, we wish to study Your commandments.
3. We ask that You help us understand and obey Your teachings so that we may have Your loving abidance. We also pray that we can help other people come to know who You are.



Overview

1. **The Last 5 Commandments**
2. **Linking to the Ten Basic Beliefs**—Salvation is given by grace through faith
3. **Life Application**—What would YOU do?
4. **Activity**—The Ten Commandments



Background Knowledge for Teachers

Prior Knowledge/Review

In the previous lesson, the students learned about Moses receiving the Ten Commandments from God and about the first five commandments. Ask the students to recall and explain the first five commandments: 1) to have no other gods, such as a form of entertainment or a person we idolize, before the Lord God; 2) not to worship images, such as sculptures, paintings, or other man-made objects; 3) not to take the Lord's name in vain by speaking falsely or jokingly about God or by using God's name in a meaningless manner; 4) to remember the Sabbath, to keep it holy for God; and 5) to honor your father and mother so that you may live long.

The Ten Commandments

God gave His chosen people, the Israelites, the Ten Commandments to remind them of who He was to them and what He expected from them: namely, to love God and love others. God wished for His people to turn to Him so that they could remain in His protection and abidance.

In today's lesson, it will most likely be difficult to teach the seventh commandment. Students at this age vary widely in their psychological development and knowledge of human sexuality. Older students, typically in 6th grade, have taken or will soon take a sexual development course at school and can better understand what sexual feelings are as part of the discussion about marriage, adultery, and sexual temptations. Younger students are still in the pre-adolescent stage of development and have not had the same education or experienced the same psychological changes. Therefore, a big challenge in teaching the seventh commandment is to tailor the words and concepts to your students' level of understanding about marriage and sexual relations. Be particularly careful in helping your students understand the *essence* of this commandment *without overwhelming them with information and details that they may not be ready for*.



Reaching Out to Your Students

As in the previous lesson, remind your students that obeying God's commandments is a basic requirement for God to decide whether we can enter the kingdom of heaven. But beyond their role as a gateway into God's kingdom, the commandments of God are also a reflection of God's love. At this age, your students may not comprehend how rules could relate to love. To your students, rules at school and at home are about rewards and punishments, depending on whether the rules are followed or broken. Help your students gain a deeper appreciation of God's teachings. Help them realize that God gave the Israelites His commandments so that they could know what they needed to do in order to maintain their status as God's special treasure. God's loving wish is to have the Israelites remain His holy nation, protected by God Himself.

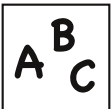
The same goes for His believers today. God's rules are a clear roadmap for His believers to fulfill their end of the covenant so that they can be worthy of God's kingdom and receive divine love and abidance. God's commandments enable us to know what God considers right and wrong and what He expects of us so that we can strive to please Him and draw closer to Him. Without this roadmap, which is given out of God's love for us, we would not know what we would need to do to qualify for and enter God's kingdom.



Opener

5 Minutes

Write on the board, "Your heart's most desired things." Ask the class to think about and name all the things that they really want to have. As the students name items, write them on the board. After the list is complete, invite a discussion on what is considered a necessary item in life and what is an unneeded thing that people can live without. Then, ask the class to look over all the items on the board and say which ones are necessities or "must haves" in life. Circle the items that everyone agrees are "must haves." Introduce the idea that it is human nature to want more and more "things," even if we do not need them. In today's lesson, we will learn about what God has to say about this topic.



Vocabulary

murder: to plot to and kill another human being

adultery: to break the promise of marriage, in which one husband and one wife promise to share a special, physical relationship with each other only

steal: to take something from someone without asking for permission

bear false witness: to tell lies to harm someone

covet: to desire something wrongfully and without regard for other people

content: to be satisfied with what we have and with what God has blessed us with



Bible Discovery & Spiritual Teaching

30-35 Minutes

Before we begin today's lesson, let's review last week's lesson. Last week, we learned that the God gave the Ten Commandments to instruct the Israelites while they were in the wilderness of Sinai. God wanted His chosen people to uphold His teachings so that they may enter His kingdom. So, if we are truly to uphold our status as children of God and able to enter God's kingdom, we need to learn and obey His commandments. In the Ten Commandments, the first four commandments focus on ways to love God. The theme of the last six

commandments is to love the people around us.

Last time, we learned about the first five commandments. Do you remember what the first five commandments are? [Allow the students to answer.] Yes, in order to worship the true God, we must: (1) have no other gods before Him; (2) not worship idols; (3) not take His name in vain; (4) observe the Sabbath day; (5) and honor our parents. These are ways for us to please God and draw closer to Him. Today, we will study the last five commandments

in detail. Please take out the Bible Discovery Worksheet now. As we go over each commandment, please refer to the worksheet and fill in the answers. [The answers have been underlined in this section.]

Commandment #6

You shall not murder (Ex 20:13)

[Write the word "murder" on the board. Ask, "What does this word mean?"] That's right, to murder means to plot to and kill another human being. God strictly forbids plotting to and killing others. This teaching is easy to grasp, as it is also a law in most, if not all, countries. A murderer typically faces the severest type of punishment.

Take note, though, that God's commandment has a higher standard. Let's look at the word "murder" on the board again. What kinds of feelings do you think would drive someone to commit a murder? There could be a variety of emotions, such as anger, hatred, or resentment. Jesus warns that whoever is angry with his brother without a cause, and does not try to fix the situation, shall be in danger of the judgment (Mt 5:22-25). To God, staying angry is as sinful as murder. God does not wish for His children to stay angry with others and be controlled by feelings of anger, hatred, or resentment. However, it is perfectly normal to get upset at others. For example, it is normal to be angry if a good friend talks behind your back and makes fun of you. But, however normal it is to feel this way, if we let our anger grow and turn into hatred, our feelings can become sinful in God's eyes. God wants us to work on letting go of our anger and forgiving those who act against us.

Do you remember what Jesus said when His disciples asked Him how many times they should forgive other people? That's right. He said seventy times seven times! This means that God wants us to forgive other people not just once or twice, but an endless number of times. Keeping this commandment requires us to forgive those around us, no matter what they may have done or how many times they may have angered us.

Commandment #7

You shall not commit adultery (Ex 20:14)

In order to understand what this commandment means, we need to first talk about holiness. God is holy. Therefore, God wants His believers to be holy and pure in their hearts and minds. To help people reach this goal, God intended for each person to marry *only one person at a time*. [Teachers, please write, "Marriage = 1 husband and 1 wife only."] The married couple is then blessed by God to share a special kind of physical relationship with each other and no one else. God strictly forbids that this kind of relationship be shared with anyone other than a person's own spouse. When someone breaks this promise and shares this relationship with someone that he or she is not

married to, then they have committed adultery. This is an extremely serious sin against God.

We said that the previous commandment didn't just involve avoiding murder. It also meant letting go of the anger in our hearts. The seventh commandment also involves the feelings of our hearts. But how do we commit adultery in our hearts? Let's refer to Matthew 5:27-28. What does it mean to lust for someone? It means to have *feelings* and *desires* that a person should only have for their spouse. When this happens, a person's heart and thoughts are not pure or clean in front of God. Looking at someone with lustful thoughts is sinful. Jesus teaches us that our eyes can strongly influence our hearts. Therefore, we need to be careful of what we see, and ask God to help us keep our hearts pure and clean.

Can you think of anything you might see that can make your heart impure? Many images from movies, television shows, and the Internet make us dwell on inappropriate feelings and thoughts. [If your students are old enough, typically in the 6th grade, you may explain further that "inappropriate" refers to "sexual feelings and thoughts." If they are not old enough, it is better to refer to these thoughts and feelings as "not pure" or "unclean."] Certain music can also be inappropriate due to the lyrics or words, or the way it excites the listeners to dwell on inappropriate actions and feelings, which then pollute our heart. So, when you see certain images or hear certain music that makes you dwell on sexual feelings and thoughts, you should walk away from them so that you can keep your heart pure. Instead, we should strive to watch and listen to things that build up our faith.

Commandment #8

You shall not steal (Ex 20:15)

[Write the word "steal" on the board. Ask, "What does this word mean?"] To steal means to take something that does not belong to you without asking the owner for permission. We may think that stealing only applies to expensive items, such as a stack of money, a portable computer, or something at a store that we did not pay for. Actually, God does not make that specification. So, even if the value of an object is small, such as a piece of candy or a quarter, it is still not okay to take it from a store or even from a friend's house.

Let's think about why people steal. Usually, it's out of greed. It's easier just to take something you want, rather than work for it. But stealing is like cheating on a test, when you just copy an answer rather than prepare and study for the test beforehand. Let's read Ephesians 4:28. "Let him who stole steal no longer, but rather let him labor, working with his hands what is good, that he may have something to give him who has need."

The Bible is clear in saying that we should work with our hands to get what is good. Working diligently is a worthy quality that God repeatedly praises and encourages His children to develop. So, we need to strive to be diligent and work for what we wish to get.

Commandment #9

You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor (Ex 20:16)

This commandment is about being truthful and honest. God wants us to be truthful with our "neighbors." Who are our neighbors? They are all the people around us: our friends, parents, siblings, teachers, and so on. If we "bear false witness" against our neighbor, we are telling lies to harm them. Even if we are able to hide our lies from other people, we cannot hide this wrongdoing from God. Our Lord will know about our lies. To God, our attempts to lie to other people will be as detestable as if we had lied to Him directly. We know this because the Bible records this in many places, such as in Proverbs 12:22—"Lying lips are an abomination to the LORD, but those who deal truthfully are His delight." Therefore, we should not tell lies about other people but always *speak and uphold what is true.*

The Bible records a story about a man and his wife who thought they could lie to an apostle without getting caught. Do you know the story? Ananias and his wife Sapphira lied to Apostle Peter about the money they were offering to the church. Even though no one told Peter about the lie, God allowed Peter to know. God was greatly displeased and struck both Ananias and his wife because they lied to everyone and, even more significantly, to God. Always remember that God detests lies and liars, so we must remind ourselves always to tell the truth.

Commandment #10

You shall not covet your neighbor's house, wife, male servant, female servant, ox, donkey, or anything that is your neighbor's (Ex 20:17)

[Write the word "covet" on the board. Ask, "Does anyone know what this word means?"] To covet means to deeply desire something that belongs to someone else. To want someone else's belonging or property is a form of greed.

Remember the commandment that forbids stealing? Well, this commandment is similar, but it gets at the heart of stealing. People steal out of a strong desire for something that they do not have. God commands us to remove that desire and the underlying greed because these are characteristics of a corrupt human nature. When this sinful nature is not put away, it can lead to sinful actions and destruction. This happened to King Ahab, a king of Israel who did not obey God's teachings (1 Kg 21). King Ahab had a neighbor named Naboth who owned a vineyard that was situated next to the king's palace. Now, being a king, Ahab already possessed the finest things in the nation. But

Ahab was not satisfied with what he had. He wanted more. He wanted Naboth's vineyard as his own. His wrongful desires led to his wife to plot against and kill Naboth. In the end, God brought judgment against both King Ahab and his wife.

With so many material things around us, it's difficult not to want what we don't have. The Bible teaches how to resist, though. Let's refer to 1 Timothy 6:6. "Now godliness with contentment is great gain." What is "contentment"? It is satisfaction with what God has already blessed us with. Think about this: If you were satisfied with what you already have, you would no longer covet! This isn't easy to do, but with God's help through prayer, He will help us gain a heart of contentment. It would then free us from greed and from our desires for things we don't have.

Let's talk about how this commandment applies to your life. You are always being bombarded with the latest, newest, and coolest game or toy, aren't you? Even if you finally get that toy, computer, video game, or fashion item that you have been wanting for a long time, something else will come along that captures your heart. You may even hear that your best friend got it, which makes it even harder to be happy with what you have now. You may become preoccupied with wanting the same thing that your friend has. When this happens, we need to ask God to give us a heart of contentment so that we can put a stop to our greedy desire to have more.

Conclusion

In conclusion, we learned the importance of forgiving others and not letting our angry feelings turn into hatred. We also learned to be holy and pure in our heart and thoughts, and to be honest and not tell lies to hurt our neighbors. Finally, we learned to be content with what God has given us and not to steal or desire what we don't have.



Linking to the Ten Basic Beliefs

2-5 Minutes

Salvation is given by grace through faith.

To obtain salvation and have a part of God's kingdom, we have to pursue holiness, love and honor God, and care for the people around us. In the latter five of the Ten Commandments, God instructs us to maintain a good relationship with the people around us. In order to worship the true God, we not only have to honor Him, but also have to live in harmony with those around us by respecting what God has given to the people of society. To truly care for the well-being of other people, we should not murder, commit adultery, or steal. We also should not bear false witness against a neighbor, and finally, not desire what belongs to our neighbor. Our love towards God and the people around us has to grow out of an honest heart so that we can remain truthful before God and before other people.



Check for Understanding

5 Minutes

1. What are the last five commandments?

- Commandment #6: You shall not murder (Ex 20:13)
- Commandment #7: You shall not commit adultery (Ex 20:14)
- Commandment #8: You shall not steal (Ex 20:15)
- Commandment #9: You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor (Ex 20:16)
- Commandment #10: You shall not covet your neighbor's house, wife, male servant, female servant, ox, donkey, or anything that is your neighbor's (Ex 20:17)

2. In addition to knowing what each commandment is, what else did you learn about these commandments? What is the teaching behind each commandment? [Have a class discussion about the last five commandments.]



Life Application

10 Minutes

What Would YOU Do?

It is important to know what the Ten Commandments are. It is equally important to know how to apply God's teachings behind the commandments to our everyday lives. For each of the different scenarios described in the Life Application worksheet: 1) identify which of the Ten Commandment pertains to it, and 2) discuss what you would do in that situation. Think about God's teachings as you decide what God would want you to do in the situation.

Scenario #1

The moment has finally arrived. For several weeks, Jon has been looking forward to watching this new movie. At last, he can watch it at home, just as his parents had asked him to do. The movie turns out to be as exciting and fun to watch as everyone said it would be. But as the movie continues, there is a lot of kissing and body touching between a boy and a girl. Jon finds himself feeling a bit embarrassed but also excited and curious about what the movie characters are doing. His parents had talked about not watching these kinds of images, but a part of him is, well, curious and adventurous. To Jon, the boy and girl in the movie actually seem happy doing these things. Jon begins to wonder, "Why is it wrong to kiss and hug? Besides, it's not that bad just to watch these images, is it?"

1. Which commandment is Jon in danger of breaking, and how is that possible?

He is in danger of breaking the seventh commandment. The heart of this commandment is to maintain a pure heart. By watching these kinds of images, Jon is in danger of polluting his thoughts and heart. Over time, as inappropriate thoughts and desires grow from an unclean heart, they become harder to control and it will be impossible to be holy before God.

2. Think about what Jon should do. What should he do immediately to avoid the danger of polluting his eyes and heart?
He should shut or cover his eyes to stop the images from dwelling in his mind.
3. If you were in this situation, what else would you do that is in line with God's teaching?
"Our body is a temple of God." Discuss what this phrase means with the students. Read Psalm 119:9-16 about how a young man can "cleanse his way." Point out that in order to stand strong against the temptation of watching unclean images, preparations need to start long before you actually are bombarded with the images. It is very important to learn God's teachings in the Bible so that you know what is right and what is wrong. Memorize and think often about God's words so that when you are tempted, you can recall what the Bible says to stay strong and do right. Also, pray that God gives you the strength to keep a pure and clean heart. It would also be good to talk with your parents or RE teacher about any questions you may have.

Scenario #2

Ashley is having a great time playing with her best friend Emma. It's always fun to spend time with Emma and to see the new things in her bedroom. Emma always seems to have a lot of new toys and pretty things. As Emma shows Ashley her new necklaces and bracelets, something catches Ashley's eyes—a silver, shiny, heart-shaped necklace! It's the same one that Ashley saw at the mall with her mother last weekend. Ashley just loved that necklace and she begged for her mother to buy it. She even bargained to use her own money, but her mother refused. Her mother told Ashley that she already had many necklaces at home. In fact, two were just given to her for her birthday last month. Still, Ashley can't stop looking jealously at Emma's heart necklace. It just seems better than the ones she has at home. All of a sudden, Emma's mother calls for Emma to help her with something in the kitchen. After Emma steps out of her room, Ashley finds herself touching the necklace and wanting to slip it in her pocket. Ashley thinks to herself, "Maybe I can just take it and use it for a week, and then put it back the next time I'm here. That's not so bad, is it?"

1. Which commandments is Ashley in danger of breaking if this scenario continues?
She is in danger of breaking the eighth and tenth commandments.
2. Think about what Ashley should do. What should she do immediately to stop herself from coveting and stealing?
She should put down the necklace and leave Emma's bedroom so that she won't be tempted by her wrongful desire to steal.
3. If you were in this situation, what else would you do that is in line with God's teaching?
God is light. God wishes for His children to be truthful, a "light in the Lord," and to "walk as children of light" (Eph 5:8). What we do and how we treat others should reflect goodness so that we can shine the light for God. By coveting and stealing, we would be doing the opposite and bring shame to God. If we could remind ourselves of this teaching, we would know not to steal at all, no matter how much we want something. Rather than stealing from Emma, the better solution would be for Ashley to remind herself of the many other pretty necklaces that she already has and could wear.

The other issue to work on is learning to recognize the desire to want more and covet what we do not already have. We need to remind ourselves of God's teaching to have "godliness with contentment" (1 Tim 6:6). Strive to be satisfied with what we have and with what God has blessed us with. Pray for strength and keep trying to live it out so that we can learn to be content.

Scenario #3

Matthew feels his face getting hotter and hotter. Ron, a classmate, had just called him "four-eyes" and "loser" during recess. Matthew can't focus on what the teacher is saying in class now. He's getting angrier by the minute, and all he can think about are those hurtful words and how Ron had laughed at him. Matthew starts feeling hateful toward Ron and thinking how nice it would be if he could come up with a plan to get back at Ron.

1. Which commandment is Matthew in danger of breaking if this scenario continues?
He is in danger of breaking the sixth commandment.
2. Think about what Matthew should do. What should he do immediately to help regain control?
First, calm down by taking deep breaths and telling himself that his friends don't think he is a "loser" and that many people have said that his glasses actually look good on him.

3. If you were in this situation, what else would you do that is in line with God's teaching?

God wants us to act with gentleness and forgiveness. When it's difficult to do this because we are so upset and angry, it's a good idea to talk to a parent or a trusted teacher at church. This way, they can pray with us and help us resolve the difficult situation.

Scenario #4

Mary and her little brother Sam are playing baseball after school. Mary is quite good at baseball, and she is especially good at hitting the ball. On her final at bat, Mary hits the ball extra hard and smash! It lands forcefully on top of their father's car, making a huge dent on the top of the car. Sam gasps and Mary frowns. They know their father will be angry because he had warned them not to play baseball so close to his car. His father even threatened to punish Mary if she didn't listen and broke something with the baseball again. Mary looks at Sam and wishes so much that it was Sam who had hit the ill-fated ball. Then, an idea comes to her! Why not say that it was Sam who caused the mishap? Yes, they could tell their father that Sam did it. Sam wouldn't mind because he is younger, and he hardly gets in trouble with their father. Mary walks over to Sam and wants to tell Sam to go along with her plan.

1. Which commandment is Mary in danger of breaking if this scenario continues?

She is in danger of breaking the ninth commandment.

2. Think about what Mary should do. What should she do immediately to stop from making up a lie?

First, Mary should calm down and remind herself that she shouldn't let her fear of punishment overtake her sense of right and wrong. Yes, her father will probably punish her, but her father is a loving father who is never unfair. She has to "bite her tongue" and not make things worse by getting her brother involved in a lie, too.

3. If you were in this situation, what else would you do that is in line with God's teaching?

God tells us that "lying lips are an abomination to the LORD"! Lying to our parents would be the same as lying to God because God knows the truth. So, being untruthful is simply not an option for a Christian who truly loves God. We have to tell the truth to our parents, even if it means we will get in trouble. It would be wrong to say our brother or another boy hit the ball just to avoid punishment. In exchange for telling the truth, we can dwell on the satisfaction that God would be pleased with us for making the more difficult choice.



Activity

The Ten Commandments

10-15 Minutes

Objective: To review the Ten Commandments.

Note: If time is limited, you can prepare the commandments and summaries beforehand, and then just let the students play the matching game (see step 5).

Materials

- 5 pieces of construction paper, cut in half lengthwise (10 slips total; make more for decoration or borders)
- 10 sheets of printer paper
- Scissors
- Markers
- Tape
- Yarn or string, optional

Instructions

1. First, spend a few minutes going over all of the Ten Commandments. List each, plus a brief sentence explaining what it means (see table below for an example and encourage the students to phrase the summaries themselves, while helping them to shorten their sentences or make them more specific).
2. Depending on how many students are in the class, divide the commandments among them and hand out the ten slips of construction paper and printer paper accordingly. If you have older students who can write faster, you may assign additional commandments to them, or help out by writing one or two yourself.

Note: If you'd like to make an addition to the game in step 5, have them write the numbers on separate squares of paper. That way, they can try to match the commandment to the correct number in addition to the summary.

3. Have each group write out the commandment on the slip, then the summary on the sheet of printer paper.
4. If there is additional time, cut the sheets of printer paper down to size, and then back them with a slightly larger piece of construction paper to make them sturdier and to add a nice colorful border.
5. Tape them to the wall, making sure they are paired correctly and in the correct order.

OPTIONAL GAME 1: If you'd like to, you can make a game of it by mixing up the commandments and having the students pair the summary to the commandment (and the numbers, if you wrote those separately) as fast as they can.

OPTIONAL GAME 2: Tape the commandments in order on the wall, and then tape the summaries in a random order. Have the students tape pieces of yarn or string to match them.

Commandment	Brief Summary
1. You shall have no other gods before Me.	God should be the most important in our lives, above everything else that we may love.
2. You shall not worship idols.	We must never bow down to nor worship any image or man-made object.
3. You shall not take the Lord's name in vain.	We must respect God by not using His name in a light or demeaning way.
4. Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy.	Saturday belongs to God, not to any of our toys or friends.
5. Honor your father and your mother.	If we respect and obey our parents, God will bless us.
6. You shall not murder.	We need to forgive those who act against us, and not let our anger grow into hate.
7. You shall not commit adultery.	We must keep our hearts pure and avoid sinful thoughts.
8. You shall not steal.	We must be diligent and work for what we want.
9. You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.	God loves when we speak truthfully, but hates when we lie.
10. You shall not covet.	We must not be greedy, but be satisfied with what God has already blessed us with.

HOMEWORK ANSWER KEY

1. True
2. False; the commandment applies to all people, whether married or unmarried.
3. True
4. Lying, truthfully
5. labor, hands
6. Answers may vary.
7. Answers may vary.

THE LAST FIVE COMMANDMENTS

Follow along with the lesson and fill in the blanks.

Teaching	Meaning
<p style="text-align: center;">Commandment #6</p> <p>To murder means to _____ _____ _____</p>	<p>Matthew 5:22-25</p> <p>Jesus warns that whoever is _____ with his brother without a cause and does not promptly take actions to resolve the situation with his brother shall be in danger of the judgment. To God, staying angry with someone is as sinful as _____!</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Commandment #7</p> <p>Marriage is between one _____ and one _____ only. Adultery is _____ _____</p>	<p>Matthew 5:27-28</p> <p>Jesus teaches, "You shall not commit adultery. But I say to you that whoever looks at a woman to _____ for her has already committed adultery with her in his heart." Therefore, looking at someone with _____ thoughts is sinful.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Commandment #8</p> <p>To steal is to _____ _____ _____</p>	<p>Ephesians 4:28</p> <p>"Let him who stole steal no longer, but rather let him _____, working with his _____ what is good, that he may have something to give him who has need."</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Commandment #9</p> <p>A neighbor is _____ _____</p> <p>Bearing false witness _____ _____ _____</p>	<p>Proverbs 12:22</p> <p>"_____ lips are an abomination to the LORD, but those who deal _____ are His delight."</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Commandment #10</p> <p>To covet means _____ _____ _____</p> <p>Contentment is _____ _____</p>	<p>1 Timothy 6:6</p> <p>"Now godliness with _____ is great gain."</p>

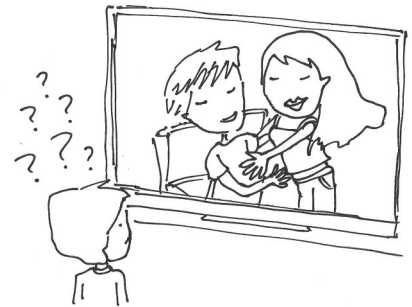
What Would YOU Do?

It is important to know what the Ten Commandments are. It is equally important to know how to apply God's teachings behind the commandments to our everyday lives. For each of the different scenarios described in the Life Application worksheet: 1) identify which of the Ten Commandment pertains to it, and 2) discuss what you would do in that situation. Think about God's teachings as you decide what God would want you to do in the situation.

Scenario #1

The moment has finally arrived. For several weeks, Jon has been looking forward to watching this new movie. At last, he can watch it at home, just as his parents had asked him to do. The movie turns out to be as exciting and fun to watch as everyone said it would be. But as the movie continues, there is a lot of kissing and body touching between a boy and a girl. Jon finds himself feeling a bit embarrassed but also excited and curious about what the movie characters are doing. His parents had talked about not watching these kinds of images, but a part of him is, well, curious and adventurous. To Jon, the boy and girl in the movie actually seem happy doing these things. Jon begins to wonder, "Why is it wrong to kiss and hug? Besides, it's not that bad just to watch these images, is it?"

1. Which commandment is Jon in danger of breaking, and how is that possible?
2. Think about what Jon should do. What should he do immediately to avoid the danger of polluting his eyes and heart?
3. If you were in this situation, what else would you do that is in line with God's teaching?



Scenario #2

Ashley is having a great time playing with her best friend Emma. It's always fun to spend time with Emma and to see the new things in her bedroom. Emma always seems to have a lot of new toys and pretty things. As Emma shows Ashley her new necklaces and bracelets, something catches Ashley's eyes—a silver, shiny, heart-shaped necklace! It's the same one that Ashley saw at the mall with her mother last weekend. Ashley just loved that necklace and she begged for her mother to buy it. She even bargained to use her own money, but her mother refused. Her mother told Ashley that she already had many necklaces at home. In fact, two were just given to her for her birthday last month. Still, Ashley can't stop looking jealously at Emma's heart necklace. It just seems better than the ones she has at home. All of a sudden, Emma's mother calls for Emma to help her with something in the kitchen. After Emma steps out of her room, Ashley finds herself touching the necklace and wanting to slip it in her pocket. Ashley thinks to herself, "Maybe I can just take it and use it for a week, and then put it back the next time I'm here. That's not so bad, is it?"

1. Which commandments is Ashley in danger of breaking if this scenario continues?
2. Think about what Ashley should do. What should she do immediately to stop herself from coveting and stealing?
3. If you were in this situation, what else would you do that is in line with God's teaching?



Scenario #3

Matthew feels his face getting hotter and hotter. Ron, a classmate, had just called him "four-eyes" and "loser" during recess. Matthew can't focus on what the teacher is saying in class now. He's getting angrier by the minute, and all he can think about are those hurtful words and how Ron had laughed at him. Matthew starts feeling hateful toward Ron and thinking how nice it would be if he could come up with a plan to get back at Ron.

1. Which commandment is Matthew in danger of breaking if this scenario continues?

2. Think about what Matthew should do. What should he do immediately to help regain control?



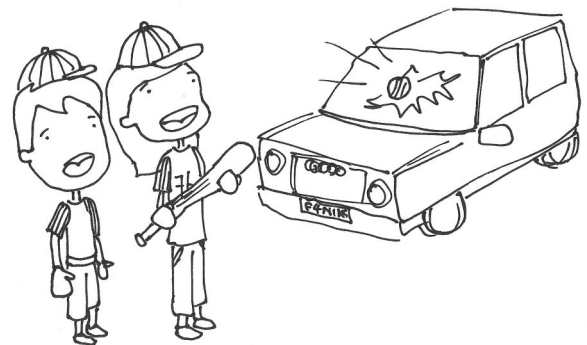
3. If you were in this situation, what else would you do that is in line with God's teaching?

Scenario #4

Mary and her little brother Sam are playing baseball after school. Mary is quite good at baseball, and she is especially good at hitting the ball. On her final at bat, Mary hits the ball extra hard and smash! It lands forcefully on top of their father's car, making a huge dent on the top of the car. Sam gasps and Mary frowns. They know their father will be angry because he had warned them not to play baseball so close to his car. His father even threatened to punish Mary if she didn't listen and broke something with the baseball again. Mary looks at Sam and wishes so much that it was Sam who had hit the ill-fated ball. Then, an idea comes to her! Why not say that it was Sam who caused the mishap? Yes, they could tell their father that Sam did it. Sam wouldn't mind because he is younger, and he hardly gets in trouble with their father. Mary walks over to Sam and wants to tell Sam to go along with her plan.

1. Which commandment is Mary in danger of breaking if this scenario continues?

2. Think about what Mary should do. What should she do immediately to stop from making up a lie?



3. If you were in this situation, what else would you do that is in line with God's teaching?

E2 Year 1 Book 4 Lesson 2—The Ten Commandments (Part 2)

Homework Assignment

Name: _____ Parent signature: _____ Date: _____

Bible Reading: Please put a check mark in the space when you complete the reading each day.

Prayer: Please put a check mark in the space on the days you prayed to God.

What I Learned from the Bible This Week

1. _____

2. _____

	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Read							
Pray							

Memory Verse

Please write down this week's memory verse. **(Exodus 19:8a)**

True or False

1. It is fair to say that murder can begin from the heart. _____
2. The seventh commandment is, "You shall not commit adultery." Because it is related to marriage, it doesn't have to do with children and young, unmarried people. _____
3. To have godliness with contentment will help to keep us from coveting things that belong to other people. _____

Fill In the Blank

4. "_____ lips are an abomination to the Lord, but those who deal _____ are His delight" (Prov 12:22).
5. "Let him who stole steal no longer, but rather let him _____, working with his _____ what is good, that he may have something to give him who has need" (Eph 4:28).

Short Answer

6. Choose one of the commandments discussed in this lesson. In your own words, tell how you can apply that commandment to your own life.

7. Think of the commandments discussed in this lesson. In your opinion, which of the commandments is the most challenging for you to keep? Explain why and think of some ways to address the challenges.

LESSON 3



THE TABERNACLE (PART 1)

OBJECTIVES

1. To learn about the structure of the tabernacle and its contents.
2. To understand the purpose of the tabernacle and its spiritual implications.
3. To know the importance of God's abidance in our lives.
4. To understand that the tabernacle is the Old Testament prefiguration of the true church today.

MEMORY VERSE

"And let them make Me a sanctuary,
that I may dwell among them."

(Exodus 25:8)

PRAYER

1. On this Holy Sabbath, we have laid aside the things of the world to come to God's house.
2. Thank God for establishing His church and for choosing us so that we have the opportunity to know His words and experience His grace.
3. May the true church be exalted on earth so that more people can find God and experience His wonderful presence and abidance.



Overview

1. **Make Me a Sanctuary**
 - a. The Purpose of the Tabernacle
2. **Building the Tabernacle**
3. **The Altar of Bronze Offering**
4. **The Bronze Laver**
5. **Linking to the Ten Basic Beliefs**
 - a. The True Church
 - b. The Lord Jesus is the Savior of mankind
6. **Life Application**—God's abidance?
7. **Activity**—God Is with Us



Background Knowledge for Teachers

Other Names for the Tabernacle

1. "The tabernacle of the LORD" or "the house of the LORD" (1 Kgs 2:28; 1 Chr 9:23; 6:48)
2. "The tabernacle of meeting" (Ex 29:42-44; 33:7; Num 11:16; 12:4; 17:4; Dt 31:14)
3. "The house of God" (Ex 25:8; Judg 18:31)
4. "The tabernacle of the Testimony" (Num 9:15; 10:11)
5. "The sanctuary of the LORD" or "the earthly sanctuary" (Ex 25:8; Num 19:20; Heb 9:1)

Time and Place of Construction

The construction of the tabernacle occurred after the Israelites came to the foot of Mt. Sinai. The tabernacle was erected on the first day of the first month of the following year (Ex 40:17).

The Journey of the Tabernacle

1. Established first at the foot of Mt. Sinai (Ex 40:1-33)
2. Traveled in the wilderness for 40 years along with the Israelites (Ex 40:34-38; Num 9:15-23; 10:11-12, 35-36)
3. Entered Canaan and placed at Gilgal (Josh 4:19; 5:10; 9:6; 10:6, 43)
4. Relocated to Shiloh until the time of the Judges (Josh 18:1; 19:51; 1 Sam 1:3, 9)
5. Moved to Nob (1 Sam 21:1-6)
6. Moved to Gibeon (1 Kgs 3:4; 1 Chr 21:29; 2 Chr 1:3)
7. Moved into the temple after the temple was constructed (1 Kgs 8:4; 2 Chr 5:4-5; 35:3)
8. From the first erection of the tabernacle to the completion of the temple of God was 491 years (1 Kgs 6:1, 37-38)

The Development of the Tabernacle and Its Prefiguration

1. Men called upon God (Gen 4:26)
2. The altar (Gen 8:20; 12:7-8)
3. The tent outside the camp (Ex 33:7-11)
4. The tabernacle of meeting, inside the camp (Num 2:1-2)
5. The house of the LORD (1 Sam 3:15)
6. Solomon's temple (1 Kgs 6:38; 8:1-11)
7. The body of believers (1 Cor 6:19; 2 Cor 5:1-4)
8. The True Church (Heb 8:1-6; 9:11; Rev 21:1-3)

The Construction of the Tabernacle

A. The outer court

1. The gate
2. The hangings
3. The bronze altar
4. The laver

B. The inner court (the holy place)

1. The curtains
2. The table of showbread
3. The golden altar of incense
4. The golden lampstand
5. The coverings

C. The Most Holy Place (the Holy of Holies)

1. The veil
2. The ark of the covenant
3. The holy garment of the high priest

D. Much of the tabernacle and its furniture was made of acacia wood. Acacia trees flourished in desert regions and were fairly common in OT times. The wood was brownish orange and very hard as a result of growing in adverse circumstances, thus making it an excellent material for furniture.

E. A Cubit

The word cubit comes from the Latin word *cubitus*, which means the lower arm. A cubit was a measure of length used by ancient people. However, it is difficult to determine the exact length, as it could include the entire length, from the elbow to the tip of the longest finger, or from the elbow to the base of the hand at the wrist. The longer length was most likely the standard cubit, making it about 18-20 inches.



Reaching Out to Your Students

God is the almighty Creator who created the heavens and the earth. And yet, God asked Moses to make for Him a dwelling place on earth. God did this because He wanted to establish a closer and more intimate relationship with His people to let them know that He was with them. It served as a visible reminder to the Israelites that God was with them. In the beginning, God's dwelling place was in the ark, inside the tabernacle, a tent. Later on, in order to provide a more permanent home for the tabernacle, King Solomon built the holy temple. But in the New Testament, God moved even closer to His people. Today, God doesn't dwell in a tent or a physical building—He dwells in our hearts through the Holy Spirit. Our hearts have become the sanctuary and dwelling place of God.

Knowing that God dwells within us and is always with us will be an assurance and comfort to our students. They will learn that, despite the stresses and worries they may face at school or in their own lives, they can be assured that God is always with them. He who is in us is greater than he who is in the world.



Opener

5 Minutes

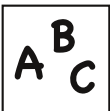
[Pass out construction paper, markers, and colored pencils to students before the lesson.]

Do you have your own bedroom? Or do you have part of a room that you share that's your own space?

I would like you to briefly sketch a map of your bedroom. Write or draw in the location of your furniture and things that are important and meaningful to you.

[Have students share the maps of their rooms and explain what is meaningful to them in the room.]

It sounds like you are proud of and happy about your spaces. Perhaps you decorated the room with your favorite pictures or posters, or you got painted in your favorite color. Perhaps you have your most treasured collection of books or games there. This room is important to you because it is your own special space, and it reflects what you like. It is where you sleep and where you spend time with your friends and time alone. It is your room!



Vocabulary

sanctuary: a sacred or holy place

tabernacle: a portable structure where the Israelites could worship God; "tent," "place of dwelling," or "sanctuary"



Bible Discovery & Spiritual Teaching

30-35 Minutes

FOR TEACHERS

Compile the worksheets in this lesson together as a booklet. Have a front cover on which students will write "THE TABERNACLE."

Cover – The Tabernacle
Worksheet 1 – A Sanctuary for God
Worksheet 2 – Inside the Tabernacle
Worksheet 3 – The Bronze Altar
Worksheet 4 – The Bronze Laver
Worksheet 5 – God's Abidance

Ask students to turn to the Bible Discovery Worksheet #1 and fill in the blanks as you go through this section. The answers are underlined.

A. Make Me A Sanctuary

After Moses led the Israelites out of Egypt, they traveled for about three months until they came to the wilderness of Sinai. At Mount Sinai, God gave Moses the Ten Commandments. However, that was not all that God gave Moses. God also gave Moses very detailed and specific instructions to build a sanctuary for Him. Let us read Exodus 25:8. "And let them make Me a sanctuary, that I may dwell among them."

You might be asking, "What is a sanctuary?" A sanctuary is a sacred or holy place. This sanctuary or dwelling place of God was to be called the tabernacle.

Why did God want the people to make Him a sanctuary?

1. God dwells with man

"I will dwell among the children of Israel and will be their God" (Ex 29:45).

God really wanted His people, the Israelites, to understand that He was their God and that He desired to be with them. God told them to build a special place called a tabernacle as a way for them to see this. The tabernacle would be set up in the middle of the camp with each of the twelve tribes of Israel surrounding it. As the people traveled through the desert, they would pack up the tabernacle, carry it with them, and then set it up when God told them to stop traveling. Of course, God did not need a house for Himself. The tabernacle would be a visible sign for the Israelites that God was with them and that He wanted to establish an intimate relationship with His people.

2. God declares His commands

"And there I will meet with you, and I will speak with you from above the mercy seat, from between the two cherubim which are on the ark of the Testimony, about everything which I will give you in commandment to the children of Israel" (Ex 25:22).

Among all the nations in the world, the Israelites were

chosen to be God's special people. As God's chosen nation, the Israelites had the privilege of receiving God's laws, something that no other nation in the world received. When Moses entered the tabernacle, God would meet and speak with Moses there. Moses would then declare God's laws to the Israelites.

2. God reveals His glory

"Then the cloud covered the tabernacle of meeting, and the glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle" (Ex 40:34).

When Moses had completed the tabernacle according to God's commands, the glory of the Lord filled the tabernacle. The glory of God meant that the Israelites would experience the abundance of God and witness His power, His blessings, and His guidance if they obeyed His commandments.

B. Building the Tabernacle

Let's read Exodus 25:9.

"According to all that I show you, that is, the pattern of the tabernacle and the pattern of all its furnishings, just so you shall make it."

God was very specific about how He wanted the tabernacle to be built. He knew the exact pieces of furniture He wanted to be made. He knew their dimensions, color, shape, and function. God had also planned where each piece of furniture was to be placed.

After God gave Moses the building instructions, the people brought their offerings for building the tabernacle. Moses also recruited skilled workers to do the work, and after eight months, the tabernacle and all the utensils were completed.

1. Inside the Tabernacle

The tabernacle was divided into three distinct areas.

FOR TEACHERS

Ask students to turn to Bible Discovery Worksheet #2 and fill in the map as you go along. Post a blank copy of the map on the board.

As you explain each section of the tabernacle, write the following names on the map and have students do the same on their own map:

- Outer Court
- The Sanctuary
- The Holy Place
- The Most Holy Place or The Holy of Holies

Likewise, label the items in each section, as indicated by the bold words under each heading. The answers are provided on page 36.

Let's take a walk through the sanctuary of God.

The Outer Court

As you entered the tabernacle by the east gate, you would come to the outer court. This was a rectangle with fences and linen curtains all around. Most of the buildings we see or live in are permanent structures made of brick or wood. The tabernacle, however, was more like a tent that could be packed up and transported when the Israelites traveled through the wilderness. The outer court was an area where only the chosen people, the Israelites, were allowed to enter and worship. The first piece of furniture you encountered was the **bronze altar** for animal sacrifices. Next would be the **bronze laver**, which contained water for the priests to wash with before entering into the tent.

The Holy Place

As you walked further, you would come to a structure. This was divided into two main sections by a large veil or curtain. The outer room was called the holy place, which contained the **table of showbread**, the **candlestick**, and the **altar of incense**.

The Holy of Holies (Most Holy Place)

On the other side of the veil was the Holy of Holies or the Most Holy Place. This was the most intimate and hidden part of the tabernacle. This was where the ark of the covenant, where God abided, was placed. Besides the high priest, no one was allowed to enter into the Holy of Holies.

FOR TEACHERS

Ask students to turn to Bible Discovery Worksheet #3 and follow along to complete the table. The answers are underlined.

C. Bronze Altar

Let us read Exodus 27:1-2, 6-7.

Material Used: Acacia wood

Shape: The altar was a square with four horns on its corners. It had poles on two sides for transportation.

Size: 5 cubits (7.5 feet) long, 5 cubits (7.5 feet) wide, and 3 cubits (4.5 feet) tall

What was the bronze altar used for?

In the Old Testament, the Israelites brought the animals to the priests to be killed and sacrificed to the Lord on the altar for their sins.

What does the bronze altar mean to me?

1. The altar of burnt offering prefigures how, in the same way that the animals were brought to the altar to be killed for the sins of the people, the Lord Jesus laid down His life upon the cross in order to take away the sins of the world.

2. The four corners of the altar show how Jesus came to

the world to die for the sins of the world. He came to save all people regardless of race, age, or gender.

Shape: Not specified, but it had a bronze base
Size: Not specified

FOR TEACHERS

Ask students to turn to Bible Discovery Worksheet #4 and follow along to complete the table. The answers are underlined.

D. The Bronze Laver

Let us read Exodus 30:18-20 and Exodus 38:8.

Material Used: Bronze mirrors

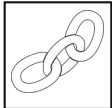
The laver was made from looking glasses that the women of Israel had carried from Egypt. Mirrors in those days were made of highly polished glass, and they were able to reflect the natural features of the person looking at them.

What was the bronze laver used for?

Before entering the tabernacle, the priests had to wash their hands and feet at the laver before they served, otherwise they would die. The washing of hands and feet at the laver represented sanctification and cleansing themselves from evil doings (Heb 12:14).

What does the bronze laver mean to me?

God's word is like a mirror, which reflects our spiritual appearance. It can show us our weaknesses, faults, and sins. The word of God has the power to cleanse and change us of our impurities and sins.



Linking to the Ten Basic Beliefs

2-5 Minutes

The True Church

In our lesson today, we learned that God wanted the Israelites to build the tabernacle to be the dwelling place of God. It was the place that God designated for the people to worship, meet, and fellowship with God. Today, God has established the True Jesus Church to be the place that bears His name. It is the church where we can find God and worship Him. In the true church, we have the presence of the Holy Spirit, the complete truth, and signs and miracles.

Jesus Christ

The Lord Jesus came down in flesh to die on the cross for the redemption of sinners. He is the only Savior, and it is only through Him that we have the hope of everlasting life.



Check for Understanding

5 Minutes

1. Why did God want Moses to build a tabernacle?

- To dwell among His people
- To give the Israelites His commandments
- To show His glory

2. **Name the three sections of the tabernacle.** The outer court, the holy place, and the Holy of Holies.

3. **What were the first two pieces of furniture you would see when you entered the tabernacle?** The altar and the laver.

4. **What was the purpose of the bronze altar?** Animals were offered on the altar for the sins of the people.

5. **What does the bronze altar signify?** The Lord Jesus came to die on the cross for the sins of mankind.

6. **What did the priests have to do before they served God?** They had to wash their hands and feet at the laver.

7. **What does the bronze laver teach us?** We have to cleanse and sanctify ourselves with the word of God.

8. **The tabernacle was a place where the people could meet and fellowship with God. Where can we find and worship God today?** At the true church.



Life Application

10 Minutes

GOD'S ABIDANCE

[Ask students to turn to the Life Application worksheet. Go over Part A with the students. Then, for each section in Part B, allow the students to read the verse and fill in the blanks. Make sure the students have filled in the blanks for each section before moving on.]

A. Why do we need God's abidance?

- a. We find favor in God's sight (Ex 33:16; Lev 26:9-13). God will bestow His love and bountiful blessings upon us in our daily lives.
- b. We are God's special people (Ex 33:16). We are separate from the other people of the world because God has made us His own, and we belong to Him.
- c. We are protected and saved (Is 63:8-9). He will also help us overcome sin and protect us from the evil one because He is our Savior.

B. How can I obtain God's abidance?

Be filled with His Spirit (1 Jn 4:13)

Before Jesus ascended to heaven, He promised the disciples that He would send down the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit would dwell in their hearts and abide with them forever. This same promise has been given to us today. When the Spirit of God fills our heart, we know that God lives in and abides with us. No matter what we go through, God is with us. We know that God dwells in us when we begin to speak in tongues like the disciples when they first received the Holy Spirit on the Day of Pentecost. The Holy Spirit helps us in our weakness, gives us wisdom to make good choices, and gives us the strength to do His will and please Him.

Have the love of God (1 Jn 4:16b)

The Bible tells us that God is love. Therefore, when we love and help our family members, our friends, or even our enemies, we most resemble our heavenly Father. When God sees our loving actions, it touches and pleases Him, and He will abide with us.

Obey God's commandments (1 Jn 3:24a)

To have God's abidance does not simply mean coming to church each Sabbath. What is important to God is how we observe His commandments during the other six days of the week. He observes to see whether we obey our parents at home, if we are kind to others, or whether we keep ourselves holy. In order for God to abide with us, we need to demonstrate our love for Him by obeying His commandments in our daily lives.

Go to the place where God can be found (Dt 12:5)

If you had a problem such as a toothache, you would not go to a podiatrist (foot doctor) to find a cure for it. You need to go to the right place. In the same way, the Bible instructs us that in order to seek God and have His abidance, we have to go to the place where God can be found.

Today, the people of the world rely on their own wisdom and methods to find God. They go to mosques or temples. They worship idols or nature around them. Many believe that it doesn't matter how you worship Him or where you worship Him because God is everywhere.

But the Bible tells us clearly where we can find God.

Let's read Deuteronomy 12:5. "But you shall seek the place where the LORD your God chooses, out of all your tribes, to put His name for His dwelling place; and there you shall go."

Let's refer to Exodus 20:24b as well. "In every place where I record My name I will come to you, and I will bless you."

To find God, we need to worship in a church that bears the name of Jesus, that follows the teachings of the Bible, and that has the Holy Spirit. Today, we have come to the right place. The True Jesus Church bears the name of Jesus and is where God can be found.



Activity

God Is with Us

10-15 Minutes

Objective: To review the ways to obtain God's abidance.

Instructions

1. Choose which memory verses you would like to use in the activity, and then refer to different game variations for variation-specific instructions. You can choose to incorporate more than one variation.
2. Pass out a list of the memory verses you have chosen to use for the activity, and give the students time to memorize the verses. Afterwards, ask the students to cover up the memory verse list.
3. Explain the game instructions to the students. Allow adequate time to complete each challenge.

Memory Verse List

1. "God is love, and he who abides in love abides in God, and God in him" (1 Jn 4:16b).
2. "By this we know that we abide in Him, and He in us, because He has given us of His spirit" (1 Jn 4:13).
3. "Now he who keeps His commandments abides in Him, and He in him" (1 Jn 3:24a).
4. "But you shall seek the place where the LORD your God chooses, out of all your tribes, to put His name for His dwelling place; and there you shall go" (Dt 12:5).

Variations

A. Chopstick Relay

1. Before class, write the memory verse(s) onto index cards, writing one word per card. Make one set per team. Fold the cards in half and place them on a table, making a triangle with the table as the bottom side. This way, the cards will be easier to pick up with chopsticks. Put one set on each table.
2. Divide the students into teams, and place the teams at the other end of the room. The students must relay race to the table to retrieve a word card using only their chopsticks. The team that retrieves all its cards and correctly arranges the memory verse first wins. To make the game fair, use the same verse for all teams.

B. Connect the Verse

1. Before class, write the memory verses onto index cards, writing one word per card. Keep each set of memory verse cards separate.
2. Divide the students into small groups. They will be working together to piece together a memory verse.
3. Shuffle each set of cards separately and deal each set to one group of students. The cards should be face down, with the words hidden. The students should each have at least one card, but they can have more.
4. Once the students have their cards, the group members take turns flipping over their cards. As each word is revealed, the group works together to place the words in the right order. They are not allowed to speak at all for this exercise. They must communicate silently until the verse has been placed in order.

C. Stack the Cups

1. Before class, count how many cups are needed for the verse(s) and then, using a marker, write one word from the memory verse(s) on each cup. Keep each set of memory verse cups separate.
2. Divide the class into as many teams as you have memory verses.
3. Give each team a set of cups with the words on them. On the word "go," see which team can stack the cups in order first in a pyramid fashion, starting from the top and reading left to right, without any of the cups falling off.

HOMEWORK ANSWER KEY

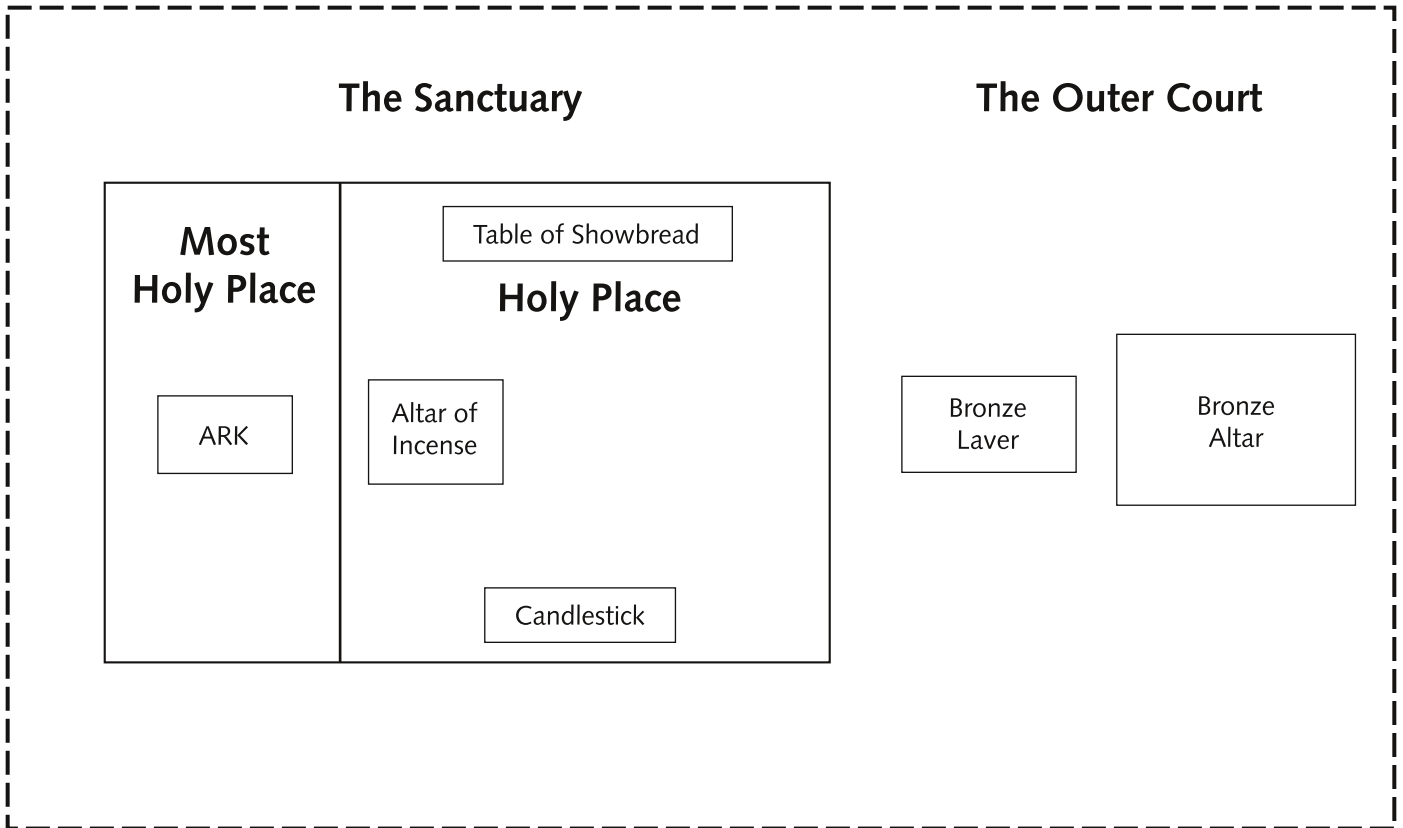
Across

- 6. mirrors
- 7. tabernacle
- 8. sins
- 9. dwell

Down

- 1. abide
- 2. Israelites
- 3. Jesus
- 4. laver
- 5. altar

The Tabernacle



A SANCTUARY FOR GOD

Fill in the blanks.

Why did God want the people to make Him a sanctuary?

1. God Dwells with Man

"I will _____ the children of Israel and will be their _____" (Ex 29:45).

God really wanted His people to understand that He was their _____ and that He desired to _____ them. The _____ would be a visible reminder of this special relationship between God and His people.

2. God Declares His Commands



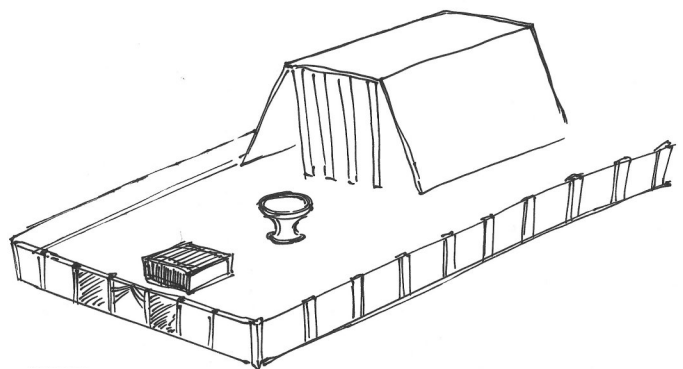
"And there I will _____ with you, and I will _____ with you from above the mercy seat, from between the two cherubim which are on the ark of the Testimony, of _____ which I will give you in _____ to the children of _____" (Ex 25:22).

Among all the nations in the world, the Israelites were _____ to be God's special _____. As God's chosen nation, the Israelites had the privilege of _____ God's _____. God would speak with Moses in the tabernacle. Moses would then declare God's laws to the Israelites.

3. God Reveals His Glory

"Then the cloud covered the _____ of meeting, and the _____ of the LORD _____ the tabernacle" (Ex 40:34).

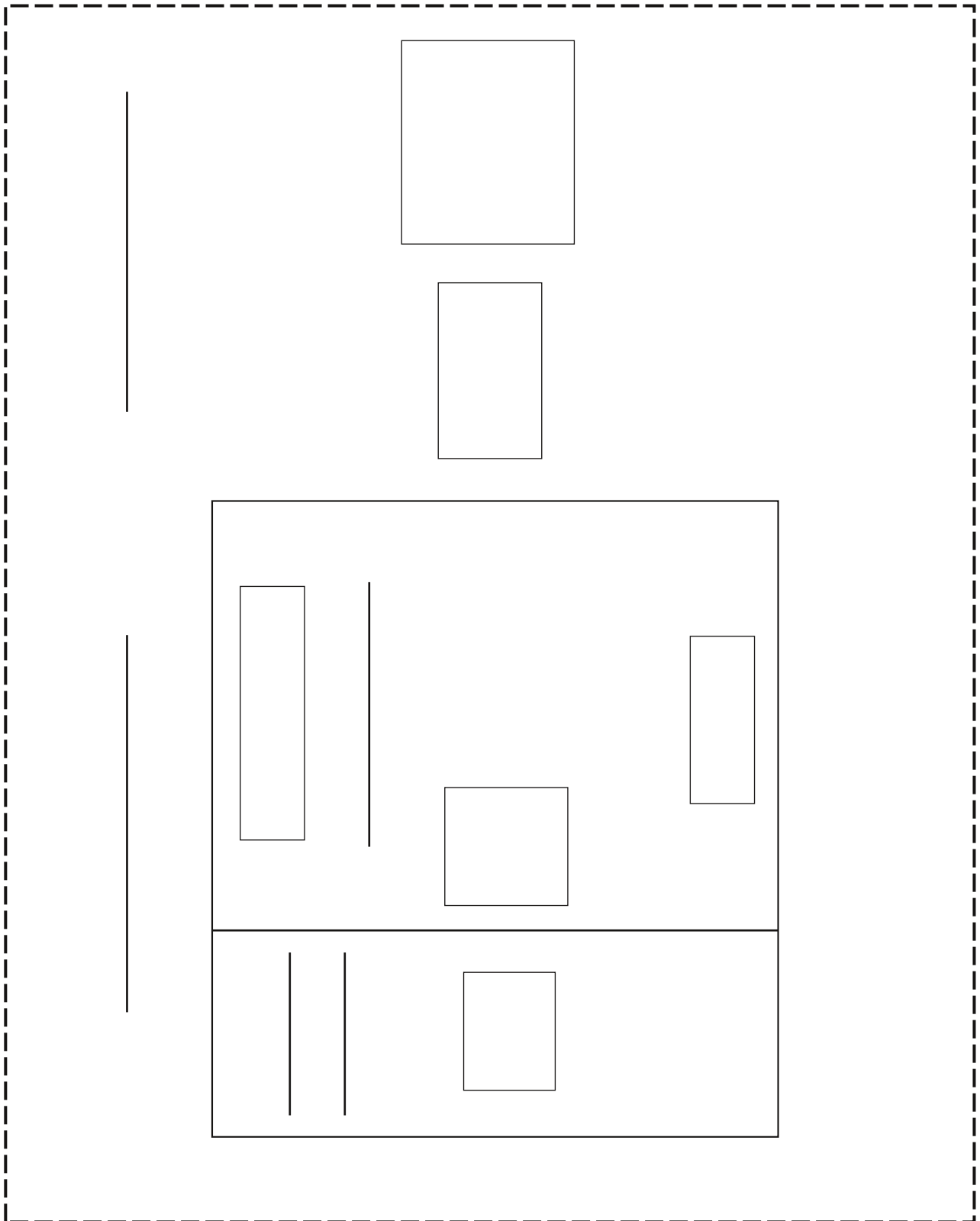
When Moses had completed the tabernacle according to God's commands, the glory of the Lord filled the tabernacle. The glory of God meant that the Israelites would experience the _____ of God and witness His _____, His _____, and His _____ if they obeyed His commandments.



INSIDE THE TABERNACLE

Label the map of the tabernacle.

East Gate

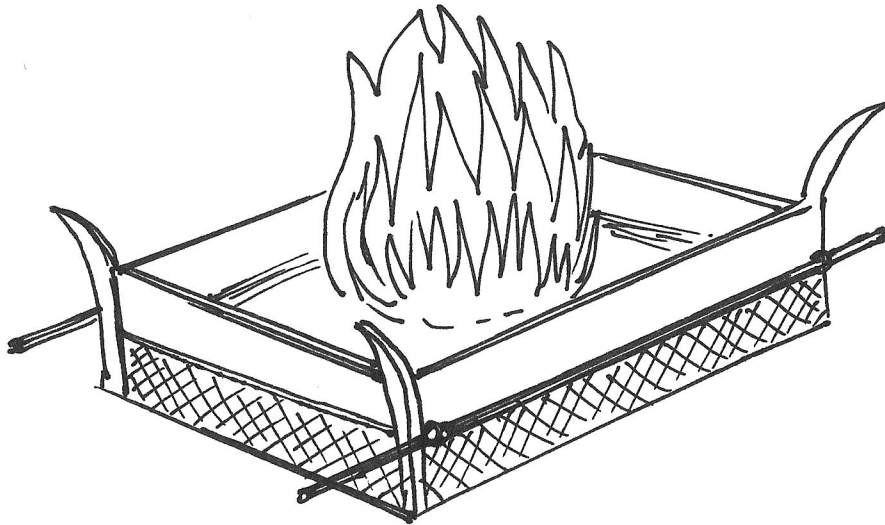


THE BRONZE ALTAR**Simple Facts**
(fill in the information)

Material Used:

Shape:

Size:

**What was the bronze altar used for?**

The Israelites brought the _____ to the priests to be offered to the Lord on the _____ for their _____.

What does the bronze altar mean to me?

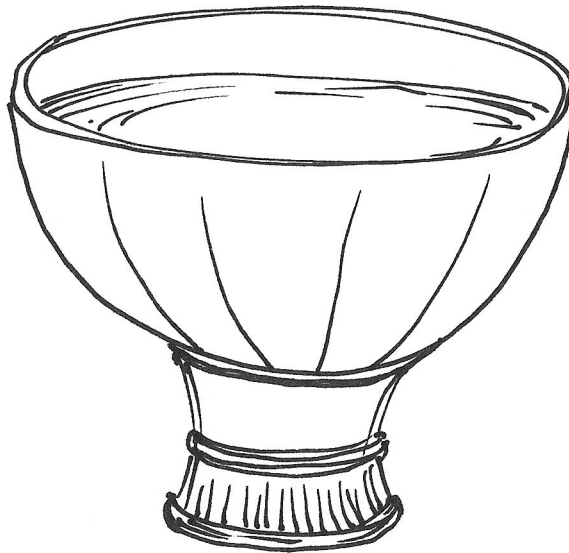
1. The _____ laid down His _____ for the sins of the world.
2. The horns on the altar show how the Lord came to save _____ people, no matter their race, age, or gender.

THE BRONZE LAVER**Simple Facts**
(fill in the information)

Material Used:

Shape:

Size:

**What was the bronze laver used for?**

The priests had to _____ their _____ and _____ at the laver before they _____, otherwise they would _____.

What does the bronze laver mean to me?

1. God's word is like a _____.
2. God's word can _____ and _____ me of my impurities and sins.

GOD'S ABIDANCE

A. Why do we need God's abidance?

- a. We find favor in God's sight (Ex 33:16; Lev 26:9-13). God will bestow His love and bountiful blessings upon us in our daily lives.
- b. We are God's special people (Ex 33:16). We are separate from the other people of the world because God has made us His own, and we belong to Him.
- c. We are protected and saved (Is 63:8-9). He will also help us overcome sin and protect us from the evil one because He is our Savior.

B. How can I obtain God's abidance?

Be filled with His Spirit (1 Jn 4:13)

The things I pray for are _____.

Each day, I spend about _____ praying.

The Holy Spirit is important to me because _____.

Have the love of God (1 Jn 4:16b)

When people are not nice to me, I _____.

One way that I can show love to others is _____.

The reason I love others is because _____.

Obey God's commandments (1 Jn 3:24a)

I find it _____ to listen to God and His commandments.

I show God that I love Him by _____.

One way that I obey God's commands is _____.

God's commandments are precious because _____.

Go to the place where God can be found (Dt 12:5)

Coming to church makes me _____.

I come to church each week to _____.

I come to the True Jesus Church because _____.

E2 Year 1 Book 4 Lesson 3—The Tabernacle (Part 1)

Homework Assignment

Name: _____ Parent signature: _____ Date: _____

Bible Reading: Please put a check mark in the space when you complete the reading each day.

Prayer: Please put a check mark in the space on the days you prayed to God.

	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Read							
Pray							

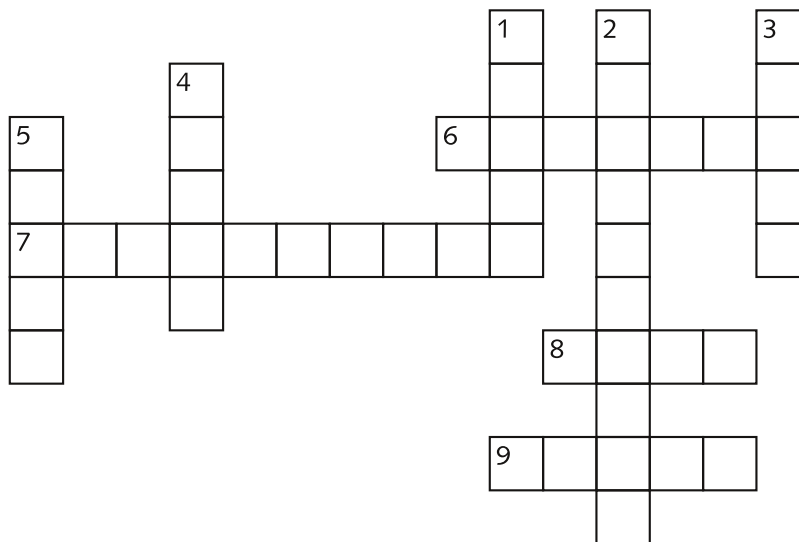
What I Learned from the Bible This Week

- _____
- _____

Memory Verse

Please write down this week's memory verse. **(Exodus 25:8)**

"The Tabernacle" Crossword Puzzle



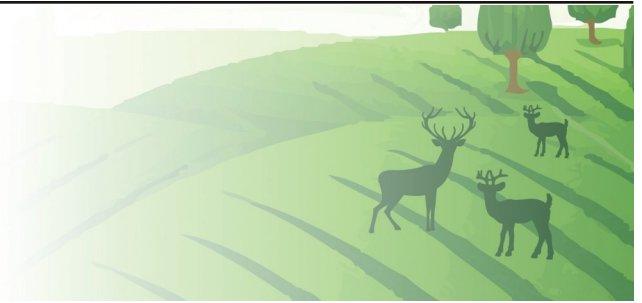
Across

- The laver was made from bronze _____.
- The dwelling place of God was called the _____.
- The altar shows how the Lord came to die for our _____.
- God wanted to _____ among His people.

Down

- When we obey God's commandments, He will _____ with us.
- Only _____ were allowed into the outer court.
- We worship in the place that bears the name of _____.
- The priests washed their hands and feet in the _____.
- Animals were sacrificed on the _____.

LESSON 4



THE TABERNACLE (PART 2)

OBJECTIVES

1. To learn about the pieces of furniture in the holy place and the Holy of Holies.
2. To learn about the spiritual significance of the furniture.
3. To learn about connecting and meeting God in prayer.

MEMORY VERSE

“Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need.”

(Hebrews 4:16)

PRAYER

1. Thank God for bringing us once again into His holy temple to behold His glory and learn the truth.
2. Praise God for His wonderful mercy and grace, which allow us to personally come before Him, unlike in the Old Testament times.
3. Open our hearts and minds to know the effects and power of prayer.



Overview

1. The Holy Place

- a. The Golden Lampstand
- b. The Table of Showbread
- c. The Altar of Incense

2. The Holy of Holies

- a. The Ark of the Testimony

3. Linking to the Ten Basic Beliefs

- a. The Holy Bible
- b. The Holy Spirit

4. Life Application—What Is Prayer?

5. Activity—Prayers Rising like Incense



Background Knowledge for Teachers

The Altar of Incense

In the holy place, the altar of incense was an important piece of furniture. Not only was it the tallest piece of furniture, it occupied a central position between the table of showbread and the golden lampstand. It also stood directly in front of the veil before the mercy seat, where God abided in the Holy of Holies. This tells us that the noblest and most important work of a believer is to pray. Prayer is the sweetest thing that we can offer to God. God is pleased with our prayers of praise and thanksgiving, as they bring us to His presence.

The effectiveness of our ministry of teaching depends on how much we spend in the secret place of prayer giving the best of our time and fellowship with God. Through prayer, our insufficiencies and inadequacies in teaching are supplied and met.

Inside the Ark

According to the Old Testament account in 1 Kings 8:9, the sole contents of the ark were the two stone tablets containing the Ten Commandments, which Moses had received from God at Mount Sinai (Ex 20).

In the New Testament however, three precious things were found in the ark (Heb 9:4)

- a. The two stone tablets containing the Ten Commandments, which Moses had received from God at Mount Sinai. These represent the laws of God that should be written on our hearts.
- b. A golden pot of manna (Ex 16:31-35). This represents the words of God that we should receive with faith.

c. Aaron's rod that budded (Num 17:1-11). In the OT, God caused Aaron's rod to bud, producing blossoms and ripe almonds, as a sign

that Aaron and his descendants were especially chosen by God to serve Him. Today, this represents how God has manifested His power to save and choose us as His children to bear spiritual fruit.

Review

Last week, we began our tour of the tabernacle, which is God's dwelling place.

The tabernacle was the place where God dwelt among the people, where He declared His commandments, and where He revealed His glory. The tabernacle no longer exists as it did in the OT, but we do have a spiritual tabernacle. Where is this? That's right, it is the true church, a place where God has placed His name and where He abides. It is a place to communicate with God in prayer and worship.



Reaching Out to Your Students

Students may find it hard to grasp the symbolism behind many aspects of the tabernacle. For example, concepts such as animal sacrifice and the sprinkling of the blood on the altar, the showbread, the veil, or the presence of God on the ark, and how these are but the shadow of what was to come in the New Testament, are difficult to comprehend. Although this may be the case, our students should readily understand the life applications behind the individual items in the tabernacle.



Opener

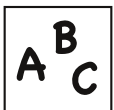
5 Minutes

[Pass out construction paper, markers, and colored pencils to students before the lesson.]

Last week, we shared a map of our bedrooms. Today, let's draw another map of our bedroom, but this time, we'll move the furniture around.

[Have students draw a map of their rooms with the furniture in the wrong places.]

Now, let's take a look at our rooms. What do you think of the layout now? It probably feels weird or wrong, right? [Let students share.] Today, we will learn how, just as every of furniture in our room has its own place where it belongs, every item in the tabernacle also had a place where it belonged.



Vocabulary

sanctuary: a sacred or holy place

tabernacle: a portable structure where the Israelites could worship God; "tent," "place of dwelling," or "sanctuary"



Bible Discovery & Spiritual Teaching

30-35 Minutes

FOR TEACHERS

Compile the worksheets in this lesson together, and have students them to the booklet started in the previous lesson.

Worksheet 1 – The Golden Lampstand
Worksheet 2 – The Table of Showbread
Worksheet 3 – The Altar of Incense
Worksheet 4 – The Ark of the Testimony
Worksheet 5 – What Is Prayer?

Ask students to turn to Bible Discovery Worksheet #1. They will follow along and fill in the worksheet. The answers are underlined.

The Holy Place

Today we are going to continue with our journey through the tabernacle. We will enter into a part of the tabernacle called the holy place.

In the Old Testament, only the priests could enter into this part of the tabernacle to serve. They would commune with God and perform the daily sacrifices and rituals.

Three items were placed here:

- The golden lampstand
- The table of showbread
- The altar of incense

A. The Golden Lampstand

Firstly, let us turn to Exodus 25:31-32 and 27:20-21.

Materials Used: One piece of solid gold, as opposed to several pieces being joined together. The amount used was one talent (125 pounds) of pure gold.

Shape: It had seven branches, and there were bulbs and flowers design on the branches.

Size: Not specified.

What was the golden lampstand for?

- The lamps were oil lights and were to be burned continually, never to be extinguished.
- Pure olive oil was used to light the lamps (Lev 24:2).
- It was designed to provide light in the holy place so that the priests could walk and minister in the light.
- The priests had to trim the wicks and keep the lamps burning.

What does the golden lampstand mean to me?

- Jesus is the light of the world.
- God wants us also to shine the light for Him.
- We need to let the people around us see our good deeds day and night.

- The pure olive oil represents the Holy Spirit. When we are filled with God's Spirit, we can shine brightly for the Lord.

FOR TEACHERS

Ask students to turn to Bible Discovery Worksheet #2 and follow along to complete the table. The answers are underlined.

B. The Table of Showbread

Let us read Exodus 25:23-26 and Leviticus 24:5-9.

Materials Used: Acacia wood; pure gold overlay

Shape: Four rings at the four corners

Size: 2 cubits (36 inches) long, 1 cubit (18 inches) wide, and 1.5 cubits (27 inches) high

What was the table of showbread for?

- Each Sabbath, twelve fresh cakes were baked and placed on the table before the Lord. This was to be done continually.
- Aaron the high priest and his sons were to eat of this bread in the holy place.

What does the table of showbread mean to me?

- The bread represents the word of God. We should eat of God's words constantly by attending services and reading the Bible daily.
- Each Sabbath, the cakes were to be baked, and Aaron and his descendants were to eat of it. This teaches us that we should receive the word of God, especially on the Sabbath, by coming to church and listening to His words.
- The word of God is pure, refined, and everlasting.

FOR TEACHERS

Ask students to turn to Bible Discovery Worksheet #3 and follow along to complete the table. The answers are underlined.

C. The Altar of Incense

Let us read Exodus 37:25-29.

Materials Used: Acacia wood; pure gold overlay

Shape: There are horns in each of the corners and a border of gold all around. On both sides of the altar were two rings through which poles were put to allow the altar to be carried.

Size: 1 cubit (18 inches) long, 1 cubit wide, and 2 cubits (3 feet) high.

What was the altar of incense for?

Every morning and evening, Aaron the high priest was to burn sweet incense upon the altar. The incense had to be burned from generation to generation without ceasing (Ex 30:7-8).

What does the altar of incense mean to me?

- Burning incense represents our daily prayers. The incense was a symbol of our prayers going up to God. To God, our prayers are like the sweet fragrance of incense (Ps 141:2).
- We need to pray every morning and evening without ceasing (Eph 6:18; 1 Th 5:17).
- The altar was a square with four corners. This reminds us that we should pray for all the people of the world.
- The altar of incense was placed immediately before the ark of the Testimony and the mercy seat where God dwelt (Ex 30:6). This teaches us that prayer bring us closest to God.

The Holy of Holies

After journeying past the holy place, you would notice a veil behind the altar of incense. This veil separated the holy place and what was beyond it: the most hidden, sacred, and intimate part of the entire tabernacle. This was the Holy of Holies. No one but the high priest was allowed to enter into this sacred part of the tabernacle. He would enter once a year on a special day called the Day of Atonement, where he would offer sacrifices for his own sins and the sins of the people. In this innermost room stood only one item—the ark of the Testimony.

FOR TEACHERS

Ask students to turn to Bible Discovery Worksheet #4 and follow along to complete the table. The answers are underlined.

D. The Ark of the Testimony

Read Exodus 25:12-14.

Materials Used: Acacia wood; pure gold overlay

Shape: There were four gold rings, one at each of the ark's

four corners, in which poles were inserted. This allowed the ark to be carried.

Size: 2.5 cubits (45 inches) long, 1.5 cubits (27 inches) wide, and 1.5 cubits (27 inches) high

The Lid of the Ark—the Mercy Seat

Let us read Exodus 25:17-22.

Material Used: Pure gold

Shape: On the lid were two gold cherubim that faced each other with outstretched wings covering the mercy seat.

Size: Two and a half cubits (45 inches) long, and a cubit and a half (27 inches) wide

Inside the Ark

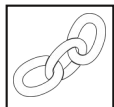
What was inside the ark? The two stone tablets containing the Ten Commandments, which Moses had received from God at Mount Sinai (Ex 20).

What was the ark of the Testimony for?

- God dwelt in the tabernacle on the mercy seat, between the wings of the cherubim.
- The mercy seat was where God spoke with Moses.
- Once a year, the high priest would enter the Holy of Holies and sprinkle the blood of animals on the mercy seat for the sins of the people.

What does the ark of the Testimony mean to me?

- In the Old Testament, ordinary Israelites could not come before the ark. The ark was always hidden behind the veil. Only the high priest could come before the ark once a year. This was because the ark represented the presence of God, and ordinary Jews could not come before God. However, through the sacrifice of the Lord Jesus, our sins have been washed away, which enables us to come before God face-to-face. We no longer need a priest to pray and act on our behalf. Each of us can spend time alone with God to worship and have spiritual fellowship with Him.
- The ark contained the stone tablets upon which were the Ten Commandments. These represent the laws of God that we should have written on our hearts.

**Linking to the Ten Basic Beliefs**

2-5 Minutes

The Holy Bible

God commanded that twelve fresh cakes be baked and placed on the table each Sabbath. The fresh cakes represent the heavenly bread, the word of God. We need to eat of God's words daily. Eating of God's word means to read the holy Bible each day so that we can be nourished and strengthened spiritually.

The Holy Spirit

From evening until morning, the priests were to light the lamps with pure olive oil. The oil represents the precious Holy Spirit. We need to pray for the fullness of the Holy Spirit to overcome weaknesses and to shine brightly in this dark world.



Check for Understanding

5 Minutes

- 1. Name the items found in the holy place.** The golden lampstand, the table of showbread, and the altar of incense.
- 2. What single item is found in the Holy of Holies?** The ark of the Testimony.
- 3. What does the ark of the Testimony contain?** The Ten Commandments on stone tablets, the golden pot of manna, and Aaron's budding rod.
- 4. When were the twelve fresh cakes to be displayed on the table and what did it mean?** The cakes were to be on the table every Sabbath. They represent the word of God that we are to receive, particularly on the Sabbath.
- 5. When did the priest have to burn the incense on the altar? What teaching does this have for us?** The priest had to burn incense every morning and evening. This teaches us that we have to pray each morning and evening.
- 6. Which piece of furniture was closest to the ark of the Testimony? What teaching does this have for us?** The altar of incense was immediately before the ark. This teaches us that prayer brings us closest to God.
- 7. What was used to light the lampstand? What does that represent today?** Pure olive oil was used to light the lampstand, and it represents the Holy Spirit.
- 8. What duty did the high priest perform in the Holy of Holies once a year?** Each year, the high priest would enter the Holy of Holies and sprinkle the blood of animals on the mercy seat for the sins of the people.



Life Application

10 Minutes

What Is Prayer?

In the holy place, the altar of incense was an important piece of furniture. Not only was it the tallest piece of furniture, but it also occupied a central position between the table of showbread and the golden lampstand. It also stood directly in front of the veil and the mercy seat where God abided in the Holy of Holies. This tells us that the noblest and most important work of a believer is to pray. Prayer is the sweetest thing that we can offer to God. God is pleased with our worship, praises, and thanksgiving, as they bring us closest to Him. Through the sacrifice of our Lord Jesus, we are no longer hidden from the mercy seat where God is; instead, we can come directly before God and experience His abidance and presence.

Read Hebrews 4:16. "Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need." This verse reminds us that we can boldly and courageously come before God in any situation, as He will supply us with mercy and grace. He will fill the needs of our heart, and we will experience righteousness, peace, and joy in the Holy Spirit.

- It is a time to connect with God, and to praise and thank Him.
- It is a time where we can come before God and open our hearts to Him.
- It is a time when we can make our requests known to God.
- It is a time to tell God about the needs of our family, church brethren, and friends.

[Hand out the Life Application Worksheet to the students, and ask them to fill in the blanks as you go over the worksheet with them. The answers are provided below.]

<u>Type of Prayer</u>	<u>Reference Verse</u>	<u>Answers</u>
Praise God for His Works	Dan 2:20-23	blessed, praised, thanked, wisdom, might
A Repentant Prayer	Neh 1:4-9	day, night, commandments
Individual Prayer Request	1 Sam 1:10-11, 20	male child, Samuel
Prayer to receive the Holy Spirit	Acts 2:1, 4; 1:8	one accord, pray, Holy Spirit, pray, tongues, power, witnesses
Intercession – Prayer for the Preaching of the Gospel	2 Th 1:1; 3:1	word, Lord, swiftly, glorified
Intercession – Prayer for Others	Acts 12:5, 11	prison, prayed
Remind God of His Promises	2 Chr 20:5-9	power, might, land, hear, save, cried



Activity

Prayers Rising like Incense

10-15 Minutes

Objective: To remind students that our prayers are like incense.

“Let my prayer be set before You as incense, the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice” (Ps 141:2).

Materials

- Construction paper
- Colored markers and pencils
- Tape, scissors, glue

Instructions

1. Before class, create an altar of incense using yellow construction paper.
2. Have each student draw and cut out smoke-like templates on construction paper of their choice.
3. On the templates, have the students write a prayer or two, time permitting. Select from the following types: prayer of praise and thanksgiving, repentant prayer, prayer for the Holy Spirit, individual prayer request, intercessory prayer for the church or others, or prayer reminding God of His promises. Students may wish to draft their prayers on scratch paper first before copying them onto the templates.
4. Display the altar on a wall and arrange the prayers so that they rise up towards heaven.

HOMEWORK ANSWER KEY

1. Answers may vary.
2. We can come to church and take notes while listening to the sermons. We can also attend RE class and remember the memory verse for that lesson. At home, we can read the Bible before and after we go to church to prepare our hearts.
3. We can show love to those who are around us, either by helping them out physically or praying for them spiritually. It is our goal to let others see our good deeds so that we can glorify the name of God.
4. Answers may vary.

THE GOLDEN LAMPSTAND

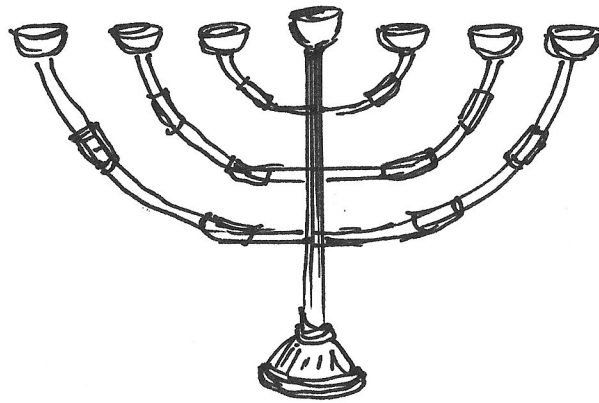
Simple Facts

(fill in the information)

Material Used:

Shape:

Size:



What was the golden lampstand for?

1. The lamps were oil lights and were to be _____ continually.
2. Pure _____ oil was used to light the lamps (Lev 24:2).
3. It was designed to provide _____ in the holy place so that the priests could walk and minister in the light.
4. The priests had to _____ the _____ and keep the lamps burning.

What does the golden lampstand mean to me?

1. Jesus is the _____ of the _____.
2. God wants us also to _____ the light for Him.
3. We need to let the people around us see our _____ _____ day and night.
4. The pure olive oil represents the _____. When we are filled with God's Spirit, we can shine brightly for the Lord.

THE TABLE OF SHOWBREAD

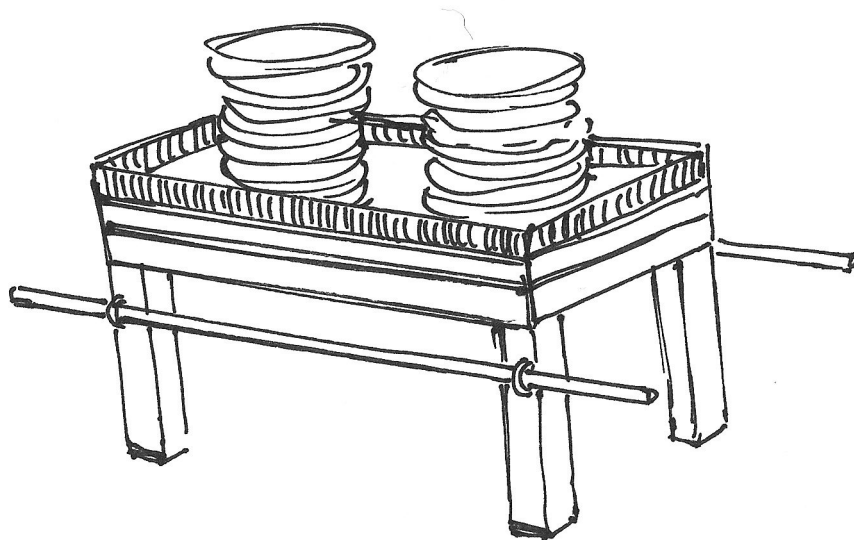
Simple Facts

(fill in the information)

Material Used:

Shape:

Size:



What was the table of showbread for?

1. Each _____, _____ fresh cakes were baked and placed on the table before the Lord. This was to be done continually.
2. Aaron the _____ and his sons were to _____ of this bread in the holy place.

What does the table of showbread mean to me?

1. The bread represents the _____ of _____. We should eat of God's words constantly by _____ and _____ the _____ daily.
2. We should receive the word of God, especially on the _____, by coming to church and listening to His words.
3. The word of God is pure, refined, and _____.

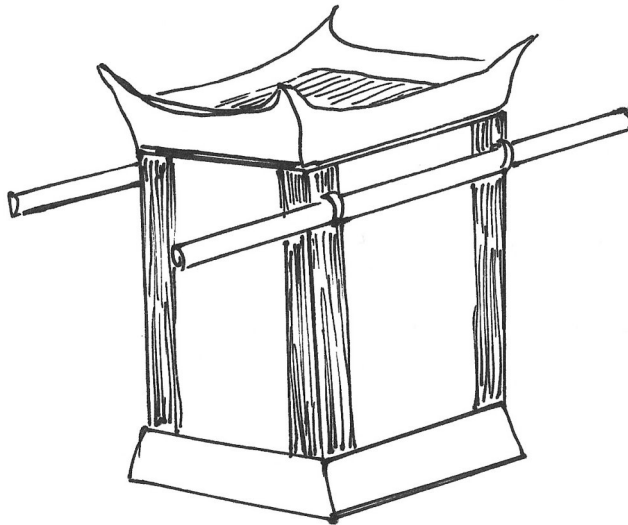
THE ALTAR OF INCENSE

Simple Facts (fill in the information)

Material Used:

Shape:

Size:



What was the altar of incense for?

Every _____ and _____, Aaron the high priest was to burn sweet _____ upon the _____. The incense had to be burned from generation to generation without ceasing (Ex 30:7-8).

What does the altar of incense mean to me?

1. Burning incense represents our _____. To God, our prayers are like the sweet fragrance of incense (Ps 141:2).
2. We need to pray every _____ and _____ without _____ (Eph 6:18; 1 Th 5:17).
3. The altar was a _____ with four corners. This reminds us that we should pray for all the _____ of the _____.
4. The altar of incense was placed immediately before the _____ of the _____ and the mercy seat where _____ dwelt (Ex 30:6). This teaches us that _____ brings us _____ to God.

THE ARK OF THE TESTIMONY

Simple Facts

(fill in the information)

The Ark

Material Used:

Shape:

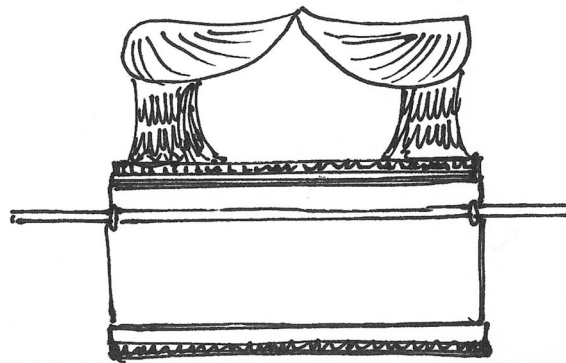
Size:

The Lid of the Ark—the Mercy Seat

Material Used:

Shape:

Size:



What was the ark of the Testimony for?

1. The Israelites believed that God _____ among them in the tabernacle on the _____, between the _____ of the _____.
2. The mercy seat was where God spoke with Moses.
3. Once a year, the _____ would enter the Holy of Holies and sprinkle the _____ of _____ on the mercy seat for the _____ of the people.

What does the ark of the Testimony mean to me?

Today, we no longer need a _____ to go into God's presence and ask for God's forgiveness for _____ on our behalf. Through the sacrifice of the _____, our sins have been washed away, and we can now come before God _____-to-_____. We can spend time alone with God to worship and tell Him all our needs.

The ark contained the _____ containing the Ten Commandments. These represent the _____ of _____ that we should have written on our _____.

What Is Prayer?

- It is a time to connect with God, and to praise and thank Him.
- It is a time where we can come before God and open our hearts to Him.
- It is a time when we can make our requests known to God.
- It is a time to tell God about the needs of our family, church brethren, and friends.

Type of Prayer	My Prayer
<p>Praise God for His Works</p> <p>Read Dan 2:20-23.</p> <p>God had shown Daniel the meaning of King Nebuchadnezzar's dream. Daniel _____, _____ and _____ God for His _____ and _____.</p>	<p>Thank and praise God for the goodness and blessings He has given you in the past and present.</p>
<p>A Repentant Prayer</p> <p>Read Neh 1:4-9.</p> <p>Nehemiah prayed _____ and _____ for the sins of Israel. He understood that God had punished them by allowing the enemies to capture them to a foreign land because they had not kept His _____.</p>	<p>Tell God about the weaknesses you have been struggling with lately. Ask God for forgiveness and help to overcome them.</p>
<p>Individual Prayer Request</p> <p>Read 1 Sam 1:10-11, 20.</p> <p>Hannah came before the Lord and prayed with all her heart to have a _____.</p> <p>God answered her prayer and granted her the boy _____.</p>	<p>Open up your heart and let your requests be made known to God.</p>

<p>Prayer to Receive the Holy Spirit</p> <p>Read Acts 2:1, 4; 1:8.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The disciples had gathered with _____ in one place to _____. • God heard their prayers and poured down the _____ and they began to _____ in _____. • The disciples received _____ from on high and became _____ for the Lord. 	<p>God has promised His Spirit to us. Tell God your desire and hope to receive the Holy Spirit.</p>
<p>Intercession – Prayer for Preaching of the Gospel</p> <p>Read 2 Th 1:1; 3:1.</p> <p>Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy asked for the church in Thessalonica to pray that the _____ of the _____ may be preached _____ and be _____.</p>	<p>Pray for the spreading of the gospel and the ministers who labor for the gospel.</p>
<p>Intercession – Prayer for Others</p> <p>Read Acts 12:5, 11.</p> <p>Peter was put in _____ for preaching the word of God. The church _____ for Peter constantly and he was eventually freed from prison.</p>	<p>Is there a family member, friend, or church brother/sister who needs your prayer at this time? Tell God.</p>
<p>Remind God of His Promises</p> <p>Read 2 Chr 20:5-9.</p> <p>In his prayer, King Jehoshaphat reminded God of the promises that He had spoken.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> He reminded God of His _____ and _____ to save. He reminded God that He had given the _____ of Canaan to them. He also reminded God that He would _____ and _____ His people if they _____ out to Him. <p>As a result, God delivered the people from the enemies.</p>	<p>Take God at His promise. Write down a promise that God made for you.</p>

E2 Year 1 Book 4 Lesson 4—The Tabernacle (Part 2)

Homework Assignment

Name: _____ Parent signature: _____ Date: _____

Bible Reading: Please put a check mark in the space when you complete the reading each day.

Prayer: Please put a check mark in the space on the days you prayed to God.

	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Read							
Pray							

What I Learned from the Bible This Week

1. _____

2. _____

Memory Verse

Please write down this week's memory verse. **(Hebrews 4:16)**

Short Answer

1. The stone tablets, the golden pot of manna, and Aaron's budding rod were reminders to the Israelites that God was their God and that He abided with them. What things/events in your life remind you that God is your God and that He abides with you?

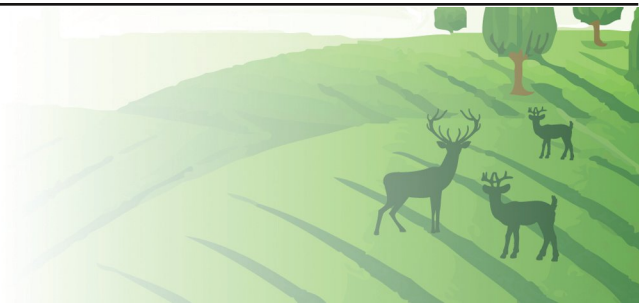
2. The table of showbread teaches us that we should eat of God's word every day, especially on the Sabbath. How can you receive God's word on the Sabbath?

3. In what ways can you enable your lamp to shine brightly?

4. How will you shine the light of God?

LESSON 5

FEASTS (PART 1)



OBJECTIVES

1. To understand the meaning behind the Passover feast and the Feast of Unleavened Bread.
2. To understand the link between the festivals and our practices, namely Holy Communion and Spiritual Convocation, today.

MEMORY VERSE

“In the same manner He also took the cup after supper, saying, ‘This cup is the new covenant in My blood. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.’”

(1 Corinthians 11:25)

PRAYER

1. Thank God for letting us attend the class to learn more about His saving grace.
2. Ask God to transform our lives through His Spirit so that we will listen to and obey His teachings.
3. Ask God to let us understand the meaning of the festivals so that we can also have a solemn and sincere heart to honor Him.



Overview

1. Passover and the Feast of Unleavened Bread

- a. Historical background and the first Passover
- b. Spiritual meaning behind the Passover regulations
- c. The Feast of Unleavened Bread

2. Linking to the Ten Basic Beliefs—The Sacrament of Holy Communion

3. Life Application

- a. A Gift Without Blemish
- b. Keeping Ourselves Free of Leaven

4. Activity—Offering Our Best to God



Background Knowledge for Teachers

When the Israelites were in Egypt, they were slaves and had no freedom to worship God or to take time off to celebrate and enjoy each other’s company. So, when God led the Israelites out of Egypt, He established several festivals to remind them of their salvation and to give them an opportunity to celebrate their new wonderful life that He had given them.

The festivals are not only an event from long ago, but also an excellent opportunity for us to learn about God’s salvation. Learning more about them will help to compel us to keep God’s sacraments today with a solemn and sincere heart.



Reaching Out to Your Students

A class on festivals may, for a moment, seem like a monotonous history class about ceremonies that were held long ago. However, sharing with the students the interesting and intricate details of each festival, and the meaning behind each one, can encourage the students to see how our good behavior is a direct reply to God's providence and salvation.



Opener

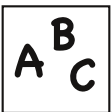
5 Minutes

Let's imagine that you have read that there will be a festival in your local neighborhood. What is the first thing you picture in your mind? What do you think you'd see? Why are there festivals? [Teachers: If possible, prepare photos of common scenes from modern festivals.]

Did you know that the word "festival" is a Latin word that means "holy"? Now that you know the origin of this word, how do you think this word was created? [Teachers: If possible, prepare illustrations of what the festivals in the Bible may have looked like.]

Well, today we're going to go back to the root of it all, when God first established festivals for the Israelites.

There are seven festivals mentioned in both Deuteronomy 16 and Leviticus 23; today, we'll be learning about Passover and the Feast of Unleavened Bread. Most importantly, we'll be talking about how each of these festivals is very important to us today as God's children and as Christians in this world.



Vocabulary

festival: a day or time of religious or other celebration, marked by feasting, ceremonies, or other observances

unleavened: containing no leaven or leavening agent

leaven: an agent, such as yeast, that causes batter or dough to rise, especially by fermentation

firstborn: the first male child of the family

plague: a widespread affliction or calamity, especially one seen as divine retribution



Bible Discovery & Spiritual Teaching

30-35 Minutes

FOR TEACHERS

Hand out the Bible Discovery Worksheet to the students now. They will be referring to it at certain points throughout this section. Keep a copy of the Teacher Version for reference.

In this lesson and the next lesson, we will be learning about the festivals God established for the Israelites to celebrate, enjoy, and praise Him with. During these festivals, they remembered all the wonderful things He had blessed them with.

Historical Background

After Joseph became the prime minister of Egypt, his father Jacob brought the whole family down to Egypt to survive the famine. The Israelites lived in Egypt for about 400 years. Many years later, the new Pharaoh knew nothing of Joseph's deeds, but instead feared the Israelites because of their great numbers. So, he enslaved them and forced them to labor under the harsh rule of the Egyptians.

Under the harsh rule of the Egyptians, the Israelites cried out to God, begging Him to free them from slavery. In reply, the Lord sent Moses to bring them out of Egypt. However, Pharaoh refused to let the Israelites go, so God showed His great power to both the Egyptians and Israelites by sending ten plagues. The last plague, which resulted in the freedom of the Israelites, was the worst plague—death of the firstborn.

The First Passover

It was at this time that Passover was established. Before God sent down the tenth plague, He instructed the Israelites to hold Passover for the first time. As long as they followed God's instructions, He would "pass over" their house and spare their lives, which is why the feast was called Passover.

God commanded the Israelites to keep Passover every year in order to remember the time the Lord rescued them from slavery. This meant that every year, the Israelites would take a lamb without blemish and sacrifice it in order to remember God's deliverance, and also to remember that long ago they were slaves. In the New Testament, though, a new type of Passover was established—Holy Communion. Jesus Christ established this sacrament, because there was a new lamb that was sacrificed. That Lamb was Jesus Himself (Jn 1:29). Let's examine the similarities between Passover in the Old Testament and Holy Communion in the New Testament.

Let's read Exodus 12:5-8, 24-27, 43-48. What we just read were very specific instructions on how the Israelites

were to hold Passover. Some of these seem very strange, but they were actually all characteristics of Jesus Christ, the new Lamb who came down to earth and was sacrificed for our sakes. Let's go through the instructions and compare them to Jesus' life on earth.

Instructions and Spiritual Significance

1. They must prepare a Passover lamb that is without blemish. (Ex 12:5)

One of the first instructions for Passover was that they were to prepare a lamb "without blemish." This meant that the lamb had to be perfect. The lamb could not be crippled, spotted, or with any sort of injury. Jesus was able to become the new sacrificial lamb because He was sinless, and, therefore, perfect. Only a sacrifice without blemish could save the Israelites from death during the tenth plague, and only a sinless sacrifice could save us from our sins today.

There is an additional meaning to this requirement, though! Although we don't offer animal sacrifices to God, we do often sacrifice things, such as our time or our effort, to God. Offering a sacrifice without blemish means that, when we give something to the Lord, we must offer the best that we have in order to please Him, and that we must also offer with a willing heart. In fact, it is very reasonable that we must offer our best, because God has also given His best to us: His very own son, Jesus Christ.

[Ask students to refer to Part 1 of the Bible Discovery worksheet.]

2. The lamb must be roasted, and none of its bones shall be broken. (Ex 12:8, 46)

Once they picked out a lamb without blemish, the Israelites then received very specific instructions regarding how to cook it. God told them that they must roast the lamb in a fire. What possible significance could this have? Let's turn to 1 Peter 4:12-13. Peter tells us that the sufferings Jesus went through were fiery trials. Sound familiar? There's one more thing, though. God also told the Israelites that none of the lamb's bones could be broken. Next, let's read John 19:36.

Did you know that the Romans normally broke the legs of those they crucified? This was in order to make sure that they were dead. However, Jesus escaped this fate, and none of His bones were broken, just like the Passover

lamb. The preparation of the Passover lamb in the Old Testament was truly a shadow of the suffering and death of Jesus Christ, the New Testament Lamb.

[Ask students to refer to Part 2 of the Bible Discovery worksheet.]

3. Passover was kept every year to remember God's salvation. (Ex 12:24-27)

Why do you think the Israelites had to hold Passover every year? [Allow students to suggest reasons.] As humans, we are very forgetful. Can you clearly remember what happened at this time last year? It's for this reason that God commanded the Israelites to hold Passover every year. He wanted them to remember that they were once slaves in Egypt, and that once, God saved them and protected them from the people who enslaved them. Passover served as a reminder that they must be thankful to God every day for their new lives.

We also need to be thankful for the grace that God has given us; He gave us His only Son in order to save us from being enslaved under sin. However, just like the Israelites, we tend to be forgetful, so we hold Holy Communion in order to remind ourselves of Jesus' sacrifice. We should never forget to stop and appreciate the wonderful grace that God has given us.

4. Only those who had been circumcised could partake of the Passover lamb. (Ex 12:48)

Circumcision was first established during Abraham's time, and, from that point on, all of his children continued in this tradition, in order to mark them as God's people. This meant that only God's people were permitted to partake in Passover. If any strangers were present, they had to be circumcised if they wanted to join the Israelites.

When God sent down the tenth plague and established Passover, not only did He save the Israelites, He also opened a way for Gentiles to be saved in the future, today. Jesus shed His blood and gave up His life for us so that we could also become His chosen people, even though we're

not Abraham's descendants. This means that once we're baptized, we can participate in Holy Communion and be a part of God's people.

[Ask students to refer to Part 3 of the Bible Discovery worksheet.]

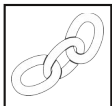
The Feast of Unleavened Bread

When the Israelites arrived at Mount Sinai, God gave them what we call the Mosaic Laws. Among them were three annual feasts that the Israelites were to hold every year. One of these was called the Feast of Unleavened Bread.

After the day of the Passover feast, the Israelites were to spend seven days avoiding eating anything made with leaven. On the first day, they were to remove leaven from their houses, and they were not to eat leaven from the first day to the seventh day. Leaven is normally called "yeast" today. Yeast is something that is normally used in making bread dough. Once you mix it in, you knead the dough, and the leaven spreads throughout the whole piece, allowing it to rise when it is baked. Do you know what this represents? Let's read 1 Corinthians 5:6-8. Paul writes here that we should avoid the leaven of malice and wickedness, and instead remove any leaven from our hearts and be like unleavened bread, full of sincerity and truth.

In the same way leaven spreads throughout an entire piece of dough, only a tiny bit of leaven in our hearts can spread very easily. God told the Israelites that they were to remove any leaven from their houses during the Feast of Unleavened Bread, and Paul writes that we must remove any leaven from our hearts. If our hearts represent the homes of the Israelites, this means that no matter where we are—at home, at church, at school, or at our friend's house—we must always keep ourselves like unleavened bread and remain sincere and truthful. So, although we don't hold the Feast of Unleavened Bread in the same way the Israelites did, we need to remember the purpose of the feast, and do our best to abide by it in our daily lives.

[Ask students to refer to Part 4 of the Bible Discovery worksheet.]



Linking to the Ten Basic Beliefs

2-5 Minutes

Holy Communion

Whenever we partake of Holy Communion, we must be reminded of the Passover Lamb, which is our Lord Jesus, who suffered a great deal for our sins. The precious blood that He shed on the cross washed our sins away. And only those whose sins have been washed away can have their life preserved on the great judgment day. Similarly, when God set out to kill all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, He only "passed over" the houses with the blood of the lamb on their door. In other words, the blood of the lamb saved the lives of the firstborn on Passover, much like the blood of the Lord Jesus (the Lamb of God) saved our lives.



Check for Understanding

5 Minutes

1. **The names of the feasts we learned about today are:** Passover and the Feast of Unleavened Bread.
2. **Why is it called "Passover"?** God would "pass over" the houses of the Israelites who partook of the lamb, sparing their firstborn during the tenth plague in Egypt.
3. **Who became the new Passover Lamb in the New Testament? What is the "Passover" that we hold today?** Jesus Christ became the new Passover Lamb. Holy Communion is our new Passover.
4. **What are the four instructions God gave for the Passover feast? How are these fulfilled in the New Testament?**
 - The lamb must be without blemish.
 - It must be roasted, and none of its bones must be broken.
 - Passover must be held every year.
 - Only the circumcised—God's chosen people—may partake of the lamb.

Jesus was sinless and went through a trial of fire. None of His bones were broken, and His blood allowed us to become God's chosen people. Only when we are baptized can we participate in Holy Communion.
5. **For how many days was the Feast of Unleavened Bread to be held?** Seven days.
6. **What is leaven, and what does it represent? Explain.** It is something that makes bread rise. It represents malice and wickedness, because even if you have only a tiny bit in the dough, it spreads throughout the entire piece of dough.
7. **The Israelites had to clean their entire houses of leaven during this feast. What does this represent for us today?** We must clean our hearts of any tiny bit of malice or wickedness, and instead dwell in sincerity and truth.



Life Application

10 Minutes

1. A Gift Without Blemish

[Hand out Life Application Worksheet #1 and read the story to or with the students. Then, go over the discussion questions with the students as a class. Suggested answers have been provided.]

Discussion Questions

1. How did the UK brothers move brother James? *They took good care of him during his stay.*
2. Why did brother James decide to make an offering to God? *Because he felt love from the church.*
3. What is the difference between buying the coat first and then offering the rest, and offering first and then buying the coat? *When God looks at a person's offering, the most important is not the amount but the person's heart. What God treasures most is our willingness to offer to and put Him first in our lives. If brother James were to offer the leftover amount, even though James still took the effort to offer, the heart behind the offering would have been less appealing to God. So, brother James did the right thing in offering first.*

God gave us the best that He had: He gave us His one and only Son Lord Jesus to die on the cross for our sins. So, when we think of giving something to God, we cannot but give only the best that we have in return, the same way the Passover lamb had to be without blemish.

2. Keep Ourselves Free of Leaven

[Hand out Life Application Worksheet #2 and ask the students to read the scenarios, and then answer the questions in the right column. After the students have finished the worksheet, ask them to share their answers with the class. Suggested answers have been provided.]

1. Instead of lying, what should you say?

I am sorry. I broke your cup. I know that you like it a lot, and I am very sorry that I broke it. I will save up my allowance money and buy you a new one when I can.

How does it relate to what we have learned today about the Passover feast?

Remember how God commanded the Israelites to remove any leaven from their homes and their food for seven full days? This was a reminder that we must remove all wickedness from our lives, including lies. Knowing how God feels about lying, we should do our best to get rid of all lies from our daily life in order to please Him.

2. After learning about Passover, how can you bring yourself to forgive your brother?

The Passover reminds us of the sacrifice of the Lamb of God; Lord Jesus suffered and died for us because He loves us. Now He requests that we love others as He has loved us, and forgive others as He has forgiven our sins. If we realize how much the Lord Jesus has forgiven us, then it is very simple to forgive others for their mistakes.

3. What should you do? What should you pray for during Holy Communion?

We should try to settle our arguments before partaking of Holy Communion, or else our hearts will be unsettled when we should be focusing on Jesus and His sacrifice for us. During the sacrament, if we are still angry with others, we should pray for strength from God to help us remain peaceful with our family and friends, and to prevent our hearts from being clouded by the hate or malice that results from such arguments.



Activity

Offering Our Best to God

10-15 Minutes

Objective: To remind students that we must always offer our best to God.

Our dear Lord Jesus loved us very much because He suffered so much during His life on earth, and then made the ultimate sacrifice by giving up His very life for our sakes. Today, if we truly love the Lord Jesus, we would be willing to offer our best to Him as well.

Materials

- A piece of blank paper for each student, white or light-colored
- Colored pencils or markers

Instructions

1. Ask the student to draw their most valued possession.
2. When they are finished, have each student explain what they drew to the class.
3. When all the students are done sharing, ask them, "Would you be willing to offer this to the Lord if He asked for it?"
4. Explain to the students that, in order to show that we love Jesus, we need to give Him something in return for His love. So what does God want from us? What can we offer to God?

Answers may vary. For example, we can offer our time and our dedication to serve and worship Him. To do this, we should take away some of our precious computer playing time and use it to study the Bible and to spiritually cultivate our selves to draw closer to Him.

HOMEWORK ANSWER KEY

1. Our Spiritual Convocation is similar to the feasts in the Old Testament in the following ways:

- It is a spiritual feast that we hold regularly every year.
- The members are strengthened through the renewal of the Holy Spirit.
- It is a time for us to proclaim the word of God to our neighbors and also our children.
- We partake of Holy Communion in remembrance of the death of Lord Jesus.
- We have a special thanksgiving offering at the end of the service that reflects our hearts of thanksgiving.

2. B
3. A
4. C
5. C
6. B
7. A

Passover

Encourage the students to discuss the answers and offer their own suggestions. The answers provided are merely guidelines if they get stuck. Bible references may be turned to at your own discretion, depending on time allotment.

Part 1

1. Since the Passover lamb had to be without blemish, that meant that Jesus Christ, the New Testament Passover Lamb, also had to be without blemish. In what ways was the Lord Jesus without blemish?

Lord Jesus was born a human just like you and I, but the one thing that was very special about Him was that He was blameless in all His ways and without sin. [When Lord Jesus was tried in the court, Pilate the governor could not find any basis for a charge against Him (Lk 23:4). In fact, after getting to know Jesus, Pilate said that Jesus was a righteous Man and that he was unwilling to condemn Him (Mt 27:24). Also, in the Book of Hebrews, the author said that Jesus was in all points tempted as we are, yet remained without sin (Heb 4:15).]

2. We have learned that in order to please God, we must offer the best that we have. What does this mean? What are some of the things that you can offer to God today?

We can offer tithe from our allowance money to the Lord. Offering the best also means putting God first. Rather than spending the allowance first and offering only the leftovers, we should offer to God first before we use the money. That way, we are offering the best.

Part 2

1. Jesus Christ suffered a great deal for us while He was in the world, experiencing a "fiery trial." Can you provide a few examples of the sufferings He endured?

- Lord Jesus was despised by the people of His hometown (Lk 4:14-30).
- Lord Jesus lived a very tough life. He once said, "Foxes have holes and birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay His head." (Lk 9:58)
- Lord Jesus was whipped, mocked, and nailed to the cross.

2. Peter tells us that we need to share in the suffering of Christ in order to share in His glory to come. In what ways do we share in His suffering?

- When we refuse to do evil like worldly people, they often ridicule us (1 Pet 4:4).
- When we set our minds to defeat our sinful nature such as greed, pride, or laziness, we often struggle with ourselves.

Part 3

1. The Jewish people continue to hold Passover every year, even today, to remember God's grace when He delivered them and brought them out of Egypt. Instead of Passover, we keep the Holy Communion on a regular basis. Why?

We keep Holy Communion regularly in order to remember the death of our Lord Jesus and the salvation that He offered through His suffering. Every time during Holy Communion, the pastor reminds us of the sacrifice that Jesus made in order to deliver us from the slavery of sin.

2. God commanded that only the circumcised were permitted to eat the Passover lamb. What are the restrictions we have for Holy Communion today, and why?

Only those who have been baptized into True Jesus Church may partake in Holy Communion, because without baptism, we are not one of God's chosen people and are still under the slavery of sin.

Part 4

1. Which characteristics do leaven and wickedness share?

Leaven spreads quickly and affects the whole lump, much like how wickedness also spreads quickly in a person's heart, even if there is only a tiny bit.

2. Not only were the Israelites to avoid eating anything with leaven, but they were also commanded to clean their houses of any leaven during the feast. What does this represent in regards to how we should live our lives?

This represents living a life of sincerity and truth in our hearts. This means abiding by God's commands not just in church, but also outside of church, such as at home, at school, or at our friend's house.

PASSOVER**Part 1**

1. Since the Passover lamb had to be without blemish, that meant that Jesus Christ, the New Testament Passover Lamb, also had to be without blemish. In what ways was the Lord Jesus without blemish?

2. We have learned that in order to please God, we must offer the best that we have. What does this mean? What are some of the things that you can offer to God today?

Part 2

1. Jesus Christ suffered a great deal for us while He was in the world, experiencing a "fiery trial." Can you provide a few examples of the sufferings He endured?

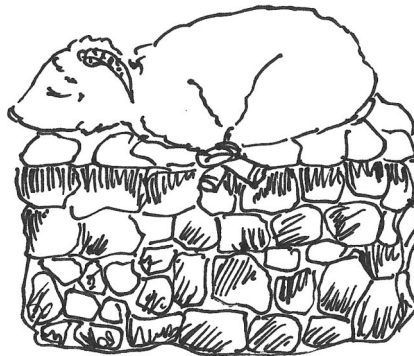
2. Peter tells us that we need to share in the suffering of Christ in order to share in His glory to come. In what ways do we share in His suffering?



Part 3

1. The Jewish people continue to hold Passover every year, even today, to remember God's grace when He delivered them and brought them out of Egypt. Instead of Passover, we keep the Holy Communion on a regular basis. Why?

2. God commanded that only the circumcised were permitted to eat the Passover lamb. What are the restrictions we have for Holy Communion today, and why?

**Part 4**

1. Which characteristics do leaven and wickedness share?

2. Not only were the Israelites to avoid eating anything with leaven, but they were also commanded to clean their houses of any leaven during the feast. What does this represent in regards to how we should live our lives?

A Gift Without Blemish

Brother James got the opportunity to visit the church in UK for the first time. He was very excited to meet so many new brothers and sisters. When he arrived, the UK church members were very kind to him, bringing him around to sightsee and allowing him to live in the church for the duration of his stay.

James had always wanted a long wool coat, and he had heard from his friends that the UK sold coats that were very high quality, so, when he went, he prepared some money especially to buy such a coat. But after being so well received by the UK church, he was so moved that he wanted to offer some of the money that he had brought with him. At first, he was afraid that after offering, he would not have enough money to purchase the coat that he wanted, so he thought to himself, "Why don't I buy the coat first and offer the remaining money?" However, James thought about the teachings he had learned in RE class and about how the correct way to make an offering was always to put God first. So, he offered half of the money that he had brought.

Later, James went out to look for the coat that he wanted, but with only half of the money he had prepared. However, he believed that God would find a coat that was suitable for him, even though he didn't have much money left. Soon enough, he found a coat that he liked very much, but when he saw the price tag, it was a little bit over the amount of money that he had. However, sure that this was the coat for him, James examined it carefully, and found a button that was a little bit loose. When he brought it to the cashier, they agreed to give him a discount, since it was not in perfect condition! In the end, had James offered to the church after buying the coat, he would have bought the coat at a higher price.

From this experience, James learned that as long as he put God first, God would reward him for his efforts and take care of him.

Discussion Questions



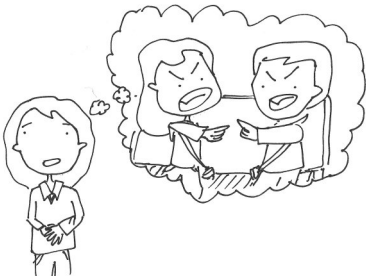
1. How did the UK brothers move brother James?
2. Why did brother James decide to make an offering to God?
3. What is the difference between buying the coat first and then offering the rest, and offering first and then buying the coat?



God gave us the best that He had: He gave us His one and only Son Lord Jesus to die on the cross for our sins. So, when we think of giving something to God, we cannot but give only the best that we have in return, the same way the Passover lamb had to be without blemish.

Keep Ourselves Free of Leaven

Read each scenario in the left column and answer the questions in the right column.

Scenario	How should you act?
<p>You take a cup down from the cabinet so that you can drink some chocolate milk, but because you aren't paying attention, you accidentally knock your sister's favorite cup over and break it. You quickly clean up the mess so that no one gets hurt. When your sister gets home, though, you hear her calling you and asking if you have seen her cup. You feel a little scared, because you know your sister has a bit of a temper, and she really values the cup.</p> 	<p>Instead of lying, what should you say?</p> <p>How does it relate to what we have learned today about the Passover feast?</p>
<p>After a long and tiring day at school, you return home happily, thinking that you can finally drink some refreshing tea from your favorite cup. But you find it broken on the kitchen table, and when you ask your brother, he meekly admits to breaking it accidentally. He apologizes profusely, even offering to use some of his own small allowance to pay for a new one. However, you know that the cup is irreplaceable and cannot be bought anywhere.</p> 	<p>After learning about Passover, how can you bring yourself to forgive your brother?</p>
<p>On the way to Spiritual Convocation, you have a huge fight with your little brother in the car. Before Holy Communion, your teacher reminds you that you must examine yourself before partaking of the bread and cup. Immediately, you think of the argument that you are having with your brother.</p> 	<p>What should you do? What should you pray for during Holy Communion?</p>

E2 Year 1 Book 4 Lesson 5—Feasts (Part 1)

Homework Assignment

Name: _____ Parent signature: _____ Date: _____

Bible Reading: Please put a check mark in the space when you complete the reading each day.

Prayer: Please put a check mark in the space on the days you prayed to God.

What I Learned from the Bible This Week

1. _____

2. _____

	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Read							
Pray							

Memory Verse

Please write down this week's memory verse. (1 Corinthians 11:25)

Short Answer

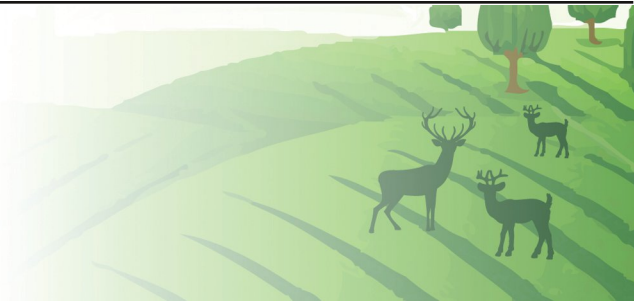
1. In what ways is our Spiritual Convocation similar to the feasts the Israelites had?

Multiple Choice

2. _____ : How often shall the Israelites keep Passover?
 - a. Once a month
 - b. Once a year
 - c. Once in a lifetime
3. _____ : What is the correct way to cook the Passover lamb?
 - a. Roast in fire
 - b. Boil in water
 - c. Microwave
4. _____ : Who are not allowed to eat of the Passover lamb?
 - a. Those who are crippled
 - b. Those who are blind
 - c. Those who are not circumcised
5. _____ : What is the reason that we keep Holy Communion today?
 - a. To appreciate Lord Jesus' resurrection
 - b. To celebrate the Lord's birth
 - c. To remember the Lord's death
6. _____ : What does leaven represent in our life today?
 - a. Bread
 - b. Sin
 - c. Dough
7. _____ : Which portion of our allowance should we use to offer as tithe to the Lord?
 - a. The first 10 percent
 - b. The middle 10 percent
 - c. The last 10 percent

LESSON 6

FEASTS (PART 2)



OBJECTIVES

1. To learn about the feast of firstfruits, the feast of weeks, and the Feast of Tabernacles.
2. To learn to appreciate both spiritual and physical blessings in life, and to remember God's providence.

MEMORY VERSE

"He has made the earth by His power, He has established the world by His wisdom, and has stretched out the heavens at His discretion."

(Jeremiah 10:12)

PRAYER

1. Thank You, Lord, for choosing us to be Your holy people! We are blessed because of the mercy and grace that You show us every single day of our lives.
2. We ask that You guide us through today's class so that we can continue to learn about the feasts and the spiritual teachings behind them.
3. Please strengthen us so that we can act according to Your will, and give us wisdom so that we can choose to follow You wherever we may be.



Overview

1. The Feasts of the Old Testament

- a. A summary of the feasts
 - i. Feast of Firstfruits
 - ii. Feast of Weeks
 - iii. Feast of Trumpets
 - iv. Day of Atonement
 - v. Feast of Tabernacles
- b. In-depth look into the feasts
 - i. Feast of Firstfruits
 - ii. Feast of Trumpets
 - iii. Feast of Tabernacles

2. Linking to the Ten Basic Beliefs—Holy Spirit

3. Life Application

- a. A Life of Thanksgiving
- b. A Positive Ending to Every Story

4. Activity—Thankful Diary



Background Knowledge for Teachers

God instructed the Israelites to gather for Passover every year on the fourteenth day of the month of Nisan. From here on, the Israelites would gather two more times in the year, during which they would celebrate the following feasts, even to this day.

First gathering (1st month of the sacred calendar, or Nisan)

1. Passover

As discussed in the previous lesson, Passover was a foreshadowing of the sacrifice to come; Jesus, the unblemished Lamb, went through a trial by fire and ultimately gave His flesh and blood to save us from death.

2. Feast of Unleavened Bread

Immediately after Passover, this feast would begin, and it continued until the twenty-first day of the month. During this time, all leaven was to be removed from the Israelites' homes, and they were not permitted to partake of any food containing leaven. This is a representation of the removal of sin or wickedness from our lives.

3. Feast of Firstfruits

This feast is held during the first barley harvest. "Firstfruits" were literally the first fruits of a harvest—they are the most important part of the harvest. However, the Israelites were not permitted to partake of any until

they had first offered some to God as an indication of their gratitude. Although the Israelites sowed and harvested the barley, it was God who gave the sun, rain, and nutrients that allowed the crops to grow.

Second gathering (Fifty days after the feast of firstfruits)

4. Feast of Weeks (or Harvest of Pentecost, after the Greek word "fifty")

The feast of weeks was another harvest festival during which the Israelites would offer new grain offerings and celebrate the fruits of their labor, a blessing they could not enjoy while slaves in Egypt. In addition to their second grain offering, the Israelites were also to make a sin offering. The most significant part of this harvest is the day marked as the "Day of Pentecost"—the day the Holy Spirit rained down on Jesus' disciples. Where in the Old Testament, the Israelites celebrated the physical harvest, in the New Testament, the apostles received the Holy Spirit and began to spread the gospel, "harvesting" and gathering new members into the church, beginning with the three thousand baptized on the first day.

Third gathering (7th month of the sacred calendar, or Tishri)

5. Feast of Trumpets (Rosh Hashanah)

Held on the first day of the month, this feast is a day of Sabbath rest during which trumpets are blown, marking a holy convocation and a memorial of God's goodness. The Israelites were to recall God's covenant and ask God to continue to uphold His promises. Trumpets were often used to mark significant events throughout the Old Testament, whether joyful, solemn, or urgent. Trumpets were blown during battle; at Mount Sinai, the trumpets marked when the people could come near the mountain; later, they were used to bring down the walls of Jericho. Although the feast seems unrelated to our spiritual lives, we ourselves are trumpets for God's cause; our duty as His chosen people is to warn the people of Jesus' second coming, and to let them know how they might be saved. We also keep watch over one another while we fight our spiritual fights, warn our spiritual brethren if they stray, and encourage one another to draw near to God's mountain.

6. Day of Atonement (Yom Kippur)

The Day of Atonement is observed on the tenth day of the month. This is a day of fasting, during which the Israelites are to atone for their sins of the past year. The high priest is also to make two offerings: one for his own sins, and another for the sins of the people. As high priests, we share the same duties and must be even more diligent to keep ourselves clean from the moment we are baptized. As the Old Testament indicates, even the high priests must atone for their sins. Being God's chosen does not exempt us from keeping God's commandments.

7. Feast of Tabernacles (Booths or Ingathering, Succoth)

This is an eight-day celebration that lasts from the fifteenth to the twenty-second day of the month.



Reaching Out to Your Students

Some of the students may have really enjoyed the previous lesson about festivals, while others may be a bit reluctant to continue. For both, remind them that there are wonderful teachings to be learned from these festivals; they are not just Jewish traditions from long ago, but actually things that God has set up for the spiritual Israelites (you and I) to keep as well. They are like Passover, which we learned about in the last lesson. We do not keep Passover how the Jewish keep it, but we do keep Holy Communion, which is the better Passover.

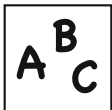


Opener

5 Minutes

Let's review the feasts that we learned about in the last lesson.

1. **How often were the Israelites to keep Passover?** Once a year.
2. **What was the correct way to cook the Passover lamb?** Roast it in fire.
3. **Who were not permitted to partake in Passover?** The uncircumcised.
4. **What is the reason we keep Holy Communion today?** To remember the Lord's death.
5. **What does leaven represent in our lives today?** Wickedness/malice.
6. **What are some of the similarities between Passover and Holy Communion?**
 - a. Both are kept in remembrance of God's salvation.
 - b. Both involve a sacrificial lamb.
 - c. Both are to be kept regularly.
 - d. Both are to be kept only by God's chosen people.



Vocabulary

firstfruits: the first gatherings of a harvest, normally considered the most valuable of the entire harvest

sheaf: a bundle (e.g., a sheaf of grain)

gleanings: the leftover crops in a field, either missed during harvest or dropped while gathering

tabernacle: a temporary dwelling, such as a tent or a hut

dwelling: a building or place of shelter to live in; a place of residence

sojourner: a traveler who is away from his home



Bible Discovery & Spiritual Teaching

30-35 Minutes

Note: Although the verse references are provided for each feast, due to time constraints it is probably best to prepare beforehand by picking out only a few verses for them to read through during the lesson.

In the last lesson, we began to learn about the three festivals that the Israelites were to gather for every year. There are a total of seven different feasts that they held during these three festivals. Last week, we covered the Passover feast and the Feast of Unleavened Bread.

Today, we're going to learn about the rest of them. So, three times each year, the Israelites gathered to hold these festivals. The first time was at the beginning of the harvest. The second time was during the second phase of their harvest, and the third time was at the end of harvest time, when they began to prepare for winter and also started sowing seeds for the coming spring.

FOR TEACHERS

Hand out Bible Discovery Worksheet #1 and have students follow along. Allow time to fill in the table before moving on, helping where necessary. Keep a copy of the Teacher Version for reference.

A Summary of the Feasts**Feast of Firstfruits (Lev 23:9-14)**

In the last lesson, we discussed the Passover feast and the Feast of Unleavened Bread. During the time the Israelites gathered for these, they held one more event called the feast of firstfruits. During this feast, the Israelites brought the very first harvested grains from their fields, called the "firstfruits," and offered them to God. One very important instruction is that the Israelites were not allowed to eat any of their firstfruits until they offered some to God.

Why do you think this is? [Allow students to answer if they can.] The firstfruits of a harvest were normally considered the most important and the most celebrated part of a harvest. But the Israelites weren't allowed to eat any of it until offering some to God. This reminded them that it was God who provided the harvest for them, and because of this, He should be placed first in their lives.

FOR TEACHERS

Please refer to Bible Discovery Worksheet #2 and discuss Part 1.

Feast of Weeks (or Pentecost) (Lev 23:15-22)

The second time the Israelites gathered was fifty days after the feast of firstfruits. During this second gathering, they would celebrate the feast of weeks, which was a harvest celebration. During this feast, they were to make three offerings. First, they were to offer bread that was baked with grain from the firstfruits of the harvest. This was the "grain offering." Then, they were to offer two more burnt offerings, one as a "sin offering," and one as a "peace offering." The final instruction for this feast was that the Israelites were not to harvest the "gleanings," or leftover crops in their fields. Instead, they were to leave behind whatever they dropped or forgot, and let the poor or widowed harvest it for themselves.

During the feast of firstfruits, the Israelites gave thanks for God's provision in providing the sun, rain, and soil for their crops to grow. The feast of weeks was also a harvest festival, but instead, they gave thanks for the ability to enjoy the fruits of their labor, something they couldn't do while they were slaves in Egypt. Leaving the gleanings for the poor, the needy, and the alien was a way to repay God for His bountiful blessings, and a reminder that they once also had nothing. God provided everything for them, so it was only natural that they in turn should provide for others more needy than they.

FOR TEACHERS

Please refer to Bible Discovery Worksheet #2 and discuss Part 2.

Feast of Trumpets (or Rosh Hashanah) (Lev 23:23-25)

The third time the Israelites gathered was to celebrate the end of the harvest. The first of three feasts they celebrated was called the feast of trumpets. The feast of trumpets was simple; the Israelites were not to do any work on that day, just like Sabbath, and they would also hold a memorial by blowing trumpets.

The trumpet was an important symbol in the Old Testament. They were blown to warn people of danger (Ezek 33:1-7). They were used as a sign of God's power, such as when they brought down the walls of Jericho. Trumpets will even be used to announce the second coming of Christ (1 Th 4:16). Today, we need to blow the trumpet to spread the gospel; it is a warning, a witness to

God's power, and a sign of God's glory and salvation.

Day of Atonement (or Yom Kippur) (Lev 23:26-32; Num 29:7-11)

The Day of Atonement wasn't so much a feast as much as a day of remembrance. For one day, the Israelites were to fast and pray, and make a sin offering. But before they could make any offerings, the high priest had to sacrifice a goat for his own sins, and then another for the peoples' sins.

No one is immune to sin. In God's eyes, everyone needs their sins atoned. Even Israel's high priests had to atone for their sins. Today, we are the new high priests (1 Pet 2:5); this means that we also need to atone for our sins. So, in our prayers, we need to remember to repent for our sins.

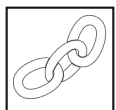
Feast of Tabernacles (or Succoth) (Lev 23:33-43; Num 29:12-38)

The last feast that the Israelites were instructed to celebrate was called the Feast of Tabernacles. This feast would last for one whole week, and during this entire week, the Israelites were to live in "booths" or "tents," instead of their homes. In addition, they were to take fruit, branches of palm trees, boughs of leafy trees, and willows of the brook, and celebrate for the week. Finally, they were also to offer many specific offerings every day of the feast.

By living in temporary tents or booths made of tree branches, they were living just as they did during their time in the wilderness. Living in tents reminded them that there was a time when they had no home in this land. They were sojourners until God saved them and brought them to Canaan. The many sacrifices that they had to make during the feast were not just in thanksgiving for God's salvation, but also to give thanks for the abundant blessings and prosperity that He had given them in their new home.

FOR TEACHERS

Please refer to Bible Discovery Worksheet #2 and discuss Part 3. Review Bible Discovery Worksheet #1 and help students complete it as needed.



Linking to the Ten Basic Beliefs

2-5 Minutes

Holy Spirit

The Holy Spirit that came down on the Day of Pentecost is the same Holy Spirit that we receive today in True Jesus Church. We must be very thankful for this precious Holy Spirit, just as the Israelites were thankful for all of God's provisions on the Day of Pentecost.



Check for Understanding

5 Minutes

- 1. How many times did the Israelites gather in a year?** Three.
- 2. Name a feast they celebrated each time they gathered.**
 First: Passover, Feast of Unleavened Bread, and feast of firstfruits
 Second: feast of weeks
 Third: feast of trumpets, Day of Atonement, and Feast of Tabernacles
- 3. What was the purpose of the feast of firstfruits?** To give thanks for God's provision.
- 4. What was the final, important instruction for the feast of weeks? What was the purpose of this instruction?** To leave the gleanings in their fields for the poor, needy, and alien. The purpose was to repay God for His provision, and also to take care of those who had less than they.
- 5. What did the Israelites have to do during the Feast of Tabernacles?** They had to dwell in booths for a whole week. They also took fruit, palm tree branches, leafy boughs, and willows, and celebrated for the week.
- 6. What was the purpose of the Feast of Tabernacles?** It reminded them that they used to live as nomads, with no land to call home. It also reminded them that it was God who guided them to Canaan and blessed them with prosperity and abundance.



Life Application

10 Minutes

1. A Life of Thanksgiving

[Hand out Life Application Worksheet #1 and read the story to or with the students. Then, go over the discussion questions with the students as a class. Suggested answers have been provided.]

Discussion Questions

- 1. Why was Lucy so sad all the time?** Because her prayers were not being answered in the way she wanted them to, so she thought God didn't love her.
- 2. How did the Holy Spirit change sister Lucy?** The Holy Spirit moved her to look at things differently; instead of focusing on the things she didn't receive, she focused on God's grace and His abundant blessings.
- 3. How did Lucy's diary help her in times of sadness?** By writing things she was thankful for every day, whenever she was sad, she could simply look at all of the many things God had given her and feel better.
- 4. Which feast resembles the spirit of Lucy's "thankful" diary?** The feast of weeks, because it was a harvest celebration during which the Israelites would offer portions of their harvest to God out of thankfulness and gratitude for His abundance and grace.

2. A Positive Ending to Every Story

[Hand out Life Application Worksheet #2. Ask the students to read the scenarios, and then complete the right column. After the students have finished the worksheet, ask them to share their answers with the class. Suggested answers have been provided below.]

1. Give the best part to Mother, since it's her birthday. In order to show my appreciation, I ought to give her the best portion.

Feast of firstfruits: The Israelites offered the best of their harvest to God before they ate any, as a way to thank God for His provision and His blessing.

2. Try to remember that my future is important, and that my parents know what is best for me. Besides, the Bible always reminds us that all places on this earth are only temporary—heaven is way cooler than any place we can visit on this earth!

Feast of Tabernacles: The Israelites reminded themselves that they were once sojourners, with no home and no land to call their own. It was only by following God's guidance that they eventually came to the promised land, just as one day we too will enter heaven as long as we follow God's commands. And what place on earth is better than our heavenly home?

3. Instead of pretending not to see him go hungry, I can split my sub with him. After all, a foot-long sandwich is really a lot of food, and I have another snack in my bag.

Feast of weeks: The Israelites were instructed always to leave the gleanings for the poor and needy. God continually blesses us with so much that it is only natural that we should be just as generous to those around us.



Activity

Thankful Diary

10-15 Minutes

Objective: To remind students to be thankful for God's blessings every day.

God wanted the Israelites to remember the source of their blessings and be thankful for them. In the same way, we ought to be thankful for the wonderful things that He gives us every single day.

Materials

- A piece of blank paper, white or lightly colored
- Colored pencils or markers

Introductions

1. Ask the students to draw a frame within the edges of the blank piece of paper.
2. Within the frame, ask the students to write out at least three things from their daily lives that they are thankful for. Once they have written them down, they may decorate the page as they wish.
3. Once everyone is done, let everyone share what they have written down.
4. Have the students bring the piece of paper home and tape it to their wall.

HOMEWORK ANSWER KEY

1. D
2. C
3. B
4. A
5. B
6. To give thanks for God's provision.
7. To leave the gleanings in their fields for the poor, needy, and alien. To repay God for His provision, and also to take care of those who had less than they.
8. That we are sojourners in this world, and that we must keep our eyes fixed on heaven, not on the earth around us that will eventually pass away.

FEASTS IN THE BIBLE

Fill in the blank boxes in the table below. Use the Bible to help you find any details you don't know. [The answers are in italics.]

What feast(s) did they hold?	When was it held?	How? (What were the basic instructions?)
<i>First Festival</i>		
<i>Passover</i>	<i>The fourteenth day of the first month.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Slaughter an unblemished lamb without breaking its bones. • Roast the lamb in fire. • Only the circumcised could partake of the lamb.
<i>Feast of Unleavened Bread</i>	<i>The seven days following Passover.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remove any leaven from their homes. • Avoid eating anything with leaven in it.
<i>Feast of Firstfruits</i>	<i>The sixteenth day of the first month.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bring the very first harvested grains, the "firstfruits," as a grain offering to God. • Do not eat any until they have made their offering.
<i>Second Festival</i>		
<i>Feast of Weeks (Pentecost)</i>	<i>Fifty days after the feast of firstfruits.</i>	<i>They were to give three offerings: the grain offering, the sin offering, and the peace offering.</i>
<i>Third Festival</i>		
<i>Feast of Trumpets</i>	<i>The first day of the seventh month.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • They were to rest for the day, like Sabbath. • Hold a memorial by blowing the trumpets.
<i>Day of Atonement</i>	<i>The tenth day of the seventh month.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A day of remembrance. • They were to fast and pray for the day. • The priest had to make two sacrifices: first for his sins, then for the sins of the congregation.
<i>Feast of Tabernacles (Feast of Booths)</i>	<i>From the fifteenth to the twenty-second day of the seventh month.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For a week, they were to live in temporary housing, such as booths or tents. • Take fruit, branches of palm trees, boughs of leafy trees, and willows of the brook. • Make offerings.

The Feasts

Encourage the students to discuss the answers and offer their own suggestions. The answers provided are merely guidelines if they get stuck. Bible references may be turned to at your own discretion, depending on time allotment.

Part 1

1. Why was it so important for the people of Israel to wait and not eat any of the firstfruits until they offered to the Lord? How do we apply this teaching to our daily lives?

Waiting to offer to God before partaking of what He has provided us is a sign of our respect for His care and appreciation for His blessings. In the future, when we begin to earn money, we must always remember to offer to God before indulging in our own interests.

2. The farmers were thankful to God because He was the one who sent the rain and made the crops grow. Today, we aren't farmers, but we still need to give thanks to God. What do you give thanks for?

Answers may vary. (Examples: Good health, doing well on tests, etc.)

Part 2

1. What is the difference between the first grain offering during the feast of firstfruits and the second grain offering during the feast of weeks?

The offering of firstfruits was to show thanksgiving for the abundance of God's provision. The second grain offering during the feast of weeks was to give thanks for the ability to enjoy the fruits of their labor, which they were unable to do while they were enslaved. God's deliverance gave them the freedom to enjoy the harvest.

2. Why do you think the Lord Jesus sent the Holy Spirit down on the Day of Pentecost?

The Israelites rejoiced God's deliverance during Pentecost. The Holy Spirit is a new form of deliverance, our ticket to heaven that offers us freedom from sin along with water baptism.

3. Why did God instruct the Israelites to leave the grain for the poor, instead of gathering it for them?

God loves those who work hard, and this applies to any, rich or poor. He instructed the Israelites to leave provisions for the poor, but He still required the needy to work hard and be diligent in their lives, just as those who tended the field were diligent in sowing and growing the crops.

Part 3

1. Why is loving and showing compassion to others so important to us Christians today? And in what ways can we love others?

Loving our neighbors is one way of showing that we are disciples of the Lord. As an instruction from Jesus Christ Himself, we must strive to show love and compassion in order to enter the kingdom of heaven.

We can love others in many ways, such as visiting the sick in hospitals, or providing for the needs of those who have little. For students, showing love can be as simple as offering food to a friend in class who has only a little for lunch, or sharing a toy with someone who has none of their own.

2. What did the Israelites hope for while wandering in the wilderness?



They hoped to enter the land of Canaan, to live a life of freedom and abundance. Canaan also represented stability, as it was a land that the wandering Israelites could finally call their own.

3. Our forefathers have never wandered around in the wilderness, so how is this feast important to us? How does the journey of wandering in the wilderness apply to us?

We are not wandering in the wilderness physically, but spiritually. We are only sojourners in this world that will eventually pass away. When Jesus comes again, it is only then that we will come to our true home. The Israelites' journey of wandering reminds us that we must set our eyes on our distant home of the future, not on the current world.

FEASTS IN THE BIBLE

Fill in the blank boxes in the table below. Use the Bible to help you find any details you don't know.

What feast(s) did they hold?	When was it held?	How? (What were the basic instructions?)
<i>First Festival</i>		
	The fourteenth day of the first month.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Slaughter an unblemished lamb without breaking its bones. • Roast the lamb in fire. • Only the circumcised could partake of the lamb.
Feast of Unleavened Bread		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remove any leaven from their homes. • Avoid eating anything with leaven in it.
	The sixteenth day of the first month.	
<i>Second Festival</i>		
Feast of Weeks (Pentecost)		
<i>Third Festival</i>		
	The first day of the seventh month.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • They were to rest for the day, like Sabbath. • Hold a memorial by blowing the trumpets.
Day of Atonement	The tenth day of the seventh month.	
	From the fifteenth to the twenty-second day of the seventh month.	

THE FEASTS

Part 1

1. Why was it so important for the people of Israel to wait and not eat any of the firstfruits until they offered to the Lord? How do we apply this teaching to our daily lives?



2. The farmers were thankful to God because He was the one who sent the rain and made the crops grow. Today, we aren't farmers, but we still need to give thanks to God. What do you give thanks for?

Part 2

1. What is the difference between the first grain offering during the feast of firstfruits and the second grain offering during the feast of weeks?



2. Why do you think the Lord Jesus sent the Holy Spirit down on the Day of Pentecost?

3. Why did God instruct the Israelites to leave the grain for the poor, instead of gathering it for them?

Part 3

1. Why is loving and showing compassion to others so important to us Christians today? In what ways can we love others?
2. What did the Israelites hope for while wandering in the wilderness?
3. Our forefathers have never wandered around in the wilderness, so how is this feast important to us? How does the journey of wandering in the wilderness apply to us?



A Life of Thanksgiving

For the past couple days, Lucy has been feeling very unhappy because she doesn't think God has been listening to her prayers. She's prayed for many things, but none of them have been answered, so she's begun to wonder if God truly loves her. Surely if God loved her, then He would give her whatever she asked for, right?

In one particular prayer, the Holy Spirit moved her and changed the way she perceived things. Instead of focusing on the things she didn't receive from God, she began to focus on the things that God had already given her, even without her asking. She made up her mind to keep a little diary and record at least one thing that she could give thanks for every day.

So, she began to write things that she was thankful for. "Thank God for the strawberries in my lunch box today. They were really yummy!" "Thank God for the flower that is blooming so beautifully in our yard." "Thank God for guiding me through my tough test today." From then on, whenever Lucy felt discouraged or sad, she would take out her diary and read through all the wonderful things that God had given her, and she would immediately feel comforted and happy again.




Discussion Questions

1. Why was Lucy so sad all the time?
2. How did the Holy Spirit change sister Lucy?
3. How did Lucy's diary help her in times of sadness?
4. Which feast resembles the spirit of Lucy's "thankful" diary?



A Positive Ending to Every Story

Read each scenario in the left column and answer the questions in the right column.

Scenario	How should you act? What feast are you following? Explain.
 <p>It's your mother's birthday today, and you bought her favorite cake: chocolate-topped banana cake! In fact, it happens to be your favorite cake, too. When you open it, you notice that one corner of the cake has a lot more chocolate chips than the rest of the cake! You think that that is probably the best piece of the cake. What should you do?</p>	
<p>Many of your classmates at school get to go on the best vacations: cruises, trips to exotic countries, even visits to amusement parks far away from home. Listening to them tell you about their vacations makes you really want to visit those places, too, but your parents only bring you on road trips which don't cost a lot of money, saying that they need to save up for your college tuition.</p> 	
<p>It's finally lunchtime, and you can't wait to start devouring the foot-long subway sandwich that you just purchased. As you're unwrapping the sub, you notice that Jeremy has forgotten to bring his lunchbox, and he doesn't have any money to buy lunch. He looks really hungry, but no one else seems to be helping him out.</p> 	

E2 Year 1 Book 4 Lesson 6—Feasts (Part 2)

Homework Assignment

Name: _____ Parent signature: _____ Date: _____

Bible Reading: Please put a check mark in the space when you complete the reading each day.

Prayer: Please put a check mark in the space on the days you prayed to God.

What I Learned from the Bible This Week

1. _____

2. _____

	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Read							
Pray							

Memory Verse

Please write down this week's memory verse. **(Jeremiah 10:12)**

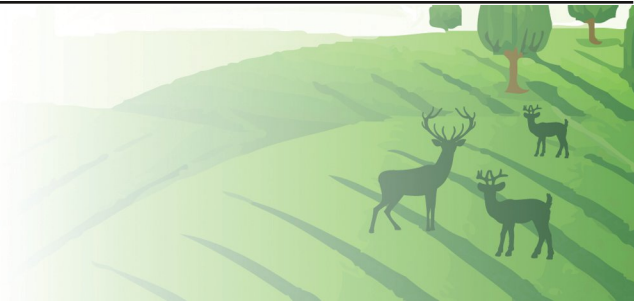
Multiple Choice

1. _____ : Why did the Israelites have to be so thankful to God?
 - a. Because God gave them the strength to work
 - b. Because God sent down the autumn and spring rain
 - c. Because God made the grain grow
 - d. All of the above
2. _____ : How many days passed between the feast of firstfruits and the feast of weeks?
 - a. 7 days
 - b. 30 days
 - c. 50 days
3. _____ : On which day did the Holy Spirit descend upon the apostles?
 - a. On Passover
 - b. On the Day of Pentecost
 - c. On the Sabbath
4. _____ : For how many days did they live in the tents during the Feast of Tabernacles?
 - a. 7 days
 - b. One month
 - c. For as long as they liked
5. _____ : What was the purpose of the Feast of Tabernacles?
 - a. To remember the deliverance of the Lord
 - b. To remember the time when their forefathers were wandering in the wilderness
 - c. To remember the time when they were brought into the land of Canaan

Short Answer

6. What was the purpose of the feast of firstfruits?
7. What was the final, important instruction for the feast of weeks? What was the purpose of this instruction?
8. What does the Feast of Tabernacles remind us about today?

LESSON 7



GOD'S WORKERS

OBJECTIVES

1. To learn how people prepared to become priests in Moses' time, and how to apply their preparation to our lives.
2. To understand that we are also called to be priests, and that we should act in a responsible manner worthy of this calling.

MEMORY VERSE

"But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light."

(1 Peter 2:9)

PRAYER

1. Thank You, Lord, for permitting us to gather here once again to learn more about Your wonderful word.
2. We ask You to open our minds and our hearts so that we may understand and accept the duty that we have as Your priests today.
3. We also ask You to guide us and move us so that we can learn to honor You in our daily lives.



Overview

1. The Preparation Taken to Become a Priest (Lev 8)

- a. Cleansing (Lev 8:6)
- b. Clothing (Lev 8:7-9)
- c. Anointment (Lev 8:12)

2. Linking to the Ten Basic Beliefs—One True Church

3. Life Application—Ron's Service to God

4. Activity—Priestly Garments



Background Knowledge for Teachers

The Most Holy Place

According to Mosaic law, the high priest was to enter the Most Holy Place—the innermost sanctum of the tabernacle—once a year, to make an offering for himself and for the sins of the people. This was the most sacred place of the tabernacle, which only the high priest was permitted to enter. Even the high priest, however, was not exempt from punishment if he had not prepared himself appropriately for entry into the Most Holy Place (Ex 19:22).

The Living Way

Upon Jesus' death, the veil separating the Most Holy Place from the rest of the tabernacle was torn in two, signifying to the world that it was no longer necessary; Jesus' blood has now been shed, and has cleansed us from our sins. Because of His intercession, we are now able to approach and worship God directly (Heb 10:19-20). There is no more high priest, because we are now all called to be high priests of God (1 Pet 2:9). Understanding the duties of the high priest in Mosaic times is simply a step to understanding the nature of our own relationship with God.



Reaching Out to Your Students

At this age, students likely have dreams of what they want to be when they grow up. Their ideas can range from a businessman to a fireman, or even an artist or a doctor. This is a natural wish stemming from the respect that they have for characters or people that they have grown up with. Each job has visual markers, which the students likely associate the jobs with. They understand that different outfits mean different jobs and different responsibilities. A fireman wears a suit that helps to protect him from fire, and a doctor carries a stethoscope to check a person's heart. In the same manner, the outfit of an Old Testament priest and all the accompaniments that come along with it have very specific purposes. Learning about these will help them understand that we, as the New Testament priests, also have specific roles and responsibilities.



Opener

5 Minutes

Discussion Questions

1. What kinds of roles do you play right now in church?
2. What do you want to be when you grow up? Describe what you would wear if you did become one. What kind of equipment would you use? Would you wear any special kind of clothing? What makes the equipment or clothing special?
3. Describe, to the best of your knowledge or imagination, what a priest in the Old Testament might look like (more artistic teachers may want to draw it out on the board as the students describe).



Vocabulary

tunic: an inner garment, worn beneath the robe

turban: a piece of cloth that is wrapped around the head

ephod: a special garment made for a priest to wear (Ex 28:5-14)

breastplate of judgment: a breastplate attached to the ephod; twelve precious stones are set on it in four rows, each bearing the name of one of the sons of Israel (Ex 28:15-21)

Urim and Thummim: two stone-like articles used to determine the will of God (1 Sam 28:6; Neh 7:65); they are stored in the breastplate



Bible Discovery & Spiritual Teaching

30-35 Minutes

FOR TEACHERS

Give the students the Bible Discovery worksheet and have them follow along. They will be filling in the answers at various points of the lesson. Keep a copy of the Teacher version for reference.

In the last two lessons, we learned about the various feasts that God established for the Israelites. These feasts were established so that the Israelites could celebrate, enjoy, and thank God for all of the blessings He bestowed upon them. When He was teaching them about these feasts, He also taught them many other things. One of these was how His priests, specifically, Aaron and his sons, would serve Him in the tabernacle. Now, just like all of the jobs we just spoke about, the priests of the Bible also had very specific

equipment and clothing associated with their status. They had to undergo certain preparations to become a priest, similar to undergoing training or taking a test for the kind of job you want. Today, we're going to learn about these preparations and why they are important to us.

First, let's open our Bibles to Leviticus 8:1-12. Here, the Bible records in detail how the priests had to prepare themselves before serving God.

1. First, Aaron and his sons were washed in water (v. 6)
The priests were instructed to wash themselves for exactly the same reason we take a shower every day: so they could cleanse themselves. In this case, however, the physical act of washing themselves was both a physical

and spiritual cleansing. Physically, the water washed away the dirt. Spiritually, it washed away their impurities so that they could serve God with clean bodies and spirits.

Just like the Old Testament priests, we also wash ourselves before we serve God. That isn't to say that we have to take showers every time we come to church! What kind of "washing" do we go through before we become members of the church? [Allow students to answer if they can.] That's right, it's baptism. Water baptism washes away our sins, and cleanses us so that we can present ourselves to God as His priests with a clear conscience (Ti 3:5; 1 Pet 3:21; Jn 3:3).

FOR TEACHERS

Refer to the Bible Discovery worksheet and have students fill in Part 1.

2. Second, Aaron and his sons clothed themselves with priestly garments (v. 7-9)

A. The tunic, robe, and sash

After the priests cleansed themselves, they put on the tunic first. The tunic wasn't just any old piece of clothing, though. The Lord instructed the Israelites to make a specific tunic, especially for this purpose. Let's read Exodus 28:39. Special craftsmen were selected in order to make the priestly garments. The tunic was to be woven with fine linen thread. You may not know this, but the finer the thread, the more difficult it is to make cloth with. However, using finer threads results in a much higher quality of cloth. At the time, with no machinery to help them, making such a cloth would have been difficult and time consuming.

The robe was then put on over the tunic. Let's read what the robe looked like in Exodus 28:31-35. From this description, we can imagine that the robe was seamless, just like chain mail, and blue. The pomegranates on the hem were decorative, and the bells would make a small sound whenever the priest moved within the tabernacle. The sound of the bells served as an assurance to those outside that the priest was interceding for them.

Like the tunic, the sash was also made of very fine cloth, and was worn like a belt is worn today—the priests fastened the sash around their waists so that the robes they wore would stay properly around them.

The tunic was not something you could see very well, but the weavers were still required to put a great deal of work into making it. The inner garment represents our inner beauty—although we can't see our inner beauty, we still need to work hard on having pleasing qualities. What kind of qualities do you think would make a person pleasing to God? [Let students discuss.] Let's turn to Galatians 5:22-23. The fruit of the spirit consists of many different

qualities that we need to work hard on and develop within ourselves. As long as we try our hardest to follow these characteristics, our inner garment will then become the finest garment and will show our status to others as priests of God.

The robe represents our deeds, and the golden bells that sound when we walk represent our praises and thanksgiving to God, as well as our reverence when we walk in His temple. This means that the people around us can see and hear our works. When they see and hear our righteous deeds, they can see that we are worshipping God, and in doing so, we glorify God to everyone around us. When we put on good actions on the outside, we shine as the light of the world.

Third, there is the sash. Paul encourages members to gird their waists with truth (Eph 6:14). Putting on the sash means equipping yourself with the word of God before serving. We must study the Bible and learn God's word in order to serve Him properly and to glorify Him.

B. The golden plate/turban, ephod, and breastplate

One of the special garments was a golden plate, tied around the forehead on top of a turban. The turban was also made of fine cloth, like the tunic and sash, and the golden plate had an engraving on it that read: "HOLINESS TO THE LORD." Let's read Exodus 28:36-40. The turban was "for glory and beauty" according to verse 40, and the golden plate was a very important indicator of the priest's duties. When people gave gifts to God, they could only be accepted through the priest, because of their sins. It was only through the priest that the people could make offerings or any sort of communication with God.

The ephod was a special vest made with fine woven linen and gold, blue, purple, and scarlet threads. On the shoulders of the ephod were two very important items. Let's read Exodus 28:9-12. Wearing the two stones on his shoulders meant that the priest was representing the tribes before God. As a final touch, there were also two chains of pure gold that were like braided cords, one fastened to each stone setting.

Finally, there was the breastplate. It was made of the same materials as the ephod—fine woven linen, with gold, blue, purple, and scarlet threads. Attached to the square cloth were four rows of three gems, each engraved with one of the twelve tribes of Israel. In addition, gold chains were added so that the breastplate would stay attached to the ephod. The names of the tribes on his shoulders and on his chest showed that the priest was an intercessor for the people. Only the priest could pray for the Israelites, and only the priest could make offerings for their sins. He represented the people before God.

These three things were very important pieces of equipment and completely unique to the priests. Only the high priest could wear these. In the same way, as priests, we must also adorn ourselves in similar, spiritual attire.

Just as the Israelites communicated to God through the priest, people must turn to us in order to find God. Ephesians 6 says that we must wear the "breastplate of righteousness" and the "helmet of salvation." We received our salvation from God through Jesus' blood, and in the same way, we need to spread the gospel of salvation and intercede for others so that they can also be saved. However, we can only do this if we learn to live in righteousness and set an example for those around us.

C. Urim and Thummim

There is one final, important component of the garments that the priests wore. They aren't pieces of clothing, but two stones called the "Urim" and the "Thummim."

The Urim and Thummim were two very special stones. The breastplate was made so that they could be stored inside it, right over the high priest's heart. They were important because they were used to determine the will of God. For example, before the Israelites went out to war, they would inquire of God, and ask if it was His will that they fight (1 Sam 23:2-6). Then the priest would use the two stones to determine the will of God by drawing one out from the breastplate. If he drew out the Urim, it meant "yes," while drawing out the Thummim meant "no."

The Urim and Thummim literally represented the will of God. Just as they were stored over the heart of the high priest, we as God's new chosen priests also need to store His will in our hearts. We all have our own way of doing

things, and it's normal that we do. However, when we serve the Lord, we need to learn to submit ourselves to God's will.

FOR TEACHERS

Refer to the Bible Discovery worksheet and have students fill in Part 2.

3. Aaron was anointed (v. 12)

The last thing the priests had to do was become anointed as God's worker. Oil was poured over the head in order to signify their new status as God's chosen workers. In the Old Testament, there were two types of people who were anointed: Kings and Priests (1 Chr 29:22). Aaron was the very first high priest who underwent this ritual, and much later, Saul was the very first to be anointed as king. It was a very important ritual, as only after being sanctified with oil were they permitted to serve God.

If being washed with water represents water baptism today, then what do you think being anointed with oil represents, today? [Allow students to answer, if they can.] That's right, being filled with the Holy Spirit is like being anointed with oil. Once we receive the Holy Spirit, we can then serve in His name as His chosen holy workers (Acts 10:38). The Holy Spirit will also empower us, help us to follow His teachings, and guide us in His truth. That is why only someone who has received the Holy Spirit is permitted to do His holy work.

FOR TEACHERS

Refer to the Bible Discovery worksheet and have students fill in Part 3.



Linking to the Ten Basic Beliefs

2-5 Minutes

One True Church

As a member of True Jesus Church, we have a special role to play in the world. We are called to be a holy nation of royal priests (1 Pet 2:9), so we must prepare ourselves and equip ourselves with the appropriate garments. That way, people may be able to tell that we are different, and that we have the abundance of God.



Check for Understanding

5 Minutes

1. **What are the three steps Aaron and his sons had to undergo before serving as priests?** First, they washed themselves with water. Second, they adorned themselves in the priestly garments. Third, they were anointed.
2. **What is the New Testament, or modern, equivalent of the first step?** Water baptism.
3. **Name the various priestly garments.** Tunic, robe, sash, turban, golden plate, ephod, breastplate, Urim, and Thummim.
4. **What does the inner garment represent?** The tunic, or inner garment, represents our inner beauty.
5. **How many stones were on the breastplate, and what did they represent?** Twelve stones were embedded on the front of the breastplate, representing the twelve tribes of Israel.
6. **What were the two special stones? What was their purpose?** The Urim and Thummim. Their purpose was to determine the will of God.
7. **What is the New Testament, or modern, equivalent of the third step? What is its purpose?** The anointing of the Holy Spirit. Its purpose is to help us abide by the teachings of God, and to empower us when we serve Him.



Life Application

10 Minutes

Ron's Service to God

Objective: To help students understand the necessity of preparation when serving God.

[Hand out the Life Application worksheet and read the testimony to or with the students. Then, go over the discussion questions with the students as a class. Suggested answers have been provided.]

Discussion Questions

1. Why did brother Ron spend so much time preparing the first time he had to lead hymns? Have you ever had the feeling that no matter how much you prepared, it still wasn't enough?
Because he was very nervous. Answers may vary.
2. Why was Ron able to do so well even though it was his first time leading hymns in front of so many people?
Because he had prepared very hard and prayed, so God was with him.
3. Why did Ron begin to mess up and feel embarrassed whenever he led hymnal worship?
He lost his heart of reverence, and didn't bother preparing either his attire or his heart before serving the Lord.
4. What can we learn from Ron's experience?
We shouldn't take God's work lightly, but should always do our best by preparing ourselves and praying for God's guidance each time, even in something small or something we are well practiced in.
5. What holy work have you been assigned to do? How do you prepare for it?
Answers may vary.



Activity

Priestly Garments

10-15 Minutes

Objective: To allow students to visualize the priestly garments through illustrations.

Materials

- Large pieces of poster paper, or several small pieces of plain paper
- Pencils
- Markers or colored pencils
- Construction paper
- Scissors, optional
- Sample picture of priestly garments, optional

Instructions

1. The students will be making a poster of the various priestly garments. You may either have them work separately on their own pieces of paper, any size, or you may have them all working on one big poster if you have the wall space, perhaps by separating them into groups and assigning each of them different garments.
2. With their Bibles and their Bible Discovery worksheets for help (or sample drawings if you brought any), have the students draw each garment, in a size appropriate for the paper given to them. They may use construction paper or markers to make them more colorful.
3. Next to each garment, either on a separate piece of paper or on the same paper, have them write out the name of the garment. If you have a large wall to decorate, an option is writing the names, very large, on separate pieces of paper backed by construction paper, then using pieces of string or ribbon to indicate which garment is which.
4. Have the students add a brief sentence indicating the garment's purpose. You may want to help them construct sentences that won't be too long or difficult to write/read.

HOMEWORK ANSWER KEY

1. wash, water
2. robe, sash, breastplate
3. oil
4. C
5. C
6. B
7. The tunic represents our inner beauty—although we can't see our inner beauty, we still need to work hard on having pleasing qualities. The robe represents our deeds, and the golden bells that sound when we walk represent our praises and thanksgiving to God, as well as our reverence when we walk in His temple.
8. These three things were very important pieces of equipment and completely unique to the priests. Only the high priest could wear these. In the same way, as priests, we must also adorn ourselves in similar, spiritual attire. Just as the Israelites communicated to God through the priest, people must turn to us in order to find God. Ephesians 6 says that we must wear the "breastplate of righteousness" and the "helmet of salvation."
9. We are the new priests of today; each of the steps in the Old Testament had meanings that we can also apply to our lives today.

God's Workers

Part 1

1. What was the purpose of being washed as part of their preparation to become a priest?

Physically, it washed away the dirt. Spiritually, it cleaned and purified the person so he could present himself before the Lord.

2. What does this ritual represent today? Water baptism.

3. Turn to Acts 2:38, and write the verse in the space below.

"Then Peter said to them, 'Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.'"

Part 2

Describe each of the garments as best you can, and then write down a brief summary of their spiritual meanings.

A. Tunic, robe, and sash

They were woven cloth made of fine linen threads. The tunic was an inner garment, worn beneath the robe and sash. The robe's hem had pomegranates, and bells hung from it. The sash was like a belt, worn around the waist to keep the tunic and robe in place.

What they represent:

The tunic represents our inner beauty. The robe represents our deeds, and the bells are our praises and thanksgiving to God. The sash represents girding ourselves with the belt of truth. By wearing these, we are showing others that we are children of God and therefore shine as the light of the world.

B. Golden plate, ephod, and breastplate

The golden plate was tied around the turban and had "HOLINESS TO THE LORD" inscribed on it. The ephod was a fine garment with many colorful threads, and a stone on each shoulder with the names of the children of Israel inscribed on them. The breastplate was a square cloth with twelve stones in it to represent the twelve tribes. It was attached to the ephod by golden loops.

What they represent:

The golden plate means that only through us can people attain salvation—we have to spread the gospel. The ephod and breastplate mean that we are intercessors for those around us, both fellow members and truthseekers alike. We need to intercede for others by praying for them and setting an example in righteousness.

C. Urim and Thummim

The Urim and Thummim were two special stones, stored in the breastplate pocket, directly over the heart. The Israelites used them to make inquiries of the Lord.

What they represent:

They represent God's will. We need to store His will in our hearts so that whenever we serve Him, we don't follow our own will, but listen to God and obey His will instead.

Part 3

Look up the following verses, and write down what the Holy Spirit does for us.

1. Eph 3:16 - *Strengthens us*
2. 1 Jn 2:27 - *Teaches us*
3. Rom 8:26 - *Prays for us*
4. Rom 15:16 - *Sanctifies us*
5. 1 Cor 12:4-11 - *Grants us spiritual gifts*
6. Gal 5:22-23 - *Helps us bear spiritual fruits*

GOD'S WORKERS

Part 1

1. What was the purpose of being washed as part of their preparation to become a priest?

2. What does this ritual represent today?

3. Turn to Acts 2:38, and write the verse in the space below.

Part 2

Describe each of the garments as best you can, and then write down a brief summary of their spiritual meanings.

A. *Tunic, robe, and sash*

What they represent:

B. *Golden plate, ephod, and breastplate*

What they represent:

C. *Urim and Thummim*

What they represent:



Part 3

Look up the following verses, and write down what the Holy Spirit does for us.

1. Ephesians 3:16 _____
2. 1 John 2:27 _____
3. Romans 8:26 _____
4. Romans 15:16 _____
5. 1 Corinthians 12:4-11 _____
6. Galatians 5:22-23 _____

Ron's Service to God



Brother Ron had to run to church on Sabbath morning because he was late again in leading the hymnal service. The usher asked him to pick the hymns quickly and go up to lead. Ron had no time to quiet down and prepare his heart. In fact, he was still trying to catch his breath when he went to the front of the chapel. But as he tried to lead, he found himself stuttering, forgetting words, and fumbling with his hymnbook pages. Up in front of everyone, he felt so embarrassed. He just wanted to sink into a hole. When at long last the session was over, he slunk back down the pews, utterly ashamed as people looked at him. Why had he messed up something so simple as leading a hymnal session?

When Ron went to the back, the usher took him aside. "You know," she said, "you forgot to start the session in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ." Ron mumbled something in reply. "Are you alright?" she asked, concerned. "You normally lead hymnal session perfectly, but recently you've been coming in late, and you haven't looked as confident." That made Ron stop and think. Why had he been messing up recently? It was just a hymnal session, but he messed up such a simple task! With the usher's encouragement, he decided to pray about it.

Later in the prayer room, Ron knelt down and prayed, asking God to help him figure out what was wrong. As he prayed, he had a sudden memory. A year ago, Ron had been asked to lead the hymnal session before the congregation for the first time. He was terrified at the thought; leading the congregation was very different from leading hymns in J1 class! There were so many people watching—the thought scared him, so he spent extra time preparing before going up to lead.

The night before, he had made sure his dress shirt was ironed and had hung his pants so that they wouldn't wrinkle. He had even polished his dress shoes and borrowed a tie from his dad for the first time. As the last part of his preparation, he had picked all of his hymns the night before and practiced conducting them in front of the mirror. Even with all these preparations, though, Ron had still been very nervous, so he asked his parents to bring him to church thirty minutes before the service began. He then knelt down before the Lord, just as he was doing now, to humbly ask for His help. After that, he conducted the hymnal service calmly and smoothly, and Ron had been so thankful to the Lord for His help.



Ron opened his eyes and looked down at his attire. He was wearing jeans and sneakers, and he hadn't prepared any of his hymns at all the night before. He had not even tried to get up early that morning; he had played games late into the night, and in the morning, he had dragged his feet while getting ready, thinking that it would be fine to be there exactly on time.

Ron then realized how foolish he had been in taking the work lightly. He now saw that even a small task, such as leading hymnal worship, required proper preparation. He repented and asked the Lord to forgive him, and promised that he would do his best to prepare well each time he was supposed to lead hymns. From that point on, Ron prepared himself carefully, and each time the hymnal session went smoothly with nothing for Ron to be embarrassed about.

Discussion Questions

1. Why did brother Ron spend so much time preparing the first time he had to lead hymns? Have you ever had the feeling that no matter how much you prepared, it still wasn't enough?
2. Why was Ron able to do so well even though it was his first time leading hymns in front of so many people?
3. Why did Ron begin to mess up and feel embarrassed whenever he led hymnal worship?
4. What can we learn from Ron's experience?
5. What holy work have you been assigned to do? How do you prepare for it?

E2 Year 1 Book 4 Lesson 7—God's Workers

Homework Assignment

Name: _____ Parent signature: _____ Date: _____

Bible Reading: Please put a check mark in the space when you complete the reading each day.

Prayer: Please put a check mark in the space on the days you prayed to God.

What I Learned from the Bible This Week

1. _____

2. _____

	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Read							
Pray							

Memory Verse

Please write down this week's memory verse. **(1 Peter 2:9)**

Fill In the Blank

1. The first step in preparation to serve as a priest was to _____ yourself with _____.
2. Afterwards, they put on the priestly garments such as the tunic, _____, turban, _____, ephod, and _____.
3. Lastly, they had to be anointed with _____.

Multiple Choice

4. ____ : How many precious stones were placed on the breastplate?
 - a. One, representing the One True God
 - b. Three, representing the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit
 - c. Twelve, representing the twelve tribes of Israel
5. ____ : What were the Urim and Thummim?
 - a. The name of two positions among the ranks of the priests
 - b. The name of the two silver trumpets, used to call for help from the Lord
 - c. The name of two stones, used to make inquiries of the Lord
6. ____ : What does the anointment of oil represent today?
 - a. The baptism of water
 - b. The baptism of the Holy Spirit
 - c. Receiving the laying of hands

Short Answer

7. Of the tunic and the robe, pick one and explain the spiritual meaning behind it.
8. Of the golden plate, ephod, and breastplate, pick one and explain the spiritual meaning behind it.
9. Why is it important to learn about and understand the process of becoming priests in the Old Testament?

LESSON 8

OFFERINGS



OBJECTIVES

1. To learn about the various offerings of the Old Testament, and the reasons for them.
2. To understand how we can live in holiness in our daily lives, using the meanings of these offerings.

MEMORY VERSE

"But who am I, and who are my people, that we should be able to offer so willingly as this? For all things come from You, and of Your own we have given You."

(1 Chronicles 29:14)

PRAYER

1. Thank You, Lord, for leading us through a smooth week so that we can gather here to learn more about Your wonderful word.
2. Please help us focus in class so that we can understand the way You would like us to offer to and worship You.
3. Also, continue to guide us so that we may be filled with the Holy Spirit and walk a holy life.



Overview

1. Offerings in the Old Testament

- a. Burnt offering
- b. Grain offering
- c. Sin offering
- d. Trespass offering
- e. Peace offering

2. Linking to the Ten Basic Beliefs—One True Church

3. Life Application—Sandy's Offerings

4. Activity—Values Affect Decisions



Background Knowledge for Teachers

The Mosaic laws may seem rigorous and burdensome to us, but they were a key step in the process of obtaining the grace that we have been given today, and at the time, they were a blessing to the Israelites. At the time, there was no official moral direction, no laws that allowed the people to know what was "right" and what was "wrong." Such things were necessary in order to establish a nation that presided under God's hand—He is sinless, so His followers must also strive to be sinless.

One of these necessities was an offering; there were many kinds of offerings. Today, we are permitted to come boldly to the throne of grace to obtain mercy in times of need. The Bible instructs us to be anxious for nothing, but instead let our requests be made known to God through prayer and supplication. The Israelites could not do this in the Old Testament times. Because Jesus had not yet appeared in this world, the Israelites instead made offerings to God through the priests. Even among the priests, only the high priest was allowed a direct relationship with God by bearing the Urim and Thummim over his heart, and by entering the Most Holy Place.

As God's new chosen priests, we no longer have to make these offerings, but we still have much to learn from the spirit and purpose of the offerings. These rules and regulations reflect God's will, and as such, teach us how to worship Him in a manner that is pleasing to Him.



Reaching Out to Your Students

Certain details of the burnt offering may be a bit uncomfortable for the students of this age group. Please exercise caution when describing how the animals were sacrificed. Focus more on the significance rather than the actual procedures of the sacrifices.



Opener

5 Minutes

1. Has anyone ever wronged you?
 - a. What did they do that made you upset at them?
 - b. What did they do to make peace with you?
2. Have you ever wronged someone?
 - a. What did you do so that they would stop being upset at you?

We may encounter many different conflicts in our lives, and sometimes we may not know how to solve them, especially when they involve people around us. In the Old Testament, there were certain rules that were established so that people who made any mistakes had ways to make up for what they did, whether it was an offense toward God or toward fellow men.



Vocabulary

sacrifice: the surrender or destruction of something prized or desirable for the sake of something considered as having a higher or more pressing claim

compensation: something that is given or done; to make up for something



Bible Discovery & Spiritual Teaching

30-35 Minutes

FOR TEACHERS

Give the students the Bible Discovery worksheet and have them follow along. They will be filling in the answers at various points of the lesson.

Today we'll be learning about some different types of offerings that the Israelites had to give during the Old Testament. The names of them are:

- Burnt offering
- Grain offering
- Sin offering
- Trespass offering
- Peace offering

Each of these offerings have their own specific purposes which are important for us to learn today, even though we don't follow the Mosaic laws for these anymore.

Let's start with the burnt offering and the grain offering.

The Burnt Offerings and the Grain Offerings

When you think of the word "offering," what is the first thing that comes to mind? Nowadays, we associate "offering" with giving money to the church. In Old Testament times, though, to "offer something to God" meant to "offer a sacrifice." Instead of money, they would offer animals from their herds, or crops they grew in their fields.

Burnt Offerings

A burnt offering always involved sacrificing a male, unblemished animal, and then burning it on the altar. The animal could be a bull, calf, sheep, goat, lamb or even a certain type of bird, depending on the purpose of the burnt offering. For example, a goat was sometimes offered as a sin offering, in order to cleanse the sins of the person who offered it.

Now, although the burnt offering could involve various types of animals, there were two rules for it: first, the offering must be made with a willing heart, and second, the animal offered must be unblemished.

A Willing Heart

God doesn't want us to just go through the motions of serving Him, because doing this means that we don't truly worship God in our hearts. It shows that we no longer love Him.

Unblemished Offering

To be "unblemished" means that the animal being offered could not be crippled or sick, for example. Why do you think there was such a rule for offering sacrifices?

FOR TEACHERS

Refer to Part 1 of the Bible Discovery worksheet for discussion.

Grain Offerings

Do you remember when we learned about all of the different feasts that the Israelites had to hold? Do you recall during which feasts the Israelites had to offer a "grain offering"? [Allow students to answer, if they can.] That's right, it was during the feast of firstfruits and the feast of weeks when they had to offer a grain offering. But what exactly is a grain offering?

As the name suggests, instead of offering an animal, the grain offering required them to offer some of the wheat from their fields. The grain offering could take various forms, though. For example, it could be an offering of just fine flour, with oil and frankincense. These were then burned on the altar before God, with some set aside for the priests to eat. The grain offering could also be unleavened bread, wafers, or a type of cake baked in a pan. However, despite the many forms, there were three simple rules for the grain offering: it must be made with fine flour, there must never be any leaven in it, and it must also be offered with salt.

Fine Flour

Fine flour was made from wheat that was the highest quality and free of any impurities. It was the kind of flour you would use to make food for the king, for example. Just like the burnt offerings had to be unblemished animals, grain offerings were only to be the best that they could give.

Leaven

Do you remember what leaven represents? It represents corruption, or sin. There is a verse in the Bible that says only a little leaven is needed for the whole loaf, meaning that even a tiny sin can quickly grow into a great one. What kind of leaven do you think exists in our lives today?

Salt

Salt is a necessity in cooking. When a dish is properly seasoned with salt, it can be very delicious, but if it isn't seasoned with salt, then it can be very bland and hard to eat. In the same way, our speech and our conduct need to be seasoned with salt. The Bible calls us the "salt of the world." We must learn to season our speech and conduct with only things that are acceptable to God, and learn how to live lives of holiness.

So in all, we must be like the fine flour, free of any impurities, keep leaven or corruption, and be like the salt of the world through our speech and conduct. Then we can offer the best that we have to God—ourselves.

FOR TEACHERS

Refer to Part 2 of the Bible Discovery worksheet for discussion.

Peace Offerings

Although the burnt offerings and grain offerings were mandatory during the annual feasts, there were other types of offerings that the Israelites could make on their own, at any time of the year. One of these was called a "peace offering". This offering was a very special offering, because it was the sole offering that was not mandatory in any way. This meant that whoever made this offering specifically went out of their way to give something to God.

People made peace offerings for one of three reasons: first, as an expression of thanksgiving to God, second, to repay a vow made to God, or third, as a freewill offering. Unlike the burnt offering, a peace offering could be made with an unblemished animal that was either male or female. In addition, the person would give a grain offering mixed with oil, such as unleavened cakes or wafers. However, since it was an entirely voluntary offering, the peace offering had to be made with a fully willing heart in order to please God.

FOR TEACHERS

Refer to Part 3 of the Bible Discovery worksheet for discussion.

Sin Offerings

The second type of offering an Israelite could make at any time was a "sin offering." As the name implies, a sin offering was made whenever someone realized that they had accidentally sinned against God. For example, if they carelessly used God's name in vain, that would be considered a sin in the eyes of God. In order to repent and request forgiveness, they would go to a priest and offer an animal sacrifice as a sin offering.

FOR TEACHERS

Refer to Part 4 of the Bible Discovery worksheet for discussion.

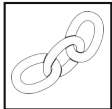
Trespass Offerings

The third type of offering they could make at any time was called a "trespass offering." Where a sin offering was offered when they committed a sin against God, a trespass offering was made when they committed some sin against their neighbor. For example, if a person bore false witness against someone, or cheated someone out of their money, then they would offer a trespass offering as a form of

repentance. A trespass offering was slightly different from a peace offering and sin offering. Instead of just giving a sacrifice at the altar, they also had to offer compensation for the harm that they did, as well as an additional fifth of the value. This was given to the neighbor they trespassed against, in addition to a burnt offering to the Lord to ask for forgiveness.

FOR TEACHERS

Refer to Part 5 of the Bible Discovery worksheet for discussion.



Linking to the Ten Basic Beliefs

2-5 Minutes

One True Church

True Jesus Church is established by the Lord Jesus Christ through the Holy Spirit, and is the only church that is considered the body of Christ. When we want to make an offering to the Lord, we must make it at True Jesus Church, in order to please the Lord Jesus Christ.



Check for Understanding

5 Minutes

- 1. What are the different kinds of offerings mentioned in the Old Testament?** Burnt offering, grain offering, sin offering, trespass offering, and peace offering.
- 2. What two rules were to be followed when making a burnt offering?** You must make the offering with a willing heart, and you must only offer an unblemished male animal.
- 3. What were the rules for offering a grain offering?** It must be made with fine flour, there must never be any leaven in it, and it must also be offered with salt.
- 4. When would a person make a sin offering?** A sin offering was made whenever someone realized that they had accidentally sinned against God.
- 5. If a person wronged his neighbor or another person, what kind of offering did he have to make?** A trespass offering.
- 6. How was the peace offering different from the other types of offering?** This offering was a very special offering, because it was the sole offering that was not mandatory in any way. This meant that whoever made this offering specifically went out of their way to give something to God.



Life Application

10 Minutes

Sandy's Offerings

[Hand out the Life Application worksheet to the students and go over the scenarios with them. Then, as a class, discuss the question that follows each scenario. Suggested answers have been provided below.]

Scenario 1

How would you answer her based on what you have learned about the burnt offering?

Do you remember one of the requirements for offering a burnt offering? The animal offered must be unblemished. This means that the Lord wants us to give Him our absolute best and to put Him first, especially when we make our offerings to Him.

If you've been waiting for such a long time to buy the item you want, then it couldn't hurt to wait a bit longer. Besides, if you spend all of your money immediately, you'd be without any allowance for the rest of the month. Your parents may even be angry at how you wasted your money all at once, and reconsider giving you an allowance at all.

Scenario 2

What would you tell her about her listening habits based on what you have learned about the grain offering?

In order to please Him, the grain offering had to be free of leaven. The grain offering reminds us to live a holy life that is pleasing to the Lord. If there is only a little bit of corruption in our lives, it will eventually spread, just like leaven in a loaf of bread. The grain offering also had to be seasoned with salt. If we are to be the salt of the world, we must be able to season our speech and conduct with things that are pleasing to God. If we take pleasure in worldly music, we might begin to echo the bad words, and our conduct will be no different from our worldly friends around us who do not have the blessing of the Holy Spirit.

Scenario 3

What can you tell her about an offering of thanksgiving based on what you have learned about the peace offering?

In the Old Testament times, the Israelites could choose to go to the priest and make a peace offering to the Lord whenever they wanted to show special appreciation for His mercy and grace. In order to make a proper peace offering that was acceptable to God, they had to offer with a fully willing heart. If they had any reservations about it, they should not offer the peace offering. So, if Sandy would like to offer a thanksgiving offering to the Lord, it would be a precious act in the sight of God, but she has to make sure that she offers it with a fully willing heart.

Scenario 4

What should Sandy do now? (Hint: Remember the trespass offering.)

Sandy should apologize to her mother for being rude, and she should also apologize to God, because by being so rude to her mother, she is also being rude to God. Perhaps she could also do something special for her mother in apology, such as washing the dishes or making her breakfast. In addition, by dishonoring her mother, she is not bringing glory to His name, so she needs to ask God for forgiveness properly and really repent before God. Sandy should ask God to help her keep her temper in check in the future, and to help her be more obedient to her mother in the future.

HOMEWORK ANSWER KEY

1. True
2. False; they should offer a trespass offering instead.
3. A
4. C
5. A
6. C
7. B
8. The peace offering is most beautiful and most pleasing to the Lord, because it is something a person does out of his own free will; no one forces him to do it. He does it out of his love for the Lord, which is precious in the eyes of the Lord.



Activity

Values Affect Decisions

10-15 Minutes

Objective: To allow students to think about how their values can help them make the right choices.

Materials

- Whiteboard
- Paper
- Markers
- Masking tape
- Three signs

Preparations

Before class, prepare three signs with the following written on them:

- I think that was a very good thing to do.
- I'm not sure whether it was good or bad.
- I think that was a very bad thing to do.

Instructions

1. Ask the students if they know what it means to live a holy life. Write the word "holy" on the board, listen to any ideas that the students voice, and clarify that to be holy, we must live by certain principles and values that help us decide between what is right and wrong.
2. Ask the students, "Who wants to share about something that you've done in the last few days that was a good thing to do?" Call on volunteers. After each student shares, ask him or her: "How did you know that it was a good thing?"
3. Discuss various ways of knowing: because it felt good, because parents have said it's good, etc.
4. Next, ask the students: "Who is willing to tell us about a bad thing you've done recently?"
5. Again, ask each volunteer: "How did you know that what you did was a bad thing to do?"
6. Be sure to take a turn yourself and share something that you're not proud of having done. Emphasize that all people do bad things at times. This doesn't mean that they are bad people, only that they made a mistake. The most important thing is to recognize and admit that you've done something wrong, and learn from the experience.
7. Place the three signs on the wall.
8. Tell the students that you are going to read them some situations. They are to go and stand in front of the sign that matches what they think or feel about the behavior of the main person in the situation. Read the situations below.
 - a. May was walking home from school when she saw money fall from the pocket of a person walking in front of her. She ran to pick up the money and then thought to herself, "This person doesn't know the money fell out. There's nothing wrong with keeping it, right?" Then May shook her head. She knew it was wrong to steal, so she caught up with the person and returned the money.
 - b. Brad looked over and saw a classmate of his bullying a student from another class. He felt sorry for the other student, but his classmate was much bigger than him. Brad didn't want to confront him because he was scared that his classmate would start bullying him too. So, Brad just stood there and watched, in case it got worse. He told himself he would get the teacher if his classmate did anything really bad.
 - c. Caleb was playing baseball in the park when he accidentally threw the baseball too hard and hit his friend. His friend fell down and Caleb rushed over to help his friend up, apologized, and asked if he was okay. Instead of thanking him, his friend started yelling at Caleb, saying that he threw the ball at him on purpose. Caleb immediately got angry with his friend and denied that he threw the ball on purpose. He pushed his friend away and stormed off.
 - d. Cory went over to his friend's house after school to work on a school project. When they finished working on the project, his friend asked him if he wanted to play the latest war video game that had just come out. Everyone at school was talking about it. Cory hesitated. He wanted to play the game, but he also knew that the game was violent and that he shouldn't be playing games like that. In the end, he thought that it'd be okay to play it just this once, and they ended up playing it for a few hours. Now Cory can't stop thinking about what he saw in the video game and all the shooting that he did while playing it.
9. For each situation, give students time to decide and position themselves. Then, walk up to each group and ask individual students, "Why are you standing here?"
10. Interview the students about their reasons for deciding the way they did. Underscore examples that demonstrate different perceptions of what happened in the situation. Conclude the activity with the discussion questions.

Discussion Questions

1. What's the difference between having a bad thought or feeling, and actually doing a bad thing?
2. When you find yourself thinking about doing something bad, how do you stop yourself from doing it? How do we learn the difference between good and bad, right and wrong?
3. If you know that a friend is about to do something bad, should you try to stop him or her? Why or why not?

Offerings

Part One

- 1. Why is there less emphasis on the value of the offerings than on the person's willingness to offer? Aren't more expensive gifts always better gifts?**

It is our human perspectives that are influenced by the value of the gift, because we enjoy the gift itself. However, God focuses on the person rather than the gift. To God, a large or a small gift is equally insignificant, because everything in the whole world belongs to the Lord God. He has no need of a bull or a dove; what He wants to see is our willingness to offer Him the best that we can. So, a poor man who offers a small gift willingly is more precious in the eye of the Lord than a rich man who offers a large gift unwillingly.

- 2. How can we make an offering today that is pleasing to the Lord?**

Part Two

- 1. When a grain offering was given, a part of it would be burned on the altar as a "memorial portion," while the rest was left for the priests. Why do you think God instructed the Israelites to reserve a portion of their offering for the priests, instead of burning everything?**

The Levites (priests) were chosen by the Lord to serve in His presence all day long on behalf of the congregation of the Israelites. Because they did no work other than serving God, He provided for their livelihood through the offerings of the Israelites who worked on the fields and tended flocks.

- 2. The grain offering reminds us that we should offer our bodies as a living sacrifice and live a life of holiness. Should we feel obligated to offer such a grain offering (i.e., living a holy life)? Why or why not?**

Today, we are obligated to offer our bodies as living sacrifices pleasing to the Lord, because our bodies do not belong to us. The Lord Jesus came into the world and died on the cross for our sins, and in doing so, bought us so that we are no longer the slaves of sin, but slaves of righteousness. Because of the high price that was paid—Jesus' precious life and blood—it is very reasonable that God requires us to offer ourselves as living sacrifices, and to live a holy life according to His will.

Part Three

- 1. What is the difference between the peace offering and the burnt and grain offerings?**

It was mandatory to offer burnt offerings and grain offerings during the three festivals. This means that everyone was obligated to make an offering according to their financial ability when they gathered for the feasts. However, the peace offering was voluntary. This makes it a very precious offering in the eyes of God, because the person making it went out of their way to show a special appreciation for His mercy and grace.

- 2. Is offering tithes considered a peace offering? What is the equivalent of a peace offering today?**

No, tithes is not considered a peace offering, because what we tithe already belongs to the Lord, and is something we are obligated to give. The peace offering refers to an offering of special thanksgiving that we make today. For example, at the end of every Spiritual Convocation, there is usually an opportunity to give an additional offering. Alternatively, spending extra time to help clean the church even if you're not on the schedule could be regarded as a peace offering. When you go the extra mile for the Lord without anyone requesting it of you, you may be making a peace offering.

Part Four

- 1. What is God trying to teach the Israelites, in demanding that they make a sin offering whenever they commit a sin against Him?**

God wanted the Israelites to understand that there were consequences for their sins. Whenever they sinned, they needed to pay a price. Willingly paying the price was also a form of repentance, during which the sinner could reflect on what they had done and make a determination not to do it again.

- 2. What should we do today if we sin against God?**

Although God does not require us to make a sin offering when we sin against God, we should earnestly repent before the Lord and ask Him for forgiveness. We are able to do this because we know that He is faithful, and that as long as we truly repent before Him, He will forgive our sins.

Part Five

- 1. When a man stole something from his neighbor, he had to pay back what he stole as well as an additional 20% of what was stolen. This seems pretty fair, but on top of that, he had to make a burnt offering to the Lord as a trespass offering. Why did he need to offer something to the Lord? Wasn't repaying his neighbor already enough?**

The Lord wanted to teach the Israelites that when they commit a trespass against their neighbors, they are also committing a trespass against their Lord in heaven as well. So although it may seem that you are simply taking something from your neighbor, the Lord considers this an offense against Him, too.

- 2. What should we do if we have transgressed against a classmate?**

We should pay back whatever we have cheated from our classmate, and we should also repent to the Lord and ask Him for forgiveness.

OFFERINGS**Part One**

1. Why is there less emphasis on the value of the offerings than on the person's willingness to offer? Aren't more expensive gifts always better gifts?

2. How can we make an offering today that is pleasing to the Lord?

**Part Two**

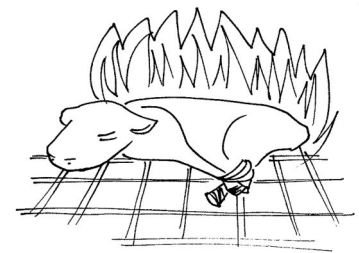
1. When a grain offering was given, a part of it would be burned on the altar as a "memorial portion," while the rest was left for the priests. Why do you think God instructed the Israelites to reserve a portion of their offering for the priests, instead of burning everything?

2. The grain offering reminds us that we should offer our bodies as a living sacrifice and should live a life of holiness. Should we feel obligated to offer such a grain offering (i.e., living a holy life)? Why or why not?

**Part Three**

1. What is the difference between the peace offering and the burnt and grain offerings?

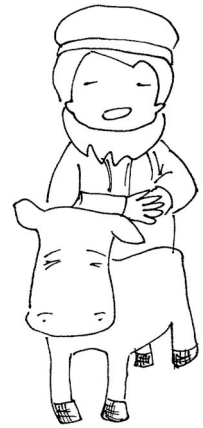
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1. What is God trying to teach the Israelites, in demanding that they make a sin offering whenever they commit a sin against Him?

2. What should we do today if we sin against God?

**Part Five**

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2. What should we do if we have transgressed against a classmate?



Sandy's Offerings

In each of the following short scenarios, please discuss and help Sister Sandy decide what to do based on what you have learned today about the various offerings.

Scenario 1

Sister Sandy's 12th birthday just passed last week. She was very excited because she had finally started receiving allowance money from her parents. Her parents had agreed that once she turned 12, she'd be old enough to start handling money. They would give her the allowance on the first day of each month, and she would be responsible for her own expenses until the end of each month. She would also be responsible for tithing from her allowance every week when she attended RE class.



With her new allowance, Sandy was finally able to buy an item that she had wanted for a really long time. Her parents had never bought it for her, considering it a waste of money, but now that Sandy had full control over her own allowance, there was no one stopping her from getting it for herself. However, there was one problem: the item would cost her entire first month of allowance money, and she had promised that she would be responsible for giving her tithe every week at RE.

Today in class, uncertain about what she should do, Sandy approaches you and asks, "Is it okay if I purchase the item, and then just offer double tithe next month to make up for this month?"

How would you answer her based on what you have learned about the burnt offering?

Scenario 2

Thank God Sister Sandy listened to your suggestion and agreed that she should put God first before her own enjoyment. Sandy decided to make her tithe offering to the Lord first, and put her personal purchase on hold.

With extra pocket money to spend, Sandy constantly thought about what she could spend her money on. Recently, she noticed that there was a band popular among her school friends. They were always listening to the band's CD. In fact, she also noticed that the band's most popular song was played on the radio a lot. The first time she heard their song, she actually turned off the radio, because the provocative sounds and the bad words made her too uncomfortable to listen to it. However, as the radio continued to play it over and over again, she started to listen to it a little more, and she realized the melody was actually pretty catchy. She began to like the song, and she was no longer bothered by the occasional bad words.



Now, with money to spend, she is wondering if she should go and purchase the CD so that she can listen to it whenever she wants. But she also knows that if her parents find out that she bought this particular CD, they will be angry with her.

What would you tell her about her listening habits based on what you have learned about the grain offering?

Scenario 3

Thank God, Sandy once again listened to your suggestion and decided not to buy the CD. In fact, she made up her mind to avoid indulging in worldly music, and instead tried to fill herself with the word of God and cultivate the Holy Spirit. So, Sandy started to read the Bible and pray every day. After a while, she realized how wonderful it was to be immersed in the word of God and to draw close to Him. She found that since starting these habits, she hadn't really felt any desire to buy anything.



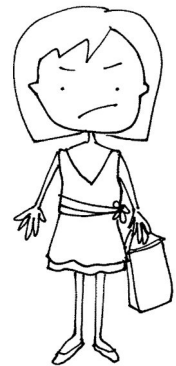
With the Spiritual Convocation coming up, she comes to you and asks you a third question. She asks if she can make extra offerings to God on top of the tithe that she already offers, because she really feels the love of God in her life, and feels His abidance wherever she goes. She is very thankful to God for His care and His blessings, so she wants to offer more to the Lord.

What can you tell her about an offering of thanksgiving based on what you have learned about the peace offering?

Scenario 4

Sister Sandy listened to your suggestion and began to prepare her heart so that she could have a mentality pleasing to God when she made her thanksgiving offering on the last day of Spiritual Convocation.

The Spiritual Convocation finally arrived and Sister Sandy was very excited about making the thanksgiving offering that she had been preparing for. During the Holy Communion sermon, the preacher reminded everyone to examine themselves before partaking of the bread and the cup. After Sandy heard that message, she began to examine herself, and then suddenly remembered doing something that was not glorifying to the Lord. Earlier that morning while preparing for church, she decided to wear the prettiest dress that she had, but when they were about to leave, her mother told her to change into something more formal, because it looked like a party dress and was not fit for Holy Communion. Because of this, Sandy got very angry with her mother and refused to speak to her, even until now. Thinking back, Sandy was glad that she hadn't worn it to church, because if she had done so, everyone around her probably would have looked at her strangely. Sandy now understood that it was really for her own good that her mother had forced her to change, and she now felt sorry for being so rude to her and refusing to speak to her.



What should Sandy do now? (Hint: Remember the trespass offering.)

E2 Year 1 Book 4 Lesson 8—Offerings

Homework Assignment

Name: _____ Parent signature: _____ Date: _____

Bible Reading: Please put a check mark in the space when you complete the reading each day.

Prayer: Please put a check mark in the space on the days you prayed to God.

What I Learned from the Bible This Week

1. _____

2. _____

	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Read							
Pray							

Memory Verse

Please write down this week's memory verse. **(1 Chronicles 29:14)**

True or False

1. People may go to the priest and offer a peace offering any time they want. _____
2. People should offer a sin offering when they have cheated their neighbor out of some money. _____

Multiple Choice

3. ____ : What happened to the animal that was to be offered as a burnt offering?
 a. It was burnt in fire b. It was boiled in water c. It was given to the poor to eat
4. ____ : What kind of flour should be offered as a grain offering?
 a. White flour b. Brown flour c. Fine flour
5. ____ : When a person is very thankful for something that God has given and wants to offer something in thanksgiving, what kind offering should they give?
 a. Peace offering b. Sin offering c. Trespass offering
6. ____ : If a person stole something from his neighbor, but then later regretted it and returned what was stolen, what offering should he make to the Lord?
 a. Peace offering b. Sin offering c. Trespass offering
7. ____ : If a person swears in the name of the Lord in vain, and later feels guilty about it, what offering should he make to ask God for forgiveness?
 a. Peace offering b. Sin offering c. Trespass offering

Short Answer

8. Which of the offerings is most beautiful and most pleasing to the Lord, and why?

LESSON 9

JOSHUA, RAHAB, AND CROSSING THE JORDAN RIVER



OBJECTIVES

1. To be strong and courageous in following the Lord's commandments.
2. To grasp the opportunity to be saved.
3. To make progress in our faith.
4. To remember God's grace in our lives.

MEMORY VERSE

"Only be strong and very courageous that you may observe to do according to all the law which Moses My servant commanded you."

(Joshua 1:7a)

PRAYER

1. Thank God for gathering us here so that we can worship Him and learn more about His word.
2. We ask God to help us have the courage to follow His commandments even though we are young.
3. We ask God to use His Spirit to change us from within so that we can keep growing in our faith when life situations get more difficult.
4. We ask God to help us count our blessings so that in difficult times, we will remember them.
5. We ask God to help us focus on this lesson and apply its teachings in our lives.



Overview

1. Be Strong and of Good Courage

- Joshua is called by God to bring the Israelites to the promised land.
- God promises to be with him, and he is encouraged by God to "be strong and of good courage"
- The two and a half tribes on the east of the Jordan also agree to fight alongside the other tribes.

2. Rahab and the Spies

- Two men are sent to Jericho to spy the land.
- Rahab, a harlot, hides them from the king of Jericho, knowing that the Lord will give them the land.
- The spies give her instructions on how to be saved.

3. Crossing the Jordan River

- The priests carrying the ark step into the water first, before the river stands still.
- Two sets of memorial stones are set up to remember the grace of God.
- The second generation is circumcised at Gilgal.

4. Linking to the Ten Basic Beliefs—Salvation

5. Life Application

- a. Testimony
- b. Real-Life Scenarios

6. Activity—Blessings Journal



Background Knowledge for Teachers

In Joshua 1:12-15, Joshua addresses the two and a half tribes that have already begun to reside east of the Jordan River (Reuben, Gad, and half of the tribe of Manasseh). Their background story can be found in Numbers 32. These tribes promised to Moses that they would help their brethren conquer the land west of the Jordan River before returning to their homes.

Jericho was also known as the "city of palm trees" (Deut 34:3). It is located in a valley, approximately five miles west of the Jordan River and six miles north of the Dead Sea. It is 825 feet below sea level, the lowest city in the world. Archaeologists have claimed that Jericho is the oldest city in the world.

The destruction of Sihon and Og, kings of the Amorites mentioned in Joshua 2:10, can be found in Numbers 21:21-35. Their land was likely the land that the two and a half tribes settled in (cf. Num 21:25, 32, 35).



Reaching Out to Your Students

Your students may begin to feel the effects of peer pressure both at church and at school. They know what is right, but they may start to compromise biblical values (in their speech, in their dress, in their entertainment choices) for the sake of fitting in. In the first part of the lesson concerning being “strong and courageous,” we should remind them that the people in the Bible faced many fears like they do too. However, they relied on God to overcome their fears. We should encourage our students to be strong and courageous to stand up for what is right, even when it may not be a popular choice.

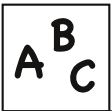
Additionally, your students know about what it means to be thankful, but may have difficulty remembering and counting their blessings. Encourage them to “set up memorial stones” to remember God’s grace in their lives. This may be something as simple as creating a blessings journal. Point out to them not to take things for granted, particularly in spiritual matters. They should be aware of the dates that they were baptized and received the Holy Spirit. Also look at physical matters, as we who live in western, developed nations are much more blessed than people in many parts of the world.



Opener

5 Minutes

Draw a rough map of the Middle East on the white board for the students to write on. Ask the students to come up to the board to label the borders of the promised land as recorded in Joshua 1:3-4 (also see Gen 10:19; Num 13:17, 21-22; 34:3-12). Be sure to label the following locations: The Great Sea, Acacia Grove, Jericho, Gilgal, Euphrates River, Wilderness of Zin, Salt (Dead Sea), Brook of Egypt, Mt. Sinai, and Edom.



Vocabulary

harlot: a person (usually a woman) who engages in sexual acts for money

circumcise: to remove the foreskin that covers a male’s privates; this was the sign of the covenant God established with Abraham



Bible Discovery & Spiritual Teaching

30-35 Minutes

FOR TEACHERS

Hand out the Bible Discovery Worksheet to the students now. As you go over the Bible story, have them look at the worksheet and fill in the answers. The answers have been underlined.

Today, we begin a new section of the Bible. In previous lessons, we had learned about the Israelites in the wilderness: how they received the Ten Commandments, how they built the tabernacle, and how they had worshipped (priests, offerings, and festivals). Today, we fast-forward forty years to when the Israelites were finally about to enter and take possession of the promised land. Now, only the Jordan River separated them from their destination.

Be Strong and of Good Courage

In the past, it was Moses who led the Israelites out of

Egypt. Forty years later, Moses had passed away. God then chose a new leader—Joshua, Moses’ assistant—to lead the people of Israel into Canaan. Class, if you were asked to lead a great nation (over 2 million people), how would you feel? Joshua probably felt very nervous and afraid. There could be many challenges ahead. What kind of enemies would he face? How many eyes were gazing upon him for instruction and leadership?

It is within this context that God encouraged Joshua, saying that He will be with him everywhere he went. In fact, God encouraged Joshua with the same statement three times. What did God say to Joshua each time? “Be strong and of good courage” (Josh 1:6-7, 9). Class, how would you feel if God told you these words before a big task? [Remind the class to refer to the Bible Discovery worksheet here.]

Rahab and the Spies

Later on, Joshua helped prepare the people. The tribes that decided to remain on the east of the Jordan (Reuben, Gad, and half of Manasseh) reminded Joshua of their promise to Moses: that their mighty men of valor would cross with them, fight alongside them, and conquer the land before returning home. As part of the preparation, Joshua sent two spies ahead of the people to view the land, especially the city of Jericho. This would later be the first city that the Israelites attacked.

The king of Jericho heard about the spies from Israel and sent messengers to search for them, asking Rahab, a prostitute, to reveal the spies who went to her house which was on the city wall. Rather than telling the king's messengers, Rahab took the spies in and hid them. She sent the king's messengers outside the city. Rahab later spoke with the spies, saying, "I know that the LORD has given you the land, that the terror of you has fallen on us, and that all the inhabitants of the land are fainthearted because of you" (Josh 2:9). The Canaanites, and especially the citizens of Jericho, had heard about all of God's wonders and signs—the parting of the Red Sea and also the swift destruction of two Amorite kings. Let's also read verse 11. "And as soon as we heard these things, our hearts melted; neither did there remain any more courage in anyone because of you, for the LORD your God, He is God in heaven above and on earth beneath." Their "hearts melted" in fear because they knew that it was the work of God. Rahab also confessed her faith in the God of Israel, saying that He was God in heaven and on earth. [Remind the class to refer to the Bible Discovery worksheet here.]

Because of her belief in the one true God, Rahab asked the spies to promise to spare her and her family's lives in return for the kindness she showed to them. The spies agreed since she spared their lives. They were let down by a rope through Rahab's window. The men later instructed Rahab on how she and her household could be saved. She needed to bind a scarlet cord to the window. Additionally, she had to gather all of her household inside the house—anyone who was not inside would not be spared. This symbolizes how we can be saved today. The scarlet cord represents Jesus' blood—we must be covered by Jesus' blood. Also, it is the Lord's will that our whole household be saved (Acts 2:38; 16:31). However, we must follow the Lord's instructions exactly. We all have to be under the same roof. The spies later returned to Joshua saying, "Truly the LORD has delivered all the land into our hands, for indeed all the inhabitants of the country are fainthearted because of us" (Josh 2:24).

Crossing the Jordan River

The Israelites departed Acacia Grove and came to the Jordan and lodged there. Joshua commanded the people

by saying, "Sanctify yourselves, for tomorrow the Lord will do wonders among you" (Josh 3:5). This is an important principle to keep in mind. If we want the Lord to be with us and do wonderful things in our lives, we need to be holy. We need to repent and change our sinful behavior. We must be holy because God is holy. [Remind the class to refer to the Bible Discovery worksheet here.]

Later on, Joshua commanded the priests to take the ark of the covenant ahead of them and cross the Jordan first. Joshua commanded that when the priests came to the edge of the water and placed their feet in the water (which was overflowing all its banks at harvest time), the water flow would cut off upstream and stand as a heap. Notice how the priests were 2000 cubits ahead of the people. This symbolizes how we should not walk ahead of God but revere God as the leader of the church. Indeed, the events unfolded exactly as Joshua had commanded. As soon as the priests' feet touched the water, the flow stopped upstream, and the Israelites could cross on dry land. Crossing the Jordan River itself was a symbolic action: it was cutting off the old life in the wilderness; they were to begin living in a new place with a new life. There was no turning back.

In time, according to Joshua's command, two sets of memorial stones were set up: one at Gilgal and another there in the midst of the Jordan River where the priests stood. This second set was done by Joshua himself (Josh 4:9). Only nine and half tribes crossed over the Jordan, yet twelve stones were selected for the memorial stones—this refers to the unity of the Israelite nation. The Jordan River would not serve as a division among the people of Israel. These stones also functioned as markers to remind the people and their children of God's miracle at the Jordan—they crossed the Jordan River completely on dry land! Setting the memorial stones, then, tells us the importance of revisiting the sites of God's work and grace.



Linking to the Ten Basic Beliefs

2-5 Minutes

Salvation

In Rahab's story, the two spies promised deliverance to Rahab's family if and only if she followed their instructions exactly (Josh 2:17-20). Here, the scarlet cord prefigures the redemptive work of the blood of Christ. If Rahab did not follow the spies instructions exactly, would she and her household have been saved? Probably not. This principle is the same as our salvation today—we must completely follow what Jesus said regarding salvation. This is not merely an intellectual belief or confession of the redemptive work of Jesus Christ; rather, we must physically follow His words concerning salvation (especially concerning water baptism, Holy Communion, foot-washing, etc.). The Ten Basic Beliefs of the True Jesus Church fully summarize these truths concerning salvation. We must remember, Jesus once said, "Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven" (Mt 7:21).



Check for Understanding

5 Minutes

1. **Where did the Reubenites, Gadites, and half the tribe of Manasseh live?** East of the Jordan River.
2. **Why did Rahab risk punishment to hide the Israelite spies?** Because she had faith that God had given the Israelites the land, and she wanted to be saved.
3. **What would have happened if Rahab did not follow the spies' instructions to be saved and did something else? What does this mean for us?** She and her family would not have been saved. We also need to have faith in Jesus Christ to follow His teachings on salvation in order to be saved.
4. **Only nine and a half tribes crossed the Jordan River, while two and a half tribes remained on the east of the Jordan, and yet twelve stones were selected for both sets of memorial stones. What do you think that means? What do you think that means for the church today?**
 - A) This symbolizes the unity of the nation. Though a natural barrier (the Jordan river) separated them, the twelve stones symbolized that they were still one nation.
 - B) Today the church is one body (cf. Col 1:24). We must also have a spirit of unity. We are also one body with the other True Jesus Churches around the world, though oceans may separate us. If we hear good news from our brethren around the world, we should rejoice; if we hear bad news from our brethren around the world, we should pray for them (cf. 1 Cor 12:26).

HOMEWORK ANSWER KEY

1. Refer to Ex 14 and Josh 3; Moses led them across the Red Sea; Joshua led them across the Jordan River.
2. Moses told them not to be afraid, to stand still, and to see the salvation of the Lord. Joseph told them to sanctify themselves.
3. Moses lifted his rod and stretched his hand over the sea. The priests took the ark of the covenant and stepped into the water.
4. The crossing of the Jordan required more faith. In the crossing of the Red Sea, the people didn't do much of anything. They beheld the miracle of the Lord. In the crossing of the Jordan, they had to physically take action before anything happened—they had to first step into the water.
5. In our journey of faith, our faith must keep growing. In the beginning, perhaps God will spoon-feed us with His grace, but later on, He desires that we grow in our trust in Him. He wishes us to take godly actions even when it may not make sense.



Life Application

10 Minutes

1. A Testimony

[Hand out Life Application Worksheet #1. The students can read the testimony silently to themselves or aloud as a class. Discuss the questions at the end. Suggested answers have been provided below.]

- 1. How was this brother able to be “strong and courageous” and stand up for his faith?** He did not succumb to peer pressure and just drink “a little bit” or completely “fold” and join in the drinking. He was able to tell people that he didn't drink and was able to find good friends that supported his decision.
- 2. Have you been in a similar situation, where you were pressured to do something that was wrong? How did you respond?** Answers may vary.

2. Real Life Scenarios

[Hand out Life Application Worksheet #2. Ask students to read the scenarios, and then discuss the questions that follow as a class. Suggested answers have been provided below.]

Scenario 1

- 1. How can Jimmy be “strong and courageous” to say grace before lunch at school?** He should remember to be thankful for his lunch and that God has blessed him in many other ways too. God looks at his heart and he shouldn't let others keep him from glorifying God.
- 2. Have you ever been in a similar situation? How did you respond? What can help you be “strong and of good courage”?** Answers may vary.

Scenario 2

- 1. How can Lori be “strong and courageous” to resist the urge to cheat on the test?** She should remember that it is a commandment not to lie, and that cheating is the same as lying. Also, God is always watching, and He would be very disappointed in her if she followed the crowd and did something wrong.
- 2. Have you ever been in a similar situation? How did you respond? What can help you be “strong and of good courage”?** Answers may vary.

Scenario 3

- 1. Did God's grace play a role in Traci getting her allowance money? What should Traci be thankful for in her life?** God has allowed her parents to have jobs to earn money. Traci's money comes from her parents, so God's grace plays a large role in her having allowance money. Traci should remember to be thankful for everything in her life, because it is God who has blessed her with all of it.
- 2. Have you ever been in a similar situation? How did you respond? What can help you recognize and remember God's grace in your life?** Answers may vary.

Scenario 4

- 1. What does it mean to you to “grasp the opportunity to be saved”?** Don't let your laziness or lack of motivation keep you from praying for the Holy Spirit, because only those with the Holy Spirit will be allowed to enter the kingdom of heaven.
- 2. Have you been in a similar situation as Sam, going to church or praying out of habit instead of truly wanting to? What helped Sam change his view? What can help you “grasp the opportunity to be saved”?** Answers may vary.

Conclusion

What did we learn today? Yes, we learned the importance of being a strong and courageous Christian, ready to answer God's calling, as Joshua was ready to lead the Israelite people across the Jordan River. Also, the Israelites needed to be spiritually cleansed and holy in order to receive amazing grace from God. When God did work wonders among them, they made a point to remember God and what He did. Finally, we learned that, just as Rahab was saved by seizing an opportunity and following the instructions given to her, today, we need to seize the chance to be saved and completely follow what Jesus said regarding salvation.



Activity

Blessings Journal

10-15 Minutes

Objective: To remember the grace of God in our lives, as the Israelites did with the memorial stones.

Materials

- Construction paper
- Blank or lined paper
- Stapler or ribbons/yarn
- Hole punch, optional
- Markers or colored pencils

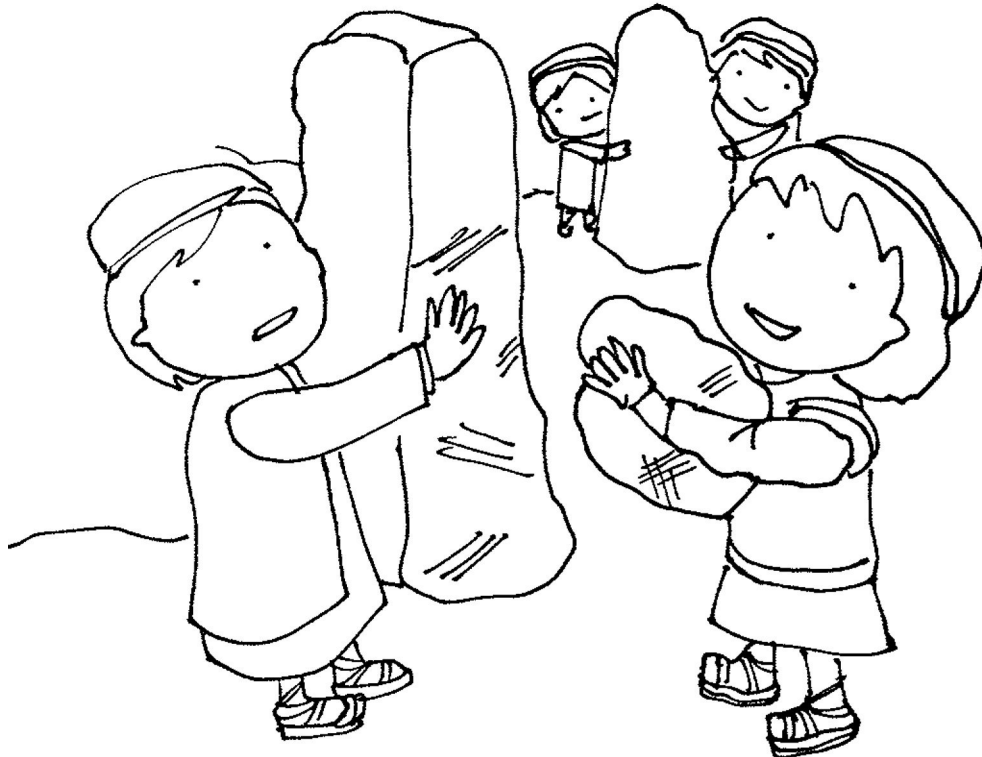
Instructions

1. Using the construction paper and blank/lined paper, make a simple journal and decorate the cover in class.
2. Staple the binding or hole punch the edge and string the pages together using ribbon or yarn.
3. Have the students write something that they are thankful for every day in the coming week. Check the journal the following week. If possible, ask the students to write in it weekly for an indefinite period of time.

Note: Teachers can practice this for a week on their own and show the students an example.

JOSHUA, RAHAB, AND CROSSING THE JORDAN RIVER

1. "Be _____ and of good _____" (Josh 1:6-7, 9).
2. These tribes dwelt on the east of the Jordan: _____, _____, and _____.
3. "And as soon as we _____ these things, our _____; neither did there remain any more _____ in anyone because of you, for the LORD your God, He is _____ in _____ and on _____" (Josh 2:11).
4. " _____ yourselves, for _____ the Lord will do _____ among you" (Josh 3:6).
5. One set of memorial stones was set up at _____; the other was set up in the middle of the _____.



A Testimony

The testimony is about a brother's reflection on his life in college. Through this testimony, we can learn the importance of relying on God to build up the courage to stand firm in our faith. We too can overcome tempting situations! Be strong and courageous!

From the beginning of college, I was a student-athlete on an NCAA varsity sport team and an intercollegiate club sport team. After two years, I decided it would be better to concentrate on academics, so I relinquished my status with the NCAA. However, I continued to participate on the club sport team, since practices and tournaments were not as time-consuming. During sport team parties, I would often find myself in situations where alcohol was easily accessible. In such situations, there are at least two obstacles to overcome. The first is your own desire to drink. The second is the pressure from your friends or peers to drink.

Concerning one's own desire to drink, I am blessed in not having a taste for alcohol, and even find the taste of ethanol or yeast fermentation unpleasant. Thus, I never found the idea of drinking that appealing. However, for others who do not see eye-to-eye with me on this, the question then becomes, "What is the purpose of drinking?" "All things are lawful for me, but not all things are helpful; all things are lawful for me, but not all things edify" (1 Cor 10:23). However, many people point out that Christ drank wine too, and thus was called a winebibber when He came eating and drinking (Lk 7:33-34). Additionally, the Bible rebukes drunkenness but not the consumption of alcohol. In understanding this, one must come to see that drunkenness is not a sudden onset that occurs after consuming a certain amount of alcohol, but a gradual process, starting with drinking small amounts. Therefore, preventing drunkenness depends on each individual's self-control and awareness of what he/she is drinking. As we have been taught, the best way not to fall into temptation is to never encounter it in the first place. Following this reasoning, the best way not to mistakenly get drunk is not to drink in the first place.

Concerning the peer pressure to drink, I was not fortunate enough to be on athletic teams where my teammates felt the same way as I did. Most people, I think, are not fortunate in this regard. However, from my experience, people are much more understanding than we expect. At the beginning of my first semester, both teams were having parties to welcome the freshmen. I was initially anxious about what would happen when I told everyone that I don't drink. Of course, I thought that they would make me the topic of many jokes for a long time, but I found the opposite to be true. From their reactions, I found most of them to be very understanding. The most challenging step was gathering the courage to stand firm instead of trying to sneak by with drinking a little bit or just completely folding. It also helps to befriend other students who feel the same way as you about drinking. I have found this to be a very effective way of avoiding the temptation to drink.



However, no matter what the circumstances are, we must always remember that it is God's strength on which we must rely. Alone, we have no power to overcome temptations or stand firm in our beliefs. It is only by the grace of God that He strengthens us.

Questions for Discussion

1. How was this brother able to be "strong and courageous" and stand up for his faith?

2. Have you been in a similar situation, where you were pressured to do something that was wrong? How did you respond?

Real-Life Scenarios

Jimmy is having a terrific start to the new school year as a 5th grader. He's made a new group of friends. Jason, in particular, is a lot of fun to sit with at lunchtime. Jason always has the funniest jokes and stories to share. On several occasions, Jimmy is so engrossed in chatting with Jason that he accidentally forgets to say grace before lunch. Without realizing it, Jimmy gradually gets used to not saying grace. When he does remember, he is surprised at how self-conscious he feels about it! His solution is to blink a long blink and hurriedly say a short prayer. Jimmy doesn't want his new friends seated around him to notice. He knows that if they did, they'd ask what he is doing and why. Then, he'd have to explain all sorts of things such as the fact that—that he is a Christian and the reason why he needs to say grace. He doesn't want to be different from everyone else. Nobody he knows at school actually prays or says grace before they eat. So, why should he?



Questions for Discussion

1. How can Jimmy be “strong and courageous” to say grace before lunch at school?
2. Have you ever been in a similar situation? How did you respond? What can help you be “strong and of good courage”?

Lori is worried. Normally, she does well on math tests, but today, she does not feel so confident. Lori didn't study much last night for today's big test. Now, she is struggling a bit, unsure of how to answer some of the questions on the test. She looks up at the clock, hoping that the answers will come to her, when something unusual happens. Another teacher comes into the classroom and asks to talk to Lori's teacher. The two teachers talk for a very short time, but to Lori's surprise, several students immediately take advantage of the situation by looking at others' tests papers for answers. Lori cannot believe her eyes! People are cheating on this test! What's more amazing is that the teacher does not seem to notice at all! Suddenly, Lori feels an urge to cheat, too. She knows it's wrong, but she feels desperate today. She reasons that she'll do it just this once. Besides, she's not alone, as quite a few of her classmates are cheating. It's only fair, isn't it?



Questions for Discussion

1. How can Lori be “strong and courageous” to resist the urge to cheat on the test?
2. Have you ever been in a similar situation? How did you respond? What can help you be “strong and of good courage”?

For three weeks, Traci worked hard to complete all her chores at home so that she could get a big allowance. She'd been saving up to buy a special watch that every 6th grader seemed to want. When her mother gave her the money, Traci was thrilled. With the latest allowance money, she had just enough to buy the watch! But that was only if she skipped tithing. For a brief moment, the idea of not giving tithe this time crossed her mind. Traci was entertaining the thought when her mother abruptly interrupted it. "Don't forget to give tithe with your money," Traci's mother said while patting her gently on the shoulder. "And remember to thank God for the money and grace in your life," she continued. Yes, Traci's parents had taught her about giving a tenth of everything to God. She'd always done it because it was the right thing to do. But what struck a wrong chord this time was her mother's reminder to remember God's grace. "I worked really hard for this money," Traci thought to herself. "It was my hard work, not God's grace, which produced this money!" Traci felt a little irritated that her mother didn't give Traci any credit for earning the money. She wondered to herself, "What does God's grace have to do with this?"



Questions for Discussion

1. Did God's grace play a role in Traci getting her allowance money? What should Traci be thankful for in her life?
2. Have you ever been in a similar situation? How did you respond? What can help you recognize and remember God's grace in your life?

Sam can't remember a time when he wasn't a Christian. He was baptized as an infant and church has always been a part of his life. Every week, he attends church services and RE classes. He reads the Bible and does his homework. He prays, too, though not for a long time. Sam knows that he should pray for the Holy Spirit and he does. But just like everything else related to church, Sam seems to do it out of habit rather than a real, self-driven desire. Yes, he knows that a Christian needs to have the Holy Spirit to go to heaven, but he can't muster a sense of urgency to pray for it. "There are so many prayer sessions and chances to pray for the Holy Spirit," Sam thinks to himself. "I have plenty of time and besides, I'm so young. I know that I will receive the Holy Spirit someday." Then something happened that completely changed his view. One day, his mother received a phone call. It was his best friend's mother. "Jack is in a really bad car accident," Jack's mother sobbed. Shortly after, Jack's mother dropped off Jack's younger sister at Sam's house before she went to the hospital. Sam later found out that Jack was with his father and a drunk driver hit the side of the car where Jack was sitting. Jack nearly died. It took months for him to get better. Only then did Sam realize that even kids could die suddenly. Sam still doesn't understand what death means, not completely. But he knows that once someone dies, s/he no longer has a chance to live or pray for the Holy Spirit. That means s/he no longer has the chance to go to heaven. After what happened with Jack, Sam no longer prays for the Holy Spirit out of habit only. He knows that he needs to grasp every chance to pray, because his opportunity to go to heaven is at stake.



Questions for Discussion

1. What does it mean to you to "grasp the opportunity to be saved"?
2. Have you been in a similar situation as Sam, going to church or praying out of habit instead of a self-driven desire? What helped Sam change his view? What can help you "grasp the opportunity to be saved"?

E2 Year 1 Book 4 Lesson 9—Joshua, Rahab, and Crossing the Jordan River **Homework Assignment**

Name: _____ Parent signature: _____ Date: _____

Bible Reading: Please put a check mark in the space when you complete the reading each day.

Prayer: Please put a check mark in the space on the days you prayed to God.

	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Read							
Pray							

What I Learned from the Bible This Week

1. _____

2. _____

Memory Verse

Please write down this week's memory verse. **(Joshua 1:7a)**

Short Answer

1. Compare and contrast the crossing of the Red Sea (Ex 14) with the crossing of the Jordan River (Josh 3). Who was leading them each time?

2. What did the leaders say before the miracle happened? (Ex 14:13-14; Josh 3:5)

3. How did the sea part or the river stop flowing—what were the actions that took place?

4. Which event required more faith of the people? Why?

5. What does this tell us about growing in our faith?

LESSON 10



CONQUERING THE CITIES OF JERICHO AND AI

OBJECTIVES

1. To learn to trust and obey God, even when it may not make sense.
2. To analyze the process of sinning, and learn how we can overcome temptation.
3. To understand the importance of repentance and holiness.

MEMORY VERSE

“There is an accursed thing in your midst, O Israel; you cannot stand before your enemies until you take away the accursed thing from among you.”

(Joshua 7:13b)

PRAYER

1. Thank God for gathering us here so that we may worship the Lord and learn more about His word.
2. We ask God to help us trust and obey Him, even when it is hard.
3. We ask God to reveal our wrongs so that we may repent and become holy.
4. We ask God to help us overcome the temptations that we face every day.



Overview

1. Jericho Is Defeated
2. The Defeat of the Israelites at Ai
3. Achan Is Punished for His Sin
4. The Israelites Defeat the City of Ai
5. Linking to the Ten Basic Beliefs—Rely on the Holy Spirit
6. Life Application
 - a. The Four Stages of Sinning
 - b. Breaking the Cycle of Sin
7. Activity—Group Discussion



Background Knowledge for Teachers

The city of Jericho is also known as the city of the palm trees (Deut 34:3) and is found about ten miles north of the Dead Sea on the west side of the Jordan River. Archaeologists claim that it is the oldest city in the world. The city of Ai means “heap” or “ruin.” It is named so because, in the end, the people of Ai were killed, and their city was burned and made into a “heap.” Ai was about twelve miles west of Jericho, at a higher elevation.



Reaching Out to Your Students

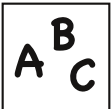
Your students are starting to face and possibly fall into temptations on a weekly basis. Perhaps they have to overcome lying, stealing, video game addiction, media addiction, laziness, a short temper, etc. Encourage them with the message in today's lesson. We can conquer our temptations to live a victorious life, but only if we rely on God. When we sin, we should wholeheartedly confess our sins to God before our sins grow and get worse.



Opener

5 Minutes

Stand up and play a round of Simon Says. Attempt to do some unusual, as well as nonsensical, motions. Connect these "strange" motions to how strange it was for God to tell the Israelites to walk around Jericho thirteen times to cause the walls to fall flat. Lead into how the Israelites followed God's every command in conquering Jericho, even when it may not have made sense. Afterward, tie into how, after their success at Jericho, the Israelites failed to follow God's command, so their conquest for Ai initially failed.



Vocabulary

covenant: an agreement God initiates and makes with man



Bible Discovery & Spiritual Teaching

30-35 Minutes

In the previous lesson, we learned about the Israelites crossing the Jordan River. Joshua led the Israelites with courage and God's instructions. To receive God's grace, the people of Israel needed to cleanse themselves spiritually first. And when God showed wonders among them by letting them walk across the Jordan River on dry land, they made a point to remember God and what He did. In the city of Jericho, Rahab recognized and seized an opportunity to save herself and her household from the coming attack by the Israelites. She helped the spies sent by Joshua and followed their instructions so that she and her family would be spared when the Israelites battled against Jericho. Today, we will continue on and learn what the people of Israel did after they arrived at the city of Jericho.

promised land. The first city they attacked was the city they spied out: Jericho. Because of the spy incident and because of what they had heard about God, Jericho closed its city walls so that no one could come in and out. How do you attack a city that is completely locked up? God gave Joshua instructions but it was a strange strategy: "You shall march around the city, all you men of war; you shall go all around the city once. This you shall do six days. And seven priests shall bear seven trumpets of rams' horns before the ark. But the seventh day you shall march around the city seven times, and the priests shall blow the trumpets" (Josh 6:3-4). Class, how would you react in this situation? The faith of the Israelites had grown considerably in the wilderness and after the crossing of the Jordan River, so they were able to obey God at this time.

FOR TEACHERS

Give the students the Bible Discovery worksheet now. Ask the students to look at the worksheet and fill in the answers as you go over the Bible story. The answers have been underlined.

FOR TEACHERS

Ask students to refer to Part I of the worksheet and fill in the blanks.

Jericho Is Defeated

After the Israelites had crossed the Jordan River, they camped at Gilgal, waiting to start their conquest of the

God commanded that after the last march around the city, the trumpets would blow, the people of Israel would give a large shout, and the walls would fall flat. Only the family of Rahab would be spared because of the promise given previously to her by the two spies. Every

person was to be completely destroyed and the precious metals saved. The people of Israel followed the instructions exactly. Consequently, the walls fell, the enemies were killed, both young and old, and Rahab's household was saved. The bronze, silver, and gold were put into the Lord's treasury. The Israelites were completely victorious!

The Defeat of the Israelites at Ai

After the victory at Jericho, Joshua sent men to spy out the city of Ai, their next target. When the spies came back, they reported to Joshua that only two or three thousand men were needed to attack Ai since it was a small city. They did not inquire of God on how to attack this small city. When they entered the city, the Israelites realized that they were no match. In a brief time, thirty-six men were killed and their army was chased far away.

When Joshua heard this news, he tore his clothes and came before the Lord to pray. Joshua's response shows us the need to reflect on the events in our day-to-day life. If something isn't going as smoothly as we wish, it may be God's way of telling us something. Joshua cried out to God asking why the Israelites suffered defeat. God gave a very clear answer: "Israel has sinned." The main reason why they lost was because they had sinned against God and trespassed God's covenant with them.

Today, how should we respond to sin? That's right, we must repent. It is the same today as it was back then. Therefore, God told them in Joshua 7:13, "Get up, sanctify the people, and say, 'Sanctify yourselves for tomorrow, because thus says the LORD God of Israel: "There is an accursed thing in your midst, O Israel; you cannot stand before your enemies until you take away the accursed thing from among you.'"" Later, God told them how to identify who had sinned against God's covenant.

FOR TEACHERS

Ask students to refer to Part 2 of the worksheet and fill in the blanks.

What the people of Israel learned about this defeat was that their sin was the primary cause. In addition, Israel made other mistakes, too. The Bible records that Joshua listened to the spies that scouted Ai without asking the Lord for directions. Moreover, the spies clearly underestimated their enemies at Ai. It is very likely that after experiencing a huge success at Jericho, the people of Israel became overly confident in themselves and forgot about relying on God for the next challenge.

Achan Is Punished for His Sin

The next morning, Israel was arranged by their tribes and lots were cast to uncover who had violated God's covenant. It turned out to be Achan, the son of Carmi, the son of Zabdi, the son of Zerah, of the tribe of Judah.

Though it may seem to be entirely up to chance, we can see that God was at work in the casting of lots to identify correctly who was guilty. Achan confessed to Joshua that he indeed had sinned against God. Joshua 7:20-21 reads, "And Achan answered Joshua and said, 'Indeed I have sinned against the LORD God of Israel, and this is what I have done: When I saw among the spoils a beautiful Babylonian garment, two hundred shekels of silver, and a wedge of gold weighing fifty shekels, I coveted them and took them. And there they are, hidden in the earth in the midst of my tent, with the silver under it.'" The consequence of this sin was great. Achan and his entire household were stoned to death at the Valley of Achor. After the sin was removed, "the LORD turned from the fierceness of His anger" (Josh 7:26).

FOR TEACHERS

Ask students to refer to Part 3 of the worksheet and fill in the blanks.

The Israelites Defeat the City of Ai

After Israel's sin was properly dealt with, the Lord God commanded Joshua not to be afraid and to go and attack the city of Ai. "Now the LORD said to Joshua: 'Do not be afraid, nor be dismayed; take all the people of war with you, and arise, go up to Ai. See, I have given into your hand the king of Ai, his people, his city, and his land. And you shall do to Ai and its king as you did to Jericho and its king. Only its spoil and its cattle you shall take as booty for yourselves. Lay an ambush for the city behind it'" (Josh 8:1-2).

God wanted them to lay an ambush for the city. God gave Joshua a plan for conquering the city of Ai, and he had to follow it. When we need to regain the victory, we must follow God's plan. God reassured Joshua not to be afraid, and He allowed them to keep the spoils from the city of Ai. Achan sinned and acted foolishly. He could have shared some of the spoils, if only he had waited on the Lord for it.

FOR TEACHERS

Ask students to refer to Part 4 of the worksheet and fill in the blanks.

Let's read Joshua 8:3-13 together. God had encouraged Joshua to take the city of Ai once again, so Joshua obeyed Him and devised a strategy. Joshua would lead a group of Israelites to lure the people of Ai out of the city, and then the rest of the army would ambush and seize the city. God was going to deliver the city of Ai into the hands of the Israelites.

Students, we can learn that God wanted the Israelites to take the offensive. Notice that Joshua didn't wait for Ai to bring the battle to them, but instead, brought the battle to Ai. We often see that in the battle against sin, it is

imperative for us to take the offensive against the powers of temptation, and be alert in our actions.

FOR TEACHERS

Ask students to refer to Part 4, and have the students write down the cities' names: Bethel, Ai.

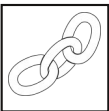
Let's see what happened next, in Joshua 8:14-17. Joshua's strategy worked just as he had planned. Every man in Bethel and Ai had gone out after Israel, leaving the city open and vulnerable to attack.

The time to attack and seize the city had come. Let's read Joshua 8:18-29. With the stretching of his spear, Joshua ordered the army to seize the city. God had given Ai into the hands of the Israelites. Joshua and his men set the city on fire and utterly destroyed everything in the city, except for the livestock and the spoils of the city. Joshua did not lower his spear until the city had become a desolate, burning heap. In addition, Joshua hung the king of Ai until

sundown, and then ordered his body to be thrown at the entrance of the city and raised over a large pile of stones. God delivered Ai into the hands of Joshua, so that day, everyone in Ai died at the hands of the Israelites.

Conclusion

What did you learn today? Yes, we learned that victory is only possible when we follow God's instructions, even if they appear unusual or make little sense to us. The Israelites overwhelmingly defeated Jericho in this manner. But later on, they failed to overtake the city of Ai on their first try. The spies overestimated their own ability to fight the enemy. Joshua did not inquire of God for His instructions. Most of all, a hidden sin among the people of Israel greatly angered God. God knows everything, even sins we make and try to hide in secret. Achan broke God's covenant by keeping a portion of the plunder from Jericho. Because of it, he and his household were punished with death. Only after this sin was removed did God help the Israelites to defeat the people at Ai.



Linking to the Ten Basic Beliefs

2-5 Minutes

Our ninth Article of Faith reads, "Salvation is given by the grace of God through faith. Believers must rely on the Holy Spirit to pursue holiness, to honor God, and to love humanity." In the story of Jericho and Ai, we see that Achan was unable to enjoy the inheritance in the promised land because he saw, coveted, and took of the plunder, which was specifically against the commandment of God. Though we have been baptized, and some of us may have received the Holy Spirit, we must learn to continually rely on the power of the Spirit to overcome our weaknesses (Gal 5:16-26).



Check for Understanding

5 Minutes

- 1. How many times did the Israelites walk around Jericho during the first six days? On the seventh? In total?** 1 time each day for the first six days = 6 times; 7 times on the seventh day; 13 times total.
- 2. Can loud trumpet sounds normally blow down city walls? What enabled the walls of Jericho to fall down?** Normally, a loud trumpet sound would not be able to blow down a city wall. This was a miracle from God.
- 3. Why were the Israelites told to kill everything in Jericho, except for Rahab's family? What does this represent spiritually?** God knows the future. He is kind, just, and fair; He gives people time to repent. We must believe that if there were even a few righteous people in a city or place, He would try to save them. In Jericho's case, we must trust that the inhabitants indeed were very wicked. Now that the Israelites were beginning to conquer the promised land, God was using them as a tool to dispense punishment. The ruthlessness the Israelites were instructed to show reminds us about how ruthless we should be concerning our sin and lusts. We should show no mercy to our temptations or to Satan. The young who were killed represent the little sins and desires that we think may be innocent. The old who were killed represent our bad habits and addictions. These all need to be removed.
- 4. Why did the initial attack at Ai result in defeat?** There was sin among the Israelites. Achan stole things and hid them. Another reason is because they did not inquire of God for His instruction before going out to battle.
- 5. From the severe punishment of Achan and his family, what can we learn about the importance of holiness?** Holiness is absolutely essential before we engage in spiritual battles or do God's work. One man's sin can affect the rise and fall of the nation. Similarly, our personal sin can indirectly influence the prosperity of the church.
- 6. In comparison to the first assault, how many more men did Joshua bring the second time they attacked Ai?** Over ten times more; the first time they brought two to three thousand men, while they brought 30,000 men the second time.



Life Application

10 Minutes

1. The Four Stages of Sinning

[Pass out Life Application Worksheet #1 and go over the diagram with the students by discussing what each of the four stages means. Ask the students to fill out the diagram based on the scenario on the worksheet. Then, go over the discussion questions as a class. Afterward, ask the students to post up the worksheet at home to remind them of today's lesson. The answers have been provided below.]

Based on Achan's confession, let us analyze how we may typically fall into temptation and sin against God. It looks something like this:

- 1. SAW:** We should avoid seeing tempting things if we can, but it is impossible not to see things that attract us. However, the first line of defense is to stay away from tempting environments, which reduces the number of sinfully attractive things we see (cf. Job 31:1; Ps 119:37).
- 2. COVETED:** The second line of defense involves our heart. Achan coveted the goods that he saw and felt a desire for them. We must guard our heart with the word of God (cf. Prov 4:23; Jas 1:14).
- 3. TOOK:** The third line of defense involves self-control. If ungodly desires linger too long in our heart, they will inevitably result in sinful action. We must discipline our body so that we do not commit sin and be disqualified from our heavenly inheritance. We must remember the final destination we are aiming for (cf. 1 Cor 9:26-27)!
- 4. HID:** When we sin against God, we often like to hide our wrongdoing from everyone. Achan did the same thing with the goods he stole. His conscience was picking at him. Usually, if we want to hide something, it is because we know it is wrong. But when we do sin against God, we must reveal the sin before God and confess (see 1 Jn 1:9; Jas 5:16). In response, God will forgive us.

Discussion Questions

- 1. Are Mike's actions right or wrong in God's eyes? Why?** Mike's actions are wrong in God's eyes because he is sneaking behind his parents' backs to play video games. He is also not keeping the Sabbath holy by playing video games on the Sabbath. Furthermore, he is asking his mother to break a commandment for him.
- 2. Look at the diagram and think about how the different stages apply to this example. What are the four stages (saw, coveted, took, hid) involved in Mike's wrongdoing—what tempted Mike and what wrongful actions did he take?** He saw the video game; he coveted the time he spent playing video games; he took the initiative to spend more time playing games; and he hid his extra playing time from his parents.
- 3. In order for Mike to avoid going down the path of sinning, he would have to deal with each of the four stages of sinning successfully. What could Mike do to address each of the four stages effectively?** He could put away the video games so that he can't see them. He could think about other things that he likes doing other than playing video games. He could try to spend more time doing something else so that he won't want to play video games. He could realize that lying to his parents is wrong and not hide anything from them.

2. Breaking the Cycle of Sin

[Pass out Life Application Worksheet #2, and go over the diagram by explaining how sinning can become a cycle and how we can break that cycle. Then, ask the students to read the scenario. When they have finished, go over the discussion questions as a class. The answers have been provided below.]

Discussion Questions

- 1. How did Ricky know that he had fallen into a cycle of sin?** He committed the same sin repeatedly. He wanted to stop, but he didn't know how to stop.
- 2. Why was it important for Ricky to break that cycle? What could have happened if Ricky did not take steps to break the cycle?** It was important for Ricky to break that cycle because it would have worsened over time. If Ricky did not break the cycle, then he might be caught one day and go to a juvenile detention center. Then, his future would be changed forever.
- 3. What can we do when we feel like we may be falling into a cycle of sin?** We can repent of the sin and do our best not to commit it again.



Activity

Group Discussion

10-15 Minutes

Objective: To give students the chance to think about and discuss how they can avoid temptation and sinning.

Ask the students how they would advise the following Bible characters when they are thinking about doing the following things:

1. Eve: Eating the fruit of the tree of knowledge of good and evil
2. Gehazi: Lying and taking Namaan's gifts
3. Judas: Betraying the Lord Jesus Christ
4. Achan: Taking the spoils of Jericho
5. David: Committing adultery with Bathsheba

Ask the students to answer the following questions in small groups or as a class.

1. What is our main temptation in our life? How can we try to overcome it?
2. What advice can we give to one another right now?

HOMEWORK ANSWER KEY

1. The ruthlessness the Israelites were instructed to show reminds us about how ruthless we should be concerning our sin and lusts. We should show no mercy to our temptations or to Satan. The young who were killed represent the little sins and desires that we think may be innocent. The old who were killed represent our bad habits and addictions.
2. There was sin among the Israelites. Achan stole things and hid them. Another reason is because they did not inquire of God for His instruction before going out to battle.
3. Holiness is absolutely essential before we engage in spiritual battles or do God's work. Our personal sin can indirectly influence the prosperity of the church.
4. 1) Turning stones into bread while He was fasting and hungry.
2) Testing God by intentionally putting Himself in a dangerous situation (throwing Himself down from the pinnacle of the temple).
3) Worshipping the devil to obtain all the kingdoms of the world and their glory.
5. By challenging us to face the desires and wishes that we want most.
6. 1) By using Bible verses, every single time, in the correct way.
2) Through fasting prayer.

CONQUERING THE CITIES OF JERICO AND AI

1. Jericho Is Defeated

"You shall _____ around the city, all you men of war; you shall go all around the city _____. This you shall do six days. And seven priests shall bear seven trumpets of rams' horns before the ark. But the _____ day you shall march around the city seven times, and the priests shall blow the _____."

2. The Israelites Are Defeated at Ai

"Get up, _____ the people, and say, 'Sanctify yourselves for tomorrow, because thus says the LORD God of Israel: "There is an _____ thing in your midst, O Israel; you cannot stand before your _____ until you _____ the accursed thing from among you.'"

3. Achan Is Punished for His Sin

"And Achan answered Joshua and said, 'Indeed I have _____ against the LORD God of Israel, and this is what I have done: When I _____ among the spoils a beautiful Babylonian garment, two hundred shekels of silver, and a wedge of gold weighing fifty shekels, I _____ them and _____ them. And there they are, _____ in the earth in the midst of my tent, with the silver under it.'"

4. The Israelites Defeat the City of Ai

"Now the Lord said to Joshua: 'Do not be _____, nor be dismayed; take _____ the people of war with you, and arise, go up to Ai. See, I have given into your hand the king of Ai, his people, his city, and his land. And you shall do to Ai and its king as you did to Jericho and its king. Only its spoil and its cattle you shall take as booty for yourselves. Lay an _____ for the city behind it.'"

The Battle of Ai

Please draw a simple map of the Battle of Ai. Write down the cities of **Bethel** and **Ai** on the map.

According to God's instruction in Joshua 8:2, Joshua set an ambush by dividing his troops into three groups.

- The first group was sent by night to hide just west of the city, between Bethel and Ai. They would rush in and seize it when the soldiers left to join the main battle.
- The second group camped on the north side of the city.
- The third group was a decoy group led by Joshua, meant to draw the soldiers of Ai away from the city.

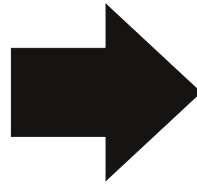
The Four Stages of Sinning

Based on Achan's confession, let us analyze how we may typically fall into temptation and sin against God. It looks something like this:

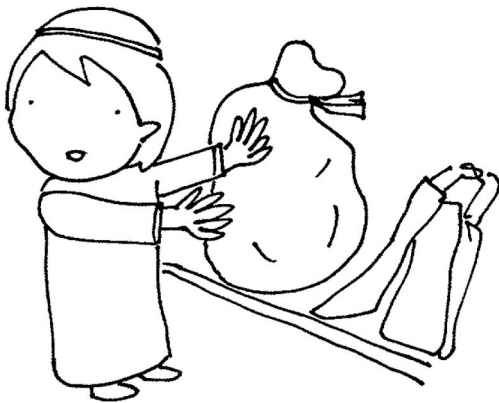
1) SAW



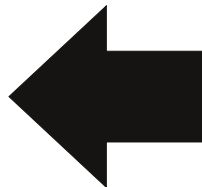
2) COVETED



4) HID

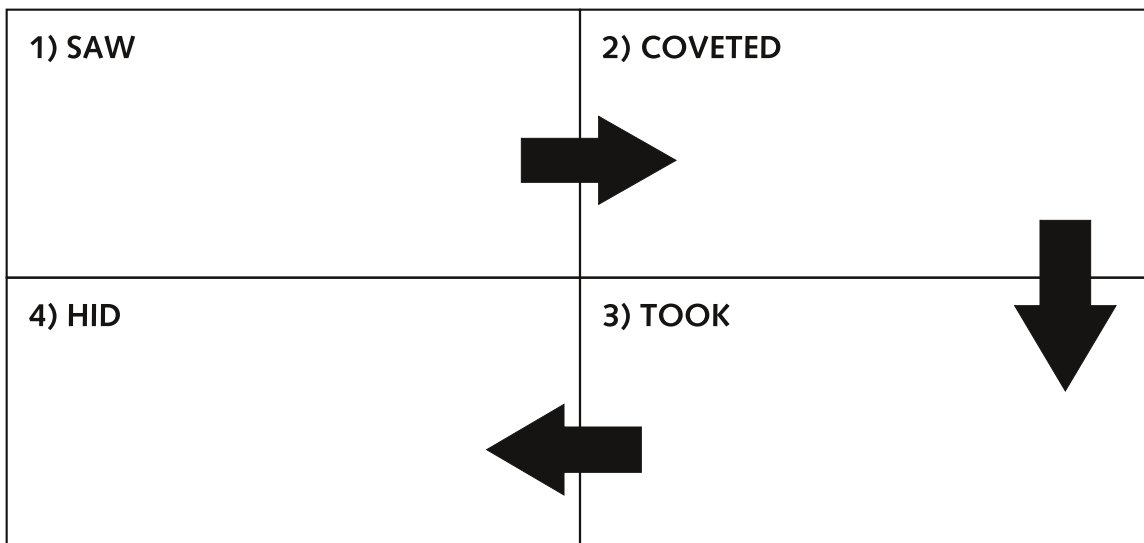


3) TOOK



Instructions: Read the following scenario, and then fill out the chart below using details from the scenario.

Mike is an honor student in his 5th grade class. He loves doing well in school, and he brings the same intensity to playing video games at home. In addition to setting limits on how much he can play each week, Mike's parents prohibit him from playing any games on the Sabbath. For the most part, Mike has followed the rules. This year, though, is different. At the beginning of the school year, Mike discovered a way to outsmart his parents so he could spend more time playing. At first, Mike just played for half an hour more each day. But as he got more into his games, he found himself spending more and more time playing. Somehow, he has managed to keep up his grades at school. But his mind is mostly preoccupied with video games and little else. Mike doesn't think it is a problem, because he still earns good grades, but his ability to focus during prayer and Bible reading is suffering. One Saturday morning, he secretly gets up very early to play video games. An hour later, his mom unexpectedly walks in on him. He begs his mother not to tell his father about this.

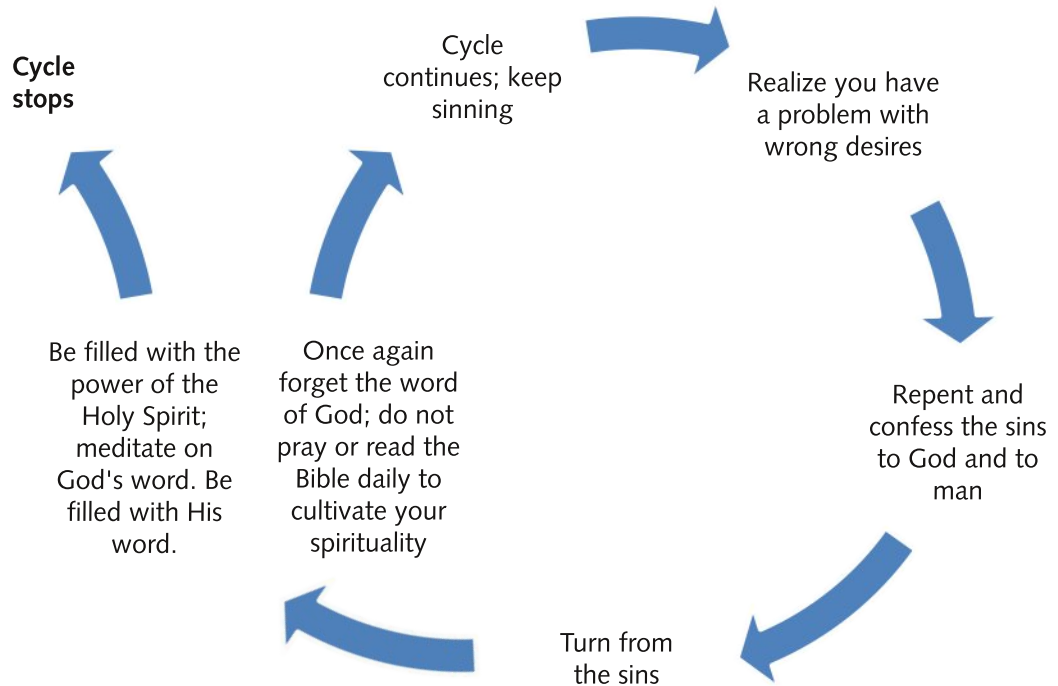


Discussion Questions

1. Is Mike's action right or wrong in God's eyes? Why?
2. Look at the diagram and think about how the different stages apply to this example. What are the four stages (saw, coveted, took, hid) involved in Mike's wrongdoing—what tempted Mike and what wrongful actions did he take?
3. In order for Mike to avoid going down the path of sin, he would have to deal with each of the four stages of sinning successfully. What could Mike do to address each of the four stages effectively?

Breaking the Cycle of Sin

How can we break the cycle of sin?



Some time ago, Ricky went to the local candy store with his friends after school. When he arrived, he saw so many different kinds of candy that he wanted to buy. He looked in his pocket and realized that he didn't have enough money to buy it all. Then he thought to himself, "Why don't I just hide some in my pocket? It's only candy, after all. It's not going to harm anyone if I take it." As Ricky went around filling his plastic bag with candy, he would take some and put it in his pocket. After Ricky went home, he took the candy out of his pocket and put it in his plastic bag. He ate the candy, satisfied that he was able to get all the candy that he wanted. He knew that it was wrong, but he didn't think it was that bad.

Over the next year, Ricky gradually started stealing more and more things, including things that were more valuable than candy. At this point, Ricky knew that he should stop, but he didn't know how to stop. Then, one day, he was doing his Bible reading and came across the story of Achan. Ricky realized that he needed to confess his sins and repent to God. Ricky repented in his prayers to God and told his parents about the things he had stolen in the past year. They were shocked, but they told him that they were proud of him for confessing and admitting his sins. They told him to make sure never to let himself fall into a cycle of sin like this again, and that if he started slipping again, he could always turn to the Bible and to them for help. After that day, Ricky never stole anything ever again and always read the Bible diligently to help keep alert.

Discussion Questions

1. How did Ricky know that he had fallen into a cycle of sin?
2. Why was it important for Ricky to break that cycle? What could have happened if Ricky did not take steps to break the cycle?
3. What can we do when we feel like we may be falling into a cycle of sin?

E2 Year 1 Book 4 Lesson 10—Conquering the Cities of Jericho and Ai

Homework Assignment

Name: _____ Parent signature: _____ Date: _____

Bible Reading: Please put a check mark in the space when you complete the reading each day.

Prayer: Please put a check mark in the space on the days you prayed to God.

What I Learned from the Bible This Week

1. _____

2. _____

	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Read							
Pray							

Memory Verse

Please write down this week's memory verse. **(Joshua 7:13b)**

Short Answer

1. What did the destruction of Jericho represent spiritually?

2. Why did the initial attack at Ai result in defeat?

3. From the severe punishment of Achan and his family, what can we learn about the importance of holiness?

Life Application: Overcoming Temptations

4. Read Matthew 4:1-11. What are the three temptations Jesus faced?

5. How does Satan usually tempt us?

6. How did Jesus overcome His temptations?

LESSON 11



THE GIBEONITES TRICK THE ISRAELITES

OBJECTIVES

1. To learn to tell the difference between right and wrong in our everyday lives.
2. To learn to pray with boldness and faith.

MEMORY VERSE

“Test all things; hold fast what is good.”
(1 Thessalonians 5:21)

PRAYER

1. Thank God for gathering us here so that we can worship Him and learn more about His word.
2. We ask God to give us wisdom so that we may know how to make good decisions.
3. We also ask God to give us wisdom so that in our everyday lives, we can recognize something as wrong, even when it seems right.
4. We ask God to give us more faith so that we can pray with boldness in accordance with His promises.



Overview

1. **The Gibeonites Form a Treaty with the Israelites**
2. **The Sun Stands Still**
3. **Linking to the Ten Basic Beliefs**—Reinforcing our doctrines
4. **Life Application**
 - a. A Testimony
 - b. Praying Boldly to God
5. **Activity**—What Do You Believe In?



Background Knowledge for Teachers

Gibeon was not far from the Israelites' camp site at Gilgal. It was approximately a 17-mile journey that involved crossing mountainous terrain. Typically, one would be able to travel this distance in three days (Josh 9:17). In Joshua 10:2, Gibeon was described as a great city, with many mighty men.



Reaching Out to Your Students

Your students are at an age when they are starting to engage in more complex thinking and to make inferences. It is important to encourage them to seek after God in attaining wisdom and understanding. The Bible tells us that “the fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom” (Prov 9:10; Ps 111:10) and that is a principle that you should try to instill in them. If they can build a close relationship with the Lord Jesus, and continually have God to guide their daily lives, they can be “wise as serpents and harmless as doves” (Mt 10:16).



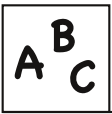
Opener

5 Minutes

Write on the board, “When I Was Tricked by Someone.” Ask the class to think about a time when someone tricked them. Have a discussion with the students about these questions:

1. What allowed them to become tricked?
2. What made the trick convincing?
3. How did they find out later on that it was a trick?

After the students have had a chance to discuss their experiences, feel free to share your own experiences of being tricked. In your brief sharing, include answers to the three questions listed above.



Vocabulary

wineskin: a vessel made of animal hide and used to hold liquids

ambassador: a person sent by a country as its official representative to a foreign country



Bible Discovery & Spiritual Teaching

30-35 Minutes

In the previous lesson, we learned about the conquering of Jericho and Ai. We learned that victory is only possible when we follow God’s instructions, even if they appear unusual or make little sense to us. The Israelites overwhelmingly defeated Jericho in this manner. But later on, they failed to overtake the city of Ai on their first try. One of the main reasons was the presence of a hidden sin among the people of Israel, which greatly angered God. Achan broke God’s covenant by keeping a portion of the plunder from Jericho. Because of it, he and his household were punished by death. Only after this sin was removed did God help the Israelites defeat the people at Ai. Today, we will learn about what happened after the people of Israel defeated Ai.

The Gibeonites Form a Treaty with the Israelites

After Jericho and Ai were defeated, many Canaanite nations heard about the news and allied themselves together to fight against the people of Israel. In contrast, another nation called the Gibeonites believed that it would be a lost cause to fight against Israel. Therefore, the Gibeonites decided to approach Israel and pretend to be ambassadors from a faraway nation seeking to form a peace treaty with Israel. How did they accomplish this? They tried to convince Joshua that they did not live in Canaan, because the Lord had told Israel to destroy all the Canaanites. As long as they could convince Joshua that they were from a faraway land, they had a chance of making a peace treaty to prevent an attack from Israel.

FOR TEACHERS

Give the students the Bible Discovery worksheet now. Ask the students to look at the worksheet and fill in the answers as you go over the Bible story. The answers have been underlined.

What did the Gibeonites do exactly? They attempted to look like they came from a distant land. “They took old sacks on their donkeys, old wineskins torn and mended, old and patched sandals on their feet, and old garments on themselves; and all the bread of their provision was dry

and moldy" (Josh 9:4b-5). Next, the Gibeonites told Joshua a very convincing story. They praised the almighty deeds of the Lord God whom the Israelites worshipped, and they presented physical evidence (the old bread and garments) to convince the Israelites that they indeed were not from Canaan, but from a far off country. "This bread of ours we took hot for our provision from our houses on the day we departed to come to you. But now look, it is dry and moldy. And these wineskins which we filled were new, and see, they are torn; and these our garments and our sandals have become old because of the very long journey" (Josh 9:12-13). Likewise, today, we may be tricked by what we see or by what we hear.

How did the Israelites react in this situation? Did they inquire of the Lord? Unfortunately, no. The Bible says, "The men of Israel [...] did not ask counsel of the LORD. So Joshua made peace with them, and made a covenant with them to let them live; and the rulers of the congregation swore to them" (Josh 9:14-15). Therefore, the Israelites promised to the Gibeonites that they would not destroy them.

Three days after the treaty was formed, Joshua heard that the Gibeonites were actually their neighbors. They actually lived in the land of Canaan! There were not in a far off land as they had described. In fact, they dwelt in four cities called "Gibeon, Chephirah, Beeroth, and Kirjath Jearim" (Josh 9:17). But since they had already formed a peace treaty with them, they could not go against their word. Eventually, Joshua had them become their servants as woodcutters and water carriers for the house of God.

This story reminds us of the importance of being spiritually alert after we experience success. The Israelites were victorious at both Jericho and Ai because the Lord was with them. However, with every victory or success, it is easy for us to become proud and think that the victory resulted from our own strength, wisdom, and effort. When we begin to feel arrogant, we no longer rely on the Lord or pray to God for wisdom and guidance, even during tricky situations. It is difficult to say if the Israelites were proud in this story, but the victories certainly made them less spiritually alert, and they were not able to recognize trickery or avoid being deceived. 1 Corinthians 10:12 reminds us, "Therefore let him who thinks he stands take heed lest he fall."

The Sun Stands Still

Later on, Adoni-Zedek, a Canaanite king of Jerusalem, heard about the Gibeonites' alliance with Israel. He was surprised because Gibeon, despite being a mighty city, appeared scared of the Israelites. The Bible records Gibeon as "a great city, like one of the royal cities, and because it was greater than Ai, and all its men were mighty" (Josh 10:2). Therefore, Adoni-Zedek formed an alliance with his

neighboring cities and kings to attack Gibeon. Nine kings in total formed a huge army, consisting mostly of the Amorites.

When the people of Gibeon saw that this army camped before them, they sent messengers to the Israelites in Gilgal for help. They pleaded, "Do not forsake your servants; come up to us quickly, save us and help us, for all the kings of the Amorites who dwell in the mountains have gathered together against us" (Josh 10:6). Joshua responded right away and prepared the men of Israel for an all-night march to Gibeon. On the way, the Lord assured Joshua, "Do not fear them, for I have delivered them into your hand; not a man of them shall stand before you" (Josh 10:8).

The all-night march caught the Amorites by surprise and Israel was able to rout the enemies who tried to attack Gibeon because the Lord was with them. The Lord helped by sending large hailstones to strike them. In fact, the Bible describes that "there were more who died from the hailstones than the children of Israel killed with the sword" (Josh 10:11). During the battle, Joshua prayed to God and asked: "Sun, stand still over Gibeon; and Moon, in the Valley of Aijalon" (Josh 10:12). God answered Joshua's bold prayer of faith! "So the sun stood still, and the moon stopped, till the people had revenge upon their enemies" (Josh 10:13). As a result of the extended daylight, the Israelites could chase and defeat all of their enemies on the same day.

Conclusion

What did you learn today? Yes, we learned that it is important to remain spiritually alert after we experience success. The Israelites were victorious at both Jericho and Ai because the Lord was with them. However, they did not inquire of God later on when the Gibeonites attempted to deceive them to make a peace treaty with them. As a result, they were tricked. We also learned about Joshua's bold prayer of faith when Israel went to help Gibeon fight off its enemies. Joshua prayed for the sun to stand still, and God answered the prayer and allowed Israel to destroy all of their enemies on the same day.



Linking to the Ten Basic Beliefs

2-5 Minutes

This is a good lesson to talk about the differences between our basic doctrines and those of other churches. We have to build up each student's ability to make this discernment in accordance with the Bible. Other Christian denominations are correct in many areas of their doctrines or beliefs. However, there are some of their beliefs that may sound or appear correct, but, when examined deeper, do not actually follow the teachings in the Bible. The aim of this lesson's Activity section is to reinforce this idea. Allow the students to ask as many questions as they wish so that they can understand the biblical teachings and satisfy their curiosity.



Check for Understanding

5 Minutes

1. **Which cities did the Israelites destroy before the Gibeonites met them?** Jericho and Ai.
2. **Why did the Gibeonites want to form a peace treaty with Israel?** They lived in the land of Canaan; they had heard about the Israelites' victories and about how the Lord was with them. They feared that the Israelites would attack and defeat them.
3. **How did the Gibeonites trick the Israelites into forming a covenant?**
 1. By looking like they came from a faraway country.
 2. By giving a very flattering and convincing speech.
 3. By taking the opportunity when the Israelites were not alert and did not inquire of God.
4. **What eventually happened after Joshua found out that the Gibeonites actually lived in Canaan?** The Israelites did not lay a hand on them since they had already formed a covenant. However, the Gibeonites became the Israelite's servants as woodcutters and water carriers.
5. **Who was the king of Jerusalem that formed an alliance with his neighboring cities to attack Gibeon?** King Adoni-Zedek.
6. **Why do you think Joshua was able to make such a bold prayer—asking the sun and moon to stand still?** Joshua had experienced so much of God's abidance during this time: the miracle of crossing the Jordan River, the miracle of defeating Jericho, etc. His faith had gotten to a point where he really trusted in God. During this particular battle with the Amorites, the Lord already told Joshua that He would be with him—"not a man of them shall stand before you"—so Joshua was able to pray boldly.
7. **How do you think we can learn to pray with more faith?** Faith grows little by little. We should always pray diligently and humbly and according to what we know about God's will from the Bible. In our daily lives, we can pray for God's help, even in very small matters. When we see that God is with us in these small matters, we have more faith for greater matters. Our faith is built up from all those past experiences and seeing God's faithfulness. We should also try to understand that God is loving and caring. Hebrews 4:15-16 tells us a very good reason for why we can come boldly to Him. "For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but was in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need."

HOMEWORK ANSWER KEY

1. By looking like they came from a far country.
By giving a very flattering and convincing speech.
By taking the opportunity when the Israelites were not alert and did not inquire of God.
2. weaknesses, tempted, sin, boldly
3. Answers may vary.
4. Answers may vary.
5. Answers may vary.
6. If the media encourages the student to draw closer to God, then it is glorifying to God, and the student might benefit from watching or listening to it more. Otherwise, it is a waste of time and might even drag down the student's faith.



Life Application

10 Minutes

1. A Testimony

[Pass out Life Application Worksheet #1 and have the students work on the worksheet. Then, discuss the questions as a class. The answers have been provided below.]

The following is a testimony of how a sister's faith increased as God guided her throughout life. This is an abbreviated version of the full testimony. Let us read this portion and see how we can learn to trust in God as she did.

Discussion Questions

- 1. How did this sister's faith begin? How old was she?** She strived to pray for the Holy Spirit when she was eleven. She made a promise to God to serve Him all her life if only He would grant her the Holy Spirit.
- 2. What happened in the vision she saw? How do you think you would react if you experienced something like this?** She saw Jesus crucified on the cross, but He had a gentle look on His face.
- 3. What was her mother's bold prayer? Why do you think she was able to make a prayer like this? How do you think this event strengthened the sister's faith when she faced difficulties later?** Her mother prayed for God to cure her daughter's illness. Her mother had faith that nothing was impossible for God. This event probably cemented the sister's faith in God and the belief that, through Him, anything is possible. Thus, she knows that she can turn to Him for any and all difficulties she may encounter in the future.
- 4. Everyone's journey of faith is different. Some of us will never see visions like this sister. But what can we do today to start walking on this path?** Answers may vary.

2. Praying Boldly to God

[Pass out Life Application Worksheet #2 and have the students read each scenario. Then, discuss the questions as a class. The answers have been provided below.]

In today's lesson, we learned that during a battle with the enemies, Joshua came before God, full of faith, and made a bold prayer on behalf of Israel. He asked God to make the sun and moon stand still and God granted his prayer! In our lives today, we may not go to battle in the same way that Joshua did, but we will face different situations and challenges that will require us to come before God with faith and to pray boldly to Him. Discuss your answers with the class.

Scenario 1

- 1. What does Abby need to do so she can "pray boldly to God and with full faith"?** Trust in the Lord, ask God to increase her faith, and pray with persistence.
- 2. What challenges do/did you face when praying for the Holy Spirit?** Answers may vary. Possible answers may include lack of concentration, sins that have not been repented of, lacking trust in God, etc.

Scenario 2

- 1. As a Christian, does Tyler need to take any actions?** Yes, he needs to speak to the teacher.
- 2. What spiritual actions should Tyler take?** He should pray and ask God to give him the boldness and confidence.
- 3. Does this situation require Tyler to "pray boldly to God and with full faith"? Who does he need to pray for?** Yes, it does require boldness and full faith. He needs to pray for his classmates, the bully, and also the rest of the class.

Scenario 3

- 1. Does this situation require Helena to "pray boldly to God and with full faith"?** Yes, it does. She needs to believe that He can heal her arm properly.
- 2. What does Helena need to do so she could "pray boldly to God and with full faith"?** She needs to ask God to help her endure the pain. With God, all things are possible.
- 3. How can Helena's experience help her to deepen her faith as a Christian?** She will understand how pain affects our bodies, and she will be able to empathize with others who are going through similar trials. Most of all, she will realize that life is not always rosy and that there are times of pain, but God is our ultimate healer. He will heal us when we rely on and trust in Him.



Activity

What Do You Believe In?

10-15 Minutes

Objective: To help students recognize the differences between our church doctrines and other churches' doctrines.

Introduce this activity by first clarifying for the students the concept of "different church denominations." Ask the class what their understanding of this concept is. Then, fully explain it to the class.

Go over the following statements with the class and ask them to identify whether they are true or false. Then, explain to the class why each statement is false.

1. "If we believe in Jesus, then we automatically receive the promised Holy Spirit."

False. Many Christians believe in this based on verses like Ephesians 1:13. It is true that people come to believe in Jesus because their hearts are moved or touched by the Holy Spirit, but this doesn't mean that they have received the Holy Spirit. From Acts 8:14-16, we can clearly see how belief in Jesus Christ and receiving the Holy Spirit are two separate events and do not happen simultaneously!

2. "We can worship God any day of the week. We don't have to keep the Sabbath (on Saturday)."

False. The first sentence is true—of course we can worship God any day of the week. However, just because we can worship God at any time doesn't mean that we do not have to keep the Sabbath. The Sabbath was instituted during creation and was a day set apart by God for all mankind.

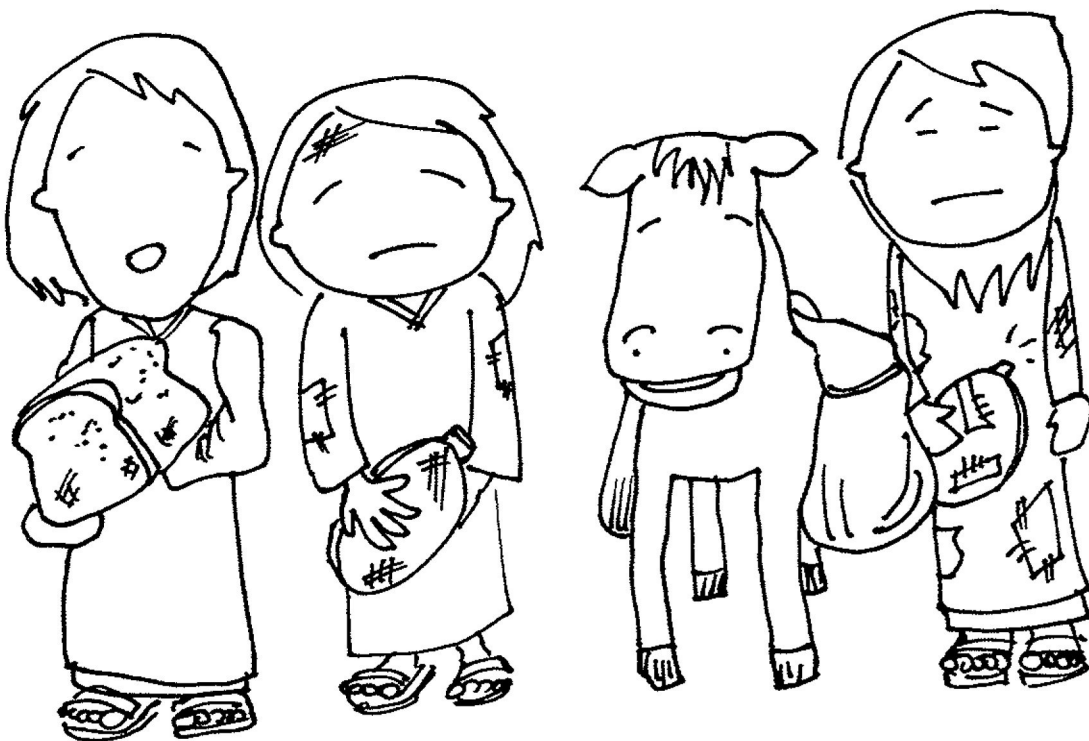
3. "It doesn't matter what church denomination we belong to; what matters is if we believe and trust in Jesus Christ."

False. This can be explained many ways, but the easiest is probably to talk about how the sacraments are required for salvation. Jesus said so Himself in: John 3:5; 6:53; and 13:8. If we really believe in Jesus, then shouldn't we take His word seriously? What will allow us to be "born of water and the Spirit," "eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink His blood," or have a part with Jesus Christ? Participating in water baptism, Holy Communion, and foot-washing will allow us to do all these. These are the physical sacraments that the church performs, but in the Spirit, God is working in us to complete salvation. He washes away our sins, gives us His body as food and drink, and gives us a part of the heavenly inheritance.

Another way to explain this is to ask the students to find out how many church denominations are found in the Bible. Sure, there were many church locations, but a sober examination of the Bible would yield only one church. If Ephesians 4:4-5 tells us that there is only one body (church) and only one baptism, then in today's religious landscape that has thousands of Christian denominations, we must find the one church that is Jesus' body; we must find the one that baptizes in this one true method.

The Gibeonites Trick the Israelites

1. "And they took _____ sacks on their donkeys, old wineskins _____ and mended, old and _____ sandals on their feet, and _____ garments on themselves; and all the bread of their provision was _____ and moldy."
2. "This bread of ours we took _____ for our provision from our houses on the day we departed to come to you. But now look, it is dry and _____. And these wineskins which we filled were _____, and see, they are torn; and these our _____ and our sandals have become old because of the very _____ journey."
3. "The men of Israel ... did not _____ of the LORD. So Joshua made _____ with them, and made a _____ with them to let them live; and the rulers of the congregation swore to them."
4. The Gibeonites dwelt in these cities:
 - a.
 - b.
 - c.
 - d.
5. "There were more who _____ from the _____ than the children of Israel killed with the sword."



A Testimony

Our faith in the Lord is not a series of isolated events but a seamless thread that runs from faith to faith. I can relate very well to such a thought because from the day that I believed in God until now, He has blessed me in so many ways that have rooted my faith and allowed me to approach Him better. God has indeed chosen us not because of anything we've done but because of His mercy and grace. He also gives us rich experiences that compel us to return His love and to study His teachings more deeply. The following is a retelling of a fraction of His blessings to me, and each experience anchors my faith deeper and helps me walk with God in Spirit and in truth.

God's Grace

My family moved to Argentina in 1986 because of my father's work relocation. At that time, I was five years old and the True Jesus Church in Argentina was still at its infancy. My mother brought my siblings and me to worship there, but we were not baptized at the time. It wasn't until 1992 that the church held the first Spiritual Convocation. I remember that the first night of evangelical service was on a Wednesday, and everyone was telling me how wonderful it is to receive the Holy Spirit, and how, without the Holy Spirit, we would not be able to enter the doors of heaven. Back then, I was just an innocent eleven-year-old who did not know too much about salvation, but I was very determined to receive the Holy Spirit.

I remember making a promise to God, during one prayer at the convocation, that if He gave me the Holy Spirit I would offer myself as a living sacrifice to serve Him for the rest of my life. I felt like a child who was trading something precious for an even bigger treasure. After I made this promise to God, I felt a tremendous heat come from above and it filled my body. As the Holy Spirit filled me, a very bright light burst in front of me. It seemed brighter than the sun and it was very warm. I could look straight into it, and there was a soothing feeling of kindness incomparable with any other kind of light. As it got closer to me, I began to trace the lines of a cross that was emerging from the light, which was brighter than the light itself, and the crystal-like cross seemed transparent and very precious. The light and the cross came closer to me, and when it was right before my face, I saw a Man hung on it. He was severely beaten up and emaciated to the point where I could survey His bones. His eyes were shut and I saw the pierced crown on His head, but His countenance was not of a Man who was severely wounded. He had a very kind look—a look that I was drawn to approach, which said, "I love you. This is what it took for Me to save you." This vision compelled me to receive baptism after the convocation that year. But most importantly, I realized how much God loves me and how I should also love Him.

During the years of growing pains that followed, and when my faith was low, this vision reminded me that I had been purchased with the blood of Jesus Christ, and that it was by His grace that salvation had come to me. Therefore, I am different from this world. This reminder empowered me to live according to His words, and it continues to empower me today.

God's Cure

I was born with a disease that is much akin to what we know today as Systemic Lupus Erythematosus (SLE), a disorder of the immune system. The symptoms are like an allergic reaction to winter. Every time the season rolled around, all my joints would swell up to the point where I was physically unrecognizable. I was a frightful sight because of the swelling, perhaps worse than an ogre, and I would scare myself whenever I looked into the mirror. The swellings in my joints would turn blue and green, and they would itch and hurt. My parents took me to the doctor when I was four, and the only inclination they had at the time pointed to a problem with my blood circulation. The chance of survival for the required operation was only fifty percent at best, and the operation itself only had a success rate of fifty percent. The expense was also very high so we didn't go through with it.

This disorder would plague me about twice a year, and it took about one to two weeks for the swelling to die down before I would return to normal. My parents still insisted that I go to school during those times, and I would lower my head as much as possible during class or when I walked down the halls. The kids would even call me "little monster." I had heard testimonies about how baptism not only washes away sin, but also sometimes cures people of their illnesses. After I got baptized, I still had the disease and I wondered why God didn't cure me.

In the same year I was baptized, my family also moved to the United States. And in 1993, during the Winter Student Spiritual Convocation, the allergies struck again and I felt my joints swell up. I was scared that people would be frightened at the sight of me, so I called my mom to pick me up. My mom knew how serious it could get, so she drove to Garden Grove church in the pouring rain. She testified to me later on that while she was driving to the church, she cried to God, "My daughter has had this disease since she was little and we can't help her. Lord, You are the mighty God and You can cure her right now." She picked me up from church, and we went home and prayed. My mom pleaded to God saying, "I entrust her into Your hand. With man it is impossible, but I hope in You because with You all things are possible. If You want to cure her, please stop the swelling." She told me what she prayed about before I went to sleep, and I knew that it was an impossible request because, for the past thirteen years of my life, it always took at least one week for the swelling to go down, and there was no way for things to go back to normal the very next day. Surely enough, after I had gone to bed, God really cured me by the next day—just as my mom had prayed. Twelve years have passed since that incident and the illness has never returned. Praise God!



Discussion Questions

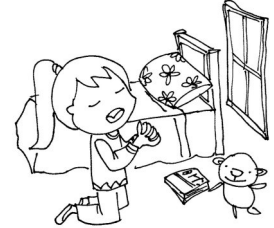
1. How did this sister's faith begin? How old was she?
2. What happened in the vision she saw? How do you think you would react if you experienced something like this?
3. What was her mother's bold prayer? Why do you think she was able to make a prayer like this? How do you think this event strengthened the sister's faith when she faced difficulties later?
4. Everyone's journey of faith is different. Some of us will never see visions like this sister. But what can we do today to start walking on this path?

Praying Boldly to God

Read the following scenarios and think about what it means to “pray boldly” to God in each scenario. Discuss your answers with the class.

Scenario 1

For the past two years, Abby has been praying to God to give her the precious Holy Spirit. She prays very hard during special church convocations and during the monthly prayer sessions with all of the RE students. At home, however, Abby finds it difficult to concentrate when she prays. Even when praying at regular church services or RE classes, Abby does not always have the energy or focus to pray her hardest. At least, not every single time she prays. The more time passes, the more Abby wonders if she will ever receive God’s promised Holy Spirit. Deep down, she feels disappointed and is starting to believe that maybe she is not good enough in God’s eyes. Abby’s heard the same message from her parents, RE teacher, and different pastors: not to give up and to keep praying with faith. Does this situation require Abby to “pray boldly to God and with full faith”?



Questions

1. What does Abby need to do so she can “pray boldly to God and with full faith”?
2. What challenges do/did you face when praying for the Holy Spirit?

Scenario 2

Tyler has always been a quiet student who does not like to talk much in class. Sure, Tyler chats with his friends and likes to joke around with them, but he prefers to do so only with his closest friends. Most of all, Tyler does not like to argue with anyone, even with his friends. When people at school say something that he disagrees with, Tyler prefers to listen and to keep his opinions to himself. But for three weeks now, Tyler has grown increasingly uneasy during math class. A classmate sitting behind Tyler has been picking on Kevin, another student that Tyler doesn’t know very well. Tyler can hear the name-calling and teasing. No one seems to want to help Kevin. Even worse, everyone just giggles or snickers at the situation. Tyler is horrified that this is happening without the teacher’s awareness! Still, he prefers to keep quiet and not get involved, but keeping silent this time does not seem quite right to him. Yet, Tyler does not feel brave enough to speak up against the bully. What should he do?



Questions

1. As a Christian, does Tyler need to take any actions?
2. What spiritual actions should Tyler take?
3. Does this situation require Tyler to “pray boldly to God and with full faith”? Who does he need to pray for?

Scenario 3

Helena is having a miserable week. She broke her arm last week during a basketball game and she has been in pain all week. The pain medicine she takes has helped a little, but she can still feel the sharp aches, especially at night. A few times, the pains woke her up from her sleep and put her in tears. During the day, the cast she needs to wear often gets in the way and nothing feels right. To make matters worse, Helena’s doctor told her parents that she will need a second surgery to fix her arm because it is not healing properly. Helena doesn’t think she can handle any more pain. Despite her entire family and church members praying for her and comforting her, Helena is feeling depressed and helpless. She wonders why God is letting her go through such suffering and why she does not seem to feel better, even when she prays.



Questions

1. Does this situation require Helena to “pray boldly to God and with full faith”?
2. What does Helena need to do so she could “pray boldly to God and with full faith”?
3. How can Helena’s experience help her to deepen her faith as a Christian?

E2 Year 1 Book 4 Lesson 11—The Gibeonites Trick the Israelites

Homework Assignment

Name: _____ Parent signature: _____ Date: _____

Bible Reading: Please put a check mark in the space when you complete the reading each day.

Prayer: Please put a check mark in the space on the days you prayed to God.

What I Learned from the Bible This Week

1. _____

2. _____

	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Read							
Pray							

Memory Verse

Please write down this week's memory verse. (1 Thessalonians 5:21)

1. How did the Gibeonites trick the Israelites into forming a covenant?
2. Look up Hebrews 4:15-16 and fill in the blanks.
 "For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our _____, but was in all points _____ as we are, yet without _____. Let us therefore come _____ to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need."

Life Application: Good vs. Bad Choices

In this homework assignment, we will try to practice telling the difference between good and not-so-good choices regarding media, as we need to make these choices at home every day. We want to be aware of what we are truly allowing to influence our thoughts and minds.

A. Choose one of the following:

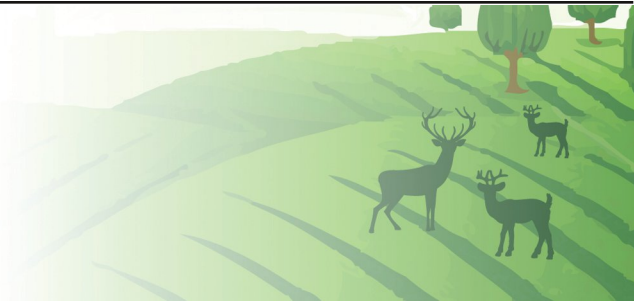
- o A half hour TV show/cartoon that you normally watch
- o An interesting Internet video that you saw recently
- o A song (with lyrics) that is really popular right now
- o A video game you spend most of your time playing

B. As you are watching/playing/listening to whatever you have chosen, have this worksheet in front of you.

3. What do you think is the overall message that the TV show/song/video/game is trying to tell you?
4. Was there anything you saw or heard that broke any of the Ten Commandments? If so, which ones?
5. Was there anything you saw or heard that served as a good example for you and encouraged you?
6. Do you think you should watch or listen to this less or more based on the analysis you just made?

LESSON 12

DISTRIBUTING THE LAND, AND JOSHUA'S LAST WORDS



OBJECTIVES

1. To learn that God always fulfills His promises.
2. To understand that we need to hold fast to the Lord wholeheartedly.
3. To make a clear choice in choosing God and removing foreign gods from our hearts.
4. To understand what it means to have a covenant with God.

MEMORY VERSE

"For all the promises of God in Him are Yes, and in Him Amen, to the glory of God through us."

(2 Corinthians 1:20)

PRAYER

1. Thank God for gathering us here so that we can worship and learn more about His word.
2. We ask God to give us more faith so that we can pray with boldness according to His promises.



Overview

1. **The land not entirely conquered**
2. **Distribution of the land**
 - a. The twelve tribes (Josh 13-19)
 - b. Cities of Refuge (Josh 20)
 - c. The Levites (Josh 21)
3. **Joshua addresses the leaders and the people**
 - a. To the leaders (Josh 23)
 - b. To the people (Josh 24)
4. **Linking to the Ten Basic Beliefs**—One True Church
5. **Life Application**
 - a. Hold Fast to the Lord Your God
 - b. I Choose to Serve God!
6. **Activity**—My Covenant with God



Background Knowledge for Teachers

Covenant Renewal

Joshua 24:1-28 records a renewal of the Mosaic covenant at Shechem. After establishing this covenant with God at Mount Sinai (Ex 24), the Bible records how the Israelites renewed their covenant with God three times. The first time was at Moab, after God sustained them in the wilderness and gave them victory over kings Sihon and Og (Dt 29). The second time was at Mount Ebal, after the victories at Jericho and Ai (Josh 8:30-34). The third time was at Shechem after their astonishing triumphs over the Canaanite coalitions (Josh 11-13; 18). The first renewal was mediated through Moses, and the last two through Joshua.

The Promised Land vs. the Land of Canaan

Please note that the land of Canaan is not equivalent to the promised land—Canaan is actually only a small portion of the promised land, as the full extent of its borders extend well beyond Canaan's, which is usually defined as stretching from Beersheba to Dan (cf. 1 Sam 3:20; 1 Chr 21:2). The borders of the promised land, on the other hand, range from the river of Egypt all the way to the Euphrates River (Gen 15:18). The Israelites did not actually reach the borders of the promised land until the time of King David and King Solomon (cf. 1 Kgs 4:28-29).



Reaching Out to Your Students

In order to understand that God always fulfills His promises, children need to learn what trustworthiness is all about. If we say that God is trustworthy, that means He always keeps His promises. That's why understanding this will enable your students to hold fast to the Lord wholeheartedly. Trust is an assured reliance on the character, ability, strength, or truth of someone or something. This trait of being able to lean on, trust in, and depend on is a precious one that can become a part of a child's behavior pattern at an early age. When a person cares about himself and about his fellow human beings, he makes sure that promises are kept, trust is developed, and the goal of being dependable is met.

Children learn best when they see others do things that they are required to do. In order to teach your students the quality of being trustworthy, it is important to show them regularly how adults can be dependable. Try to keep promises you've made, be on time, and follow through with plans you make, unless you have an honest reason for changing them. Children often make promises that they can't keep. Help them to follow through so that they continue to develop the quality of being trustworthy.



Opener

5 Minutes

Students, do you understand the difference between a "possibility" and a "promise"?
Read the following scenario aloud to the students.

"I'll get my homework done before it's time to go to the school concert. I can do it, I promise. I'll just watch the rest of this show, and then I'll get started," Jenny promised her mother.

Ivy knew that Jenny had a lot of homework to finish before her school concert at seven. She would need every bit of time she had if she was going to get it finished before they left.

"How much do you have to do?" she asked innocently.

"Not much. I will get it finished in time. No sweat!" came the answer.

"What exactly do you have to do?" Ivy pursued the truth from her daughter.

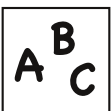
"Well, I have forty math problems, some English sentences to write, some vocabulary words to learn, and then I have to write a hundred words about the planet earth we've been studying in science."

"Wow!" Ivy exclaimed. "That sounds like a lot. Are you sure you can get it all done?" How long do you think it'll take you to do the math problems?"

"Not long. About thirty-five minutes, I guess. That's how long it took to do yesterday's assignment." Jenny was now frowning. She looked at the clock and made some mental calculations. "Maybe I'd better get started," she continued soberly as she turned off the TV and headed for her room.

"I think you've made a sensible decision. I'd hate for you not to be able to keep the promise you made about finishing before the school concert. It's very important that we keep our promises," Ivy said as she walked with Jenny to her room. "I'll call you when dinner is ready."

Students, based on this scenario, do you think Jenny did the right thing by not watching the show? (Yes.) Originally, she made a promise that she thought she could keep, but after some thinking, she knew that she couldn't keep her promise. Today, we will understand that the God whom we worship and serve is a God we can trust. He is the One we can hold fast to and depend on. Let's find out.



Vocabulary

covenant: a promise made between man and God

manslayer: a person who has accidentally killed another person

refuge: a place where people go to seek safety from people who want to hurt them



Bible Discovery & Spiritual Teaching

30-35 Minutes

The Land Not Entirely Conquered

After defeating Jericho, Ai, and the Amorites, the Israelites continued to make much progress in conquering the promised land. Joshua 12 lists all the lands and kings that the Israelites defeated. But how many kings did they actually manage to defeat? Let's read 12:24: "All the kings, thirty-one." Thirty-one kings! Even though these people had established cities and were even described as "giants" by the Israelite spies, the Israelites were still able to defeat them, because they had God on their side.

However, even though the Israelites managed to defeat all these kings, there were still many lands and cities that they were supposed to conquer, especially in the north and south of Canaan. This was just how big their promised land was! However, after many years of fighting, Joshua was now very old, so God told him to begin dividing the land between the twelve tribes. The borders that he dictated to the Israelites would become the inheritance of each tribe. Although they were receiving their inheritance now, the Israelites still continued to drive out the Canaanites (Josh 13:1-7).

Unfortunately, although Joshua commanded them to continue in this, without his hand to guide them, the Israelites made no effort to grasp the promise of God. Eventually, many Canaanites still remained in the land; some became forced laborers under the Israelites (Josh 16:10; 17:13).

FOR TEACHERS

Hand out Bible Discovery Worksheet #1 and have the students fill out Part 1. Review the answers before moving on.

Distribution of the Land

The Twelve Tribes

Let's talk briefly about the division of the land. Although the promised land had not yet been fully taken under their control, since Joshua was getting very old, God told him to mark the borders. In addition to distributing the land among the twelve tribes, there were other very important things that occurred during this time. Joshua marked certain cities as "cities of refuge," and he also addressed the leaders and the people with very important words.

Before we go over these, let's first look at the twelve tribes.

FOR TEACHERS

Hand out Bible Discovery Worksheet #2.

First, can any of you name all twelve tribes? [See if students can name them all; help them along if they are missing any, listing them on the board as they name each.] Now, although Joseph was initially one of the twelve sons, his inheritance was divided between two different names: Ephraim and Manasseh. Do you remember who these two men were? (They were the children of Joseph.)

In addition, there was one person who received special treatment because of his faith. His name was Caleb. Do you remember why this man was special? (He was one of the original twelve spies who went into Canaan, and was one of two who gave a good report about the land, demonstrating his faith in God. Joshua himself was the other spy who gave a good report.) Because of his faith, Caleb inherited Hebron, a city within the land of Judah.

Now, each of these tribes got their own piece of land. Does anyone remember which tribes asked to stay on the east side of the Jordan River? The Reubenites, Gadites, and half of Manasseh. As Moses had promised, as long as they helped to fight the Canaanites, they would get land on the east side of the Jordan river.

FOR TEACHERS

Ask the students to refer to worksheet #2. Then ask them to search out the **landmarks for each tribe's allotted territory**, and have them write down in pencil the locations of each tribe. Once you have gone through all of them, compare their sheets to the answer key and make sure they have them all correct. Please refer to the end of the Bible Discovery section for the table containing the landmarks.

Cities of Refuge

After distributing the land, God then told Joshua to appoint six cities to be "cities of refuge." These were very special cities that were appointed to be safe havens for those who accidentally or unintentionally killed another person, or "manslayers." Such manslayers could flee to these cities and plead their case before the elders of the city. The elders would then give them a place to live among the other city residents. If someone from the victim's family sought the manslayer's life for revenge, the elders would not be allowed to deliver the manslayer into his hands. The manslayer would be able to stay in the city until his case was brought to the congregation for judgment, or until the high priest died.

There was a restriction on the manslayers that entered the city, however. Numbers 35:26-28 says, "But if the manslayer at any time goes outside the limits of his city of refuge, and the avenger of blood kills the manslayer, he shall not be guilty of blood, because he should have



Bible Discovery & Spiritual Teaching

30-35 Minutes

remained in his city of refuge until the death of the high priest. But after the death of the high priest the manslayer may return to the land of his possession."

While the Israelites were still in the wilderness, God had already commanded Moses to establish these cities of refuge (Num 35:9-15). Therefore, before they even entered Canaan, they already established three cities east of the Jordan River (Deut 4:41-43). Now that Joshua and the Israelites had conquered most of the land west of the river, they could establish three more cities of refuge.

East of the Jordan River, they selected Bezer, Ramoth, and Golan. West of the Jordan, they selected Kadesh, Shechem, and Hebron.

FOR TEACHERS

Ask the students to mark these cities on Bible Discovery Worksheet #2 with a marker/highlighter. Then, go over Part 2 of Bible Discovery Worksheet #1 as a group.

The Levites

Did you notice that one of the tribes didn't get any land? Do you know which one it was? That's right, the Levites! Do you know why? The Levites weren't given any particular stretch of land as an inheritance, because they were a special tribe chosen to serve God. Instead, as priests, the Lord Himself would be their inheritance (Josh 13:14; 18:7). They did, however, inherit certain cities in which to live that were scattered within each of the tribes' lands.

Joshua Addresses the Leaders and the People

Joshua was old and well advanced in years and before he died, he called all the leaders (the elders, heads, judges, and officers) of the nation together to give them his final words of encouragement and God's instruction. The first thing he said was to remind them that God was the one who fought for them. They had received the land for their tribes, and Joshua wanted them to remember three things: to be steadfast and follow all the laws of Moses; not to mix with the pagan nations or worship their idols; and not to intermarry with the pagan nations. Then, Joshua went on to talk about the consequences of intermarriage with the Canaanite nation—they would perish and be driven out from the good land that God had given them. Joshua really challenged the leaders to make a conscious choice to remember always the covenant of the Lord God and to remember not to serve other gods.

After Joshua addressed the leaders, he gathered all the

tribes of Israel to Shechem, and summoned the elders, the heads, the judges, and the officers of Israel to present themselves before God. It must have been quite a scene with all the people standing in front of Joshua! When they gathered, he reminded the people of God's goodness and His provision for them since the time of Abraham. He also reminded them how God had sent the ten plagues and parted the Red Sea. God's blessings continued as He helped them drive out the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Girgashites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites after they took possession of the land. Joshua reminded the Israelites that God gave them land that they had not labored for, and towns that they had not built. It was only because of God's grace that they could eat the fruit of the vineyards and trees that they did not plant themselves. Joshua spent a long time reminding the Israelites of all of God's abundant blessings. We, too, need to remind ourselves of God's love and His blessings in both the past and the present!

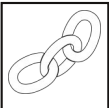
"As for Me and My Family, We Will Serve the Lord"

Before Joshua ended his farewell encouragement, he took a definite stand for the Lord by telling all the people that he had made a commitment to God by always choosing to serve Him. In the last part of Joshua 24:15, he said, "But as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD." Therefore, the people must also choose. They only had two choices: God or other foreign gods. Amazingly, all the people boldly claimed that they would never forsake God. Joshua continued to encourage them to put away their foreign idols or gods. They must be very determined to destroy whatever hindered them from worshipping Him. God really wants His people to worship and obey Him alone. Since everyone said to Joshua that they would serve the Lord God and obey Him only, Joshua made a covenant with the people that day at Shechem. Joshua wrote these words in the Book of the Law of God. After all these things, Joshua died, at the age of one hundred and ten. Joshua was truly a servant of the Lord, as he led the people through so many military victories and taught them the value of faithful obedience!

FOR TEACHERS

Have the students complete Bible Discovery Worksheet #1, Part 3.

Tribe	Territory Landmarks
East of the Jordan River	
Reuben (Josh 13:15-23)	Aroer, River Arnon, Medeba, Heshbon
Gad (13:24-28)	Jazer, Gilead, Succoth, Sea of Chinnereth (Sea of Galilee)
Manasseh (East) (13:29-31)	Mahanaim, Bashan, Ashtaroth
West of the Jordan River	
Judah (14:6-15:63)	Hebron (inherited by Caleb), Ashdod, Gaza
Ephraim (16:5-10)	Mediterranean Sea, Shiloh, Tappuah
Manasseh (West) (17:7-13)	Michmethath, Shechem, Tappuah, Brook Kanah
Benjamin (18:11-28)	Jericho, Bethel, Kirjath Jearim, Jebus (Jerusalem)
Simeon (19:1-9)	Beersheba, Hormah
Zebulun (19:10-16)	Rimmon, Sarid, Daberath
Issachar (19:17-23)	Jezreel, Chesulloth
Asher (19:24-31)	Cabul, Tyre, Mount Carmel
Naphtali (19:32-39)	Ziddim, Chinnereth, Ramah, Hazor, Kedesh
Dan (19:40-48)	Joppa, Ekron



Linking to the Ten Basic Beliefs

2-5 Minutes

One True Church

The cities of refuge prefigure our salvation (or refuge) in Jesus Christ and in His one true church. Just as the manslayer could be struck by his avenger if he left the city before the death of the high priest, we can be struck by Satan if we depart from the body of Christ. If that happens, then we cannot be saved (cf. John 15).



Check for Understanding

5 Minutes

1. How many kings were the Israelites able to defeat under Joshua's command? Thirty-one.
2. Did the Israelites drive out the Canaanites completely? What happened to the Canaanites? No. They became forced laborers.
3. Which two tribes received Joseph's inheritance? Ephraim and Manasseh; his sons' descendents.
4. Which tribe was specially chosen for God's work? The Levites.
5. What were the cities of refuge? Cities where manslayers could flee to and live in safety.
6. Which three commands did Joshua tell the Israelites to remember? To be steadfast and follow Moses' laws; never to mix with pagans or worship their idols; and never to intermarry with pagan nations.
7. What did Joshua say about his own commitment to God (Josh 24:15)? He said, "But as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD."

HOMEWORK ANSWER KEY

1. True
2. False; they did not drive out all the Canaanites.
3. True
4. Bezer, Ramoth, Golan, Kadesh, Shechem, Hebron
5. If someone accidentally killed someone, they could flee to one of these cities and dwell in safety. People who sought revenge weren't allowed to pursue them in one of these cities. The manslayer then had to dwell in the city until the high priest died, or until his case was judged in front of the congregation.
6. The True Church—it is a place of salvation, and if we walk outside of it, then we can no longer be saved.
7. To be steadfast and follow Moses' laws; never to mix with pagans or worship their idols; and never to intermarry with pagan nations.
8. He said, "But as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord."



Life Application

10 Minutes

1. Hold Fast to the Lord Your God

[Pass out Life Application Worksheet #1 and have the students work on the worksheet. Then, discuss the questions as a class. The answers have been provided below.]

Verses in the proper order:

Psalm 119:37
 Proverbs 6:10-11
 Proverbs 25:28
 James 1:19-20
 2 Corinthians 10:5
 Ephesians 5:4
 Matthew 6:27, 33-34
 Galatians 5:19-21
 Ephesians 5:21
 Colossians 3:13

2. I Choose to Serve God!

[Pass out Life Application Worksheet #2 and go over it with the students. Ask them to fill in the blanks for Part 1 and invite them to share their answers. Then, ask them to read the scenarios in Part 2 and discuss what they learned from them.]



Activity

My Covenant with God

10-15 Minutes

Objective: To remind students of their covenant with God.

What is the definition of a covenant?

A covenant is an unchangeable and divine agreement between God and man. It is a contract that addresses the conditions of their relationship with each other. It's a bit like a promise. Jeremiah 31:33 tells us, "I will be their God, and they shall be My people." Have you thought about your relationship with God in terms of a "covenant"? Write down what you need to tell God about your relationship with Him.

[Print out the Activity worksheet, as when the students finish it, they will need to bring it home and work with their parents. Additionally, please work with parents by telling them about this activity, and advising them to measure their child's progress at home each month. They can then share their progress with the teachers at the next parent-teacher meeting.]

Distributing the Land, and Joshua's Last Words

Part 1 - An Unconquered Land

The Israelites had received such a wonderful gift from God in the form of the promised land. But when they were left to their own devices, they made no effort to grasp with both hands the promise that God had given them. On top of not reaching out for His promise, they even broke their covenant with Him by not driving out all of the Canaanites!

What kind of promises has God given us? Refer to the following verses and write them down.

1. Matthew 11:28

"Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest."

2. Jeremiah 29:11-13

"For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, says the LORD, thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope. Then you will call upon Me and go and pray to Me, and I will listen to you. And you will seek Me and find Me, when you search for Me with all your heart."

Discussion Question: How can we grasp these promises? *We need to: fully trust in God; believe that God wants us to depend on Him; and not stray from His teachings. Then, He will help us see these promises come true.*

Part 2 - Cities of Refuge

Cities of Refuge	True Jesus Church
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Refuge from (physical) death - Safety for those who have committed accidental murder. - If you leave the city, you cannot be saved. - May go back home after the death of the high priest. - Anyone may gather there, no matter what tribe. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Refuge from (spiritual) death - Safety for those who have sin. - Those outside cannot be saved. - Inherit salvation upon the Second Coming of Jesus Christ. - It doesn't matter where you are from, as long as you enter, you will be saved.

The cities of refuge prefigure our church today. Go through the table below and list characteristics of each one, comparing the two to each other. An example has been provided for you.

Part 3 - Joshua's Final Words

1. How do the three commands Joshua gave to the Israelites leaders relate to our lives today?

- a. Be steadfast and follow the laws of Moses. (Josh 23:6)
Follow God's commandments and stick close to Him so that we can be saved.
- b. Do not mix with pagan nations or worship their idols. (Josh 23:7-8)
Do not follow the habits of the world around us, even those of our friends at school.
- c. Do not intermarry with pagan nations. (Josh 23:12-13)
We should bring our whole family into the church.

Refer to following verses and write them down.

1. Joshua 24:23

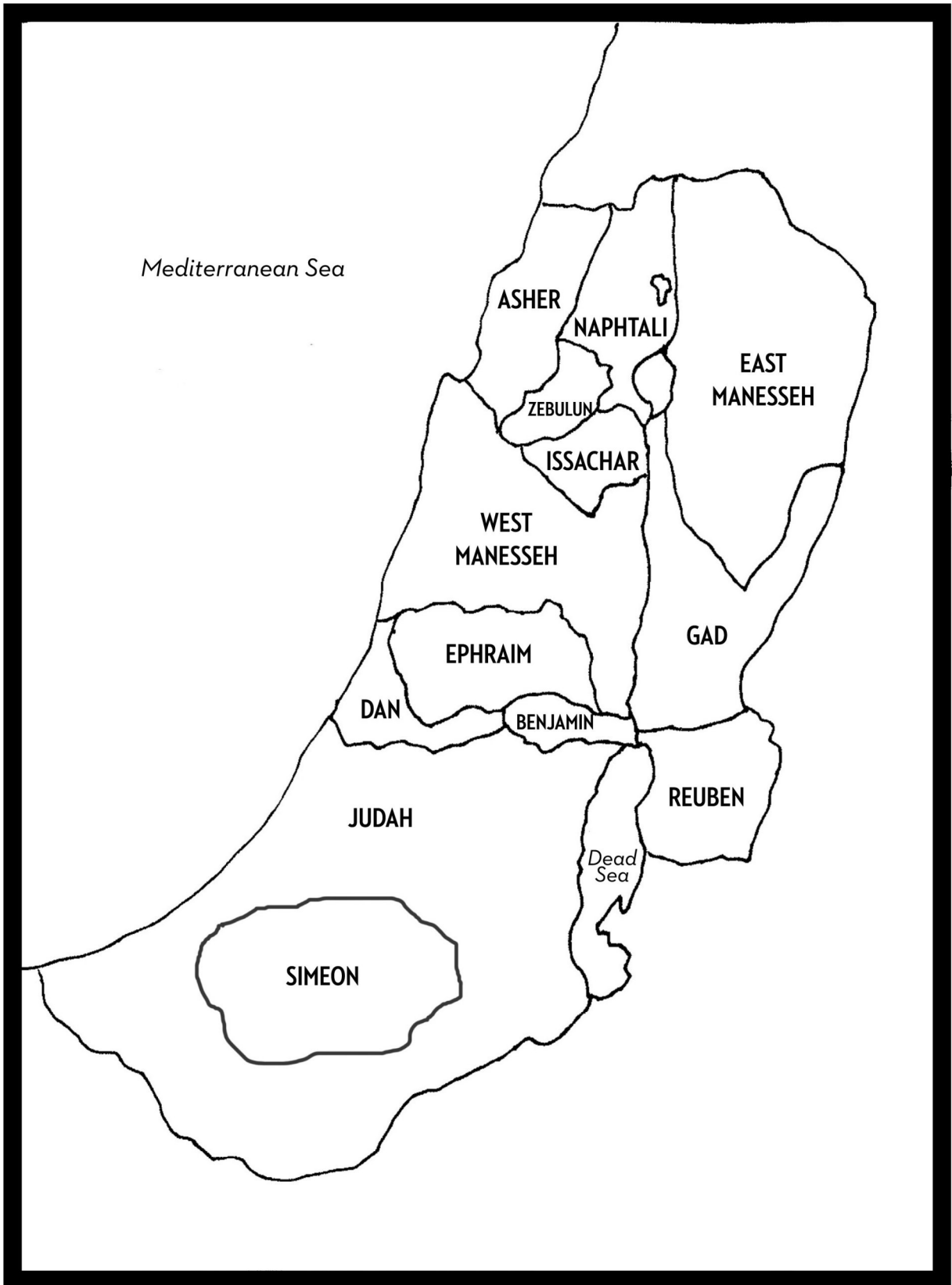
"Now therefore," he said, "put away the foreign gods which are among you, and incline your heart to the LORD God of Israel."

2. Joshua 24:15b

"But as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD."

The Twelve Tribes

Instructions: Find the landmarks for each tribe's allotted territory on this map, and write down the locations of each tribe.



Distributing the Land, and Joshua's Last Words

Part 1 - An Unconquered Land

The Israelites had received such a wonderful gift from God in the form of the promised land. But when they were left to their own devices, they made no effort to grasp with both hands the promise that God had given them. On top of not reaching out for His promise, they even broke their covenant with Him by not driving out all of the Canaanites!

What kind of promises has God given us? Refer to the following verses and write them down.

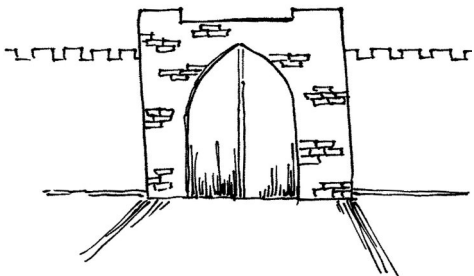

1. Matthew 11:28

2. Jeremiah 29:11-13

Discussion Question: How can we grasp these promises?

Part 2 - Cities of Refuge

The cities of refuge prefigure our church today. Go through the table below and list characteristics of each one, comparing the two with each other. An example has been provided for you.

Cities of Refuge	True Jesus Church
<p>- Refuge from (physical) death</p> 	<p>- Refuge from (spiritual) death</p> 

Part 3 - Joshua's Final Words

1. How do the three commands Joshua gave to the Israelites leaders relate to our lives today?

- a. Be steadfast and follow the laws of Moses. (Josh 23:6)

- b. Do not mix with pagan nations or worship their idols. (Josh 23:7-8)

- c. Do not intermarry with pagan nations. (Josh 23:12-13)

Refer to following verses and write them down.

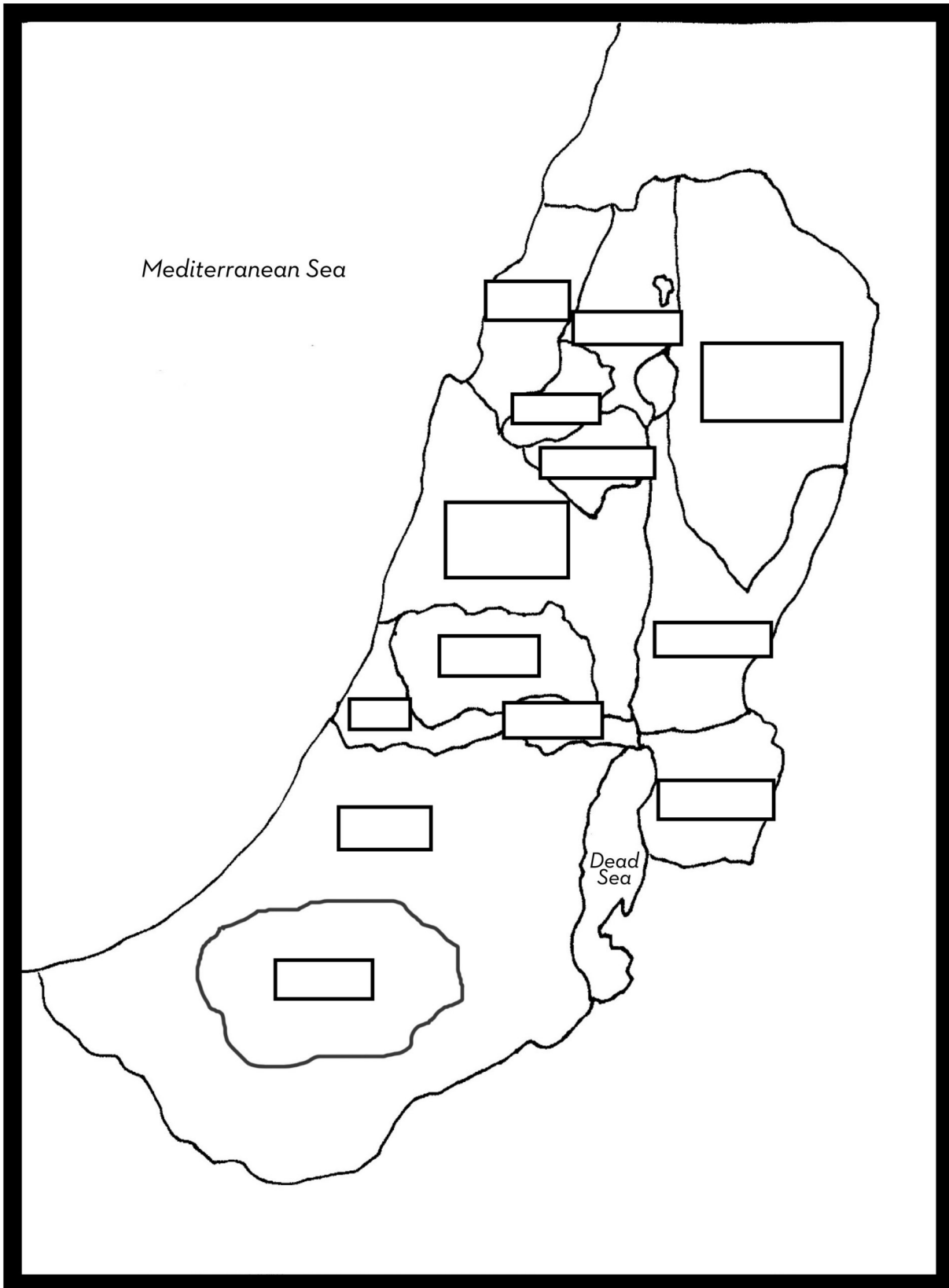
1. Joshua 24:23

2. Joshua 24:15b



The Twelve Tribes

Instructions: Find the landmarks for each tribe's allotted territory on this map, and write down the locations of each tribe.



Hold Fast to the Lord Your God

Joshua knew the weaknesses of the Israelites. So before he passed away, he called the people together and gave them commands to help them where they were most likely to sin.

His whole message could be summarized as "hold fast to the Lord your God." But what does it mean to "hold fast"? To hold fast means to be steadfast in observing and doing all that God commands you to do. This meant that they had to:

1. Follow all of Moses' instructions wholeheartedly.
2. Never mix with the pagan nations, or worship their idols.
3. Never intermarry with pagan nations.

Joshua knew the temptations were there. Therefore, he identified them all before they could break them. In what areas do you feel you are weak and most tempted to sin? Write them down:



What can you do to combat these weak areas?

Now, look at the following list of "weak areas" some brothers and sisters have. Help them out by finding the right verse so that they can memorize them. This way, they can continue to hold fast to the Lord.

I am tempted by inappropriate games/books.	Colossians 3:13
I get lazy easily.	James 1:19-20
I get impatient when I don't get what I want.	2 Corinthians 10:5
I get angry very easily.	Psalms 119:37
I get impure thoughts when watching certain shows.	Galatians 5:19-21
I use inappropriate language when upset.	Proverbs 6:10-11
I worry a lot.	Ephesians 5:21
I am very envious of others.	Proverbs 25:28
I am stubborn about my own way.	Ephesians 5:4
I am very unforgiving.	Matthew 6:27, 33-34

I Choose to Serve God!

Part 1

Joshua took a definite stand for the Lord by telling the Israelites about his own commitment. Fill in the following blanks by reading Joshua 24:15b:

"But as for _____ and my _____, we will _____ the _____."

Regardless of what others decided, Joshua set the example of living by that decision. He challenged the Israelites to make a choice: to obey the Lord, who had proven His power, love, and trustworthiness to the people, or to obey the pagan gods, which were only man-made idols, and therefore powerless.

"Choose this day whom you will serve"	
<p>The gods of this world</p> <p>Merely man-made, powerless idols</p>	<p>The one true God</p> <p>Everlasting, loving, and all-powerful</p>

The choice is yours! Who will you choose?

I choose: _____!

Why do you choose Him? _____

When the Israelites made their choice, Joshua told the Israelites to put away their foreign gods (Josh 24:23). What this means is that in order to follow God wholeheartedly, we must destroy whatever gets in the way of worshipping Him. What are some of our foreign idols today? To name a couple, they could be:

- Incorrect priorities
- Materialistic desires

Part 2

Read the following scenarios and find out what kinds of gods each person is following. How can they follow God wholeheartedly?

Scenario 1

After school, Susan always rushes straight home, goes upstairs, and turns on her computer. While it's starting up, she goes to the bathroom, grabs a snack, and then goes back to her room. Then she sits in front of her computer and spends the rest of the day in front of it, playing games and browsing the Internet. When it's dinner time, her mom has to call her at least five times before she finally comes downstairs. When she eventually eats, though, she rushes through the meal with barely a word to her family, and then goes upstairs to sit in front of her computer again without even helping to clean up. Then, when it is already very late, she realizes that she has homework that is due, and ends up having to stay up to finish it. By the time she crawls into bed, it's already past 3 am, so when she has to get up for school, she is always very tired and is unable to concentrate in classes.



Scenario 2

Luke loves to hang out with his friends all the time because they always show each other their new toys or models, and spend a lot of time playing console games with one another. In order to impress his friends, Luke is always asking his parents for the latest cool toys, gadgets, or video games. Whenever they go to the mall or go out shopping, he always walks out with several new things from the game section. Luke even argues with his parents very often in order to get things that he wants, even though his room is already brimming with so many toys that he barely touches.



What was your conclusion after reading these scenarios? Let's turn to Joshua 24:25 and read it together. This verse tells us that in order to remove any idols in our hearts, we must bind ourselves together with others who have a strong faith in God, such as our family members or our teachers.

Let's also refer to Nehemiah 9:38 and fill in the blanks below:

"And because of all this, we make a sure _____ and _____ it;
our leaders, our Levites, and our priests _____ it."

A "covenant" with God is like a contract: it is an unchangeable agreement between you and God. By choosing God as our King and Lord, we enter into a covenant with Him. Let's continue learning about covenants in the Activity worksheet.

My Covenant with God

"Now therefore,' he said, 'put away the foreign gods which are among you, and incline your heart to the LORD God of Israel. And the people said to Joshua, 'The Lord our God we will serve, and His voice we will obey!' So Joshua made a covenant with the people that day." (Joshua 24:23-25a)

Dear God,

I am writing this covenant because I know how important my relationship with You is. I believe that You want me to go to heaven through Your plan of salvation. But I am easily distracted and often lose focus on what is important. This covenant is my plan on how I am going to maintain my walk with You in my spiritual journey this year. I know that with Your word in the Bible and the power of the Holy Spirit, I can remove all "foreign gods" in my heart. The foreign gods are:

In order to overcome these foreign gods, I will spend personal time with You for spiritual growth.

My prayer time every day will be: _____:_____

My Bible reading time every day will be: _____:_____

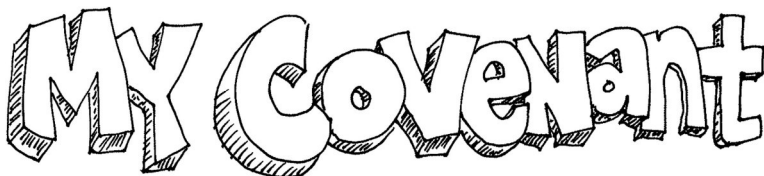
Some Bible verses that I can memorize in order to help me remove my idols are:

1. _____
 _____ ()

2. _____
 _____ ()

3. _____
 _____ ()

These are people I know who will walk with me on this journey. They will encourage me and speak the truth in love to me:



Yours in love,

 Date: _____

Parent signature(s):

E2 Year 1 Book 4 Lesson 12—Distributing the Land, and Joshua's Last Words

Homework Assignment

Name: _____ Parent signature: _____ Date: _____

Bible Reading: Please put a checkmark in the space when you complete the reading each day.

Prayer: Please put a checkmark in the space on the days you prayed to God.

What I Learned from the Bible This Week

1. _____

2. _____

	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Read							
Pray							

Memory Verse

Please write down this week's memory verse. **(2 Corinthians 1:20)**

True or False

1. The Israelites finished conquering the promised land. _____
2. The Israelites drove out the enemies completely. _____
3. A manslayer could leave the city of refuge upon the death of the high priest. _____

Short Answer

4. Name four of the cities of refuge.

5. Explain the purpose of the cities of refuge.

6. What do the cities of refuge prefigure? Briefly explain.

7. What three commands did Joshua tell the Israelites to remember?

8. What did Joshua say about his own commitment to God (Joshua 24:15)?

REVIEW

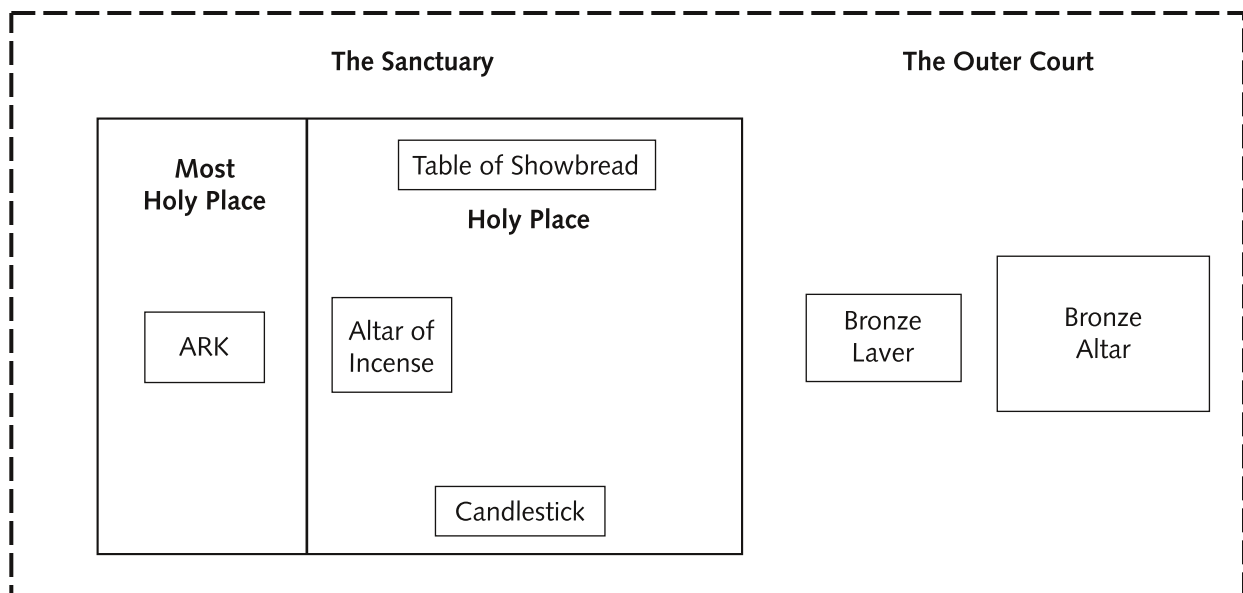
Teachers can reference this lesson to give them some ideas about questions to ask during a review lesson. The review can be in any format: a standard written quiz, a Jeopardy-style game, a board game, etc. The important thing is to give the students a chance to review all the things they have learned in the past quarter. You can draw your review questions from the **Check for Understanding** sections in each lesson, as well as from the **homework assignments**. Remember to include some **life application questions** to allow the students to apply what they have learned to their lives.

ANSWER KEY

Which Commandment?

1. Bryce broke the seventh commandments, which is "you shall not commit adultery."
2. Terrence broke the tenth commandment, "You shall not covet." He coveted his classmate's video game system.
3. Jackie broke the fifth commandment, "Honor your father and your mother." She not only spoke to them in a rude manner, but also disobeyed them.
4. Jimmy broke the third commandment, "You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain," by misusing God's name.
5. Mackenzie broke the second commandment: "You shall not make for yourself nor bow down to a carved image." While she didn't make a carved image, she did have an idol in her life that she viewed as more important than God.
6. Nick broke the ninth commandment: "You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor." Nick lied, and even went as far as blaming someone else for the mistake that he made.
7. The robber in the movie broke the sixth commandment, "You shall not murder."
8. Jack broke the eighth commandment, "You shall not steal." Even though Rob didn't know that he had dropped the money, Jack still stole by taking something that didn't belong to him.
9. Pamela broke the first commandment: "You shall have no other gods before Me." Although it was her grandmother who had asked Pamela to bow down, she should have remained firm in her faith and politely refused to bow down to other gods.
10. Michael broke the fourth commandment, "Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy." Instead of observing the Sabbath day and keeping it holy, he treated it like it was any other day.

Inside the Tabernacle



Memory Verse Fill In the Blank

1. obey, treasure
2. together, do
3. sanctuary, dwell
4. boldly, mercy
5. covenant, remembrance
6. power, wisdom
7. priesthood, proclaim
8. offer, things
9. courageous, commanded
10. stand, take
11. Test, hold
12. promises, glory

Short Answer

1. Leaven is a cooking agent used when making bread to make the dough rise. In the Bible, leaven represented sin. Only a small bit of leaven was needed to make the dough rise; likewise, only a small bit of sin can cause our entire body to become corrupted. This means that today, we must follow in the steps of the Israelites and work hard at keeping our "houses," which are our bodies, clean of sin.
2. The Israelites had to kill an unblemished lamb and eat it during Passover. Jesus fulfilled the role of this unblemished lamb in the New Testament. Jesus was sinless; therefore, He was unblemished. Furthermore, the Israelites were not allowed to break any of the lamb's bones, and the Romans likewise did not break Jesus' legs when He was on the cross. In addition, by spreading the lamb's blood on their doorposts, the Israelites would be spared during the plague of the firstborn. Jesus also shed His blood so that we could be saved and go to heaven.
3. While we do not hold many feasts throughout the year to give thanks to God, that doesn't mean we cannot spend some time on our own to give thanks to God. We can remember that, without God, we would not have all the blessings that we enjoy today. He also watches over and protects us from danger, and guides us whenever we need help.
4. Today, we are anointed with the Holy Spirit. It is important to be anointed with the Holy Spirit because it helps us abide by the teachings of God and empowers us when we serve Him. The Holy Spirit will counsel us and guide us in our daily life. Therefore, it is important to pray constantly for the anointing of the Holy Spirit and for the fullness of the Holy Spirit.
5. God doesn't want us to offer out of reluctance or hesitation. He also doesn't want us to offer only because we are forced to offer. Rather, he wants us to offer out of a willing heart because it shows that we sincerely want to give thanks to and glorify God. Furthermore, God wouldn't want us to offer anything less than our best because God deserves our best; that is why we should offer an "unblemished animal," or our best.
6. While we may wish to have a faith as unwavering and strong as Joshua's one day, it is important to remember that everyone has to start somewhere. In the beginning, God may spoon feed us with little things that will help us build up our faith, but as we grow older, we may hit speed bumps that will cause our faith to waver and maybe even fall. For this reason, it is important to cultivate our spirituality continually by praying and reading the Bible on a regular basis. Only through this way can our faith grow, little by little, allowing us to face the challenges that are to come.
7. Our city of refuge today is the True Jesus Church. It is a place where we can find salvation, and also seek solace from the worries of the world around us. However, if we leave this place of refuge, the temptations of the world will come find us, cause us to sin, and ultimately pull us away from our salvation. Thus, it is important to come to our city of refuge as much as possible and seek God and His word.

Which Commandment?

Instructions: Read each scenario, and then write down which commandment the person broke. The first one has been done for you as an example.

1. Bryce confessed to his wife that he had been seeing another woman and that he had been unfaithful to her.

Bryce broke the seventh commandment, which is "you shall not commit adultery."

2. It was show-and-tell at school today, and Parker had brought his new video game system. Terrence immediately looked at Parker's system with envy and wanted to take it so that he could play with it. Every day, he complained to his parents about how Parker had this cool system and that it was unfair that he couldn't have one, too.

Terrence _____

3. Jackie's parents politely asked her to clean up her room, but she impatiently yelled back, "Not right now! I'm watching TV!"

Jackie _____

4. Jimmy was walking home from school when he passed by a comic book store. He saw something in the window. Surprised, he exclaimed, "Oh, my God! The new issue of Batman is out now!"

Jimmy _____

5. Instead of reading the Bible and praying regularly, Mackenzie spent most of her time watching her favorite show. She even decorated her entire room with posters and figurines from that show. When she was at church, she would think about the show instead of listen to the pastor or her RE teacher.

Mackenzie _____

6. Nick and his best friend were playing ball in Nick's backyard one day after school when Nick accidentally threw the ball too hard and broke the window. When his parents came home, Nicholas was afraid he'd get in trouble, so he blamed his best friend and said that he had broken the window.

Nick _____

7. Lawrence was watching a movie one day, and there was one scene in which a robber went into a bank to rob it. However, the people at the bank wouldn't give the robber any money. In the end, the robber pointed a gun at the manager and shot him. The manager didn't survive. Even though this was just a movie, the scene reminded Lawrence of one of the Ten Commandments.

The robber in the movie _____

8. During the lunch break, Jack and Rob rushed to go buy lunch before everyone else got in line. As they were on their way, Rob's money fell out of his pocket. Jack thought to himself, "I'm starving! If I take the money, I can buy more food." So, while Rob was still rushing to go buy lunch, Jack stopped to pick up the money and put it in his pocket.

Jack _____

9. Pamela went to her grandmother's house over the weekend. Her grandmother was Buddhist, but she knew Pamela wasn't. Still, Pamela's grandmother was very traditional and wanted her to bow down to the Buddha statue she had in her house, so she bowed down to it.

Pamela _____

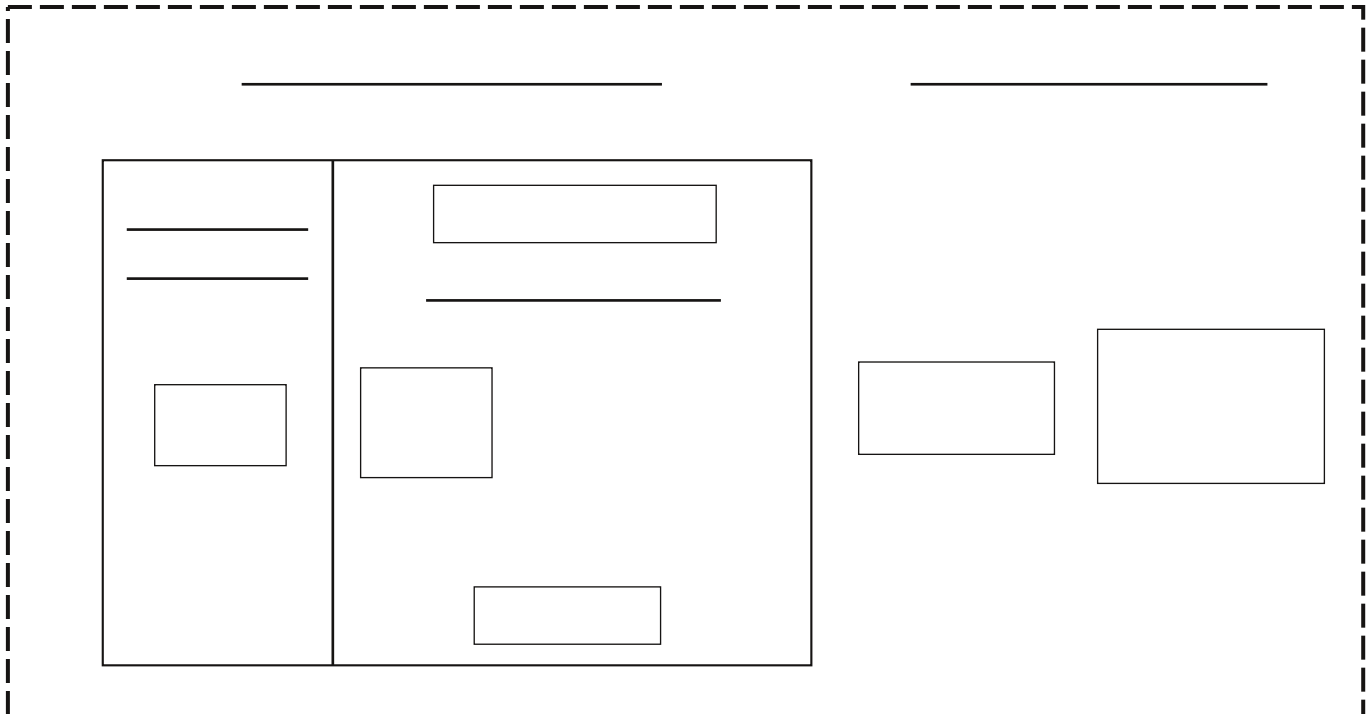
10. Michael looked at his watch. It was only twenty minutes until Sabbath morning service started, but he was still in bed and exhausted. He also had a huge exam on Monday that he needed to study for. He hit snooze on his alarm clock and went back to sleep. He woke up later around 1 PM and spent the entire afternoon studying for his exam.

Michael _____

Inside the Tabernacle

Instructions: Using the words provided in the word bank below, label the diagram of the tabernacle.

Ark (of the Testimony)	The Sanctuary	Candlestick	The Outer Court
Bronze Laver	Altar of Burnt Offering	Most Holy Place	Table of Showbread
Holy Place	Altar of Incense		



Memory Verse Fill In the Blank

Instructions: Complete the memory verses by filling the blanks in with the missing words.

priesthood	commanded	test	remembrance	stand	glory
boldly	wisdom	offer	sanctuary	proclaim	dwell
promises	treasure	together	courageous	things	hold
take	power	do	mercy	obey	covenant

1. "Now therefore, if you will indeed _____ My voice and keep My covenant, then you shall be a special _____ to Me above all people; for all the earth is Mine." (Exodus 19:5)
2. "Then all the people answered _____ and said, 'All that the LORD has spoken we will _____.'" (Exodus 19:8a)
3. "And let them make Me a _____, that I may _____ among them." (Exodus 25:8)
4. "Let us therefore come _____ to the throne of grace, that we may obtain _____ and find grace to help in time of need." (Hebrews 4:16)
5. "In the same manner He also took the cup after supper, saying, 'This cup is the new _____ in My blood. This do, as often as you drink it, in _____ of Me.'" (1 Corinthians 11:25)
6. "He has made the earth by His _____, He has established the world by His _____, and has stretched out the heavens at His discretion." (Jeremiah 10:12)
7. "But you are a chosen generation, a royal _____, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may _____ the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light." (1 Peter 2:9)
8. "But who am I, and who are my people, that we should be able to _____ so willingly as this? For all _____ come from You, and of Your own we have given You." (1 Chronicles 29:14)
9. "Only be strong and very _____ that you may observe to do according to all the law which Moses My servant _____ you." (Joshua 1:7a)
10. "There is an accursed thing in your midst, O Israel; you cannot _____ before your enemies until you _____ away the accursed thing from among you." (Joshua 7:13b)
11. "_____ all things; _____ fast what is good." (1 Thessalonians 5:21)
12. "For all the _____ of God in Him are Yes, and in Him Amen, to the _____ of God through us." (2 Corinthians 1:20)

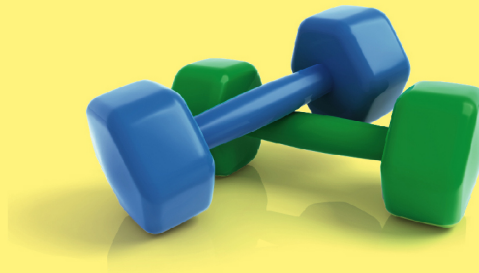
Short Answer and Life Application

Instructions: Answer the questions.

1. What is leaven, and what does it represent? The Israelites had to clean their entire houses of leaven during the Feast of Unleavened Bread. What does this mean for us today?
2. Explain how Jesus fulfilled the role of the unblemished lamb that was killed and eaten during Passover.
3. Many feasts in the Bible were held to allow people to give thanks to God. What can you give thanks to God for today and how can you do it?
4. The third step to becoming a priest was to be anointed with oil. Today, what are we anointed with and why is it important to be anointed?
5. The two rules for making a burnt offering are to offer with a willing heart and to offer only an unblemished animal. What do these rules teach us about how we should offer to God?
6. Joshua and Rahab both had strong faith in God. Why is it important for us to grow in our faith?
7. Joshua established four cities of refuge for people to seek sanctuary. What is our city of refuge today and what happens if we leave it?

Have I not commanded you? Be strong and of good courage; do not be afraid, nor be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.

Joshua 1:9



Be Strong in the Lord

Elementary 2

Year 1 Book 4

General Assembly of True Jesus Church

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