

# Elementary 2

Year 1 Book 1

## Jesus Is My Savior



Teacher's Guide and Student Worksheets

# ELEMENTARY 2 YEAR 1 BOOK 1

## JESUS IS MY SAVIOR

### INTRODUCTION

Why did God come to earth in the form of man? What does it mean for us? These are questions your students may have and these lessons are intended to provide your students with more knowledge and insight into the life of Jesus Christ. We will be studying in-depth about how Jesus' birth and death were prophesied in the Old Testament and fulfilled in the New Testament, as well as learning about why His birth and death are so important to us. In addition to reviewing Jesus' life, we will also be learning about the three sacraments and how they play key roles in our journey to the heavenly kingdom.

The main objectives for this quarter are:

1. To understand the significance of Jesus' life and death.
2. To understand the significance of the three sacraments: Baptism, Holy Communion, and Footwashing.
3. To know that Jesus came to earth and sacrificed Himself so we could have the hope of a heavenly future with Him.

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

## MEMORY VERSES

1. Jesus said to him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me." (John 14:6)
2. Therefore the Lord Himself will give you a sign: Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a Son, and shall call His name Immanuel. (Isaiah 7:14)
3. Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and men. (Luke 2:52)
4. Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature. (Mark 16:15)
5. All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness. (2 Timothy 3:16)
6. Blessed is the man whom You instruct, O Lord, and teach out of Your law. (Psalm 94:12)
7. Jesus answered, "Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God." (John 3:5)
8. But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you. (Matthew 6:33)
9. Peter said to Him, "You shall never wash my feet!" Jesus answered him, "If I do not wash you, you have no part with Me." (John 13:8)
10. The Lord is my strength and my shield; my heart trusted in Him, and I am helped. (Psalm 28:7a)
11. For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord. (Romans 6:23)
12. Having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, He poured out this which you now see and hear. (Acts 2:33b)

# LESSON 1

## UNDERSTANDING JESUS: THE PROPHECIES OF THE BIRTH AND DEATH OF JESUS CHRIST

### OBJECTIVES

1. Jesus is the Messiah because He fulfills all the Old Testament prophecies about the Messiah—His birth and His death.
2. Jesus is the Mighty God, Everlasting Father, and Son of God. He came to save us from our sin. He is our Savior.
3. To learn the accuracy of Biblical prophecies and how God always fulfills His promises.
4. To continue to experience God through prayer and Bible reading.

### MEMORY VERSE

"Jesus said to him, 'I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.'"

(John 14:6)

### PRAYER

1. Thank God for safely guiding us through the past week so that we can come to worship Him in Spirit and in truth.
2. Praise God for sending His son Jesus Christ to give us salvation.
3. Ask God to open our hearts and minds as we study the fulfilled prophecies of Jesus Christ.



### Overview

1. **The genealogy of Jesus**
2. **"Messiah" means "Anointed One." "Christ" is the Greek equivalent of "Messiah."**
3. **Prophecies and fulfillments about Jesus' birth and death**
4. **Understanding Jesus**
  - Jesus is the Mighty God and Everlasting Father.
  - Jesus is the Son of God.
  - Jesus came to save us from sin. He is our Savior.
5. **Linking to the Ten Basic Beliefs**—Jesus is the one true God.
6. **Life Application**—Who is Jesus Christ to me? Commit to prayer and Bible reading.
7. **Activity**—Group Crossword Trails



### Background Knowledge for Teachers

#### The Virgin Shall Conceive

Through the prophet Isaiah, God promised to give His people a sign: "Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a Son, and shall call His name Immanuel" (Is 7:14).

The Hebrew word *almah* is translated as "virgin." It can mean either a virgin or young woman. It refers to a young woman who has never had sexual relations with a man. Accordingly, the translators of the Septuagint (the earliest Greek translations of the Old Testament) chose the Greek word *parthenos* as their rendering of *almah*. *Parthenos* can only mean "virgin."

Jesus was the fulfillment of this prophecy, for He was Immanuel—"God with us"—in the fullest sense. Jesus' miraculous birth was a sign that God had come in the flesh to dwell with humanity.



## Reaching Out to Your Students

Your students may have difficulty understanding the relevance of genealogies at this age. In fact, reading the names in a line of descendants may bore them. What is important to emphasize is that the birth of Jesus has been prophesied since Old Testament times. It was God's plan from the very beginning to send His son to die for our sins on the cross. As a descendant of David (and Abraham and Adam), Jesus fulfilled the prophecies of the true Messiah.

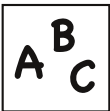
Rather than reading through the names of the various descendants, point out that these were people from different backgrounds. Some were famous, such as David, while others were just ordinary people. However, God carried out His wonderful plan of salvation through every one of those people. Remind your students that although they may not seem significant, God can also work through them. They should complete the tasks given to them, knowing that they are part of God's plans. Emphasize also that God keeps His promises, just as He kept the promise of a Messiah. They can trust God to keep His promises.



## Opener

5 Minutes

Ask the students if they ever wanted, expected, or hoped for something with all their hearts. Did they have to wait long before receiving it, or did they receive it immediately? How did they feel when they received it? Were they happy, thankful, or satisfied? If they did not receive it, how did they feel? Sad or disappointed? Tell the students that during New Testament times, the Jews were waiting for what God had promised them in the Scriptures: a Messiah! They had been waiting a long time and had hoped for a leader who would free them from their Roman rulers. Just as He promised, God did send a Messiah, but He wasn't what many were expecting. He was even better!



## Vocabulary

**prophecy:** a prediction of something to come

**Messiah:** "Anointed One"; the great Deliverer of Israel

**Scripture:** during New Testament times, this referred to the Old Testament; now it refers to both the OT and NT



## Bible Discovery & Spiritual Teaching

30-35 Minutes

### FOR TEACHERS

Make copies of the two Bible Discovery worksheets before class. Give Worksheet #1 to the students now. The students will be referencing it and filling it out during the lesson. Keep one copy of each for yourself to reference during the lesson as well.

Read Matthew 1:1-17, the genealogy of Jesus Christ, to the students.

Students, how many of the names do you recognize? This passage names thirty-eight generations of Jesus' ancestors. It is hard for us to know the name of our great-great-grandfather, let alone the name of someone from thirty-eight generations earlier. The genealogy shows that Jesus came from a long line of royal families and kings. Jesus was of royal descent.

Emphasize verse 6, "Jesse begot David the king. David the king begot Solomon," and verse 17, "So all the generations from Abraham to David are fourteen generations, from David until the captivity in Babylon are fourteen generations, and from the captivity in Babylon until the Christ are fourteen generations." Jesus is a descendant of David. Our Lord Jesus Christ was not only of the Jews but of all humanity: His genealogy traced to Abraham, Adam, and God. Ask the students to refer to Luke 3:23-38. Pay special attention to verse 38, which states that Jesus is "the son of Adam, the son of God."

Not only is Jesus the Son of God, Jesus is also the Messiah!

Boys and girls, let's look at the top of **Worksheet #1**. [The answers for the first section are underlined in the following sentences.]

The word "Messiah" means "Anointed One." The name "Christ" is the Greek equivalent of "Messiah," so "Jesus Christ" means "Jesus the Messiah," or "Jesus the anointed." In the Old Testament, the word "Messiah" is often associated with the anointing of a prophet, priest, or king. Do you remember the anointing of David by the prophet Samuel? In the Old Testament, priests, prophets, and kings were to be anointed, consecrated, and sanctified as they served God.

**FOR TEACHERS**

After telling the students the meanings, have them fill in the blanks on the worksheet.

The amazing thing is that from about 400 to 1500 years before Jesus, Hebrew prophets foretold about Jesus, the coming Messiah. Jesus fulfilled their prophecies, which proved to us that Jesus was indeed the long-awaited Savior.

Let's learn about some major Old Testament prophecies!

Major Old Testament passages indicated that the Messiah would be born of a virgin (Is 7:14) in Bethlehem (Mic 5:2) and that He would be a descendant of the house of David (2 Sam 7:12). The Messiah would also suffer, be rejected by His own people (Ps 69:8), betrayed by a friend (Ps 41:9), and crucified between two criminals (Is 53:12). There are many more passages, which we will discover in this lesson.

**FOR TEACHERS**

**Is 7:14** "Therefore the Lord Himself will give you a sign: Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a Son, and shall call His name Immanuel."

**Mic 5:2** "But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, though you are little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of you shall come forth to Me the One to be Ruler in Israel, whose goings forth are from of old, from everlasting."

**2 Sam 7:12** "When your days are fulfilled and you rest with your fathers, I will set up your seed after you, who will come from your body, and I will establish his kingdom."

**Ps 69:8** "I have become a stranger to my brothers, and an alien to my mother's children."

**Ps 41:9** "Even my own familiar friend in whom I trusted, who ate my bread, has lifted up his heel against me."

**Is 53:12** "Therefore I will divide Him a portion with the great, and He shall divide the spoil with the strong, because He poured out His soul unto death, and He was numbered with the transgressors, and He bore the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors."

Now, let's continue with **Worksheet #1** and look at the prophecies in the Old Testament passages and how they were all fulfilled in the New Testament.

**FOR TEACHERS**

Ask the students to read the passages as you go through them one by one. They should be able to tell you the missing words and write them down. The verses are all in NKJV. You can choose to make a copy of the worksheet for yourself to fill in and use as an answer key.

**Answers:**

Page 1, top: Anointed One, Messiah

Page 1, bottom: Judea, Child, David, virgin

Page 2: break, Cursed, nothing, right, left, thirty

\* \* \* \* \*

**FOR TEACHERS**

Distribute Worksheet #2 to the students now and keep one copy for yourself. You will be reading the passages on the worksheet while the students underline specific words in the passages. The instructions for each specific teaching are listed below.

**Understanding Jesus!**

Now that we have just learned about the prophecies fulfilled in the New Testament, what does this all mean to us? We really need to ask ourselves this question: **Who is Jesus Christ to me?** Let's read John 14:6. "Jesus said to him, 'I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.'" We can say that Jesus is the only way for us to know God!

Write the following words on the board: *Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, and Prince of Peace*. [Ask the students to write down "Mighty" and "Everlasting" in the box at the top of the worksheet.] How does it feel when people label you as someone who is wonderful, mighty, everlasting, a prince of peace and a counselor? [Let students respond.] That's right! These are very good attributes! And our Lord Jesus has all of these attributes. [Teachers: Start reading from the worksheet now.]

**Teaching #1: Jesus is the Mighty God and Everlasting Father!**

[After reading each passage, ask the students to underline all the special words that refer to Jesus.]

- **Isaiah 9:6** "Mighty God"; "Everlasting Father"
- **Isaiah 7:14** "Immanuel"
- **Matthew 1:23** "Immanuel"; "God with us."

[After the students finish underlining the special words, ask them to fill in the blanks in the "Teaching" section.]



**Teaching #2: Jesus is the Son of God**

[Ask the students to write "Son" in the box. Underline the word "Son" in each verse.]

- **John 3:16** "His only begotten Son"
- **Matthew 3:17** "This is My beloved Son"
- **Matthew 26:63-64** "'You are the Christ, the Son of God!' Jesus said to him, 'It is as you said.'"

[Ask the students to fill in the blank in the "Teaching" section.]

**Teaching #3: Jesus came to save us from our sin. He is our Savior!**

[Ask students to write "Savior" in the box. Underline the words "save" and "take away."]

- **Matthew 1:21** "He will save His people from their sins"
- **John 1:29** "who takes away the sin of the world"
- **1 John 3:5** "to take away our sins"

[Ask the students to fill in the blank in the "Teaching" section.]

**Linking to the Ten Basic Beliefs***2-5 Minutes***Jesus is the one true God.**

Today we studied the following points:

1. Jesus is the Messiah because He fulfills all the Old Testament prophecies about the Messiah—His birth and His death.
2. Jesus is the Mighty God, Everlasting Father, and Son of God. He came to save us from our sins. He is our Savior.

Jesus fulfilled the Old Testament prophecies of the Messiah when He came to save us from sin. The salvation that the Lord Jesus brought to us fully manifests His love. It is through Jesus that we have the hope of everlasting life in His glorious kingdom.

**Check for Understanding***5 Minutes*

1. **What does the word "Messiah" mean?** "Messiah" means "Anointed One."
2. **What is the Greek equivalent of "Christ"?** "Christ" is the Greek equivalent of "Messiah."
3. **Which famous king is Jesus descended from?** Jesus is a descendant of King David.
4. **The genealogy traced everyone back to Adam. What does that mean to us in relation to our understanding about Jesus?** Adam is the son of God, too. God created Adam first.
5. **Isaiah 7:14 reads, "Therefore the Lord Himself will give you a sign: Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a Son, and shall call His name \_\_\_\_\_." What is His name called?** His name is called Immanuel.
6. **What does "Immanuel" mean?** "Immanuel" means "God with us."
7. **Please finish the verse: John 3:16 – "For God so loved the world that He gave \_\_\_\_\_, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. "His only begotten Son"**
8. **Please finish the verse. Matthew 1:21 – "And she will bring forth a son, and you shall call His name Jesus, for He will \_\_\_\_\_." "save His people from their sins"**



## Life Application

10 Minutes

### Who is Jesus Christ to me?

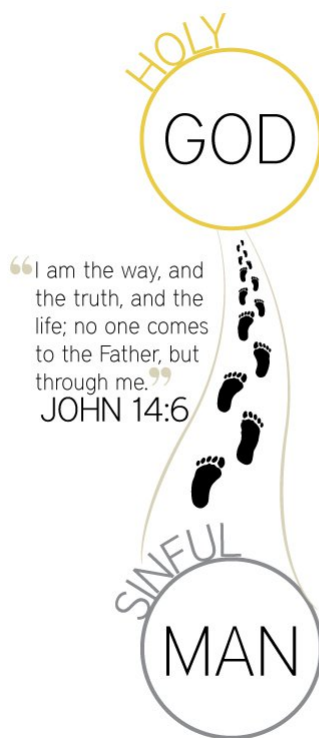
Let's read John 14:6. "Jesus said to him, 'I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.'" We can say that Jesus is the only way for us to know God!

Have we been able to form a deep and close relationship with God? If not, we need to remind ourselves that we, as humans, are sinful. "All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God" (Rom 3:23). We are created to have fellowship with God. But because of our stubborn self-will, we choose to go our own way and our fellowship with God is broken. What is sin? Sin is the breaking of God's law. If God says, "Do not steal," and you steal, then you have broken His law and sinned. When you sin, you offend God because it is His law that you have broken. This self-will, characterized by an attitude of active rebellion, is evidence of what the Bible calls sin.

"But your iniquities have separated you from your God; And your sins have hidden His face from you, so that He will not hear" (Is 59:2).

Do you have any sins that you have not repented of this week?

### Sample



#### FOR TEACHERS

Make copies of Life Application Worksheet #1. Ask the students to focus on the circle at the top and label it "God." At the bottom, they should focus on the other circle and label it "Man."

**Say:** God is holy and man is sinful. [Emphasize the word "holy" next to God and "sinful" next to man.] A great gap separates the two.

Jesus Christ is God's only provision for man's sin. "Jesus said to him, 'I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me'" (Jn 14:6). Through Him, we can know and experience God's love and plan for our lives. Ask the students to draw a path and footprints to illustrate this verse: "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me." The final picture should look something like the illustration on the bottom left.

#### FOR TEACHERS

For the following section, make copies of Life Application Worksheet #2 and distribute it to the students. Read the testimony to the students as they follow along, and then have them answer the Life Application Questions as a class.

Let's read this testimony from a brother's heart. [Teachers: Read testimony to the students as they follow along.]

### Life Application Questions

- 1. Why did this brother turn to prayer when he was afraid?** He knew that God is his Father and that God will take care of him.
- 2. What did he experience as he prayed to God?** He felt the warmth of the Holy Spirit comfort him. The longer he prayed, the more comforted he was. The fear within him was replaced by a feeling of hope. He remembered all that God had done for him in the past.
- 3. What did this brother suggest for us to do when we feel alone, don't know what to do, or forget who we are?** Pray to God in the spirit, because God will help us.

It is not enough just to know that God has a solution for us; we must experience Him in our daily lives and in prayers. We can bridge this gap by reaching God through prayers and reading God's word.

**Worksheet:** Ask the students to fill in the blanks at the bottom of the worksheet and commit to spend time in daily Bible reading and prayer.





## Activity

### Group Crossword Trails

10-15 Minutes

**Objective:** To review the content of today's lesson.

#### Materials

- Sheets of white scratch paper
- Pencils

**How to create a crossword trail:** Write the first word horizontally at the very top of the paper. Using a letter from the first word, write the second word vertically. Write the third word horizontally using a letter from the second word, and so forth. Alternate between writing horizontally and vertically and always use a letter from the previous word.

#### Instructions

1. Group the students into teams of 2 or 3 and give each team a piece of paper and a pencil.
2. When you give the signal, each team will create a crossword trail using as many words as they can from today's lesson. No words can be repeated.
3. Tell them not to write too large or they won't be able to fit many words on the page. If they run out of space but still have time, give them another sheet of scratch paper to tape to their first sheet.
4. When time is up, ask the groups to explain each word in their crossword trail and how the word relates to today's lesson. The team with the most relevant words wins.
5. Conclude with a prayer.

#### Crossword Trail Sample

1st word: Immanuel

2nd word: Messiah

3rd word: King David

4th word: anointed one

5th word: Bethlehem

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    I m m a n u e l
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```

### Messiah, Prophet, Priest, King



1. The word "Messiah" means "\_\_\_\_\_."
2. The name "Christ" is the Greek equivalent of "\_\_\_\_\_."

### Prophecies of Jesus' Birth

|                               |  |   |
|-------------------------------|--|---|
| <b>Old Testament Prophecy</b> |  | <b>Fulfillment in the New Testament</b> |
|-------------------------------|--|---|







|  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
| <b><u>Be born in the town of Bethlehem of Judea (Judah)</u></b>  |  |   |
| <b>Mic 5:2</b>   |  | <b>Mt 2:1</b>   |
| "But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah,<br>Though you are little among the thousands of<br>Judah,<br>Yet out of you shall come forth to Me<br>The One to be Ruler in Israel,<br>Whose goings forth are from of old,<br>From everlasting." |  | "Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of<br>_____ in the days of Herod the king, behold,<br>wise men from the East came to Jerusalem." |

|   |  |   |
|---|--|---|
| <b><u>A Child to be born</u></b>  |  |   |
| <b>Is 9:6</b>   |  | <b>Lk 2:11</b>  |
| "For unto us a _____ is born,<br>Unto us a Son is given;<br>And the government will be upon His shoulder.<br>And His name will be called<br>Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God,<br>Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. |  | "For there is born to you this day in the city of David<br>a Savior, who is Christ the Lord." |

|   |  |   |
|---|--|---|
| <b><u>Be born a King of the line of David</u></b>   |  |   |
| <b>Is 9:7</b>   |  | <b>Mt 1:1</b>   |
| "Of the increase of His government and peace<br>There will be no end,<br>Upon the throne of David and over His<br>kingdom." |  | "The book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ, the Son<br>of _____, the Son of Abraham." |

|  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
| <b><u>Be born of a virgin</u></b>  |  |   |
| <b>Is 7:14</b>   |  | <b>Lk 1:26-27</b>   |
| "Therefore the Lord Himself will give you a sign:<br>Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a Son, and<br>shall call His name Immanuel." |  | "Now in the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent<br>by God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, to a<br>_____ betrothed to a man whose name was<br>Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was<br>Mary." |

## Prophecies of Jesus' Death

| Old Testament Prophecy   |    | Fulfillment in the New Testament  |
|--|---|---|
| <b><u>Be Passover sacrifice with no bone broken</u></b>  |   |   |
| Num 9:12   |   | Jn 19:32-33   |
| <p>"They shall leave none of it until morning, nor break one of its bones. According to all the ordinances of the Passover they shall keep it."</p>  |    | <p>"Then the soldiers came and broke the legs of the first and of the other who was crucified with Him. But when they came to Jesus and saw that He was already dead, they did not _____ His legs."</p> |
| <b><u>Be hung upon a tree as a curse for us</u></b>  |   |   |
| Dt 21:23   |   | Gal 3:13  |
| <p>"His body shall not remain overnight on the tree, but you shall surely bury him that day, so that you do not defile the land which the Lord your God is giving you as an inheritance; for he who is hanged is accursed of God."</p>   |    | <p>"Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the law, having become a curse for us (for it is written, '_____ is everyone who hangs on a tree')." "</p>   |
| <b><u>Be accused and afflicted without opening His mouth</u></b>   |   |   |
| Is 53:7  |   | Mt 27:12  |
| <p>"He was oppressed and He was afflicted,<br/>Yet He opened not His mouth;<br/>He was led as a lamb to the slaughter,<br/>And as a sheep before its shearers is silent,<br/>So He opened not His mouth."</p>  |  | <p>"And while He was being accused by the chief priests and elders, He answered _____."</p>   |
| <b><u>Be numbered (crucified with transgressors)</u></b>   |   |   |
| Is 53:12   |   | Mt 27:38  |
| <p>"Therefore I will divide Him a portion with the great,<br/>And He shall divide the spoil with the strong,<br/>Because He poured out His soul unto death,<br/>And He was numbered with the transgressors,<br/>And He bore the sin of many,<br/>And made intercession for the transgressors."</p> |  | <p>"Then two robbers were crucified with Him, one on the _____ and another on the _____."</p>   |
| <b><u>Be sold for thirty pieces of silver</u></b>  |   |   |
| Zech 11:12   |   | Mt 27:3   |
| <p>"Then I said to them, 'If it is agreeable to you, give me my wages; and if not, refrain.' So they weighed out for my wages thirty pieces of silver."</p>  |  | <p>"Then Judas, His betrayer, seeing that He had been condemned, was remorseful and brought back the _____ pieces of silver to the chief priests and elders."</p>                                       |

## Who Is Jesus Christ to Me?

Teaching #1: Jesus is the \_\_\_\_\_ God and \_\_\_\_\_ Father!

**Instructions:** Underline all the special words that refer to Jesus.

- **Isaiah 9:6** – “For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given; and the government will be on His shoulder. And His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.”
- **Isaiah 7:14** – “Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign: Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a Son, and shall call His name Immanuel.”
- **Matthew 1:23** – “Behold, the virgin shall be with child, and bear a Son, and they shall call His name Immanuel.” (Immanuel means “God with us.”)

**Teaching:** Jesus was declared to be the \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ long before He was ever conceived in the womb of Mary. The Everlasting Father became the child and son! Therefore Jesus truly is \_\_\_\_\_. Jesus is Almighty God become a man.

Teaching #2: Jesus is the \_\_\_\_\_ of God.

**Instructions:** Underline the word "Son" in each verse.

- **John 3:16** – “For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.”
- **Matthew 3:17** – “And suddenly a voice came from heaven, saying, ‘This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.’”
- **Matthew 26:63-64** – “But Jesus kept silent. And the high priest answered and said to Him, ‘I put You under oath by the living God: Tell us if You are the Christ, the Son of God!’ Jesus said to him, ‘It is as you said.’”

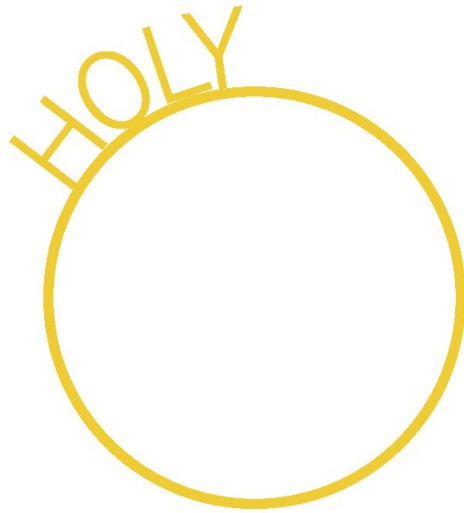
**Teaching:** Jesus was declared to be the \_\_\_\_\_ of God over and over again in the New Testament. The Everlasting Father became the Child and Son! Therefore, Jesus truly is God with us. Jesus is God become man.

Teaching #3: Jesus came to save us from our sin. He is our \_\_\_\_\_!

**Instructions:** Underline the words "save" and "take away."

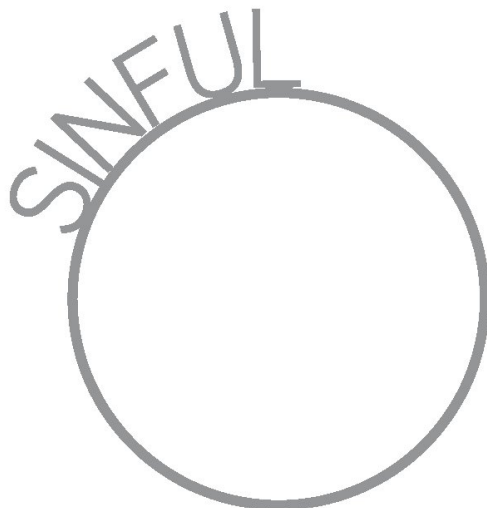
- **Matthew 1:21** – “And she will bring forth a Son, and you shall call His name Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins.”
- **John 1:29** – “The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, ‘Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!’”
- **1 John 3:5** – “And you know that He was manifested to take away our sins, and in Him there is no sin.”

**Teaching:** Jesus wants us to receive eternal life. He died on the cross for us so that we can be sinless. The forgiveness of sin can only be freely given through the death of Jesus Christ. Today, we have studied more about who Jesus is. Through the study of the prophecies of Jesus’ birth and death, we can now understand that His purpose of coming as a man was to save us from our sin. He is truly our \_\_\_\_\_!



“I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father, but through me.”

JOHN 14:6



## Testimony

I recently faced issues that I had never faced and dealt with responsibilities far beyond my abilities. Things had gotten very stressful due to my studies and other school problems. I didn't know what to do. I was so afraid and helpless that I just lay down on the floor of my apartment and moped.

Then I thought, "Maybe I should pray." So I started praying in spirit. I told God that I didn't know what to do anymore. Everything was just too hard. I didn't have strength. I was scared. I wanted to run away.

As I prayed, I felt the warmth of the Holy Spirit comfort me. The longer I prayed, the more comforted I was. The fear in me began to dissipate and was replaced by a feeling of hope. I started remembering all that God had done for me in the past.

Even though the problems and challenges still existed, I knew everything was going to be all right. God is my Father and He will take care of me. My worries faded and all I desired to do was please my Father.

Before I prayed, I was afraid of many things. But as I prayed, my soul was calmed and quieted. I was completely at peace.

Romans 8:15 tells us that the promised Holy Spirit we receive is the Spirit of adoption. This Spirit "bears witness...that we are children of God" (Rom 8:16). Thus, when we pray in spirit, we are certain that we are God's children. We are not orphans. We are not lonely because God is with us. We are not afraid because God will help us.

If we ever feel alone, if we don't know what to do, or if we forget who we are, let us not forget that we can pray. For the spirit we receive is not the spirit of bondage to fear, but God's Spirit of adoption by whom we cry out, "Abba, Father."

### Life Application Questions

1. Why did this brother turn to prayer when he was afraid?
2. What did he experience as he prayed to God?
3. What did this brother suggest for us to do when we feel alone, don't know what to do, or forget who we are?

**Commit yourself to spend time in daily Bible reading and prayer.**



Amount of time I will spend reading the Bible each day: \_\_\_\_\_



Amount of time I will spend praying each day: \_\_\_\_\_

## E2 Year 1 Book 1 Lesson 1— Understanding Jesus: The Prophecies of the Birth and Death of Jesus Christ **Homework Assignment**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Parent signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Weekly Bible Reading:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Bible Reading:** Check each box when you complete that day's reading.

**Prayer:** Check each box after you pray to God that day.

|      | 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. (John 14:6)

\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

#### Who is Jesus Christ to me?

Some of the Old Testament prophecies were in the form of a poem.

*"For unto us a Child is born,  
 Unto us a Son is given;  
 And the government will be upon His shoulder.  
 And His name will be called  
 Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God,  
 Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace."  
 -Isaiah 9:6*

If you could write a poem about Lord Jesus Christ, what would you write so that people would know right away who Jesus Christ is to you? Read the following verses to get some ideas.

- Isaiah 7:14      • Isaiah 9:6      • Matthew 1:23
- John 3:16      • Matthew 1:21    • John 1:29

Here are some suggestions to start you off, but make up your own original poem. It is okay if it is short.

**Sample 1:**

Jesus, You suffer pain and woe,  
 Yet You stand alone and endure.  
 I offer gifts to You,  
 My Everlasting Father,  
 Prince of Peace,  
 King of Kings.

**Sample 2:**

Let's count the blessings  
 That God has so freely sent;  
 Let's remember His goodness,  
 How God's working in us.  
 When we are troubled,  
 And even when everything goes wrong,  
 God still loves His children.  
 He will always care.

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
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# LESSON 2

## THE BIRTHS OF JESUS AND JOHN THE BAPTIST



### OBJECTIVES

1. To understand that the births of John the Baptist and Jesus were special and that their births were part of God's plan.
2. To reinforce that we are all valuable in God's eyes and that He has a purpose for everyone.
3. To emphasize the importance of living a righteous life and how we must always allow God to lead us through the difficult times we will encounter.

### MEMORY VERSE

"Therefore the Lord Himself will give you a sign: Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a Son, and shall call His name Immanuel."

(Isaiah 7:14)

### PRAYER

1. Thank God for safely guiding us through the past week so that we can come to worship Him in Spirit and in truth.
2. Praise God for sending His son Jesus Christ to give us eternal life. Thank God that He has a plan for us!
3. Ask God to open our hearts and minds as we study the births of Jesus and John the Baptist.



### Overview

#### 1. The birth of Jesus

- The angel Gabriel appears to Mary (Lk 1:26-33)
- An angel of the Lord appears to Joseph in a dream (Mt 1:18-21)
- The birth of Jesus (Lk 2:1-7)
- An angel of the Lord appears to shepherds (Lk 2:8-16)

#### 2. The birth of John the Baptist

- The angel Gabriel appears to Zacharias (Lk 1:5-17)
- The birth and naming of John the Baptist (Lk 1:57-66)
- Zacharias prophesies (Lk 1:67-80)

#### 3. Linking to the Ten Basic Beliefs—Jesus is the one true God.

#### 4. Life Application—Everyone's life has a unique purpose.

#### 5. Activity—Character Charades



### Background Knowledge for Teachers

Jesus was indeed born of a virgin in the city of Bethlehem exactly as prophesied many years before (Mic 5:2). An angel told Mary that she would conceive and bring forth a Son who would be called Jesus. What made this promise so special is that Mary was not yet married; she was still a virgin. It was a miraculous conception through the power of the Holy Spirit (Lk 1:26-35).

The Bible gives us no clue as to how many wise men came to visit the baby Jesus. While three gifts were presented to the baby, there could have been any number of wise men present. There is no way for us to know the specific number of wise men who visited Jesus. After the wise men left, God instructed Joseph to take his family to Egypt (Mt 2:13-15). Upon their return from Egypt, Joseph and his family returned to Nazareth (Mt 2:23).

Eight days after His birth, Jesus was circumcised and named (Lk 2:21). Leviticus 12:2-3 reads, "Speak to the children of Israel, saying: 'If a woman has conceived, and borne a male child, then she shall be unclean seven days; as in the days of her customary impurity she shall be unclean. And on the eighth day the flesh of his foreskin shall be circumcised.'" Afterward, Jesus was presented at the temple (Lk 2:22-24).

As the apostle John reveals, Jesus existed before the creation of the world (Jn 1). He is fully man and yet simultaneously fully God. God became a man to walk among us. He came in human form for a purpose—to die as a willing sacrifice in payment for the sins of mankind. He did this to provide eternal salvation as a free gift to all who will accept it and follow Him. He is our Savior!

### John the Baptist

John the Baptist played a very important role in what and who was to come. Jesus regarded him very highly and told people, "Assuredly, I say to you, among those born of women there has not risen one greater than John the Baptist; but he who is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he" (Mt 11:11). Prophet Isaiah had already prophesied the arrival of John the Baptist in Isaiah 40:3, saying, "The voice of one crying in the wilderness:

'Prepare the way of the Lord; make straight in the desert a highway for our God.'" Furthermore, in Malachi 3:1, prophet Malachi prophesied, "'Behold, I send My messenger, and he will prepare the way before Me. And the Lord, whom you seek, will suddenly come to His temple, even the Messenger of the covenant, in whom you delight. Behold, He is coming,' says the Lord of hosts." These verses prove that the birth of John the Baptist was part of God's step-by-step plan.

Some facts about John the Baptist:

- Jesus Christ and John the Baptist were related. Their mothers, Mary and Elizabeth, were cousins (Lk 1:36).
- John was a Levite. His father Zacharias was a temple priest of the line of Abijah, and his mother Elizabeth was also descended from Aaron (Lk 1:5).
- The angel Gabriel separately announced the coming births of Jesus Christ and John the Baptist.
- John's clothes were made of camel's hair and he had a leather belt around his waist. His food was locusts and wild honey (Mt 3:4). He lived in the mountainous area of Judah.
- John preached the baptism of repentance. People went out to him from Jerusalem and all Judea, and the whole region of the Jordan. Confessing their sins, they were baptized by him in the Jordan River (Mt 3:5-6).
- Some people wondered if John was the Messiah. He answered, "'I am not the Christ,' but, 'I have been sent before Him'" (Jn 3:28). When the ministry of Jesus Christ began, John recognized that his own mission was nearing its end and said: "He must increase, but I must decrease" (Jn 3:30).
- John's ministry and life came to an end when he pointed out Herod's sinful behavior (Lk 3:19-20) and was later beheaded (Mk 6:17-29).
- After he was killed, John's disciples came and buried his body, and then went and told Jesus all that had happened (Mt 14:12). Jesus responded to the news of John's death by saying, "He was the burning and shining lamp, and you were willing for a time to rejoice in his light" (Jn 5:35).



## Reaching Out to Your Students

The miracle of life is often difficult to explain to young children. They may have a basic understanding of conception but they may not be fully aware of the entire process. Help your students appreciate the uniqueness of life. When they were first conceived, they were only microscopic specks. Then, over a period of nine months, they slowly grew into babies in their mother's womb. Now they are grown children who can breathe, talk, play, and eat. God's creation is truly amazing. Make your students aware that although their births were special, the births of Jesus and John the Baptist were even more so. Their births were foretold and their lives helped fulfill God's plan for salvation. It may be hard to explain the notion of conception through the Holy Spirit, but do emphasize that Mary's pregnancy was different from anyone else's on earth. This was so that Jesus would be sinless. With God, anything is possible. The miracle of life is not just an accident or a coincidence. God has planned the birth of every human being. Each person is unique; no one is exactly the same. Remind your students to remember their uniqueness in the eyes of God and to give thanks to Him.



## Opener

5 Minutes

Boys and girls, do you sometimes wish that you could be better at something? For example, better at sports or math? Let us remember that God created each one of us with our own unique strengths and weaknesses. Each of you is good at something and that special something makes you very important in God's eyes. [Ask the students if there is something that they are really good at.] God created each one of us with a purpose. We may not know what the purpose is right now, but God will guide us to discover our purpose as we continue to grow. Although none of us is perfect, the way we were created is very special. God knew us even when we were in our mother's womb. God has very special reasons for creating us the way that we are today. We must always remember that we each play an important role in God's plan of salvation, just like Jesus.



## Vocabulary

- righteous:** acting in an upright, moral way; virtuous
- circumcision:** surgical removal of the foreskin of males
- magi:** men of Arabia and Persia who studied the stars, whom people thought had the power to tell the meaning of dreams; wise men from the East
- myrrh:** plant used for spice, medicine or cosmetic purposes



## Bible Discovery & Spiritual Teaching

30-35 Minutes

### FOR TEACHERS

Print out the Bible Discovery worksheets before class. Distribute Worksheet #1 to the students now. The students will be filling it out during the lesson. Keep one copy of each for yourself to reference. The answers to Worksheet #1 have been underlined in this section. Pause and give students time to fill in the blanks before moving on.

Dear students, do you understand what "righteous" means? [Give students a minute to think about the meaning.] That's right! If someone is righteous, that person is upright and always doing things that are pleasing to God. Before Jesus was born, there was a righteous person whose name was Joseph. He lived in Galilee of Nazareth. Let me ask you another question. Do you know which descendent Joseph came from? (That's right, he is the descendent of King David, the same David who killed Goliath.) At that time, Joseph was engaged to Mary. In the Bible, it said that she was a virgin and engaged to Joseph. They were to be married, but they did not live together yet. They lived in separate places. Students, do you know what it means to be engaged? (It means to be bound, as by pledge, promise, contract, or oath.) If a woman is engaged to a man, it means that she has pledged to marry him. Getting engaged is a commitment in the eyes of God. Do you know what a commitment is? [Give students a minute to think about this.] A commitment is something that you promise to do. To commit to something means that you are going to do what you said you would do. So, Joseph and Mary had this commitment of marriage.

One day, an angel visited Mary and explained to her that she would conceive a Son by the power of the Holy Spirit because she had found favor with God. She would carry and give birth to this Child and she would name Him Jesus. At first Mary was afraid and troubled by the angel's words.

**Let's read what the angel said to her in Luke 1:32-33, 35. We will refer to the worksheet and fill in the blanks.**

The angel explained that the child would be "called the Son of the Highest; and the Lord God will give Him the

throne of His father David. And He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of His kingdom there will be no end." He will be "called the Son of God."

**Say:** Being a virgin, Mary questioned the angel, "How will this be?" But after the angel's explanation, Mary humbly believed with simple faith what the angel of the Lord said and rejoiced in God her Savior. Now's let see what happened with Joseph.

When Joseph found out that Mary was pregnant, he was very disappointed. They had not had relations, so he probably thought that she had relations with another man. But because he was a righteous person, he decided that he should not let anyone know what was going on and that he would just quietly tell her that he couldn't marry her. When he was thinking about doing it, guess what happened?

**Now, let's read Matthew 1:20-23 together.**

"But while he thought about these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, 'Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take to you Mary your wife, for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit. And she will bring forth a Son, and you shall call His name Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins.'

"So all this was done that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the Lord through the prophet, saying: 'Behold the virgin shall be with child, and bear a Son, and they shall call His name Immanuel,' which is translated, 'God with us.'"

Students, God sent an angel to Joseph in a dream to reassure him that his marriage to Mary was God's will. The angel explained that the Child within Mary was conceived by the Holy Spirit, that His name would be Jesus and that He was the Messiah, God with us. When Joseph woke from his dream, he willingly obeyed God and took Mary home to be his wife.



**Now, let's study the birth of Jesus.**

At that time, the emperor Caesar Augustus decreed that a census be taken, and every person in the entire Roman world had to go to his own town to register. Joseph, being of the line of David, was required to go to Bethlehem to register with Mary. When they arrived in Bethlehem, Mary was ready to give birth. However, the inn was too crowded, so she had to give birth to Jesus in a stable. She wrapped the Baby in cloth and placed Him in a manger.

Out in the fields, an angel of the Lord appeared to the shepherds who were tending their flocks of sheep by night. That must have been very unusual!

**Let's read what the angels said to the shepherds. Refer to the worksheet while reading Luke 2:10-12 and fill in the blanks.**

"Then the angel said to them, 'Do not be afraid, for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy which will be to all people. For there is born to you this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. And this will be the sign to you: You will find a Babe wrapped in swaddling cloths, lying in a manger.'"

What an amazing announcement! The Savior had been born in the town of David! Suddenly a great host of heavenly beings appeared with the angel and began singing praises to God. As the angelic beings departed, the shepherds decided to travel to Bethlehem and see the Child—Jesus Christ.

There they found Mary, Joseph, and the Baby in the stable. After their visit, they began to spread the word about this Child and everything the angel had said about Him. They went on their way, still praising and glorifying God. But Mary kept quiet, treasuring their words and pondering them in her heart. It must have been beyond her ability to grasp that the tender Child she had just borne was the Savior of the world.

When eight days were completed for the circumcision of the Child, His name was called Jesus, the name given by the angel before He was conceived in the womb.

**Now let's find out more details about the magi who visited Jesus.**

After Jesus' birth, Herod was king of Judea. At this time, wise men (magi) from the east saw a star, and they came in search, knowing that the star signified the birth of the King of the Jews. The wise men came to King Herod in Jerusalem and asked where the Christ was to be born. The chief priest and scribes explained, "In Bethlehem in Judea." Herod secretly met with the magi and asked them

to report back after they had found the Child. Herod told the magi that he too wanted to go and worship the Babe. But secretly Herod was plotting to kill the Child.

So the wise men continued to follow the star in search of the newly born King and found Jesus with His mother in Bethlehem. They bowed and worshipped Him, offering treasures of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. When they left, they did not return to Herod. They had been warned in a dream of his plot to destroy the child.

**Let's read Matthew 2:13-23 together to see what happened next.**

"Now when they had departed, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream, saying, 'Arise, take the young Child and His mother, flee to Egypt, and stay there until I bring you word; for Herod will seek the young Child to destroy Him.' When he arose, he took the young Child and His mother by night and departed for Egypt, and was there until the death of Herod, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the Lord through the prophet, saying, 'Out of Egypt I called My Son.'

"Then Herod, when he saw that he was deceived by the wise men, was exceedingly angry; and he sent forth and put to death all the male children who were in Bethlehem and in all its districts, from two years old and under, according to the time which he had determined from the wise men. Then was fulfilled what was spoken by Jeremiah the prophet, saying: 'A voice was heard in Ramah, lamentation, weeping, and great mourning, Rachel weeping for her children, refusing to be comforted, because they are no more.'

"Now when Herod was dead, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt, saying, 'Arise, take the young Child and His mother, and go to the land of Israel, for those who sought the young Child's life are dead.' Then he arose, took the young Child and His mother, and came into the land of Israel. But when he heard that Archelaus was reigning over Judea instead of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. And being warned by God in a dream, he turned aside into the region of Galilee. And he came and dwelt in a city called Nazareth, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophets, 'He shall be called a Nazarene.'"

**Now that we have studied the birth of Jesus, let's move on to the birth of John the Baptist.**

**Say:** Herod was king of Judea from around 40 BC to 1 BC. It was during this time that a Jewish priest named Zacharias and his wife Elizabeth had a child. One of the reasons that made this birth special was the fact that both Zacharias and Elizabeth were very old. This child was

Elizabeth's first. Students, do you know what else made this birth extraordinary? This birth was foretold to Zacharias by an angel of the Lord named Gabriel.

**Let's read what the angel told him in Luke 1:13-17 and fill in the missing blanks on the worksheet.**

"But the angel said to him, 'Do not be afraid, Zacharias, for your prayer is heard; and your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you shall call his name John. And you will have joy and gladness, and many will rejoice at his birth. For he will be great in the sight of the Lord, and shall drink neither wine nor strong drink. He will also be filled with the Holy Spirit, even from his mother's womb. And he will turn many of the children of Israel to the Lord their God. He will also go before Him in the spirit and power of Elijah, 'to turn the hearts of the fathers to the children,' and the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, to make ready a people prepared for the Lord.'"

**Let's continue reading verses 18-23.**

"And Zacharias said to the angel, 'How shall I know this? For I am an old man, and my wife is well advanced in years.' And the angel answered and said to him, 'I am Gabriel, who stands in the presence of God, and was sent to speak to you and bring you these glad tidings. But behold, you will be mute and not able to speak until the day these things take place, because you did not believe my words which will be fulfilled in their own time.' And the people waited for Zacharias, and marveled that he lingered so long in the temple. But when he came out, he could not speak to them; and they perceived that he had seen a vision in the temple, for he beckoned to them and remained speechless. So it was, as soon as the days of his service were completed, that he departed to his own house."

When Elizabeth's time came, she delivered a boy and they called him John, as the angel had directed. Before his birth, John's father Zacharias had been struck dumb by the angel Gabriel because he had doubted the message regarding his birth. Once John was born, Zacharias' tongue was loosed

and he blessed God and was filled with the Holy Spirit. He continued to bless God for redeeming His people and raising up a horn of salvation for His people. Zacharias said that John will be called a prophet of the Highest, preparing the way for the Lord.

On the eighth day, John was circumcised and named, just as Jesus was eight days after His birth. "So it was, on the eighth day, that they came to circumcise the child. [...] 'He shall be called John'" (Lk 1:59-60).

**What do the births of Jesus and John the Baptist teach us?**

1. Their births were special and part of God's plan.

God's plan for Jesus was for Him to be our Savior. He was sinless because He was born of the power of the Holy Spirit.

God's plan for John the Baptist was for him to prepare the way for Jesus.

2. God has a purpose for *everyone*. We are all valuable in His eyes.

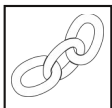
We were made **by** God and **for** God. It is only in God that we find out the purpose and meaning of our lives. In order to fully know God's plan for our lives, we must build a relationship with Him first.

#### FOR TEACHERS

Distribute worksheet #2 to the students now and keep one copy for yourself. The students are to read the passages while underlining the similarities between the births of Jesus and John the Baptist.

#### Answer Key

1. The angel Gabriel appears and reassures both not to be afraid
2. Gabriel announces the name of the child
3. Gabriel announces the mission of the child
4. Jesus and John the Baptist are both born
5. They are both circumcised and named on the eighth day
6. They both grow up strong, filled with the Spirit and wisdom



## Linking to the Ten Basic Beliefs

2-5 Minutes

**Jesus is the one true God.**

The births of Jesus and John the Baptist were special and were part of God's plan.

Jesus fulfilled the Old Testament prophecies of the Messiah when He came to save us from sin. The salvation that the Lord Jesus brought to us fully manifests the love of God. It is through Jesus that we have the hope of everlasting life in His glorious kingdom. He is the **one true God**.



## Check for Understanding

5 Minutes

1. **How did Mary react when Gabriel greeted her?** She was troubled at the greeting.
2. **After Mary was told not to be afraid, what good news did she receive?** She would give birth to a Son named Jesus. He would be great, and would be called the Son of the Highest.
3. **Why was Mary chosen to be the mother of Jesus?** She found favor with God.
4. **In what way can you be pleasing to God and your parents? Will others see you as a godly person with these characteristics? Will God see you in a favorable way?** Answers may vary.
5. **Why did Joseph and Mary leave their home in Nazareth and walk all the way to Bethlehem?** Caesar Augustus issued a law for everyone to go to their hometown for a census.
6. **After Jesus was born, why was He placed in a manger?** There was no more room at any of the inns.
7. **Jesus, the Savior of the whole world, wasn't born in a beautiful palace like other kings. Why do you think that was?** Unlike a king who lived a lofty life being served by others, Jesus was to live a humble life and serve others.
8. **What did the shepherds do after they saw Jesus for themselves?** They spread the word about Jesus and glorified God.
9. **True or False**
  - A. **John the Baptist was Jesus' brother.** False; they were cousins.
  - B. **It was unusual for someone of Elizabeth's age to bear a child.** True.
  - C. **John the Baptist and Jesus were related.** True.
  - D. **Zacharias saw Elizabeth in the temple.** False; he saw the angel Gabriel.
  - E. **Zacharias was mute until the birth of his son.** True.



## Life Application

10 Minutes

### 1. What can we learn from the birth of Jesus?

[Make copies for the students; have them fill in the blanks.] The story about the birth of Jesus teaches us many things.

1. We learn that the virgin Mary found favor in God's eyes. When we live a life that is pleasing to God and others, God can use us in wonderful ways.
2. Joseph, Zacharias, and Elizabeth teach us that by living a righteous life, God will help us in times of difficulty and show us the way.
3. The long and tiring journey to Bethlehem and the manger teaches us that God will always keep His promises, and that we have hope and assurance in Jesus.
4. As the angel told the shepherds, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. Today in the town of David, a Savior has been born." Then finally, the visit of the magi shows us that it is a blessing to worship our Lord and Savior. Let's remember to put Jesus first and worship Him.
5. God has a purpose for everyone. We are all valuable in His eyes.

### 2. Understanding My Life Purpose

[Make copies for the students; have them fill in the blanks. The answers have been underlined.]

Some of you may be wondering about your future and what you will do when you grow up. The answer is very simple. We were made by God and for God. [Ask students to repeat after you.] "My life is a gift from God. My life has a plan. My life has a purpose. I will fulfill God's plan for me by always walking in His way, putting Jesus first, and worshipping Him." It is only in God that we find out the purpose and meaning for our lives. In order to fully know God's plan for our lives, we must build a relationship with Him first. Explain Jeremiah 29:11 to the students.

How can we have a relationship with God? Our relationship with God begins the moment we admit we are sinners and realize our need for Him. When we repent of our sins and ask in faith for God to save us, He will be there to meet our needs. God, our heavenly Father, has always desired to be close to us and to have a relationship with us. Having a relationship with God means we should include God in our daily lives. We should pray to Him at school and at home. When we read His word and meditate on Bible verses, we get to know God better. The more we know God and pray to Him, the more He will guide us to know our future and His plan for us.



## Activity

### Character Charades

10-15 Minutes

**Objective:** To make students aware that ordinary people played an important role in God's plan of salvation.

#### Materials

- Index cards
- Old clothes or scrap materials for costumes

#### Instructions

This will be a game of charades. Copy the following character descriptions onto index cards. The students will be working in pairs for this game. If there are more pairs than characters, you can prepare your own character descriptions such as Joseph, John the Baptist, or Jesus Christ.

Pair up the students and give each pair a character card. Let them study it and tell them to keep their character to themselves. Let the pairs take turns role-playing their character in front of the class. The other students will watch their actions and guess who the character is. After they have guessed who the character is (correct or not), have the pair read their character card aloud to the class. Conclude with a prayer.

#### Character Descriptions

My name is Zacharias. I was a temple priest married to a woman named Elizabeth. In our old age, an angel came and told us that we would be having a baby boy. The angel told us that many would rejoice at his birth and that he would prepare people for the coming of the Lord. However, I did not believe that we could have a baby since we were so old. As a result, I became mute and did not speak until after my son was born. Once my voice came back, I praised God and, on the eighth day after my son's birth, I named him John.

My name is Mary. I was engaged to be married to a man named Joseph. However, before we were married, an angel visited me and told me that I would be having a Son by the power of the Holy Spirit. I was scared at first, but then later I humbly believed the angel's words with a simple faith. Soon, I became pregnant, much to the surprise of my husband-to-be. He thought I had done something with another man, so he was going to leave me, but an angel of the Lord spoke to him, as well. Now, we both understood that we were going to give birth to a very special Child. Soon enough, we had a beautiful Child who was to become the Savior of the people.

My name is Simon, but my Lord Jesus also named me Peter, which means "rock." I was an ordinary, hardworking fisherman before my Lord Jesus called me to be one of His twelve disciples. He told me that He would make me a fisher of men! I put down my nets and followed Him. I witnessed many of His miracles and even took part in some! One time, Jesus let me walk on water, but because I saw the wind, I became afraid and started to sink. Thankfully, Jesus gave me His hand and lifted me up just in time!

My name is Matthew, or Levi, and I was a tax collector. Everyone agreed that tax collectors were sinners, but my Lord Jesus loved me and called me to become one of His twelve disciples! I was so happy! I was sitting at my tax collector's booth when the Teacher called me, and I got up and left everything to follow Him. I invited my Lord to my house to eat with my friends, who were also tax collectors. My Lord Jesus showed great mercy to me by giving me a new life as His follower!

My name is David and I am the youngest and smallest in my family. Although I don't have big muscles like my older brothers, I try my best to be a good shepherd. I trust in the Lord with all my heart to help me do what I need to do. The Lord even helped me to kill a lion and a bear to save my sheep. Because my Lord loves me, I know that He will protect me. There was once a giant named Goliath who picked on the Israelites. I couldn't understand why the Israelite army was so afraid. We have the Lord Almighty on our side! I told the king that I would go and fight Goliath. With just one smooth stone and a sling, God used a young boy like me to defeat the fearsome giant Goliath!



### The Births of Jesus and John the Baptist

| Jesus' Birth     | Fill In the Blanks  |
|------------------|---|
| Luke 1:32-33, 35 | The angel explained that the child would be "called the _____ of the _____; and the Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David. And He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of His kingdom there will be no end." He will be "called the _____ of _____."   |
| Matthew 1:20-21  | "But while he thought about these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, 'Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take to you Mary your wife, for that which is conceived in her is of the _____ _____. And she will bring forth a Son, and you shall call His name _____, for He will save His people from their _____.' So all this was done that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the Lord through the prophet, saying: 'Behold the virgin shall be with child, and bear a Son, and they shall call His name _____,' which is translated, 'God with us.'" |
| Luke 2:10-12     | "Then the angel said to them, 'Do not be afraid, for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy which will be to all people. For there is born to you this day in the city of David a _____, who is _____ the _____. And this will be the sign to you: You will find a Babe wrapped in swaddling cloths, lying in a manger.'"  |

| The Birth of John the Baptist | Fill In the Blanks   |
|-------------------------------|--|
| Luke 1:13-17                  | "But the angel said to him, 'Do not be afraid, Zacharias, for your prayer is heard; and your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you shall call his name John. And you will have joy and gladness, and many will rejoice at his birth. For he will be great in the sight of the Lord, and shall drink neither wine nor strong drink. He will also be filled with the _____ _____, even from his mother's womb. And he will turn many of the children of Israel to the Lord their God. He will also go before Him in the _____ and _____ of _____, "to turn the hearts of the fathers to the children," and the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, to make ready a people _____ for the Lord.'" |

#### What do the births of Jesus and John the Baptist teach us?

1. Their births were special and part of God's plan.

God's plan for Jesus was for Him to be our \_\_\_\_\_. He was sinless because He was born of the power of the \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_.

God's plan for John the Baptist was for him to \_\_\_\_\_ the way for Jesus.

2. God has a purpose for *everyone*. We are all valuable in His eyes.

We were made **by** God and **for** God. It is only in God that we find out the \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ of our lives. In order to fully know God's plan for our lives, we must build a \_\_\_\_\_ with Him first.

### The Similarities Between the Births of Jesus and John the Baptist

**Instructions:** There are many similarities between the births of Jesus and John the Baptist. Please take a look at the following chart and underline the similarities.

| The Announcement of John's Birth   | The Announcement of Jesus' Birth  |
|--|---|
| <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Luke 1:11-13</b></p> <p>The angel Gabriel appears to Zacharias to tell of a miraculous birth. He is told not to be afraid for his prayer has been heard.</p>   | <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Luke 1:26-27, 30</b></p> <p>The angel Gabriel appears to Mary to tell of a miraculous birth. She is told not to be afraid because she has won God's favor.</p>  |
| <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Luke 1:13</b></p> <p>Gabriel announces the name of the child: "You shall call his name John."</p>  | <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Luke 1:31</b></p> <p>Gabriel announces the name of the Child: "You shall call His name Jesus."</p>  |
| <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Luke 1:15-17</b></p> <p>Gabriel announces the mission of the child: "He will also be filled with the Holy Spirit, even from his mother's womb. And he will turn many of the children of Israel to the Lord their God [and] make ready a people prepared for the Lord."</p> | <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Luke 1:32-33</b></p> <p>Gabriel announces the mission of the Child: "He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Highest; and the Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David. And He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of His kingdom there will be no end."</p> |
| <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Luke 1:57</b></p> <p>John is born: "Now Elizabeth's full time came for her to be delivered, and she brought forth a son."</p>  | <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Luke 2:6-7</b></p> <p>Jesus is born: "So it was, that while they were there, the days were completed for her to be delivered. And she brought forth her firstborn Son."</p>   |
| <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Luke 1:59-60</b></p> <p>John is circumcised and named on the eighth day: "So it was, on the eighth day, that they came to circumcise the child. [...] 'He shall be called John.'"</p>  | <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Luke 2:21</b></p> <p>Jesus is circumcised and named on the eighth day: "And when eight days were completed for the circumcision of the Child, His name was called Jesus."</p>   |
| <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Luke 1:80</b></p> <p>Conclusion to the story of John's birth: "So the child grew and became strong in spirit."</p>   | <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Luke 2:40</b></p> <p>Conclusion to the story of Jesus' birth: "And the Child grew and became strong in spirit, filled with wisdom; and the grace of God was upon Him."</p>  |

## What Can We Learn from the Birth of Jesus?

1. We learn that the virgin Mary found favor in God's eyes. When we live a life that is \_\_\_\_\_ to God and others, God can use us in wonderful ways.
2. Joseph, Zacharias, and Elizabeth, teach us that by living a righteous life, God will \_\_\_\_\_ us in times of \_\_\_\_\_ and show us the way.
3. The long and tiring journey to Bethlehem and the manger teaches us that God will always keep His promises, and that we have \_\_\_\_\_ and assurance in Jesus.
4. As the angel told the shepherds, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. Today in the town of David, a Savior has been born." Then finally, the visit of the magi shows us that it is a blessing to \_\_\_\_\_ our Lord and Savior. Let's remember to put Jesus first and worship Him.
5. God has a purpose for everyone. We are all \_\_\_\_\_ in His eyes.

I am  
**valuable**  
in God's eyes!

"Consider the ravens: They do not sow or reap, they have no storeroom or barn; yet God feeds them. And how much more **valuable** you are than birds!" (Lk 12:24 NIV)

"You are **precious** and honored in my sight." (Isa 43:4a NIV)

**Write down five things that make you feel that God loves you.**

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

## My Life's Plan



1. My life is a \_\_\_\_\_ from God.
2. My life has a plan. My life has a \_\_\_\_\_.
3. I will fulfill God's plan for me by always walking in His way, putting Jesus \_\_\_\_\_, and worshipping Him:



- a. I will live a life that is **pleasing** to God and to others so that God can use me in wonderful ways.
- b. I will live a **righteous** life and remember that God always keeps His promises. He will help me in times of difficulty and show me the way.

*"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." (Jeremiah 29:11)*

### Which life do you want to choose?



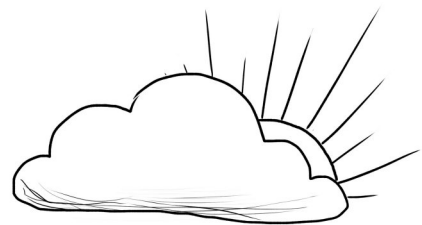
#### Self-directed life

- Sin
- Frustration
- Worries
- Separation from God



#### God-directed life

- Love
- Joy
- Peace
- Fullness of the Holy Spirit



### A Prayer to God

Dear Lord Jesus Christ,

Thank You for coming as a human being to show everyone how to live. Thank You for dying on the cross for my sins. Thank You for forgiving my sins and for giving me eternal life. I have opened the door of my life and received You as my Savior. Please take control of my life and help me to be the kind of person You want me to be. Amen.



E2 Year 1 Book 1 Lesson 2—The Births of Jesus and John the Baptist

# Homework Assignment

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Parent signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Weekly Bible Reading: \_\_\_\_\_

**Bible Reading:** Check each box when you complete that day's reading.

**Prayer:** Check each box after you pray to God that day.

|      | 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. (Isaiah 7:14)

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

There are many life applications and truths that we have learned from this lesson.

1. We learned that the virgin Mary found favor in God's eyes. When we live a life that is pleasing to God and to others, God can use us in wonderful ways. **Write at least two things that you did this week that are pleasing to God.**
2. Joseph, Zacharias, and Elizabeth teach us that by living a righteous life, God will help us in times of difficulty and show us the way. **Has God showed you how to overcome any difficulties this week? Describe them. (If you haven't encountered any difficulties this week, describe an instance when God helped you in the past.)**
3. The visit of the magi shows us that it is a blessing to worship our Lord and Savior. Worshipping God can be done before you eat breakfast and go to school, and after you come home from school. You can kneel down and pray, or read the Bible. These are wonderful ways to worship God. **When did you worship God this week? Why is it important to worship God and remember His goodness every day?**

# LESSON 3

## THE ESCAPE TO EGYPT AND JESUS' CHILDHOOD



### OBJECTIVES

1. To understand God's wonderful protection and plan for Baby Jesus in the escape to Egypt.
2. To know that Jesus grew in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and men.
3. Like Jesus, we can grow spiritually and have the favor of men through three steps:
  - a. Read the word of God daily
  - b. Ask God for wisdom
  - c. Be obedient

### MEMORY VERSE

"Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and men."

(Luke 2:52)

### PRAYER

1. Thank God for guiding and protecting us during the week so that we can come to worship Him in Spirit and in truth.
2. Praise God for sending His son, Jesus Christ, to give us eternal life. He is the one who gives us wisdom.
3. Ask God to help us to grow in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and men.



### Overview

1. **The escape to Egypt (Mt 2:13-23)**
2. **The childhood of Jesus (Lk 2:40-52)**—Jesus was found in the temple
3. **Jesus grew and became strong in spirit, filled with wisdom and the grace of God was upon Him.**
4. **Linking to the Ten Basic Beliefs**—Jesus is the one true God.
5. **Life Application**—Jesus grew in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and men.
6. **Activity**—Look Inside My Heart, Lord



### Background Knowledge for Teachers

Passover was one of the most important festivals. According to the law, every male was to go to Jerusalem three times a year (Dt 16:16). Passover commemorated how God protected and passed over the Israelites' homes (Ex 12:21-26) while killing the Egyptians' first born.

According to Jewish custom, boys entered adulthood at age thirteen. This was when they began fully participating in the community's religious life. At twelve years of age, Jesus was almost considered an adult. Therefore, Jesus was able to listen to the religious leaders and ask them probing questions. The leaders marveled at Jesus' understanding and His answers (Lk 2:47).

When Mary and Joseph couldn't find Jesus, they assumed that Jesus was with relatives, as it was common practice for families to travel together in caravans. After three days of searching, they found Jesus in the temple.





## Reaching Out to Your Students

Your students may have difficulty relating to Jesus' childhood. He grew up working with His father, a carpenter. For leisure, He may have played some games, but they certainly weren't the same ones children play today. The school that Jesus attended was also vastly different. However, even though your students may not relate specifically to Jesus' childhood, there are still many things that they can learn from it.

While the Bible doesn't record much about Jesus' childhood, it is possible to draw a lot of information from what is available. Help your students understand that Jesus found favor in the eyes of God because of His daily actions and attitude. Whenever He had the opportunity, Jesus studied the Scriptures. This allowed Jesus to draw nearer to God, and as a result, He grew in wisdom. Encourage your students to read the Bible daily to help them draw near to God.

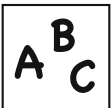
Jesus was probably very helpful to Joseph and his work. While your students may not be able to help with their parents' work, they can certainly help in and around the house with chores. Lastly, Jesus was always obedient to His parents. Your students can follow Jesus' example and obey their parents. Help them understand that their parents always want what is best for them. By reading the Bible, helping His parents, and being obedient, Jesus grew in wisdom. Your students can grow just as Jesus grew if they do the same.



## Opener

*5 Minutes*

Students, do you remember the wise men? When the wise men saw Baby Jesus, they were overjoyed! They were sure that this was the King they had to greet, as the star had led them to Him. They knelt down and worshipped Jesus, presenting Him with the gifts they had brought. Do you know what they were? (That's right! They were gold, frankincense, and myrrh.) Later, as they were preparing to leave, an angel appeared to them in a dream and told them not to return to Herod. They quickly took a different route and left. Students, aren't you glad they did that? Ask the students if they have ever experienced God's protection in their lives. Compare their experiences with the way Jesus was protected as a child. Remind the students that they are guarded by God because they are precious to Him. God keeps them safe so they may glorify and serve Him.



## Vocabulary

**defenseless:** unable to fight back

**captivity:** the state or period of being held, imprisoned, or confined

**prophecy:** the foretelling or prediction of what is to come

**lamentation:** the act of expressing grief

**caravan:** travelers who journey together for safety when passing through deserts, hostile territory, etc.

**Passover:** a Jewish festival that commemorates the exodus of the Jews from Egypt

**frantic:** desperate or wild with fear, pain, passion, etc.





## Bible Discovery & Spiritual Teaching

30-35 Minutes

### FOR TEACHERS

Print out the Bible Discovery Worksheet before class. Distribute the worksheet to the students now. The students will be filling in the blanks throughout the lesson. The answers to the worksheet have been underlined in this section.

### The Escape to Egypt

Right after the wise men departed, God sent an angel to Joseph in a dream. The message from the angel was urgent. Now, let's read Matthew 2:13. Please refer to the worksheet and fill in the blanks to see what the angel said. "Arise, take the young Child and His mother, flee to Egypt, and stay there until I bring you word; for Herod will seek the young Child to destroy Him."

When Joseph woke up, it was still nighttime. Waking Mary, he told her what the angel had said. Mary picked up her young Child. They probably packed what few belongings they had and loaded them onto their donkey. They left the house as quietly as possible and began the long journey down to Egypt.

### Herod Is Furious

King Herod was not going to give up easily. When he realized that the wise men were not returning, he was furious. He worked out how long ago the bright, new star had appeared, so that he would know how old the Child might be. Guess what he did? He ordered his soldiers to kill all baby boys aged two and under. It did not matter who they were; none were allowed to escape. Let's read Matthew 2:18 to see what happened when the soldiers went out. The Bible describes: "A voice was heard in Ramah, lamentation, weeping, and great mourning, Rachel weeping for her children, refusing to be comforted, because they are no more."

Meanwhile, faraway Egypt became the temporary home for Joseph and Mary's little family. Jesus' earliest years were spent in Egypt.

Then came news of King Herod's death. Once more, an angel spoke to Joseph in a dream. "Arise, take the young Child and His mother, and go to the land of Israel, for those who sought the young Child's life are dead" (Mt 2:20). Joseph and Mary were glad to be able to return to their own country. On the way back, they faced the problem of where to settle. King Herod's son Archelaus had succeeded him as king. He was just as jealous and vicious as his father. Another dream confirmed their wish to return to Nazareth, which was prophesied by the prophets. Now let's read Matthew 2:23 and write down what the prophecy said. "He shall be called a Nazarene."

### Jesus in the Temple

Jesus' family settled down in Nazareth. They did not have to fear any more. Joseph worked at his trade as a carpenter.

Every year, the family traveled to Jerusalem for the Feast of the Passover. This was the most important religious feast of the year, when Israelites looked back to the time God freed them from captivity under the Egyptians. Jesus always went with them on this visit, but when he was twelve, the trip to Jerusalem was especially special for him. Thirteen was the age when boys became adults and could take full part in the religious life of the community. Let's find out what happened during this trip.

Early one morning, the family set off for Jerusalem. After a long journey, they finally reached Jerusalem safely. After the Passover, they started on their way back home. The caravan had been traveling back toward Nazareth for a whole day when Mary and Joseph began to wonder where Jesus was. They probably went around the camp asking everyone and searching everywhere. When the caravan stopped for the night, Jesus was nowhere to be found. His parents thought that He had been with one of His friends or with another family in the caravan.

Eventually, Mary and Joseph realized that He was not with them and by this time, they were frantic with worry. They probably spent a sleepless night in the camp. The next morning, they went back to Jerusalem. Keep in mind that it was night again when they finally reached it. Once more, they had to wait until morning before doing the search. Jesus had to be somewhere in Jerusalem.

The next day, they went everywhere and asked everyone if they had seen Him. Nobody had. The Bible said that after three days, they made their way toward the temple. They could see the temple teachers sitting together, deep in discussion. They looked and guess what? They found Jesus listening attentively to every word. He would ask questions and the teachers would look at each other in amazement. They could see that this Child was highly knowledgeable and that He had a deep understanding for one so young.

When they reunited, Mary asked Jesus a question. "Son, why have You done this to us? Look, Your father and I have sought You anxiously" (Lk 2:48).

Let's look at Luke 2:49 and write down Jesus' reply on the worksheet. "He said to them, 'Why did you seek Me? Did you not know that I must be about My Father's business?'"

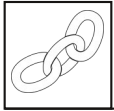
Mary must have been taken aback at this. She could see that Jesus was serious when He said that and at the same time, she tried to understand what He meant. The Bible said that Mary kept His words in her heart. She realized that her Son had much greater work to do than

to be the son of a carpenter.

### Jesus Grows Older and Wiser

Jesus grew up to be a normal healthy boy who most likely helped His father often. The Bible said that everyone who met Him liked Him and was impressed by the kind of life He lived. And Jesus' heavenly Father, God, knew His every thought and action. As time went on, Jesus not only grew physically, but He also became strong in spirit and filled

with wisdom, and the grace of God was upon Him (Lk 2:40). Let's read Luke 2:52 and write down the key words on the worksheet. In what ways did Jesus grow? "And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and men." He stayed with His family and worked hard until He was thirty years old. By then, He was ready to go on His great mission! Luke 2:52 is also the memory verse for this lesson.



## Linking to the Ten Basic Beliefs

2-5 Minutes

### Jesus is the one true God.

God indeed had a plan for Jesus and His family. God protected Baby Jesus in the escape to Egypt. He allowed Jesus to grow in wisdom and stature, gaining the favor of God and men. As we study this lesson, let's remember that we are learning about the one true God—Jesus Christ, our Lord Savior.



## Check for Understanding

5 Minutes

- 1. Why did God send an angel to Joseph in a dream to tell him to go down to Egypt?** King Herod wanted to kill Baby Jesus and was looking for Him.
- 2. When Joseph and his family returned to their country, why did they settle down in Nazareth?** King Herod's son Archelaus had succeeded him as king. He was just as jealous and vicious as his father. In order to protect Jesus, they stayed at Nazareth. This fulfilled the prophecy that stated, "He shall be called a Nazarene."
- 3. Why was the Passover an important festival?** It was important because this was a time when the Israelites commemorated God's deliverance from Egypt. God had protected them by asking them to put lamb's blood on their doorposts so that when the angels of God passed by their doors, they would not kill their firstborns as they did to the Egyptians.
- 4. Fill In the Blanks: When Jesus was \_\_\_\_\_ (twelve) years old, He stayed behind in the courts of the Jerusalem temple to \_\_\_\_\_ (listen to the teachers and ask them questions).**
- 5. How many days did it take Jesus' parents to find Him?** It took them three days.
- 6. When they found Jesus in the temple, what did they notice?** They noticed that Jesus was listening attentively to every word the teachers were saying. He would ask questions and the teachers would look at each other in amazement. They could see that this Child was very knowledgeable and that He had a deep understanding at such a young age.
- 7. Even when Jesus told His mother that He must be in His Father's house to learn about and listen to God, He was still obedient to His parents. How do we know that Jesus was very obedient?** He went home with them right away without arguing or telling them that He must stay in the temple.
- 8. Fill In the Blanks: "And Jesus increased in \_\_\_\_\_ (wisdom) and stature, and in favor with \_\_\_\_\_ (God) and men."**

### HOMEWORK ANSWER KEY

1. wisdom, God, given
2. temple, Holy Spirit, own, price, glorify, God, body, spirit, God's
3. love, excellent, fruits, righteousness
4. selfish ambition, himself, own, others



## Life Application

10 Minutes

### 1. How Can I Grow as Jesus Grew?

*"And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and men." (Lk 2:52)*

[Hand out Life Application Worksheet #1 and follow with the introduction below.]

Although there are only a few passages that give us a glimpse into Jesus' childhood, they actually tell us a lot if we study them carefully. Jesus grew in many ways!

From passages describing Mary's and Joseph's faithful and obedient characteristics, we can assume that they guided Jesus well in the path of the Lord. By looking at Jewish tradition and the time when Jesus lived, we know that Jesus probably attended religious classes at a synagogue as a young boy. We can see that Jesus was an active learner from the event at the temple. He not only sat and listened, but also asked questions and gave answers. Furthermore, Jesus was obedient when His parents asked Him to go home. These were some of the ways Jesus grew! [Ask students to rate their growth on the worksheet.]

### 2. The Secrets to Growing as Jesus Did!

[Hand out Life Application Worksheet #2 and go over the worksheet section by section.]

#### **Secret #1: Read the word of God daily**

*"Therefore you shall lay up these words of mine in your heart and in your soul, and bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. You shall teach them to your children, speaking of them when you sit in your house, when you walk by the way, when you lie down, and when you rise up. And you shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates." (Dt 11:18-20)*

Deuteronomy 11:18-20 illustrates how God's people were instructed to remember God's commands.

During biblical times, men wore blue-striped shawls with knotted tassels to remind them of God's commands. They also wore phylacteries, or little black leather boxes containing verses from the Torah (the first five books of the Bible). These boxes were attached to leather straps to hold them in place. One phylactery was worn on the head with the box at the forehead and another phylactery on the left arm with the box near the heart. These were signs that the words of God controlled the wearer's thoughts and feelings.

Today, we learn God's word by going to church, attending religious education classes, and, of course, by reading the Bible. Compared to the people back then and to many people in the world today, we are very fortunate to have God's word in the Bible. Our families have Bibles at home and many of us have our own personal Bibles. Some of us even have more than one personal Bible in different colors and sizes! We are able to read our Bible by ourselves or share it with others whenever and wherever we want. We can tuck our Bibles into our school bags or simply carry them in the crook of our arm.

Have you ever seen ancient scrolls like the ones on which the Scriptures were written? Or the Gutenberg Bible? They are large and heavy. If you wanted to find a certain passage from the scrolls, you would first need to find the correct scroll and unroll it until you found the passage. Instead of having to carry around many separate scrolls, we have all the word of God neatly gathered into one Bible. In addition to this, each of our Bibles contains a table of contents, which shows us the order of the books. There are also maps that show where certain events took place. We are indeed blessed to be able to carry around the word of God wherever we go!

[Ask students to answer the following questions under Secret #1 on the worksheet.]

1. Where do you put your Bible when you're not using it?
2. Where do you think God would like you to put it?
3. What are the advantages of storing God's word in our hearts?

**Secret #2: Ask God for wisdom through prayer**

What is wisdom? Wisdom is practical discernment. If you have wisdom, it means that you have the ability to make wise decisions in difficult circumstances. Wisdom is different from knowledge. Having knowledge doesn't mean you have wisdom. Wisdom, according to the teachings in the Bible, is given by God. If you need wisdom, all you have to do is pray to God and God will supply you with what you need.

[Continue with Secret #2 on the worksheet.] Read James 1:5: "If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given to him." Name one or two things that you need God's help with in the box below. Then, write a short prayer to God asking Him to grant you the wisdom to do these things.

**Secret #3: Be obedient**

[Go over Secret #3 on the worksheet with the students, guiding them to find the answers.]

**FOR TEACHERS****Secret #3 Answer Ke**

1. Church workers: "Obey those who rule over you, and be submissive, for they watch out for your souls." (Heb 13:17a)
2. God's Voice: "This is what I commanded them, saying, 'Obey My voice, and I will be your God, and you shall be My people.'" (Jer 7:23a)
3. Parents: "Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this right." (Eph 6:1)
4. The book of the law: "Only be strong and very courageous, that you may observe to do according to all the law which Moses My servant commanded you; do not turn from it to the right hand or to the left, that you may prosper wherever you go. This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate in it day and night, that you may observe to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success." (Josh 1:7-8)

**Activity****Look Inside My Heart, Lord***10-15 Minutes*

**Objective:** To remind students that God looks at their hearts and not their outward appearances.

**Materials**

- White construction paper
- X-Acto knife
- Scissors
- Glue
- Colored pencils or markers
- Pencils or pens

**Instructions**

1. On one sheet of construction paper, draw yourself from head to toe, holding a sign.
2. Copy the following verse onto the sign, and then color the picture.

*"For man looks at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart." (1 Sam 16:7b)*

3. Place the picture on top of another sheet of construction paper and cut your picture out, cutting both sheets at the same time. Separate the two sheets.
4. [Teacher should assist with this step.] Using an X-Acto knife, cut the sign into "swinging doors." To do this, make a vertical cut in the center of the sign. Then cut lengthwise along the top and bottom of the sign. The result should be two "doors" that can "swing" open when you fold them back.
5. Apply glue to the outer edge of one sheet and glue both sheets together, making sure that the picture is on top. Then, fold the "swinging doors" back and draw a pink heart inside.
6. In the heart, write down the things that God would want to see if He looked into your heart. These can be single words, phrases, or verses.
7. Decorate the heart to complete the picture.
8. When you finish, you can choose to hole punch it and hang it up in your room, or use it as a giant bookmark!



## The Escape to Egypt and Jesus' Childhood

### The Escape to Egypt

What did the angel say to Joseph in the dream?

#### Matthew 2:13

"Arise, take the young Child and His mother, flee to \_\_\_\_\_, and stay there until I bring you word; for \_\_\_\_\_ will seek the young Child to \_\_\_\_\_ Him."

#### Matthew 2:23

Joseph, Mary, and Jesus returned to Nazareth, as foretold by the prophets when they said that "He shall be called a \_\_\_\_\_."



### Jesus Stays in the Temple After the Passover Feast

What did Jesus say to His mother when she told Him that they had been looking for Him?

#### Luke 2:49

"He said to them, 'Why did you seek \_\_\_\_\_? Did you not know that I must be about My \_\_\_\_\_ business?'"



### Jesus Grows Up

In what ways did Jesus grow?

#### Luke 2:52

"And Jesus increased in \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_, and in \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_."



# GROWTH↑

### How Can I Grow as Jesus Grew?

*“And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and men.” (Lk 2:52)*

Although there are only a few passages that give us a glimpse into Jesus’ childhood, they actually tell us a lot if we study them carefully. Jesus grew in many ways!

Are we also growing in wisdom, stature, favor with God, and favor with men? Look at the questions and rate your own growth by checking off the box to the right that best matches your answer.

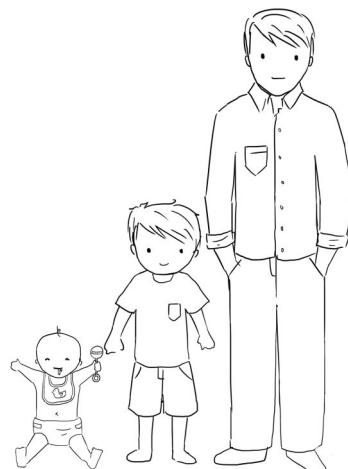
| Jesus grew in <b>wisdom</b><br>(Understanding God’s word and God’s will) | Never                    | Seldom                   | Occasionally             | Frequently               | Always                   |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Do I feel like I am growing in wisdom?                                | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. Do I read the Bible daily?  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. Do I pray daily?  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

| Jesus grew in <b>stature</b><br>(Growing physically and staying healthy) | Never                    | Seldom                   | Occasionally             | Frequently               | Always                   |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Do I eat healthy food?  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. Do I exercise regularly?  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. Do I get enough sleep?  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

| Jesus grew in <b>favor with God</b><br>(Loving God and serving Him) | Never                    | Seldom                   | Occasionally             | Frequently               | Always                   |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Do I obey God’s words by living them out in my life?             | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. Do I love God by being obedient just as Jesus was?               | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. Do I serve God in church?  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

| Jesus grew in <b>favor with men</b><br>(Loving and helping others) | Never                    | Seldom                   | Occasionally             | Frequently               | Always                   |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Do I love the people around me?                                 | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. Do I help others, especially those who are sick or not well?    | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. Do I pray for people?   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

**GROWTH** ↑





### The Secrets to Growing as Jesus Did!

**Secret #1: Read the word of God daily**

*"Therefore you shall lay up these words of mine in your heart and in your soul, and bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. You shall teach them to your children, speaking of them when you sit in your house, when you walk by the way, when you lie down, and when you rise up. And you shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates." (Deut 11:18-20)*

**Answer the following questions.**


1. Where do you put your Bible when you're not using it?
  
2. Where do you think God would like you to put it?
  
3. What are the advantages of storing God's word in our hearts?



**Secret #2: Ask God for wisdom through prayer**

Read James 1:5. *"If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given to him."* Name one or two things that you need God's help with in the box below. Then, write a short prayer to God asking Him to grant you the wisdom.

**Areas I need God's help with:**



**My prayer:**

Dear God,

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**Secret #3: Be obedient**

**Instructions:** Starting at the bottom, follow the obedience trail below. Read each passage as you come to it. Fill in the blanks that tell you whom or what you are to obey. Several letters have been given to help you.

4) JOSHUA 1:7-8  
 B \_\_\_ k o f  
 \_\_\_ h \_\_\_ \_\_\_ w

3) EPHESIANS 6:1  
 \_\_\_ r \_\_\_ \_\_\_ s

2) JEREMIAH 7:23a  
 \_\_\_ o \_\_\_ ' \_\_\_ v \_\_\_ i \_\_\_

1) HEBREWS 13:17a  
 c \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ c h w \_\_\_ r k \_\_\_ \_\_\_ s

# E2 Year 1 Book 1 Lesson 3—The Escape to Egypt and Jesus' Childhood Homework Assignment

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Parent signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Weekly Bible Reading:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Bible Reading:** Check each box when you complete that day's reading.

**Prayer:** Check each box after you pray to God that day.

|      | 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. **(Luke 2:52)**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Read the Bible verses and fill in the blanks for these four categories.

**1. Wisdom** (James 1:5)

"If any of you lacks \_\_\_\_\_, let him ask of \_\_\_\_\_, who gives to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be \_\_\_\_\_ to him."

**2. Stature** (1 Cor 6:19-20)

"Or do you not know that your body is the \_\_\_\_\_ of the \_\_\_\_\_ who is in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your \_\_\_\_\_? For you were bought at a \_\_\_\_\_; therefore, \_\_\_\_\_ in your \_\_\_\_\_ and in your \_\_\_\_\_, which are \_\_\_\_\_.

**3. Favor with God** (Phil 1:9-11)

"And this I pray, that your \_\_\_\_\_ may abound still more and more in knowledge and all discernment, that you may approve the things that are \_\_\_\_\_, that you may be sincere and without offense till the day of Christ, being filled with the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ which are by Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God."

**4. Favor with men** (Phil 2:3-4)

"Let nothing be done through \_\_\_\_\_ or conceit, but in lowliness of mind let each esteem others better than \_\_\_\_\_. Let each of you look out not only for his \_\_\_\_\_ interests, but also for the interests of \_\_\_\_\_.

# LESSON 4

## JOHN THE BAPTIST PREPARES THE WAY AND JESUS' BAPTISM



### OBJECTIVES

1. To learn to be a humble and faithful worker of God, just like John the Baptist.
2. To understand the difference between John's baptism and the baptism of salvation after Christ died for us.
3. To understand the importance and necessity of baptism.

### MEMORY VERSE

"Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature."

(Mark 16:15)

### PRAYER

1. Thank God for gathering us here so that we can worship and learn more about His word.
2. Remember that Jesus shed His blood for us so that our sins can be washed away and we can be saved.
3. Ask God to help us focus on this lesson and apply its teachings to our lives.



### Overview

1. **John the Baptist's life in the desert and his simple lifestyle**
2. **His work for God**
  - Prepared the way for Christ
  - Performed baptism of repentance
  - Exhibited humility and faithfulness while working for God
  - Baptized Jesus Christ
3. **His persecution and death**
  - Got in trouble with King Herod
  - Received persecution and ridicule from the Jewish community
4. **Linking to the Ten Basic Beliefs**—Water Baptism is the sacrament for the forgiveness of sins and rebirth.
5. **Life Application**—Testimony: "I Witnessed the Lord's Blood"
6. **Activity**—Bible Bookmark



### Background Knowledge for Teachers

John received opposition from several groups of religious leaders in Jewish society. While each religious group had their own strengths, none of them truly led the people closer to God. When John the Baptist came, he not only looked and acted differently, but spoke a different message. God had chosen him to prepare the way for Jesus, so he did it without any desire for fame or profit. As a result, he got in trouble with King Herod and the following religious leaders/groups:

#### Sadducees

- A wealthy/upper class Jewish priestly party
- Believed only in the first five books of Moses (Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, and Deuteronomy)
- Profited from business in the temple
- A major party of the Jewish council

#### Pharisees

- Strict group of religious Jews
- Believed that salvation came by obedience to the law
- Very influential in the synagogues

**Teachers of the Law**

- Professional interpreters of the law
- Especially emphasized the traditions
- Many of them were Pharisees

**Essenes**

- Jewish monastic group
- Withdrew from the world and formed communities of their own

**Zealots**

- Jewish patriots fiercely determined to end foreign rule in Israel
- Also called "dagger men" because this was their weapon of choice



## Reaching Out to Your Students

Your students may not be able to relate to the hardships that John went through during his servitude. In countries where there is freedom of religion, we do not usually experience threats to our lives or open hostility because of our beliefs. However, your students may have had to explain their faith to their friends in social settings. For example, they may have had to decline a birthday party invitation in order to keep the Sabbath.

Remind your students that when we truly follow Christ, we shouldn't feel like we are bound by so many restrictions. It is not a loss to know Christ; rather, it is gain for us to know Christ and be in the true church. We must remember that we are chosen by God to be a separate and holy nation. He protects and blesses us, so we should serve Him wholeheartedly and store up treasures in heaven.



## Opener

5 Minutes

From last week's lesson, we learned that there was a priest named Zacharias. He and his wife Elizabeth were very old and had no children. They asked God to bless them with a child and continued believing that He would answer their prayer. One day, as Zacharias prepared the incense in the temple, an angel appeared to him. The angel said that God had heard his prayers and that his wife Elizabeth would have a son. He was to name him John. John would be filled with the Holy Spirit even before he was born.

The angel said that he would be like Elijah, equipped with spirit and power. He would prepare the people for the Messiah's arrival and soften many hearts by turning many from evil to good.

Zacharias did not believe this because he and his wife were both very old, so he asked the angel for a sign to show that this was going to be true. **If you were Zacharias, would you believe this?**

Then the angel declared, "I am Gabriel. I stand in the presence of God, and I have been sent to speak to you and to tell you this good news. And now you will be silent and unable to speak until the day this happens, because you did not believe my words, which will come true at their proper time."

So Zacharias returned home, unable to speak just as Gabriel had said. **Can you imagine not being able to speak for months? What would it be like? How would you communicate with your family and friends?**

After 9 to 10 months, Elizabeth gave birth to a baby boy. Word spread quickly around town about how God had blessed the couple in their old age. All of their friends and relatives gathered on the eighth day to name the child. Everyone assumed that they would name the child Zacharias after his father.

Elizabeth spoke up. "No! He is to be called John." They said to her, "There is no one among your relatives who has that name." They gave Zacharias something to write on and asked him what he wanted to name the boy. To everyone's surprise, he wrote, "His name is John."

Immediately, Zacharias could speak again and was filled with the Holy Spirit. He prophesied and praised God.

"Blessed is the Lord God of Israel, for He has visited and redeemed His people, and has raised up a horn of salvation for us in the house of His servant David." He turned to John and said, "And you, child, will be called a prophet of the Highest; for you will go before the face of the Lord to prepare His ways."

### FOR TEACHERS

If time permits, you can ask your students to pair up or get into groups and ask them to communicate *without* speaking. This will help them imagine how difficult it was for Zacharias during Elizabeth's pregnancy.



## Vocabulary

**persecution:** the act of treating others badly because of their religion, gender, or beliefs

**Pharisees:** a strict group of religious Jews who believed that salvation came by obedience to the Old Testament law

**prophecy:** to convey a message regarding God's will or a future event through inspiration from God



## Bible Discovery & Spiritual Teaching

30-35 Minutes

### FOR TEACHERS

Print out the Bible Discovery Worksheet for the students before class. Distribute the worksheet to the students now. The students will be referring to it throughout the lesson and filling in the blanks. The answers to the worksheet have been underlined in this section. Pause and allow the students to fill in the blanks before moving on.

### FOR TEACHERS

Emphasize that John lived a holy and simple life. Remind them that they shouldn't be so unhappy about not having certain things—toys, books, games, etc. —because a lot of times, it's human nature not to be fully satisfied with what we already have.

Today we will learn about the life of John the Baptist. Did you know that John was the cousin of Jesus Christ? He was the son of Mary's sister, Elizabeth. He was a little older than Jesus. He was Jewish and lived in Israel.

According to the Bible, when John grew up, he left his home and went to live in the wilderness.

### Let's open our Bibles to Luke 3:2-3.

John began preaching in the desert of Judea.

One day, the word of God came to John in the desert and instructed him to go out and preach.

"While Annas and Caiaphas were high priests, the word of God came to John the son of Zacharias in the wilderness. And he went into all the region around the Jordan, preaching a baptism of repentance for the remission of sins."

### Now let's look at Matthew 3:2-4.

John went around preaching, saying, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand!"

We see in verse 3 that John and his works were prophesied by the prophet Isaiah:

"The voice of one crying in the wilderness:  
'Prepare the way of the Lord;  
Make His paths straight.'"

John lived a holy life, but he also lived a simple life. Let's look at Matthew 3:4. "Now John himself was clothed in camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist; and his food was locusts and wild honey."

Because John was clearly a holy man, a lot of Jewish people in Israel began to pay attention to John's ideas and started to follow him around. From Jerusalem and all of Judea, people came to hear John and ask him how to prepare for the Lord. "Then Jerusalem, all Judea, and all the region around the Jordan went out to him and were baptized by him in the Jordan, confessing their sins" (Mt 3:5-6).

He taught people to share and be kind to each other, saying, "Anyone who has two shirts should share with the one who has none, and anyone who has food should do the same."

Even tax collectors came to be baptized. "Teacher," they asked, "what should we do?"

"Don't collect any more than you are required to," he told them.

When some soldiers asked him, "And what should we do?"

He replied, "Don't force people to give you money and don't accuse people falsely—be content with your pay."

He baptized those who heard his words and wanted to turn away from evil.

People later began to wonder whether John was the Savior that the prophets had said would come to lead the people of Israel and bring peace back to the world. For hundreds of years, the Jews had been waiting for a Savior.

### Luke 3:15-18

Many other people were waiting expectantly and were all wondering in their hearts if John might possibly be the Christ. "Who are you?" the people asked, gathering around John. "Are you a prophet? Are you the Christ and Savior?"



John answered them. "I indeed baptize you with water; but One mightier than I is coming, whose sandal strap I am not worthy to loose. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire."

#### FOR TEACHERS

John was receiving praise and people were coming to listen to him. But he kept his humility. His words proved that he was humble in his work for God.

You may also mention that the Jews did not and still do not believe that Jesus Christ was the Savior or Messiah. They consider Christ as a prophet. Even today, the Jews are still waiting for a Savior. Salvation has been opened to everyone now. Today, we are the spiritual Israelites; we are the chosen ones.

Some Sadducees and Pharisees came to listen to John, too. [See *Background Knowledge for Teachers* section for descriptions.] These Pharisees were men who studied the laws of the Jews very carefully and were proud that they followed them so closely. Because of this, some of them thought that they were better than others. They would challenge and question John about his teachings.

#### Matthew 3:7-10

When John the Baptist saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming to where he was baptizing, he said to them: "Brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Therefore bear fruits worthy of repentance." John was the first to label these people as snakes because they killed others with their venom of hypocrisy and false teachings. "Brood" means offspring/children. John the Baptist was saying that these men were like the offspring of their father—the evil serpent. Therefore, he called them to repent and bear good fruit.

### The Baptism of Jesus

#### Let's look at Matthew 3:13-17.

One day, when John the Baptist was at the Jordan, Jesus came from Galilee to be baptized by him.

John said to Jesus, "It is You who should baptize Me." Jesus replied, "Permit it to be so now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness."

So John agreed. Immediately after Jesus was baptized, as He was coming up from the water, He saw the heavens parting and the Spirit descending upon Him like a dove. Then a voice came from heaven, "This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased."

This affirmed to John that Jesus was the true Savior, the Son of God, who would teach the people and show them God's way.

### The Death of John the Baptist

#### Finally, let's look at Matthew 14:3-12.

John continued to encourage the people and preach the good news to them. But John rebuked Herod because of Herodias, his brother's wife, and all the other evil things he had done, so Herod locked John up in prison.

After John said to Herod, "It is not lawful for you to have her," Herod wanted to kill John. However, he was afraid to do so, because the people considered him a prophet.

"But when Herod's birthday was celebrated, the daughter of Herodias danced before them and pleased Herod. Therefore he promised with an oath to give her whatever she might ask. So she, having been prompted by her mother, said, 'Give me John the Baptist's head here on a platter.' And the king was sorry; nevertheless, because of the oaths and because of those who sat with him, he commanded it to be given to her. So he sent and had John beheaded in prison. And his head was brought on a platter and given to the girl, and she brought it to her mother. Then his disciples came and took away the body and buried it, and went and told Jesus."

\*\*\*\*\*

### Understanding the Difference Between John's Baptism and Water Baptism

#### FOR TEACHERS

This is an important part of the lesson. The students should understand the difference between John's baptism of repentance and the water baptism that has the power to wash away sins.

John's baptism is a baptism of repentance. It cannot wash away our sins. The baptism after Christ's death is for the washing away of sins. John's baptism was to prepare the people for the coming of Christ. Since Jesus had not died on the cross yet and had not shed His blood for the sins of man, John's baptism could not wash away sins.

#### FOR TEACHERS

The following passages help prove that John's baptism was only for the purpose of repentance. Emphasize that those who previously received John's baptism had to be re-baptized after Jesus died for our sins.

Let's read the following passages.

- Acts 19:1-6
- Acts 2:38
- Matthew 28:19

**Acts 19:1-6**

*"And it happened, while Apollos was at Corinth, that Paul, having passed through the upper regions, came to Ephesus. And finding some disciples he said to them, 'Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?' So they said to him, 'We have not so much as heard whether there is a Holy Spirit.' And he said to them, 'Into what then were you baptized?' So they said, 'Into John's baptism.' Then Paul said, 'John indeed baptized with a baptism of repentance, saying to the people that they should believe on Him who would come after him, that is, on Christ Jesus.' When they heard this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. And when Paul had laid hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke with tongues and prophesied.'"*

**Acts 2:38**

*"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."*

**Matthew 28:19**

*"Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit."*

Since Jesus had not died yet and the Holy Spirit had not yet descended during John's ministry, his baptisms could not wash away sins. Therefore, in the verses we just read in Acts 19:1-6, those who had received John's baptism were re-baptized in the name of Jesus Christ.

In Acts 2:38, Peter replied, "Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins."

The water baptism received after Jesus Christ died and shed His blood has the power to wash away our sins.

**FOR TEACHERS**

Emphasize that after John performed baptism, he did not say that the baptized person's sins were forgiven. This could *only* be possible with the blood of a sinless man, Jesus Christ, and the presence of the Holy Spirit.

When performed correctly, baptism carries the marvelous power to remove all sins because Jesus already died on the cross and shed His blood for us.

\* \* \* \* \*

**Why Did Jesus Need to Be Baptized?**

Have you ever wondered why Jesus needed to be baptized? That is a very good question. It is true that Jesus did *not* need to be baptized. He is God after all, and is without sin.

Jesus actually answered the question for us in Matthew 3:15. "Permit it to be so now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness." What did Jesus mean by this?

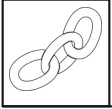
First, Jesus did not say that He was receiving baptism in order to *attain* or to have righteousness. Jesus was already righteous and without sin. He was baptized to *fulfill* righteousness. Fulfill means to complete and to bring to fullness.

It's important to remember that Jesus was not baptized in order to receive forgiveness for His sins.

Jesus' baptism was a very important moment in His life and ministry. It marked the beginning of His ministry.

His baptism also showed His humility and submission to God and to the ministry of John the Baptist. Jesus still had a fleshly body, which showed the humanity of Jesus.

Jesus constantly gave us examples to follow during His time on earth. Baptism was one of these. Even though Jesus didn't need to be forgiven, He received water baptism to set an example for us. He did not ask us to do something He was unwilling to do. Rather, He asked all who would follow Him to be baptized in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit (Mt 28:19).



## Linking to the Ten Basic Beliefs

2-5 Minutes

[Hand out the Linking to the Ten Basic Beliefs worksheet to the students before you begin. Allow the students to fill it out as you go through the verses.]

### **Water Baptism is the sacrament for the forgiveness of sins and rebirth.**

After we're baptized, we must strive to live a life worthy of God's grace and say no to sin and yes to God's will. We must be separate and holy from the other people in the world. We can't do certain things that they do.

### **The Importance of Water Baptism**

We should receive water baptism in order to...

#### **1. Be Cleansed**

"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.'" (Acts 2:38)

"And now why are you waiting? Arise and be baptized, and wash away your sins, calling on the name of the Lord." (Acts 22:16)

#### **2. Be Saved**

"He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned." (Mark 16:16)

"There is also an antitype which now saves us—baptism (not the removal of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God), through the resurrection of Jesus Christ." (1 Peter 3:21)

#### **3. Enter God's Kingdom**

"Jesus answered, 'Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God.'" (John 3:5)

#### **4. Receive a New Life**

"Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life." (Romans 6:4)

#### **5. Put On Christ**

"For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ." (Galatians 3:27)

### **Baptism Requirements**

The baptist must be one who has received the Holy Spirit. In addition to adults, infants of believing parents or families may also be baptized (Lk 2:21; Acts 10:44-48; 16:15). The baptism must be administered in the following manner (Mt 3:16; Acts 2:38; Jn 20:21-23):

- In the name of the Lord Jesus Christ (Acts 2:38; 8:16; 19:5; 22:16)
- With the head of the baptism recipient bowed and facing downward (Rom 6:5, 8)
- With complete immersion of the baptism recipient (Acts 8:38)
- In natural living water, such as seas, rivers, or springs (Zech 13:1; Mt 3:13; Acts 8:38)



## Check for Understanding

5 Minutes

- 1. What was John the Baptist's mission?** To prepare the way for the Lord by preaching the good news of the coming Savior and baptizing.
- 2. What did John the Baptist eat and wear in the wilderness?** He ate locusts and wild honey and wore clothes of camel hair and a leather belt.
- 3. King \_\_\_\_\_ (Herod) threw John the Baptist into \_\_\_\_\_ (prison) because John rebuked him about Herodias, his brother's wife.**
- 4. What happened during the baptism of Jesus?** "When He had been baptized, Jesus came up immediately from the water; and behold, the heavens were opened to Him, and He saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting upon Him. And suddenly a voice came from heaven, saying, 'This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.'" (Mt 3:16-17)
- 5. John the Baptist told people \_\_\_\_\_.**
  - To be baptized and to worship him because he was the Christ
  - That someone more powerful was going to come and that He would baptize with the Holy Spirit and with fire
  - That the world was going to end soon
- 6. What happened to John the Baptist in the end?** He was beheaded.
- 7. Who prophesied about John the Baptist?** Prophet Isaiah.



## Life Application

10 Minutes

As members of True Jesus Church, we know that baptism is just as important now as it was in biblical times. By studying 1 John 5:8, we know that "there are three that bear witness on earth: the Spirit, the water, and the blood; and these three agree as one." When we get baptized, not only is the Spirit presiding over the baptism, but Jesus' blood is also present in the water. The following testimony demonstrates that there truly is power and the remission of sins during baptism.

### I Witnessed the Lord's Blood

April 9th, 1989 was a day in my life that I'll never forget. That afternoon, the True Jesus Church in Ma-Dou prepared to baptize 14 truth seekers at the conclusion of an evangelistic event. The baptism was to be held in the ocean at a nearby beach. Because I had heard about the trick of using red ink, I tagged along out of curiosity to watch the baptism. When everyone had finished singing hymns, I left the group and went further up shore. I found a nice open spot where I could closely observe every detail.

After those who were to receive baptism changed into white robes, they began to walk into the ocean one by one. The baptist, Pastor Chen, was holding a brand new white towel without any sign of red ink in his hands. As the first sister began to be baptized, the seawater around her suddenly changed into a deep shade of red. Were my eyes playing tricks on me? The rest of the ocean appeared a deep turquoise blue against the vast blue sky. How strange! How was it that only the water surrounding her remained deep red?

I rubbed my eyes and watched intently as the second, third, and succeeding persons were baptized. Remarkably, this vision continued with each baptism. More interestingly, when an infant was immersed in the ocean, the color turned into a lighter shade of red. It then immediately changed back to deep red when it was an adult's turn. After the fourteenth person was baptized, the crimson color disappeared and the water was restored to its former turquoise blue.

At that moment, it dawned on me that the Lord Jesus had opened my eyes and allowed me to witness how His precious blood cleanses away all our sins in order for us to inherit God's kingdom. Then I lifted up my head and cried out to God, "Oh, Lord, forgive me! I now know You love the people of the world deeply. For our sake You were crucified and bled to wash the world's sins away. Those who believe and are baptized will be saved." On the way home, I couldn't help shedding many tears of thanksgiving. On the thirtieth day of the same month, I received the baptism of regeneration in Tainan, Taiwan.

Since then, I've come to realize that the key to the grace of the Lord is whether one believes. It is my sincere hope that through this personal experience of mine, everyone will come to know that the True Jesus Church indeed has God's abidance. May all the glory be given to the Lord Jesus Christ in heaven. Amen.

- 1. From this testimony, we know that the blood of Christ is present in the water during baptism. How should we live our lives after we are baptized? Give some examples.**  
We should be separate from the others in the world and strive for holiness and purity. This means that we must keep God's commandments, even if it means refraining from certain activities or celebrations.
- 2. God loved us so much that He sent His only Son to this world to die for us. List the things that you are thankful for. Make a determination to thank God in your prayer every night before you go to bed.**  
Answers may vary.



## Activity

### Bible Bookmark

10-15 Minutes

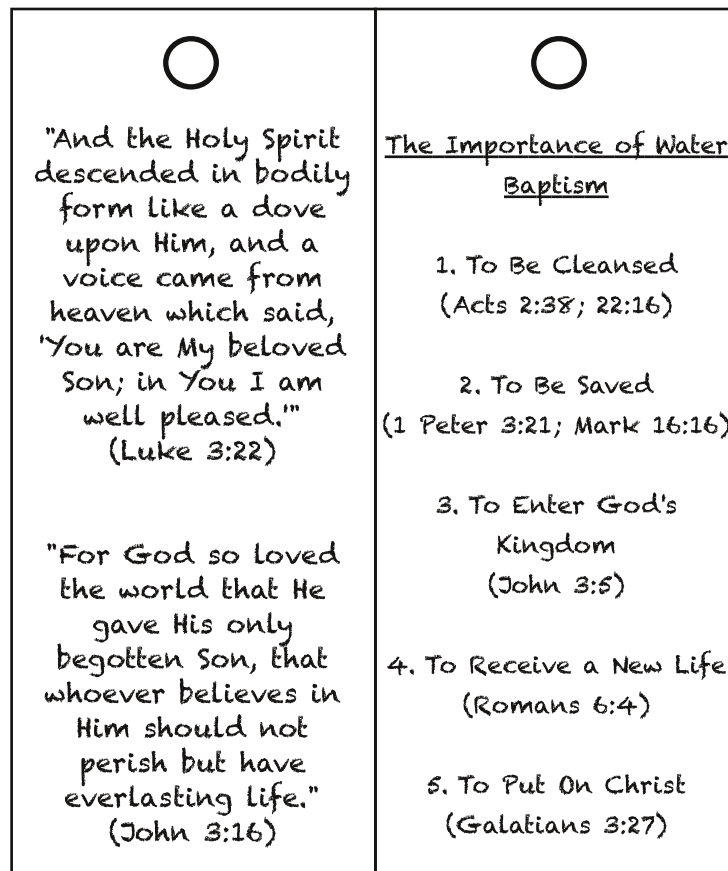
**Objective:** To remind students about the importance of water baptism and the significance of Jesus' baptism.

#### Materials

- Construction paper
- Scissors
- Markers
- Single hole punch, optional
- Ribbon, optional

#### Instructions

1. Measure a rectangle that is 4" wide by 5" tall on the construction paper. Cut it out and fold it in half. It should be 2" x 5" when folded in half.
2. On one side, ask the students to write these two verses: Luke 3:22 and John 3:16.
3. On the other side, list out the 5 points about the importance of water baptism from the Linking to the Ten Basic Beliefs worksheet. They should include the corresponding references (book, chapter, verse).
4. Allow students to freely decorate the bookmark (glitter is not recommended, as it will come off in the Bible).
5. (Optional) Punch a hole at the top of the bookmark and attach a ribbon.



#### HOMEWORK ANSWER KEY

1. To prepare the way for the Lord by preaching the good news of the coming Savior and baptizing.
2. mightier, sandal, Holy Spirit, fire
3. "When He had been baptized, Jesus came up immediately from the water; and behold, the heavens were opened to Him, and He saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting upon Him. And suddenly a voice came from heaven, saying, "This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased." (Mt 3:16-17)
4. We should be separated from sin in the world and strive for holiness and purity. This means that we shouldn't do things that are not right in the eyes of God. We must keep God's commandments and love God with all our hearts.



### John the Baptist Prepares the Way

#### 1. John lived a simple life.

##### Matthew 3:4

"Now John himself was clothed in \_\_\_\_\_, with a \_\_\_\_\_ around his waist; and his food was \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_."

#### 2. The work of John the Baptist.

##### Matthew 3:5-6

"Then \_\_\_\_\_, all \_\_\_\_\_, and all the region around the \_\_\_\_\_ went out to him and were \_\_\_\_\_ by him in the \_\_\_\_\_, confessing their sins."

#### 3. John shows his humility.

##### Luke 3:16

"But One \_\_\_\_\_ than I is coming, whose \_\_\_\_\_ strap I am not worthy to loose. He will baptize you with the \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_."

#### Understanding the Difference Between John's Baptism and Water Baptism

4. John's baptism is a baptism of \_\_\_\_\_. It cannot wash away our \_\_\_\_\_.
5. Those who were baptized by John needed to be baptized again after Jesus died for us. Acts 19:4-5 records:
 

*"Then Paul said, 'John indeed baptized with a baptism of \_\_\_\_\_, saying to the people that they should believe on Him who would come after him, that is, on Christ Jesus.'*

*When they heard this, they were baptized in the name of the \_\_\_\_\_."*
6. The water baptism received after \_\_\_\_\_ died and shed His \_\_\_\_\_ has the power to wash away our sins.
7. Jesus' baptism also showed His \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ to God and to the ministry of John the Baptist. Jesus still had a fleshly body, which showed the humanity of Jesus.

**ONLY WATER BAPTISM HAS THE  
POWER TO WASH AWAY SINS.**



**Linking to the Ten Basic Beliefs**

**Water baptism is required for the remission of sins.**

John the Baptist was an important, yet humble, worker of God. In your own words, describe what being humble means.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

What do you think the opposite of being humble is? Can you describe it?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**The Importance of Water Baptism**

Read the verses below and match the verses to each reason for why we should receive baptism. Some reasons may have more than one verse.

- Acts 2:38
- 1 Peter 3:21
- Mark 16:16
- Acts 22:16
- John 3:5
- Galatians 3:27
- Romans 6:4

- 1. To Be Cleansed \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- 2. To Be Saved \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- 3. To Enter God's Kingdom \_\_\_\_\_
- 4. To Receive a New Life \_\_\_\_\_
- 5. To Put On Christ \_\_\_\_\_



## Testimony

### **I Witnessed the Lord's Blood**

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- 1. From this testimony, we know that the blood of Christ is present in the water during baptism. How should we live our lives after we are baptized? Give some examples.**
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- 2. God loved us so much that He sent His only Son to this world to die for us. List the things that you are thankful for. Make a determination to thank God in your prayer every night before you go to bed.**

# E2 Year 1 Book 1 Lesson 4—John the Baptist Prepares the Way and Jesus' Baptism

## Homework Assignment

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Parent signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Weekly Bible Reading:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Bible Reading:** Check each box when you complete that day's reading.

**Prayer:** Check each box after you pray to God that day.

|      | 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. **(Mark 16:15)**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Instructions:** Answer the following questions or fill in the blanks.

1. What was John the Baptist's mission?

2. This verse emphasizes the difference between John's baptism and water baptism.

*"I indeed baptize you with water; but One \_\_\_\_\_ than I is coming, whose \_\_\_\_\_ strap I am not worthy to loose. He will baptize you with the \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_." (Lk 3:16)*

3. What happened during the baptism of Jesus?

4. How should we live our lives after baptism?

# LESSON 5

## JESUS IS TEMPTED BY SATAN



### OBJECTIVES

1. To understand that Jesus Christ overcame temptation by using the word of God.
2. To be aware that temptations can be anywhere and can happen at anytime.
3. To overcome temptations by drawing close to God through the reading of His word and prayer in the Holy Spirit.

### MEMORY VERSE

“All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness.”

(2 Timothy 3:16)

### PRAYER

1. Thank God for guiding us through the past week so we can come today to worship God.
2. Thank God that Jesus was able to set an example in how to overcome temptations.
3. Ask God to continue to teach us so that we can overcome temptations with the help of God’s word.
4. Ask God to continue to protect and guide us.



### Overview

#### 1. The devil tempts Jesus

- Three temptations (Mt 4:3-10; Mk 1:12-14; Lk 4:1-13; Ps 91:11-12)

#### 2. Satan fails and Jesus triumphs (Mt 4:11)

**3. Linking to the Ten Basic Beliefs**—The Holy Bible is inspired by God and is the only authentic scripture which testifies to the truth.

**4. Life Application**—There are three types of temptations: the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life. Rely on God to overcome temptations.

**5. Activity**—Handling Our Temptations



### Background Knowledge for Teachers

Matthew 3:16-17 records the baptism of Jesus. During the baptism, a voice from heaven said, “This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.” Following Jesus’ baptism, Satan tempted Jesus three times. Temptations can occur at any time, so we must be alert.

When Jesus was tempted, each temptation was different. 1 John 2:16 records the three kinds of temptations: the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life. Lust of the flesh appeals to our desires, lust of the eyes appeals to our eyes, and the pride of life allows us to think that we are superior to others.

Jesus overcame each temptation with the word of God. All three of Jesus’ responses are recorded in Deuteronomy, specifically 8:3, 6:16, 6:13, and 10:20. Deuteronomy records laws that God gave the Israelites through Moses. Thus, it is imperative to remember and practice the word of God. By relying on God’s word and Spirit, we can overcome temptations.

After the devil realized that he was defeated, he “departed from Him until an opportune time,” as recorded in Luke 4:13. From this, we know that the devil is always looking for an opportunity to tempt us. Moreover, 1 Peter 5:8 records that the devil “walks about like a roaring lion.” Encourage your students to be vigilant and alert. We can do this by always studying the word of God, praying, and keeping our spiritual armor in good condition.

Encourage your students to overcome temptations by putting on the armor of God. We cannot overcome temptations by relying on our own will or strength, but by relying on the power of God.



## Reaching Out to Your Students

Imagine not having eaten for several days, let alone forty days. We would probably accept any food that is offered to us. For your students, temptation may not be a matter of life or death; however, it can come in many other forms, such as skipping school or playing pranks. Some students may think, "It won't hurt anyone," or "It's just this one time." Most temptations, whether for children or adults, are the result of a real physical or emotional need. Due to the need, some may disregard the serious consequences of giving into temptation. For instance, Jesus was famished, so, logically, there would have been nothing wrong with turning stone into bread to satisfy His severe hunger. However, doing so would have been (a) taking the situation into His own hands, without regard for the Father's plan or provision, and (b) complying with the will of Satan. With God's considerations in mind, Jesus resisted Satan's seemingly good idea. Most importantly, Jesus resisted with the Scripture. By obeying the word of God we can overcome all things. Sometimes, it may seem very difficult. At times, students may feel an immense pressure from the media, their friends, or other sources to give into temptation. Despite the difficulty, we can encourage our students to be certain that we will be rewarded in the end. Encourage them to be strong and courageous, and to have faith in God. Remind your students to never doubt God and His power.



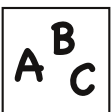
## Opener

5 Minutes

[Draw a simple picture of a skyscraper on the board. Then, draw a small house next to it.]

Students, which building is bigger? Which building is stronger? The skyscraper is often the way temptations look to us: big and unconquerable. They can make us feel small and weak in comparison. However, whenever we rely upon the word of God and do as it says, we strengthen ourselves by building a strong and firm foundation to stand upon.

Whenever we obey the word of God and resist temptation [erase the small house and draw several wide, squat rectangles until they are taller than the skyscraper], we grow stronger and bigger spiritually. [Draw the small house again, on top of the high foundation, so that it now overlooks the skyscraper.] Obeying God's word will help us to be "bigger" than temptation and to overcome it. In today's story, we will learn how Jesus overcame temptation and how we can follow His example and overcome temptation, too.



## Vocabulary

**the wilderness of Judea:** the area west of the Jordan River; a hostile and lonely environment of rock and stone

**fasting:** when a person does not eat food (we usually pray when we fast); Jesus fasted forty days and forty nights in the wilderness

**tempt:** to try and make someone do something wrong by promising pleasure or gain



## Bible Discovery & Spiritual Teaching

30-35 Minutes

### FOR TEACHERS

Print out the two Bible Discovery worksheets before class. Distribute Worksheet #1 to the students now. The students will be filling it out throughout the lesson. Keep one copy for yourself to reference. The answers are underlined throughout this section.

Today, we will learn about how Jesus Christ was tempted by Satan. After John the Baptist baptized Jesus Christ, the Holy Spirit led Jesus Christ into the wilderness. There, the devil tempted Him. Do you know what Jesus was feeling at the time?

### Let's read Matthew 4:2 together.

"And when He had fasted forty days and forty nights, afterward He was hungry."

So, we can see from this verse that Jesus Christ was hungry! We know that Jesus is God, but He was also human. Jesus was flesh like us, so He also felt things like hunger. He didn't skip one or two meals, or meals for one or two days. He fasted for forty days and nights—over a month! Imagine how that must have felt!

What was the first temptation?

### Let's read what the devil said to Jesus in Matthew 4:3. We will refer to the worksheet and fill in the blanks.

"If You are the Son of God, command that these stones become bread."

The devil challenged Jesus by saying, "If You are the Son of God." The devil was taunting Jesus by telling Him to prove that He could turn stones to bread. Also, the devil focused on the weakness of the flesh that Jesus felt: hunger. Since Jesus is God, He is capable of doing anything. Nothing is impossible for Him. He is omnipotent. Does anyone know what that means? Omnipotent means all-powerful, or having unlimited power. Jesus could have easily turned stone to bread or even created bread from thin air! After all, Jesus is God, Creator of the universe! But, Jesus' omnipotence was not a reason for Him to give in to temptation. How did Jesus respond?

### Let's read Matthew 4:4 together.

"But He answered and said, 'It is written, "Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God.'"

Jesus did not fall for the devil's trick! How was Jesus able to overcome temptation? He responded with the word of God. Although Jesus could have responded with anger or give in by turning the stones to bread, He didn't. Also, Jesus did not rely on His own strength. Rather, Jesus responded with the word of God. From Jesus' response, we can see how important and powerful God's word is.

What was the second temptation?

### Let's read Matthew 4:5-6 together and fill in the blanks on the worksheet.

"Then the devil took Him up into the holy city, set Him on the pinnacle of the temple, and said to Him, 'If You are the Son of God, throw Yourself down. For it is written: "He shall give His angels charge over you," and, "In their hands they shall bear you up, Lest you dash your foot against a stone.'"

The devil wanted Jesus to throw Himself down from the highest point of the temple and see if the angels actually came to protect Him. The devil was trying to tempt Jesus to show off His power. What the devil said is actually recorded in Psalm 91:11-12. Although the devil spoke the word of God, he was using it to test God. This is a very important lesson for us. We should obey the word of God and not use it to test God.

How did Jesus respond?

### Let's read verse 7 and fill in the blanks on the worksheet.

"Jesus said to him, 'It is written again, "You shall not tempt the Lord your God.'"

Jesus responded with the word of God again!

After He refused again, the devil took Jesus up to a very high mountain, and showed Him all the kingdoms of the world. Then, the third temptation took place.

### Let's find out what it was by reading verse 9 together.

"And he said to Him, 'All these things I will give You if You will fall down and worship me.'"

The devil tried to tempt Jesus by offering Him the kingdoms of the world if Jesus worshipped him. Jesus remembered one of the most important commandments that He had ever been taught and rebuked him.



**Let's read verse 10 to see what Jesus said.**

"Then Jesus said to him, 'Away with you, Satan! For it is written, "You shall worship the Lord your God, and Him only you shall serve.'"

Recognizing defeat, the devil left. Luke 4:13 records that the devil "departed from Him until an opportune time." This teaches us that the devil is always looking for an opportunity to tempt people. After the devil left, angels came and took care of Jesus.

**What does this Bible lesson teach us?**

1. We must overcome temptations with the word of God. In order to do so, we must learn, memorize, and most importantly, practice it.
2. The devil waits until an opportune time. We must always be watchful and alert.

**FOR TEACHERS**

Hand out Worksheet #2 to the students now. Explain to the students that many people in the Bible faced temptation. Have them complete the crossword on their own, but provide guidance if necessary.

**Bible Discovery Worksheet #2 Answer Key****DOWN**

1. Adam
2. Joseph
3. Lot's wife

**ACROSS**

4. Cain
5. Moses
6. Paul
7. John

**Linking to the Ten Basic Beliefs***2-5 Minutes***The Holy Bible is inspired by God and is the only authentic Scripture that testifies to the truth.**

Jesus overcame the three temptations by using the word of God. The Bible is so important because it is the word of God, and therefore has power. We must learn, cherish, and remember the word of God so we will be prepared when we encounter any temptation.

**Check for Understanding***5 Minutes*

1. **What event happened right before Jesus Christ was led to the wilderness?** Jesus Christ was baptized.
2. **Why was Jesus Christ hungry?** He had fasted for forty days and forty nights.
3. **What was the first temptation and Jesus' response?** He was tempted to turn stone into bread, but He replied, "Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God."
4. **What was the second temptation and Jesus' response?** The devil told Him to throw Himself down, but He answered, "You shall not tempt the Lord your God."
5. **The devil quoted Psalm 91:11-12 during the second temptation. What was wrong with that?** The devil used the word of God to try and test God.
6. **What was the third temptation and Jesus' response?** He was asked to worship the devil, but refused, saying, "You shall worship the Lord your God, and Him only you shall serve."
7. **How did Jesus overcome temptation?** By relying on the word of God.
8. **God is in control of everything. God loves us because we are His precious children. Why do you think God would allow us to encounter temptation?** Just because we are God's children doesn't mean we will never encounter bad things or situations. It means that God will hear our prayers and help us when we do encounter negativity. Since Satan is the prince of this world, it is guaranteed that we will encounter his plots to stumble God's chosen people every day. However, God wants us to learn how to stand firm in the face of temptation; for our faith to be true, it must be tried. So, God allows us to encounter temptation, but with a different intention than that of Satan's. Whereas Satan's goal is to make us stumble and make us weaker (therefore prone to committing sin), God's goal is for us to become stronger. With God, we are victorious for having relied upon Him, or wiser for having stumbled and recognized what is right and wrong. So, even though we may be surrounded by temptations every day, we know that we are not alone in resisting: God truly is over all and He promises to lend us His wisdom and strength if we call to Him for help. God hopes that we will choose to resist temptation and He promises that if we determine to resist it and turn to Him, we will surely overcome: "Therefore submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you" (James 4:7).



## Life Application

10 Minutes

### What can we learn from this lesson?

Every time the devil tempted Him, Jesus overcame the temptation with the word of God. Jesus has truly set the best example for us on how to overcome temptation. Although we will also face temptation, we don't need to fear. Like Jesus, we can overcome temptation with the word of God. However, in order to be able to use God's word, we must diligently learn and memorize it beforehand. Since temptation can come at any time, it is so important to keep God's word in our hearts so that we won't stray from Him (Ps 119:11). It is also important to pray daily. When we rely on God and try our best to resist temptation, God not only helps and delivers us, He is also very pleased with us, because we are His precious children.

Knowing God's word and communicating with Him through prayer is extremely important. As Christian soldiers, we should prepare ourselves by putting on the armor of God, as recorded in Ephesians 6:14-17: "[Gird] your waist with truth, having put on the breastplate of righteousness, and having shod your feet with the preparation of the gospel of peace; above all, taking the shield of faith with which you will be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked one. And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God." From these verses, we can see that when we learn the word of God, we are equipping ourselves with the sword of the Spirit. When should we put on the full armor of God? We must put on the armor right when we wake up in the morning! Whenever we see a temptation, we should prepare ourselves with the armor of God so that we are ready to defend against it. Imagine if you, a spiritual soldier, saw an enemy approaching and didn't have armor on! That would not be a good situation to be in! So, as soldiers of Christ, let us always be watchful and prepared by knowing the word of God and praying always (Eph 6:18).

### Putting on the Armor of God

[Hand out page 1 of the Life Application Worksheet and complete it with the students. After students have completed page 1, hand out page 2 and discuss the case studies with the students.]

From today's lesson, we learned that Jesus encountered and overcame the three types of temptations that are recorded in 1 John 2:16.

Temptation #1: **Lust of the flesh** – He was tempted to turn stone to bread.

Temptation #2: **Pride of life** – He was tempted to throw Himself down and be saved by angels.

Temptation #3: **Lust of the eyes** – He was tempted to worship the devil in exchange for the kingdoms of the world.

Similarly, we will also encounter temptations like these. What are examples of these kinds of temptations?

**Lust of the flesh** appeals to our needs or desires. These are things that we might think will make us feel good. For example, when we emphasize physical food over spiritual food (God's word) or are addicted to the media, such as the Internet, we have given in to the lust of the flesh.

**Lust of the eyes** appeals to our eyes. These are things that we think look nice. This kind of temptation may promote greed and an emphasis on material things. For example, we may covet a certain brand of clothing or gadget because it's popular and it seems like "everybody has it."

**Pride of life** is allowing ourselves to believe that we are superior to others. An example of this is testing God by purposely not studying for a test and thinking that God will help us to do well.

#### FOR TEACHERS

##### The Full Armor of God Answer Key

- |                                       |                                 |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. Gird waist with truth              | 2. Breastplate of righteousness |
| 3. Shod feet with the gospel of peace | 4. Shield of faith              |
| 5. Helmet of salvation                | 6. Sword of the Spirit          |

Here are some case studies. For each case study, let's discuss the following and write down our answers:

1. What type of temptation is it?
2. Which piece of armor would you put on?

**Case Study #1:** Kara and her friends liked to go to the mall on the weekends. When they were together, they liked to chat and shop for things. First, they would buy small things, like a shirt or two. But then, Kara's friends basically bought anything they wanted, no matter what the price was. Kara started feeling that she wanted to buy things, too. The more she bought, the more she wanted. She wanted to dress the way her friends did. But, on the inside, Kara started to realize that she had a strong urge to buy things that she didn't need. It seemed like she was addicted to shopping. When Kara was around her friends, it was hard to stop. They were all buying things, which made Kara want to buy things, too. Kara realized that she was always thinking about what to buy next.

**FOR TEACHERS**

Case Study #1 is primarily **lust of the flesh** since Kara has a strong urge to shop in order to satisfy herself and to feel good. She pursues materialistic things. It can also be **lust of the eyes** since she wants these material things in order to look a certain way.

Kara should **gird her waist with truth**, and have the **sword of the Spirit (word of God)**. "Do not let your adornment be merely outward—arranging the hair, wearing gold, or putting on fine apparel—rather let it be the hidden person of the heart, with the incorruptible beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit, which is very precious in the sight of God." (1 Pet 3:3-4)

**Case Study #2:** Bill had always been good at math. As he grew older, he began to win competitions at school and even competed on the national level. At first, Bill competed in math competitions for fun. But then, every time he won a competition, he began to feel more and more proud. He felt that he deserved to win first place every time. He began to feel better than others. The more awards Bill received, the more he wanted. Then, at one competition, another student won first place. Bill became very angry, thinking that the judges made a mistake. He made the determination to win next year's competition in order to "prove everybody wrong."

**FOR TEACHERS**

Case Study #2 is an example of **pride of life** since Bill thought he was superior to others, to the point where he became angry with another student for winning a competition.

He should **gird his waist with truth**, and have the **sword of the Spirit (word of God)**. One verse to remember is Philippians 2:3: "Let nothing be done through selfish ambition or conceit, but in lowliness of mind let each esteem others better than himself."

**Case Study #3:** Aiden loved playing video games. At first, Aiden just played a few minutes when he had some free time. Then, the minutes turned into hours and Aiden began to play every day. When Aiden wasn't playing video games, he was thinking about them. Often, he would think about the video games in school. One day after school, Aiden's friend called and asked if he wanted to come over and play video games. Aiden knew that he had to finish his homework first. His parents had set that rule a long time ago. Aiden felt a huge struggle.

**FOR TEACHERS**

Case Study #3 is an example of **lust of the flesh**. Aiden satisfied his desire by playing video games for a long time. He struggled with whether or not he should go to his friend's house. Giving in to the lust of the flesh affected other areas of his life, like his studies, since he was thinking about video games in school. If he did give in to temptation, he would disobey his parents by playing instead of finishing his homework first.

Aiden should put on the **breastplate of righteousness**, **gird his waist with truth**, and have the **sword of the Spirit (word of God)**. Below are some important Bible verses:

- Psalm 119:103-104: "How sweet are Your words to my taste, sweeter than honey to my mouth! Through Your precepts I get understanding; Therefore I hate every false way." These verses encourage us to see how great the word of God is!
- The Bible brings us hope, joy, contentment, peace, and more! There is nothing in this world that can compare, nothing that can make us more satisfied than the word of God. Everything in this world will fade one day, but "the word of the Lord endures forever" (1 Pet 1:25).
- Romans 12:2: "And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God."
- Lastly, Ephesians 6:1: "Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right."



## Activity

### Handling Our Temptations

10-15 Minutes

**Objective:** To learn different ways to overcome temptation.

#### Materials

- Index cards
- Pencils

#### Instructions

1. Split the students into groups of three. Give each group a small stack of index cards (about three cards per student).
2. Students will work together to think of different kinds of tempting situations that they have encountered or that they think they might encounter at school, at home, at their friend's house, or outside, like at the supermarket.
3. On the index cards, have the students write down the tempting situations or what someone might say to tempt them (one temptation per card).
4. Collect the cards from each group and have all the students sit in a circle.
5. Shuffle the cards and place them in a stack in the middle of the circle.
6. Going around the circle, have each student take a turn to draw a temptation card. Tell them to read the card aloud and then try to come up with two ways to handle the temptation. Then, ask if the rest of the students have additional suggestions. Repeat this around the circle until the cards have all been read or as time permits.
7. Conclude with a prayer.

#### Homework Answer Key

1. a. lust of the flesh  
b. lust of the flesh  
c. pride of life
2. belt of truth; breastplate of righteousness; sandals of peace; shield of faith; helmet of salvation; sword of the Spirit (God's word)
3. "How sweet are Your words to my taste, sweeter than honey to my mouth! Through Your precepts I get understanding; Therefore I hate every false way." (Ps 119:103-104)

"'But the word of the Lord endures forever.' Now this is the word which by the gospel was preached to you." (1 Pet 1:25)

"And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God." (Rom 12:2)

## Jesus Resists Temptation

**Instructions:** Follow the lesson and fill in the blanks.



### 1st Temptation (Matthew 4:3)

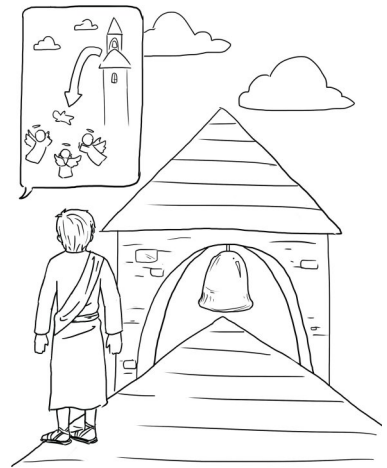
"If You are the Son of God, \_\_\_\_\_ that these stones become \_\_\_\_\_."

### Jesus' Response (Matthew 4:4)

"But He answered and said, 'It is written, "Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every \_\_\_\_\_ that proceeds from the mouth of \_\_\_\_\_."'"

### 2nd Temptation (Matthew 4:5-6)

"Then the devil took Him up into the holy city, set Him on the pinnacle of the temple, and said to Him, 'If You are the Son of God, \_\_\_\_\_ Yourself down. For it is written: "He shall give His \_\_\_\_\_ charge over you," and, "In their hands they shall bear you up, Lest you dash your foot against a stone."'"



### Jesus' Response (Matthew 4:7)

"Jesus said to him, 'It is written again, "You shall not \_\_\_\_\_ the Lord your \_\_\_\_\_."'"



### 3rd Temptation (Matthew 4:9)

"And he said to Him, 'All these things I will \_\_\_\_\_ You if You will fall down and \_\_\_\_\_ me.'" "

### Jesus' Response (Matthew 4:10)

"Then Jesus said to him, 'Away with you, Satan! For it is written, "You shall \_\_\_\_\_ the Lord your \_\_\_\_\_, and Him only you shall serve."'" "

## What does this Bible lesson teach us?

1. Overcome temptations with the \_\_\_\_\_ of God. In order to do so, we must learn, memorize, and \_\_\_\_\_ the word of God.
2. The devil left until an \_\_\_\_\_ time. We must always be \_\_\_\_\_ and alert.

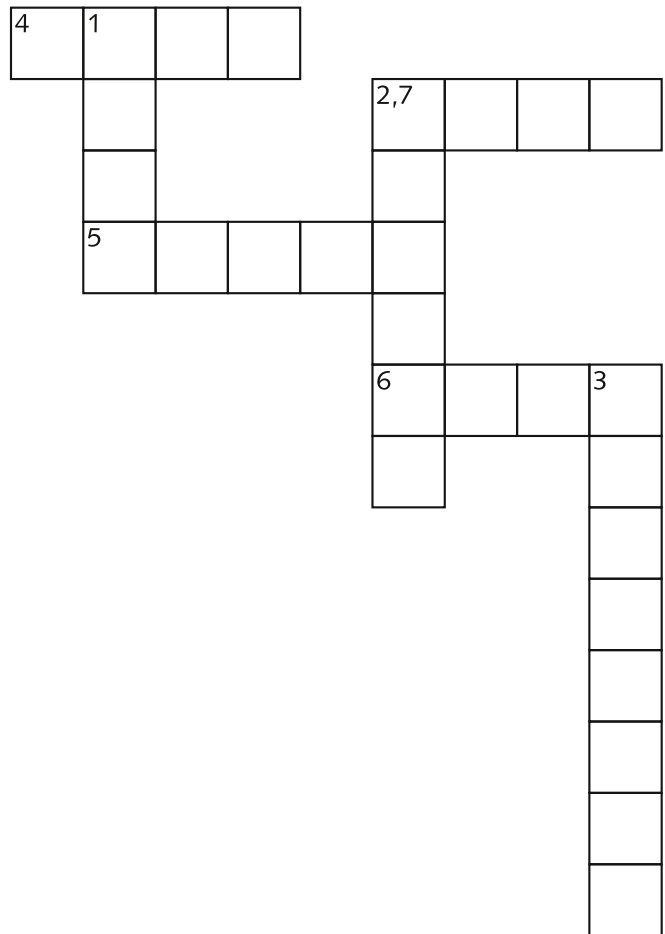


## Facing Temptation

**Instructions:** Read the following descriptions to find out who in the Bible also faced temptation.

**DOWN**

1. "God gave my wife and me a beautiful garden home and provided us with everything we needed. We were very happy. God's only rule was that we do not eat the fruit of two special trees in the garden. Although we had seen the trees and knew where to find them, we did not eat their fruit because God told us not to. Besides, there were so many other fruit trees that God allowed us to eat from; we already had such a wonderful and tasty variety, we really didn't need anymore! Everything was wonderful as we thankfully received what God had given us. But one day, we thought we knew better than God, so we ate the fruit from one of the special trees. Later, when God gave us a chance to admit what we had done, I blamed my wife and my wife blamed the serpent. Oh, how I wish we could have done things differently!"
2. "I resisted the temptation of my master's wife. I refused her advances and told her, 'How can I do such a wicked thing and sin against God?' She tried to corner me, so I ran out of the house! Thank God I did not sin against Him!"
3. "I am married to Abraham's nephew. We used to live with Abraham, but it was getting a bit crowded, so my husband chose to move our family to the beautiful and lush plains of the Jordan. We pitched our tents near Sodom, and eventually, moved into the city. One night, two men came and said that God was going to destroy our beautiful city on account of its wickedness! I couldn't believe my ears! I mean, were these men crazy or were they serious? Not wasting a moment, the men grasped our hands and led us out of the city. They told us to keep running and not look back. As we were fleeing, I thought of all my furniture, my clothes, and my valuable possessions—all soon to be ruined! With these thoughts in mind, I looked back and became the saltiest person in the world.

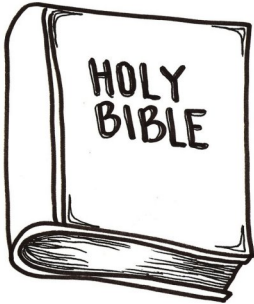


**ACROSS**

4. "God looked more favorably upon my younger brother's sacrifice than mine. I was so jealous. My brother was always the favorite. Well, I just couldn't stand it anymore, so I attacked him and killed him when no one was watching. Later, God asked me where my younger brother was. I was afraid, so I lied."
5. "I grew up in Pharaoh's household and was given the best of everything: education, luxury, food, and drink. But I gave all of this up so that God could use me to lead His people out of slavery in Egypt."
6. "I was highly esteemed and well known among my peers, the Pharisees, because I had excellent training in the law and was a powerful speaker. After Lord Jesus chose me, I turned away from this fame and glory to suffer for His name. Before, I was the great persecutor of Christians; now, I am persecuted with them."
7. "My brother James and I both followed Jesus. When we accompanied our Lord to a Samaritan village, the Samaritans did not welcome us. My brother and I were outraged! How dare they treat us like that! Didn't they know that Jesus is the Savior? My brother and I lost our temper. We wanted to call down fire from heaven to destroy these unbelievers, but Jesus rebuked us."

## Putting On the Armor of God

1. God's word is powerful and true.  
I will diligently learn His word to overcome temptation.



2. I know that there are three types of temptation.  
I will be watchful and alert since  
temptation can come at anytime.  
Read 1 John 2:16.



The three types of temptation are:

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

3. I will also pray, keep my spiritual armor in good condition,  
and put on the **armor of God** in order to overcome temptation.

### The Full Armor of God

Read Ephesians 6:14-17 and fill in the blanks.

1. Gird \_\_\_\_\_ with \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_ with the \_\_\_\_\_ of peace
4. \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_ of the \_\_\_\_\_ (word of God)



Read Ephesians 6:18 and fill in the blank.

"\_\_\_\_\_ always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit,  
being watchful to this end."

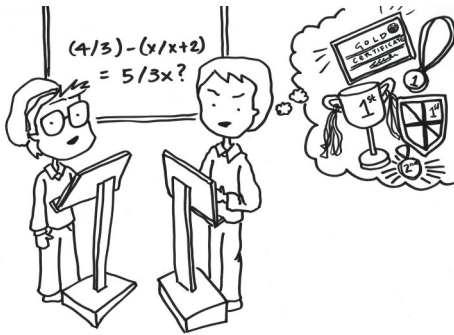
### Case Study #1

Kara and her friends liked to go to the mall on the weekends. When they were together, they liked to chat and shop for things. First, they would buy small things, like a shirt or two. But then, Kara's friends basically bought anything they wanted, no matter what the price was. Kara started feeling that she wanted to buy things, too. The more she bought, the more she wanted. She wanted to dress the way her friends did. But, on the inside, Kara started to realize that she had a strong urge to buy things that she didn't need. It seemed like she was addicted to shopping. When Kara was around her friends, it was hard to stop. They were all buying things, which made Kara want to buy things, too. Kara realized that she was always thinking about what to buy next.



1. What type of temptation is it?
2. Which piece of armor would you put on?

### Case Study #2



Bill had always been good at math. As he grew older, he began to win competitions at school and even competed on the national level. At first, Bill competed in math competitions for fun. But then, every time he won a competition, he began to feel more and more proud. He felt that he deserved to win first place every time. He began to feel better than others. The more awards Bill received, the more he wanted. Then, at one competition, another student won first place. Bill became very angry, thinking that the judges made a mistake. He made the determination to win next year's competition in order to "prove everybody wrong."

1. What type of temptation is it?
2. Which piece of armor would you put on?

### Case Study #3

Aiden loved playing video games. At first, Aiden just played a few minutes when he had some free time. Then, the minutes turned into hours and Aiden began to play every day. When Aiden wasn't playing video games, he was thinking about them. Often, he would think about the video games in school. One day after school, Aiden's friend called and asked if he wanted to come over and play video games. Aiden knew that he had to finish his homework first. His parents had set that rule a long time ago. Aiden felt a huge struggle.



1. What type of temptation is it?
2. Which piece of armor would you put on?

## E2 Year 1 Book 1 Lesson 5—Jesus Is Tempted by Satan

# Homework Assignment

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Parent signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Weekly Bible Reading:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Bible Reading:** Check each box when you complete that day's reading.

**Prayer:** Check each box after you pray to God that day.

|      | 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. **(2 Timothy 3:16)**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

### Life Application Questions

1. Jesus faced all three types of temptation from Satan, and He overcame all of them with the word of God.

**A. List out the temptations.**

**B. Did you face any temptations this week? If so, what types of temptations were they? How did you overcome them? (If you didn't encounter any temptations this week, name a temptation that you encountered in the past and how you overcame it.)**

A. List the temptations (1 John 2:16)

B. What type of temptation

How I overcame it

- a. \_\_\_\_\_
- b. \_\_\_\_\_
- c. \_\_\_\_\_

- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

2. We learned to keep our spiritual armor in good condition, in use or out of use, in order to overcome temptation.

**Read Ephesians 6:14-17 and write each piece of armor down. How did you keep your spiritual armor in good condition this week? What action(s) did you take?**

Armor

How?

Actions

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_

3. Since it is so important to know God's word, let's learn, memorize, and practice it. **Write down Psalm 119:103-104, 1 Peter 1:25, and Romans 12:2.**

# LESSON 6



## THE BEATITUDES

### OBJECTIVES

1. To follow God's teachings so that God will bless us.
2. To understand which types of people God blesses.
3. To pursue the virtues and build up the characteristics of righteousness, mercy, and peacemaking.

### MEMORY VERSE

"Blessed is the man whom You instruct,  
O Lord, and teach out of Your law."

(Psalm 94:12)

### PRAYER

1. Thank God for gathering us here so that we can worship and learn more about His word.
2. Ask God to help us follow His teachings so that He will bless us.
3. Ask God to use His Spirit to change us from within and to change our hearts so that we can be who He wants us to be.
4. Ask God to help us focus on this lesson and apply its teachings to our lives.



### Overview

#### 1. The Beatitudes

- What do they mean to us?
  - i. God promises to bless us if we follow His teachings.
  - ii. They are different from the teachings of the world.
- Why did Jesus give these to us?
  - i. To let us understand the spiritual blessings and promises of following God's teachings and commandments.
  - ii. To reward us when we follow His ways.
  - iii. Because He loves us.

**2. Linking to the Ten Basic Beliefs**—Jesus is the one true God.

**3. Life Application**—Understanding the role of the Beatitudes in our lives today.

#### 4. Activity

- Candle in a Bottle
- Beatitudes Brainstorm



### Background Knowledge for Teachers

Jesus proved Himself to be full of compassion for all people, especially for those who were oppressed or suffering. Although it was not the main purpose of His presence among man (Lk 4:43-44), Jesus healed the physical suffering of those who came before Him. His power to perform miracles spread far and wide, and thousands of people followed Him from region to region.

Although Jesus' mission was to point people's hearts to the kingdom of God in heaven, many followed Him because they needed healing or because they wanted to witness Jesus' power. Not many understood the importance of the spiritual blessings He had come to offer. They did not understand that inheriting the kingdom of heaven was far more important than any immediate physical comfort or any extraordinary miracle they might see. They did not realize that it was more important to understand Jesus' teachings, for hidden within them were the promises of God. If they did, they would know that the only way to receive God's blessings was to follow God's way. Today, when we read the Beatitudes, we will find that His teachings are different from the teachings of the world. However, by following them, we will receive blessings from God that are everlasting and satisfying to our souls, rather than blessings that are vain and short-lived, such as those that the world offers.





## Reaching Out to Your Students

Your students may have a hard time understanding why it is blessed to be poor in spirit or to mourn. These ideas probably seem contradictory to them. They will usually think that they are blessed if they experience immediate joy and happiness. Good grades, a birthday party, a new toy, and a bigger allowance are the kinds of blessings that make them smile. They must understand, however, that these are only material things, things that the world can give to them. God can give them even greater blessings, blessings that the world could never give. Emphasize to your students that God's definition of being blessed is different from the world's. It is often, in times of great difficulty, when we feel like we cannot continue on, that we truly come to know God's real blessings. When things are really bad, even hopeless, God gives us His hope, happiness, and peace. It is then that we understand what God means by blessings and being blessed.

Tell your students that they should not be afraid of hardship or sadness. Those times are bound to come. But no matter how difficult the hardship or trial, encourage them to follow Jesus until the end. He has promised to always take care of us.



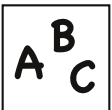
## Opener

5 Minutes

Before we begin today's lesson, you may already be wondering what the word "beatitude" means. You may be surprised to know that it is not really found in the English language. It is derived from the Latin word *beatus* meaning "happy" or "blessed." Its meaning is very close to the original Greek word that Jesus used in His message. The Greek word for "blessed" is *makarioi*, which also means "happy" or "fortunate."

Jesus spoke of the Beatitudes as part of a sermon. It has come to be known as the "Sermon on the Mount." This sermon is one of the most quoted passages in the Bible.

The Beatitudes contrast from the worldly view of what it means to be happy and blessed. Many people do not understand the Beatitudes because they make no sense to them. However, that is because they try to understand it using only knowledge acquired from the world. The Beatitudes and the Sermon on the Mount were against the expectations of an earthly kingdom, which the Jews thought that Jesus would be establishing. Many questions came up, such as "How can you establish a worldly kingdom with the weak and the meek? How can you be merciful to your enemies? How can you be peacemakers if you are supposed to overturn a kingdom, such as the Roman Empire? How can you let others persecute and insult you?" It is obvious that Jesus was not talking about a kingdom in this world. Rather, He was promising a kingdom in heaven. So, let's begin our lesson today by looking at the characteristics that allows us to inherit the kingdom of heaven.



## Vocabulary

**fulfillment:** the act or state of fulfilling

**nourish:** to sustain with food and nutrients; to supply what is necessary for life, health, and growth

**persecute:** to pursue with harassing or oppressive treatment, especially because of religion

**stroke:** sudden loss of consciousness caused by rupture or obstruction of a blood vessel in the brain



## Bible Discovery & Spiritual Teaching

30-35 Minutes

Let's open our Bibles to Matthew 5:1-12 and read this passage together.

As mentioned earlier, Jesus spoke of the Beatitudes as part of a sermon. That sermon has come to be known as the "Sermon on the Mount."

### FOR TEACHERS

Hand out the Bible Discovery worksheet to the students. Tell the students to fill it out during the lesson, as you go over each Beatitude in detail. Keep one copy for yourself to reference during the lesson as well. The underlined words are the answers to the Bible Discovery worksheet. When you reach sections with these words, pause and ask the students to write the words down on the worksheet. Give them some time before continuing.

Now let's look at the worksheet. We will go through each of the Beatitudes again, and this time, we will look at each one in more detail. Fill in the teachings for each one in the space provided.

### Verse 3: Blessed are the poor in spirit...

When we think of the poor, we immediately think of people with little or no money. Their wallets are empty, so they must seek help from the world. However, this is not what Jesus was trying to say; rather, He was talking about those who were spiritually poor. When someone is poor in spirit, their spirit is empty and down. Someone who is poor in spirit longs after God because their spirit is in need of fulfillment. They can be people who are in lost or hopeless situations, or people who are in despair and full of sadness.

Being poor in spirit is the root of all virtues. It is the state of our hearts and it is how we view ourselves. This is why this first Beatitude is the root from which all the other Beatitudes grow from.

### ...For theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Being poor in spirit is admitting that we are absolutely nothing without God and that everything we have comes from God. Therefore, those who are poor in spirit will have a longing and desire to seek after God for help so that their empty spirit can be filled. If they seek after God and put their trust in God, then Jesus promises them the kingdom of heaven. He is the way, the truth, and the life. He is the one who brings the kingdom of God to men.

### Verse 4: Blessed are those who mourn...

This is the next one on your worksheet. You might be thinking that this one is strange because blessedness is about being happy. How can you be happy when there is mourning?

People mourn the sorrows and fears of life. These are

worldly sorrows—things that bother or trouble us.

Jesus is also referring to the godly sorrow from the repentance of sin. "For godly sorrow produces repentance leading to salvation, not to be regretted; but the sorrow of the world produces death" (2 Cor 7:10).

There are many ways to deal with sorrow. Some people turn to worldly pleasures and others to alcohol and drugs. Some choose to simply ignore or "run away" from the problems of life.

But then, there are those who turn to God to find peace and comfort in their time of suffering and pain.

### ...For they shall be comforted.

Jesus will comfort those who mourn, but only if they turn to Him for help. He can grant peace, joy, hope, and forgiveness.

Jesus told His disciples right before He ascended to heaven, "And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may be with you for ever" (Jn 14:16 ASV).

### Verse 5: Blessed are the meek...

Jesus is talking about those who trust in the Lord and wait for Him to defend them, deliver them, and reward them. Those who are meek are humble and gentle.

Jesus is not referring to those who are weak, sad, or quiet. He is referring to people who willingly and joyfully consider their own lives worth nothing and trust in God.

### ...For they shall inherit the earth.

The meek will inherit the earth. This is a wonderful promise. The Lord is faithful and generous in blessings to those who trust in Him.

### Verse 6: Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness...

This is about those who persistently seek what the Lord desires. They have a thirst and hunger for God. Psalms often mentions about man craving and desiring more of God.

*"How lovely is Your tabernacle,  
O Lord of Hosts! My soul longs, yes, even faints  
for the courts of the Lord." (Ps 84:1-2a)*

*"My soul longs for You like a thirsty land." (Ps 143:6b)*

"Those who hunger and thirst for righteousness" refers to those who persistently seek after God in prayer and in God's word. They pursue what is right in God's eyes.

**...For they shall be filled.**

Those who seek God with all their heart will find Him and will be filled by His Spirit and His words of life. Think of it as a spiritual buffet: springs of living water and the bread of life. This also means that even our material needs will be provided for. Students, keep in mind that hungering and thirsting is not a one-time thing. We need to eat daily, as our bodies need constant nourishment from food and water to function properly. In the same way, our spirit needs to be fed daily, too. Many people suffer from spiritual malnourishment simply because they don't hunger and thirst for spiritual things. This is dangerous and will pull us further away from God.

**Verse 7: Blessed are the merciful...**

To be merciful means to show compassion and to be helpful, kind, and caring to others. Those who are merciful are after the Lord's heart.

When Jesus was preaching in the world, He always showed compassion, love, and care. We must have the same attitude. "Therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, put on tender mercies, kindness, humility, meekness, longsuffering" (Col 3:12).

**...For they shall obtain mercy.**

This part is simple, students. If we show mercy when others need it, we will also be shown mercy by both God and man.

**Verse 8: Blessed are the pure in heart...**

This Beatitude is about pursuing holiness because God is holy. We must guard our thoughts, speech, and actions. But you may be wondering, "How can we be pure?" or "Can any human being claim to be pure?" We all know that we can sometimes have impure thoughts, attitudes, and desires.

**...For they shall see God.**

Only God can give us a pure heart. But how do we pursue purity? By keeping God's words in our heart and by taking time daily to be with God through prayer and Bible reading. In this way, we shall see God.

**Verse 9: Blessed are the peacemakers...**

Being a peacemaker means to settle and resolve things between man and man without violence. It means settling

issues between God and us. Jesus taught this all the time throughout His ministry.

*"But I say to you who hear: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, and pray for those who spitefully use you." (Lk 6:27-28)*

*"By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another." (Jn 13:35)*

*"Not returning evil for evil [...] but on the contrary blessing, knowing that you were called to this, that you may inherit a blessing." (1 Pet 3:9)*

**...For they shall be called sons of God.**

Peacemakers will have a nature like God and they will be called sons of God.

**Verse 10: Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake...**

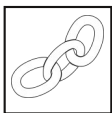
This is about the physical, mental, and emotional suffering related to being righteous. Being persecuted means to suffer, to be pursued, to be chased with hostile intent, or to be hunted down. That may sound scary, but it doesn't necessarily mean physical suffering, even though there are parts of the world where people really do suffer because of their belief in God. We may not go through physical persecution or suffering, but every day, a spiritual force pursues us. We fight a spiritual battle every single day to keep it from knocking us down.

**...For theirs is the kingdom of heaven.**

When people are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, God will acknowledge their suffering and their blessing is the kingdom of heaven.

**Conclusion**

The characteristics found in the Beatitudes are not something that we can develop overnight or on our own. Developing these characteristics requires a slow, gradual change. There are no set steps or procedures in achieving this development. The only thing we can do is to ask God to completely transform us from within. Allowing God to control our lives means that we have the fullness of the Holy Spirit.



## Linking to the Ten Basic Beliefs

2-5 Minutes

**One true God: Jesus is the Savior**

Jesus Christ, who is the Savior of mankind and the One who calls us back to heaven, shows us the way to heaven through the Beatitudes. If we can keep His commandments, He has promised us eternal life, blessings, and happiness in the heavenly kingdom.



## Check for Understanding

5 Minutes

1. **What is the meaning of "beatitude"?** It means "happy" or "blessed."
2. **Who are the poor in spirit?** Those whose spirits are in need of fulfillment. Those who long after God.
3. **What is the promise for those who mourn?** They will be comforted.
4. **What does it mean to be meek?** It means to be humble and gentle. This Beatitude refers to those who trust in the Lord and wait for Him to defend them, deliver them, and reward them.
5. **How are we filled when we hunger and thirst for righteousness?** When we seek after God with all our heart, we will find God and He will fill us.
6. **What does being merciful mean?** It means showing compassion. It also means to be helpful and care for others.
7. **How do we pursue purity?** By keeping God's words in our heart and by taking time daily to be with God through prayer and Bible reading.
8. **What is the blessing and promise to the peacemakers?** They will be called sons of God, which means they will have a nature like God and receive recognition as the children of God.
9. **What does it mean to be persecuted?** It means to suffer physically, mentally, and emotionally because of God. Additionally, it means to be hated and made fun of by others because of our righteousness.



## Life Application

10 Minutes

[Hand out the Life Application worksheet to the students. The students will be reading the passages and answering questions on the worksheet. Keep one copy for yourself to reference as well. The suggested responses are provided here. Go over the goals with the students at the end of each passage after they have finished answering the questions.]

### 1. Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

#### What can we learn from this family? What is the promise and blessing from God?

Even though Jane's family might have felt hopeless in this situation, as long as they pursued God and sought Him in prayer for help, God would fill their needs in His time.

#### When should we be poor in spirit?

We should always be poor in spirit at every moment, longing for God as a deer pants for water.

**Our Goal:** Let's make a determination to be poor in spirit constantly, always longing after God or helping those around us to seek after God when they are poor in spirit.

### 2. Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.

#### What can we learn from Greg and his family? What is the promise and blessing from God?

If we have any sorrows or emotional pain, God will always be there to comfort us. We only need to ask.

#### When should we mourn?

When we encounter emotional or spiritual pain or sorrow in life. Also, when we have done something wrong; the Bible refers to this kind of mourning as godly sorrow. Experiencing godly sorrow means that we feel sorry for what we have done, so we repent by asking God in prayer for forgiveness and by making a determination not to do it again.

**Our Goal:** Let us remember that God is the great Comforter. When we experience spiritual pain and sorrow, we can rely on God. When we do something wrong, we can ask God for mercy and forgiveness.



**3. Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.**

**What can we learn from Frank? What is the promise and blessing from God?**

We should be humble and gentle and trust in God. We should know that we have been created by God and should always trust in God.

**What are the things in your life that you must trust God with? How can you be humble and meek?**

We need to trust God to guide us in everything—it doesn't matter whether we are at school, at church, or at home. We are humble when we lower our voice in speech, when we do not demand our ways even if we are right, and when our attitude is full of gentleness because we consider ourselves lower than others. Meekness is not a weakness. Rather, meekness is a strength that comes from being gentle in everything.

**Our Goal:** We must remember that we must be humble and gentle in all that we do. God is always greater than us and we must remember to put our trust in God.

**4. Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be filled.**

**What can we learn from Jackie? What is the promise and blessing from God?**

God promises that those who always seek after God will be filled by the Holy Spirit and the word of God will fill their hearts, too. Other worldly things will be put aside as God becomes our greatest need.

**What are some things you can do every day to satisfy your hunger and quench your thirst for righteousness?**

Pray, read the Bible, sing or listen to hymns, play hymns on a musical instrument, read Manna, listen to a sermon recording, etc.

**Our Goal:** We must try to lead a balanced life. If we do a lot of "worldly" things, such as watch TV, play video games, or read unedifying novels, we must set aside time, no matter where we are, for God. That means putting aside what we're doing and focusing on thinking about God, praying or reading the Bible, listening to or playing hymns, etc.

**5. Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy.**

**What can we learn from Kenny? What is the promise and blessing from God?**

To be merciful means to show compassion and to be helpful, kind, and caring to others. Someone who is merciful is after the Lord's heart. If we show mercy to others, God and man will show mercy to us, too.

**When are some times where we need to show mercy to others?**

When we see someone who needs help or is in pain, we should show mercy and compassion. When someone does something wrong to us, we must try our best to forgive that person.

**Our Goal:** It is very important to remember that if we want mercy and forgiveness from God, we must first show mercy and forgiveness to others—at home, at school, and at church.

**6. Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.**

**What can we learn from Justin? What is the promise and blessing from God?**

If we pursue holiness like Justin did, God promises us that we will see His face in the heavenly kingdom one day.

**How can we keep a pure heart? What are some things that challenge your holiness?**

We can ask God to help us to know the difference between right and wrong. We can choose not to participate in things that we know are bad and against the teachings of the Bible.

**Our Goal:** When we encounter situations that challenge our holiness and the purity of our hearts, we must keep God in our hearts and rely on God. We should also try to ask ourselves this question: "What would Jesus do?"

**7. Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.**

**What can we learn from Preston? What is the promise and blessing from God?**

If you settle arguments or conflicts without violence or fighting, you will have the nature of God and you will be worthy of being called a child of God. Then, you will have a place in heaven.

**How should we be peacemakers? Do you ever have fights or conflicts with other people, your friends, or your family?**

**How will you apply this Beatitude to those tough problems that you have with other people?**

We must always try to resolve any arguments without fighting or yelling—this applies to arguments with everybody we know. We should strive to avoid fighting physically or hurting others with words.

**Our Goal:** Jesus is the Prince of Peace. We should try to be more like Jesus—He never fought or hurt the people who accused Him and persecuted Him. He didn't even fight with those who wanted to kill Him. We must keep the peace of Jesus in our hearts every day.

**8. Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.**

**What can we learn from Wesley? What is the promise and blessing from God?**

No matter what hardships or persecution we face from others, we must rely on God and stand firm in our faith and righteousness. If we know that something is right in the eyes of God, we should always strive to do it, regardless of what others say. God promises that He will acknowledge us in heaven and will award us for standing strong.

**It is not easy when we are persecuted for righteousness. What should we do to prepare ourselves for persecution?**

**How will you stand up for your faith and keep the commandments of God?**

Praying daily and reviewing the word of God helps prepare us for when we are persecuted. Take notes during sermons and reread these notes from time to time to keep the word of God in your hearts. Ask God to provide you with the strength to stand up for righteousness and for your faith. We should remember to try our best to stand up for Christ.

**Our Goal:** Remember that we must set ourselves apart from others. We cannot do some of the things others in the world do. Being righteous means we must do the right thing and rely on God to help us stand up for righteousness and make it clear that we follow the teachings of Christ.



## Activity

### 1. Candle in a Bottle / 2. Beatitudes Brainstorm

*10-15 Minutes*

#### 1. Candle in a Bottle

**Objective:** To emphasize to students that we need a steady supply of spiritual oxygen: the Holy Spirit and God's word!

**Materials**

- Candle
- Glass bottle large enough to enclose the candle

**Instructions**

Before you light the candle, ask the class, "How long do you think it will take for the flame to go out?" or "How long will it burn?"

Light the candle yourself or ask a TA to do it, and allow the students to watch. Cover the lit candle with a glass jar or other glass container. It will only take a few seconds for the candle to go out.

After the flame has been extinguished, ask the class, "What does this show?" [Wait for the students to answer.] It shows that oxygen, which the flame feeds on and which is invisible, really exists. How do we know? The flame feeds on the oxygen until it is all gone. When the oxygen is gone, the flame dies.

Just like the flame needed oxygen to survive, we also need oxygen to survive. However, we also need spiritual oxygen, as well. We must hunger and thirst for righteousness, for the Holy Spirit and for God's word.



## 2. Beatitudes Brainstorm

**Objective:** To understand what these Christian qualities are so that we can pursue them.

### Materials

- 8 index cards

### Instructions

Write each of the following questions on one side of an index card, making sure to include the partner descriptions. Then have the students sit with you on the floor in a circle. Shuffle the cards and place them facedown in a stack in the middle of the circle.

Taking turns, have each student (1) draw a card from the pile, (2) find their partners, if there are any, and then (3) read the questions aloud. The reader and the partners must each give an answer to the question. The turn is over when they successfully answer the question. The drawing proceeds clockwise. The point of this activity is to brainstorm and get ideas, so there is no winner or loser.

[Note: The students may need you to help stimulate their thinking. However, simply prompt them. Do not let them get an easy answer from you.]

### Questions

1. What does it mean to be poor in spirit? / How can a person obtain the kingdom of heaven if they are poor in spirit?  
(Partners: *the three people to your left*)
2. What things in life might cause us to mourn? / What kind of comfort does Jesus promise to those who mourn?  
(Partners: *anyone wearing red, blue, or yellow*)
3. What does Jesus mean by "meek"? / Name someone from the Bible who was blessed because he or she was meek.  
(Partners: *all the brothers*)
4. How can a person hunger and thirst for righteousness? / How will God satisfy them? (Partners: *all the sisters*)
5. To whom should we be merciful? / How will God bless the merciful? (Partners: *anyone who has glasses, braces, or is wearing a watch*)
6. How can a person have a pure heart? / In what ways does God show Himself to those pure in heart? (Partners: *anyone wearing green, purple, or black*)
7. How can a person be a peacemaker? / In what ways are peacemakers like God? (Partners: *anyone wearing socks*)
8. What does God want a person to do when they are persecuted? / What blessings can a person receive because of persecution? (Partners: *everybody*)

#### Homework Answer Key

Matthew 5:3-10

Blessed are the poor in spirit,  
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.  
Blessed are those who mourn,  
for they shall be comforted.  
Blessed are the meek,  
for they shall inherit the earth.  
Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness,  
for they shall be filled.  
Blessed are the merciful,  
for they shall obtain mercy.  
Blessed are the pure in heart,  
for they shall see God.  
Blessed are the peacemakers,  
for they shall be called sons of God.  
Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake,  
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

#### Bible Discovery Worksheet Answer Key

Verse 3: after God / kingdom of heaven  
Verse 4: sorrows, repentance / comfort  
Verse 5: humble, gentle / inherit the earth  
Verse 6: after God, God's word / filled  
Verse 7: compassion, helpful / mercy  
Verse 8: holiness / God  
Verse 9: violence / sons of God  
Verse 10: righteous / suffering, kingdom of heaven

### The Beatitudes

| Beatitude  | Meaning   | Blessings  |
|--|---|--|
| <b>Verse 3:</b><br><b>Blessed are the poor in spirit...</b>                                | Someone who is poor in spirit longs _____ because their spirit is in need of fulfillment.   | If they seek after God and put their trust in God, then Jesus promises them the _____.                   |
| <b>Verse 4:</b><br><b>Blessed are those who mourn...</b>                                   | Jesus talks about people who mourn the _____ and fears of life and those who mourn because of godly sorrow from the _____ of sin. | If they seek after God, then Jesus will _____ them.  |
| <b>Verse 5:</b><br><b>Blessed are the meek...</b>  | Those who are meek are _____ and _____.   | If the meek continue to trust and seek after God, because God is faithful, they will _____.              |
| <b>Verse 6:</b><br><b>Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness...</b>     | This refers to those who persistently seek _____ in prayer and in _____. They want to pursue what is right in God's eyes.         | If people hunger and thirst for God and want to do what is right in the eyes of God, they will be _____. |
| <b>Verse 7:</b><br><b>Blessed are the merciful...</b>                                      | To be merciful means to show _____ and to be _____, kind, and caring to others.   | If we show mercy when others need it, we will also be shown _____ by both God and man.                   |
| <b>Verse 8:</b><br><b>Blessed are the pure in heart...</b>                                 | If we want to be pure in heart, we must pursue _____.   | If we keep ourselves holy, we shall see _____.   |
| <b>Verse 9:</b><br><b>Blessed are the peacemakers...</b>                                   | Peacemakers are those who want to settle and resolve things between man and man without _____.                                    | These people will have a nature like God and they will be called _____.                                  |
| <b>Verse 10:</b><br><b>Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake...</b> | This talks about the physical, mental, and emotional suffering related to being _____.  | God will acknowledge their _____ and their blessing is the _____.  |

## Living the Beatitudes

**Instructions:** Read each short passage and answer the questions. Open your Bibles to Matthew, chapter 5 to help answer the questions.

### 1. Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Jane's family needed to move to another town. The area around their home had become too noisy and busy. But so far, nothing had been going according to their plans. There had been no buyers who wanted their home, they had to sell this house before they could move to a new one, and the new school year was approaching fast. Time was running out. They tried everything. It was at this point that Jane's family recognized that their plans were not going smoothly. They realized that they must ask God for help and put their full trust in Him. They prayed day and night, pouring out their needs to God. Thank God, two weeks later, they received an offer on the house and were able to move to a new home in time for the new school year.



**What can we learn from this family? What is the promise and blessing from God?**

**When should we be poor in spirit?**

**Our Goal:** Let's make a determination to be poor in spirit constantly, always longing after God or helping those around us to seek after God when they are poor in spirit.

### 2. Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.



Greg's grandmother recently passed away from a stroke. She had been so dear to Greg, even since childhood. Greg's parents told this news to him and he felt so sad. He ran into his room and started crying. His parents also went into his room, comforted him and encouraged him to call on God for help. During that prayer, everyone prayed so earnestly in the power of the Holy Spirit and at the end of that long prayer, Greg knew that God had comforted him.

**What can we learn from Greg and his family? What is the promise and blessing from God?**

**When should we mourn?**

**Our Goal:** Let us remember that God is the great Comforter. When we experience spiritual pain and sorrow, we can rely on God. When we do something wrong, we can ask God for mercy and forgiveness.

### 3. Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.

Frank needed to play the piano for the Friday night service at church. It was his first time and he was very nervous. He had already practiced the two hymns ahead of time and was ready, but he was still anxious and afraid of messing up. He finally decided that he had already done his part and now he had to rely and fully trust in God to help him. Before the service began, he asked his parents to take him to church fifteen minutes early so that he could pray and rely on God even more.

**What can we learn from Frank? What is the promise and blessing from God?**



**What are the things in your life that you must trust God with?  
How can you be humble and meek?**

**Our Goal:** We must remember that we must be humble and gentle in all that we do. God is always greater than us and we must remember to put our trust in God.

### 4. Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be filled.



Ever since Jackie came back from SSC, she has been reading the Bible more and praying more. Now, she also enjoys listening to hymns instead of the worldly music she listened to before. She has also made a determination to watch less television. She desires to seek God with all her heart, knowing that there are many temptations in school and that she wants to do right in the eyes of God.

**What can we learn from Jackie? What is the promise and blessing from God?**

**What are some things you can do every day to satisfy your hunger and quench your thirst for righteousness?**

**Our Goal:** We must try to lead a balanced life. If we do a lot of “worldly” things, such as watch TV, play video games, or read unedifying novels, we must set aside time, no matter where we are, for God. That means putting down what we’re doing and praying or reading the Bible, listening to or playing hymns, etc.

**5. Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy.**

During lunchtime at church one afternoon, Kenny saw a 4-year-old child named Ben fall and skin his knee a little. Ben started to cry, but his parents and no one else were around. Kenny was about to simply walk by and let his parents or someone else find him. But, he had compassion on Ben and helped him up. He also took a bandage from the first aid kit for him. Then, he helped Ben find his parents.

Two weeks later, Kenny got really sick and had to stay home from school. He had a fever and his stomach kept hurting. None of the medicine he was taking was helping. He decided to pray to God for mercy during this time of sickness and about an hour later, he was feeling much better.

**What can we learn from Kenny? What is the promise and blessing from God?**

**When are some times where we need to show mercy to others?**



**Our Goal:** It is very important to remember that if we want mercy and forgiveness from God, we must first show mercy and forgiveness to others—at home, at school, and at church.

**6. Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.**

Justin's school friend Tom wanted him to go over to his house after school to watch a violent horror film. Justin knew that this movie was full of violence and that it was rated R because it had a lot of curse words. Justin decided not to go to his friend's house, instead telling his friend that he had a lot of homework and chores to do.

**What can we learn from Justin? What is the promise and blessing from God?**

**How can we keep a pure heart?**



**Our Goal:** When we encounter situations that challenge our holiness and the purity of our hearts, we must keep God in our hearts and rely on God. We should also try to ask ourselves this question: "What would Jesus do?"



**7. Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.**

Preston would always get angry and yell at his younger sister for taking his toys and games without asking. His younger sister would also borrow his pencils and break them by accident. In retaliation, he would go over and find something of his sister's and break it, too. His parents kept telling him that he should not pick on his younger sister. Preston learned about this Beatitude during SSC and decided to ask God to help him control his anger so that he could be a peacemaker instead. Therefore, after SSC, with help from his parents, he talked with his sister about other people's property and resolved their situation without fighting or yelling.



**What can we learn from Preston? What is the promise and blessing from God?**

**How should we be peacemakers? Do you ever have fights or conflicts with other people, your friends, or your family? How will you apply this Beatitude to those tough problems that you have with other people?**

**Our Goal:** Jesus is the Prince of Peace. We should try to be more like Jesus—He never fought or hurt the people who accused Him and persecuted Him. He didn't even fight with those who wanted to kill Him. We must keep the peace of Jesus in our hearts every day.

**8. Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.**



It was Halloween and Wesley was the only one in his school's class that did not wear a costume because it was against the teachings of the Bible. He felt a little left out and his friends kept making fun of him for being different, which made him feel even worse. But deep down inside, Wesley knew that this was the right thing to do in God's eyes. He didn't want to conform to the pattern of this world. Therefore, he determined that no matter how hard his friends laughed at him, he would stand his ground.

**What can we learn from Wesley? What is the promise and blessing from God?**

**What should we do to prepare ourselves for persecution? How will you stand up for your faith and keep the commandments of God?**

**Our Goal:** Remember that we must set ourselves apart from others. We cannot do some of the things others in the world do. Being righteous means we must do the right thing and rely on God to help us stand up for righteousness and make it clear that we follow the teachings of Christ.



E2 Year 1 Book 1 Lesson 6—The Beatitudes

# Homework Assignment

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Parent signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Weekly Bible Reading: \_\_\_\_\_

**Bible Reading:** Check each box when you complete that day's reading.

**Prayer:** Check each box after you pray to God that day.

|      | 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. (Psalm 94:12)

\_\_\_\_\_

**Instructions:** Try your best to memorize the Beatitudes and then fill in the blanks.

- Blessed are the \_\_\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_,  
 for theirs is the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_.
- Blessed are those who \_\_\_\_\_,  
 for they shall be \_\_\_\_\_.
- Blessed are the \_\_\_\_\_,  
 for they shall \_\_\_\_\_ the earth.
- Blessed are those who \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ for righteousness,  
 for they shall be \_\_\_\_\_.
- Blessed are the \_\_\_\_\_,  
 for they shall obtain \_\_\_\_\_.
- Blessed are the \_\_\_\_\_,  
 for they shall see \_\_\_\_\_.
- Blessed are the \_\_\_\_\_,  
 for they shall be called \_\_\_\_\_.
- Blessed are those who are \_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_' sake,  
 for theirs is the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_.

# LESSON 7

## JESUS AND NICODEMUS, AND THE SAMARITAN WOMAN'S REBIRTH

### OBJECTIVES

1. To understand that no one can enter the kingdom of God unless he is born of water and the Spirit.
2. To understand what rebirth is, that Jesus is living water, and that God is spirit.
3. To worship God in spirit and truth.

### MEMORY VERSE

"Jesus answered, 'Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God.'"

(John 3:5)

### PRAYER

1. Thank God for gathering us here so that we can worship and learn more about His word.
2. Ask God to help us follow His teachings so that He will bless us.
3. Ask God to use His Spirit to change us from within and to change our hearts so that we can be who He wants us to be.
4. Ask God to help us focus on this lesson and apply its teachings to our lives.



### Overview

1. **Nicodemus' question for Jesus (Jn 3:4)**
2. **Jesus responds (Jn 3:5-8)**
  - Receiving water baptism and Holy Spirit is necessary
  - b. Prophecy of the Holy Spirit's coming
  - c. Prophecy of the physical evidence of receiving the Holy Spirit
3. **Nicodemus is baffled and Jesus explains further (Jn 3:9-21)**
  - a. God loves the whole world; God's plan of salvation is for all
  - b. God gave His only Son to save the world from sin
  - c. Salvation and eternal life are given to all who believe and obey God
  - d. Those who choose not to believe will be condemned
4. **Samaritan Woman (Jn 4:1-26)**
5. **Linking to the Ten Basic Beliefs**—Water baptism and the Holy Spirit are both required to enter the kingdom of God. No one can enter the kingdom of God unless he is born of water and the Spirit (Jn 3:5).
6. **Life Application**—Worship God in spirit and truth
7. **Activity**—The Ticket



### Background Knowledge for Teachers

#### Who Was Nicodemus?

Nicodemus was a Pharisee and a member of the Jewish ruling council. Pharisees took pride in trying to adhere not only to the laws in the Old Testament, but also to a various array of man-made laws. They were well respected by other Jews and enjoyed social, religious, and political power in the community. So, Nicodemus was considered one of Israel's rulers. He taught and made decisions based on the Mosaic laws and Jewish tradition.

#### Jesus and the Teachers of Israel

Jesus rebuked the Pharisees and the other "teachers" in Israel because they emphasized outward, superficial obedience to rules and laws. They forgot that God wanted His people to worship and obey Him with their hearts. Jesus came and revealed who the true worshippers and children of God were. The Pharisees and other "teachers" of Israel were offended by Jesus' teachings and became jealous of His increasing popularity. They viewed Jesus as a threat because He undermined their authority. They criticized and mocked Jesus, trying to find fault in Him, and would not associate with Him.

Nicodemus' personal visit to Jesus was remarkable because it could have jeopardized his position and reputation among his peers. Whatever his intentions may have been, it was during this secret visit that Nicodemus learned a crucial lesson regarding the truth of salvation.



## Reaching Out to Your Students

There is a connection between this lesson and lesson 4 (Jesus' baptism). In order to be saved, we must not only believe, repent, be baptized, and receive the Holy Spirit, but must also lead a life of prayer, attend services, take part in Holy Communion, and so on. Your students may ask why it is necessary to do all these things in order to be saved. Isn't believing in God and loving Him enough?

Remind your students that God commands us to do these things in order to be saved. Repeat to your students the steps of salvation: repent, be baptized, pray for the Holy Spirit, lead a holy life, and work for God. (The steps can vary.)

We have already discussed the important step of baptism. Jesus set an example by being baptized Himself. Receiving the Holy Spirit is another step and component of our salvation. Jesus stressed its importance: when we receive the Holy Spirit, God's Spirit will live in us and guide us; without it, it will be impossible to enter the kingdom of heaven. Like in baking, the final product won't be the same if a step in the recipe is missed. Are we willing to take that chance with our salvation? In order to enter the kingdom of God, we need to follow every one of the steps in God's plan of salvation.



## Opener

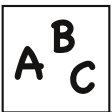
*5 Minutes*

**Objective:** To reinforce the concept that we must have the Holy Spirit to enter the kingdom of God.

**Materials:** A bus ticket/pass, an airplane ticket/pass, a passport/visa, a customer number ticket (available at the supermarket meat department, post office, etc.), or any other appropriate ticket/pass

**Instructions:** Bring the items to class. Hold them up in class and ask the students to identify what they are. Ask them why a person would need these items (to gain admission somewhere, to get on a bus, to get a seat on a flight, to enter a country, to be helped in a store). Discuss what would happen if a person didn't have these items. What consequences would there be? (They wouldn't be able to get on the bus, get on the plane, enter the country, be helped until all the people with tickets are helped first, or they would lose their turn.)

Point out to the students that the Holy Spirit is also a ticket or a pass. Having it allows us to enter heaven. This was the important lesson that Nicodemus learned from Jesus during his visit. Jesus revealed to Nicodemus that we must have the Holy Spirit to enter the kingdom of God.



## Vocabulary

**Pharisee:** a member of a Jewish sect that flourished during 1st century BC and 1st century AD and that differed from the Sadducees chiefly in its strict observance of religious ceremonies and practices

**esteem:** to regard highly or favorably; to regard with respect or admiration

**political:** of or relating to governmental or public affairs of a state, municipality, etc.

**Messiah:** the promised and expected deliverer of the Jewish people



## Bible Discovery & Spiritual Teaching

30-35 Minutes

Today we will read two stories regarding two characters that spoke with Jesus. One story is about a man called Nicodemus and the other about a woman of Samaria.

Let's open our Bibles and read John 3:1-8 together. [Ask two volunteers to read the passage. One will read the normal text, and the other the bold text. This can help highlight the dialogue between Jesus and Nicodemus.]

There was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews. This man came to Jesus by night and said to Him, "Rabbi, we know that You are a teacher come from God; for no one can do these signs that You do unless God is with him."

**Jesus answered and said to him, "Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God."**

Nicodemus said to Him, "How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother's womb and be born?"

**Jesus answered, "Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not marvel that I said to you, 'You must be born again.' The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear the sound of it, but cannot tell where it comes from and where it goes. So is everyone who is born of the Spirit."**

### Who was Nicodemus?

Nicodemus was a Pharisee and a member of the Jewish ruling council. Pharisees took pride in adhering not only to the laws of the Old Testament, but also to a various array of man-made laws as well. They were well respected by other Jews and enjoyed social, religious, and political power in the community. So, Nicodemus was considered one of Israel's rulers. He taught and made decisions based on the Mosaic laws and Jewish traditions.

Nicodemus had seen the miracles that Jesus had performed and had heard Him teach. He believed that Jesus was sent from God and wanted to go and talk to Him, but he waited for nighttime. **So why did Nicodemus come "by night" to see Jesus?** The Bible doesn't say why, but Nicodemus probably didn't want to be seen. Why do you think this was the case? Nicodemus was a highly esteemed religious and political leader. His fellow Pharisees were angry with Jesus and were looking for a way to destroy Him. Perhaps Nicodemus was afraid to go to Him in public during the day, as it may not have been very good for his reputation.

### What did Jesus teach Nicodemus?

Jesus taught Nicodemus that if a person wanted to see the kingdom of God, he must be born again. Born again? Nicodemus visualized himself becoming a baby again. He was puzzled! How could a man be born when he is old? Surely he couldn't go back into his mother's womb to be born again! How was this possible? [Let the students express their views.] **What do you think to be born of water and the Spirit means?** To be born of water and the Spirit means to be baptized and to receive the Holy Spirit. Jesus was not speaking of physical birth; He was speaking of a spiritual birth. One must be born of water and the Spirit. To be born of the Spirit, we need to accept baptism and live a new life according to the Spirit. Baptism and receiving the Holy Spirit are closely related and together they make up the spiritual rebirth that Jesus was speaking about. **Why did Jesus compare the Holy Spirit to wind?** (Because you can hear the wind and see its presence when it blows but you cannot tell where it comes from or where it is going. The Holy Spirit is like this because you can't tell where it will go or where it came from, but you can see its presence when people speak in tongues.)

The second character we will read about is the woman of Samaria (Jn 4:1-26).

### Where is Samaria?

Samaria was between Galilee (in the north) and Judea and Jerusalem (in the south). The shortest way to go north from Jerusalem was through Samaria. For hundreds of years, the Jews and the people of Samaria had been enemies. This is because they did not agree about where God's people should worship. All Jews worshipped at Jerusalem where God had told them to build the temple. The Samaritans on the other hand had made another place for worship.

Most Jews would not travel through Samaria. They went by a longer route to avoid it. But Jesus traveled straight through Samaria. He stopped at noon in a small town called Sychar. Being tired, He sat by the well outside of town while the disciples went to buy food.

While Jesus was alone, a woman came to the well for water. It was not the usual time to go for water. **Do you think there's a reason she came alone, and at an unusual time?** She probably didn't want to encounter other women in the town, because she had a bad reputation. Jesus spoke to her and asked the woman for a drink, which surprised her. What caused the woman to be surprised? She was a Samaritan woman and Jesus was a Jew. She told Jesus that she did not expect His request. Read Jesus' reply in John 4:10 together.



What is "the gift of God" that Jesus is referring to? (John 7:38-39.) We know that if we are physically thirsty, we need to look for water, and if we are spiritually thirsty, we need to look for Jesus. Nowadays, we know that the "gift of God" refers to the Holy Spirit. At the time, though, the woman of Samaria did not understand. So, Jesus explained what this gift meant.

John 4:13-14: "Jesus answered and said to her, 'Whoever drinks of this water will thirst again, but whoever drinks of the water that I shall give him will never thirst. But the water that I shall give him will become in him a fountain of water springing up into everlasting life.'"

Jesus Christ has the ability to give her a gift that would bring spiritual satisfaction for all eternity. Our God is called the fountain of living water and life (Isa 55:1; Jer 2:13; 17:13; Ps 36:9).

Our spiritual needs are as real as our physical, and only Jesus alone can satisfy them. God promises to provide for us; all we need to do is ask. The woman thought of her physical thirst, but Jesus stopped her. He said to her, "Go, get your husband." Why did Jesus say this? When the woman replied that she did not have one, Jesus not only confirmed, but also clarified that she had married five men and the man that she lived with now was not her husband. This demonstrated that God knew all about her life and her sins. The woman immediately knew that Jesus was not an ordinary man. An ordinary man could not have known these things about her. So, the woman perceived that Jesus was a prophet. She changed the subject and talked about the argument between the Jews and the Samaritans and where the right place for worship was. Jesus told her that a new time was coming. Men would not worship at either place; rather they would worship God in spirit and truth.

From here, the woman naturally brought up her knowledge of the coming of the Messiah, and how He would tell them all things. It was then that Jesus told her, "I who speak to you am He." This was a wonderful thing to say. Jesus had been very careful when He spoke about himself to the priests in Jerusalem, but it was to this woman that Jesus told her clearly who He was. Jesus stayed in that city two days, and many of the Samaritans in that city came to believe, thanks to the testimony of the Samaritan woman.

Jesus did not offer life just for the Jews. He came to save people from every nation, including the Samaritans whom the Jews so thoroughly rejected. His salvation is for everybody, from every country and culture. "But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth" (Acts 1:8).

We learned from Nicodemus and the Samaritan woman that no matter what our background is, rich or poor,

educated or not, God's grace is available to anyone who seeks Him out. Nicodemus sought out Jesus despite the beliefs of his peers, and learned that unless he is baptized and receives the Holy Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. The Samaritan woman, through Jesus' guidance, not only learned that He is the source of everlasting life, but also that those who worship God must worship in spirit and in truth, no matter where they are.

We also need to seek out Jesus and pray for the Holy Spirit, so that it may live in us. Although we often call it a "ticket," the Holy Spirit is not something that we keep in our pockets until the day we reach the heavenly gates. The Holy Spirit is active and living; it can fill us, teach us, and change us.

**FOR TEACHERS**

Once you have finished teaching the Bible Discovery section, please hand out the two corresponding worksheets and have the students complete them. After they are done, go over the answers with them to reinforce the lesson content. You can also open up a discussion with the students by asking them if they have ever experienced the Holy Spirit helping them in these ways before.

**WORKSHEET #1 ANSWER KEY**

1. The Holy Spirit is the Helper, the Spirit of truth, who will help us understand the truth.
2. The Holy Spirit will help us in our weaknesses and help us to pray; it will intercede for us.
3. The Holy Spirit will enable us to know the Father better and to know what is pleasing to Him
4. The Holy Spirit will speak for us when we witness.
5. The Holy Spirit will give us gifts to serve others.
6. The Holy Spirit will help us to keep the gospel of truth so that we will not fall away.

**WORKSHEET #2 ANSWER KEY**

1. baptized, Holy Spirit
2. blowing, wind
3. flesh, spirit
4. pray
5. fifty, resurrected

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T           G D
  I   W   N   E
    R I   I   Z
      N I W   I
D   O P       T S P I R I T
  L       S   P
B           Y   A
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**Discussion Questions****1. When Jesus prophesied about the coming of the Holy Spirit, what did He compare it with?**

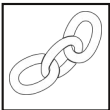
When Jesus prophesied about the coming of the Holy Spirit, He compared it to the blowing of the wind. Wind blows where it pleases. We can hear its sound, and we can see evidence of its presence in rustling grass and swaying trees, but we cannot tell where it comes from or where it is going. It cannot be seen yet it can be witnessed. Likewise, we cannot determine where the Holy Spirit is coming from or where it will go, but its evidence (speaking in tongues) will testify to its presence. As the wind blows where it pleases, so God will send the Holy Spirit on whom He pleases, showering it upon everyone who earnestly prays to Him for it.

**2. How was this prophecy of the coming of the Holy Spirit fulfilled? When did it come down?**

On the day of Pentecost, fifty days after Jesus had resurrected, the disciples and followers of Jesus were gathered together in one place to pray. Suddenly, a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began speaking in tongues. People outside of the group witnessed the Holy Spirit's presence and were amazed. This is recorded in Acts 2:1-13.

**3. Why did Jesus ask the woman of Samaria to go and bring her husband?**

This showed that the Lord knew all about her sinful life. She had also come to the well at a time when she knew no one else would be around. No matter where we go or what we do, the Holy Spirit knows the truth.

**Linking to the Ten Basic Beliefs***2-5 Minutes***Water baptism and the Holy Spirit are both required to enter the kingdom of God.**

The saving effects of both water baptism and the Holy Spirit are closely related; neither one can replace the other. While baptism is essential for salvation, receiving the Holy Spirit is also a necessary step of salvation. One must be born of water and the Spirit to enter the kingdom of God (Jn 3:5; Tit 3:5).

Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ, the Holy Spirit, does not belong to Christ (Rom 8:9). The Holy Spirit also testifies that we are the children and heirs of God (Rom 8:15-17; Gal 4:6-7). He is a seal of our future inheritance (Eph 1:13-14).

What is the Holy Spirit?

- Spirit of God (Mt 3:16; Is 11:2)
- Spirit of Christ (Acts 16:7; Rom 8:9)

What is the evidence of receiving the Holy Spirit?

- Must speak in tongues (Acts 2:1-4; 10:44-46; 19:6-7)
- Can be seen and heard (Acts 2:33; 8:17-19)

**Check for Understanding***5 Minutes*

**1. Who was Nicodemus?** Nicodemus was a Pharisee and member of the Jewish ruling council.

**2. When did Nicodemus go to see Jesus?** At night.

**3. Fill In the Blanks:** Most assuredly, I \_\_\_\_\_ (say) to you, unless one is \_\_\_\_\_ (born) of \_\_\_\_\_ (water) and the \_\_\_\_\_ (Spirit), he \_\_\_\_\_ (cannot) enter the \_\_\_\_\_ (kingdom) of God.

**4. Why was the woman of Samaria surprised when Jesus asked her for a drink?**

- Because she expected to be alone
- Because she was a Samaritan woman and He was a Jew
- Because she had 5 husbands

**5. What does Jesus offer the woman of Samaria? What does He mean?**

Jesus offered her living water, the Holy Spirit. He offered the woman satisfaction for all her spiritual needs.

**6. How did Jesus settle the question of where to worship? How will the division between Jews and Samaritans change in the kingdom of God?** We must all worship God in spirit and in truth. The location is not important.



## Life Application

10 Minutes

[Teachers: Print out the corresponding Life Application worksheets and go over them with the students.]

### 1. Dying to My Old Self and Understanding Spiritual Rebirth

Let's learn what "rebirth" is from today's lesson.

"Jesus answered and said to him, 'Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.'" (John 3:3)

Eternal life begins at the moment when we are baptized in living water—this is also called "spiritual rebirth." When we are baptized in the name of Jesus Christ, we are reborn because all our sins are washed away.

Spiritual rebirth means "dying to your old self." Let's read Romans 6:3. "Or do you not know that as many of us were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death?" Now, let's read verse 6. "Knowing this, that our old man was crucified with Him, that the body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves of sin." Do you know that we can be slaves of sin if we don't die to our old selves? List some of the things that we can be enslaved to:

1. I can be enslaved to (the Internet).
2. I can be enslaved to (video games).
3. I can be enslaved to (unhealthy emotions, e.g., anger, jealousy, etc.).

How can we have victory? Fill in the blanks as you read 1 John 3:6. "Whoever abides in Him does not sin." Let's continue to read verse 9. "Whoever has been born of God does not sin."

That means we need to abide in Jesus all the time. That's how we can die to our old self!

**How can we abide in Jesus?** Name some ways below.

- |                          |                                   |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1. (By going to church.) | 2. (By reading the Bible.)        |
| 3. (By praying to God.)  | 4. (By keeping His commandments.) |

#### **Short Testimony from an E2 Student**

After returning from Student Spiritual Convocation, a sister shared with her RE teacher that she made a determination to pray for at least five minutes every day before leaving for school, because she had a strong desire to abide in Jesus all the time. Students, we can also do the same and abide with Jesus in prayer at the start of our day!

### 2. Worship God in Spirit and Truth

What does it mean to worship God in spirit and in truth?

1. To worship God "in spirit" means to have the right purpose of honoring God. Our worship must glorify God.

1 Corinthians 6:20 says, "For you were bought with a price, therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's."

In order to worship God "in spirit," we must take the time to examine our hearts. He is our Creator and we need to "fear" Him. We should not rush in our worship or arrive late; rather, we should plan to arrive early so that we can worship God with a proper mindset to show reverence and respect to God. Worshipping God must be sincere from our heart. Mark 7:6 tells us, "This people honors Me with their lips, but their heart is far from Me."

**Worship God with reverence and godly fear.**

2. We must worship God in truth, according to His word. In the Bible, God has given to us all the things that we need to know which pertain to life and godliness, so that we can worship Him. 2 Peter 1:3: "As His divine power has given to us all things that pertain to life and godliness through the knowledge of Him who called us."  
There are a lot of false teachings today that are being passed off as the truth. The Bible is the only truth that teaches us how to live for God. We must use the word of God as we worship. Furthermore, we must know the teachings in the Bible in order to go to heaven.

When we worship God, we must do so in spirit and in truth.

### Scenarios

1. No. Kevin could have played sports outside or played something that he could easily stop thinking about. He could also have chosen to play the video game on Sunday after finishing his homework and chores.
2. No. Margaret should have cast all her worries onto God in prayer and told God that she needed help and wisdom. She should have let God care for her and focused on worshipping Him, because the Bible tells us that He is our Helper in times of need (Heb 4:16).
3. No. Cody should have acknowledged that second place was already good enough, and that he had tried his best. There were always going to be more meets in the future. In order to enjoy a more satisfying worship, he needed to ask God to help him overcome his anger and sadness. Lastly, even though he wanted to win first place, God could have been teaching him about being humble.



## Activity

### The Ticket

10-15 Minutes

**Objective:** To emphasize that the Holy Spirit is needed to enter heaven and to encourage students to pray for others.

### Materials

- Blank paper (cut into smaller pieces, but big enough to write a short prayer request on)
- Construction paper
- Scissors
- Tape
- Pencils, markers

### Instructions

1. Have each student fold their construction paper in half, and on one half draw a ticket of any sort.
2. Cut out the ticket, cutting both halves of the paper at the same time.
3. Tape or glue three sides of the ticket so that it forms a "pocket".
4. Divide the blank paper among the students, and have them write down a prayer request that is related to their Life Application Worksheet. Ask them to share their prayer requests with the class. Use this opportunity to ask if anyone has not received the Holy Spirit, and encourage the students to pray for one another.
5. (Optional step) Mix up the prayer requests and have each student pick out one. If they pick out their own, then have them switch with a neighbor. Encourage them to especially remember this prayer request whenever they pray at home or during RE prayers at church. Perhaps set up a time during the week when the class can pray at the same time, in their own homes.
6. Have them place their prayer requests inside their tickets and pin or tape them to the wall, so that they can check their classmates' prayer requests if they forget what they are.

### Homework Answer Key

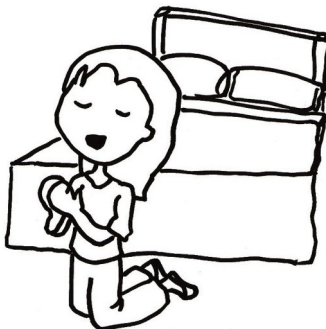
1. "Jesus answered, 'Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God.'" (John 3:5)  
We must be baptized and receive the Holy Spirit to be saved and enter the kingdom of God.
2. Must speak in tongues; it can be seen and heard
3. It can help us understand the Bible, help us to pray, give us wisdom to make the correct decisions, speak for us when we evangelize to our friends, and keep us close to God so that we don't turn away.
4. Answers may vary.
5. Jesus met Nicodemus in the secrecy of night. Nicodemus was well known in his community and a religious leader. He held a high government office and was respected by his peers. Nicodemus left his discussion with Jesus lacking understanding and hiding his belief. Jesus met the woman at noon at the well. The Samaritan woman was not well known nor a leader. She held no power and was a religious "outsider." However, she asked Jesus for the living water and she left knowing who Jesus was. She told her entire town about Jesus and many were saved. God's salvation is for all mankind, no matter what you look like or where you come from. Jesus commanded that the gospel be preached to Judea, Samaria and the end of the earth.

### The Holy Spirit: Our Helper

**Instructions:** Look up each of the following Bible passages. In your own words, describe what the passage says about how the Holy Spirit will help us.

|                                  |  |
|----------------------------------|--|
| John 16:7, 13                    |  |
| Romans 8:26-27                   |  |
| Ephesians 1:17                   |  |
| Matthew 10:18-20                 |  |
| 1 Corinthians 12:4, 7, 11        |  |
| Hebrews 2:1<br>2 Timothy 1:13-14 |  |

If you have not received the Holy Spirit, **pray hard** for the Holy Spirit.



If you have received the Holy Spirit, the Holy Spirit is your helper, so pray for the fullness of the Holy Spirit.

### An Undercover Visit

**Instructions:** Unscramble the words to complete the sentence. Then find where they are hidden in the word search.

1. We must be \_\_\_\_\_ and receive the \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ to enter the kingdom of God.  
 (dzpabeti) (lyHo) (tipirS)
2. Jesus compared the Holy Spirit to the \_\_\_\_\_ of the \_\_\_\_\_.  
 (wignlob) (dwin)
3. Flesh gives birth to \_\_\_\_\_ but the Spirit gives birth to \_\_\_\_\_.  
 (shfel) (ptsiri)
4. We must \_\_\_\_\_ to God for the Holy Spirit.  
 (apyr)
5. The Holy Spirit descended \_\_\_\_\_ days after Jesus had \_\_\_\_\_.  
 (tifyf) (erudsrcetre)





## Dying to My Old Self and Understanding Spiritual Rebirth

Let's learn what "rebirth" is from today's lesson.

"Jesus answered and said to him, 'Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.'" (John 3:3)

Eternal life begins at the moment when we are baptized in the living water—this is also called "spiritual rebirth." When we are baptized in the name of Jesus Christ, we are reborn because of all the sins one washed away.

Spiritual rebirth means "dying to your old self." Let's read Romans 6:3. "Or do you not know that as many of us were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death?" Now, let's read verse 6. "Knowing this, that our old man was crucified with Him, that the body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves of sin." Do you know that we can be slaves of sin if we don't die to our old selves? List some of the things that we can be enslaved to:

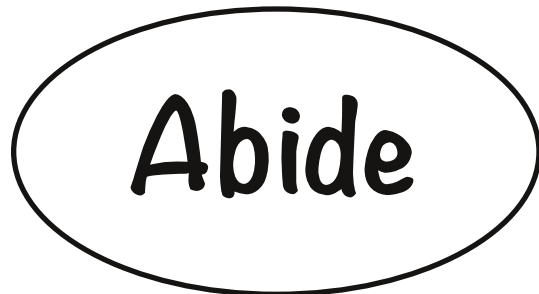
1. I can be enslaved to \_\_\_\_\_.
2. I can be enslaved to \_\_\_\_\_.
3. I can be enslaved to \_\_\_\_\_.

How can we have victory? Fill in the blanks as you read 1 John 3:6. "Whoever abides in Him does not \_\_\_\_\_." Let's continue to read verse 9. "Whoever has been born of God does not \_\_\_\_\_."

That means we need to \_\_\_\_\_ in Jesus all the time. That's how we can die to our old self!

**How can we abide in Jesus?** Name some ways below.

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_



### Short Testimony from an E2 Student

After returning from Student Spiritual Convocation, a sister shared with her RE teacher that she made a determination to pray for at least five minutes every day before leaving for school, because she had a strong desire to abide in Jesus all the time. Students, we can also do the same and abide with Jesus in prayer at the start of our day!

*Abide In Jesus!*

*Determine to pray at least 5 minutes  
every day!*

## Worship God in Spirit and Truth

What does it mean to worship in God in spirit and in truth?

1. To worship God "in spirit" means to have the right purpose of honoring God. Our worship must \_\_\_\_\_ God.

1 Corinthians 6:20 says, "For you were bought with a price, therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's."

In order to worship God "in spirit," we must take the time to examine our hearts. He is our Creator and we need to "fear" Him. We should not rush in our worship, or arrive late; rather, we should plan to arrive there early so that we can worship God with a proper mindset to show reverence and respect to God. Worshiping God must be sincere from our heart. Mark 7:6 tells us, "This people honors Me with their lips, but their heart is far from Me."

2. We must worship God in truth, according to His word. In the Bible, God has given to us all the things that we need to know which pertain to life and godliness, so that we can worship Him.

2 Peter 1:3 "As His divine power has given to us all things that pertain to life and godliness through the knowledge of Him who called us."

There are a lot of false teachings today that are being passed off as the truth. But the Bible is the only truth that teaches us how to live for God. We must use the word of God as we worship. Furthermore, we must know the teachings in the Bible in order to go to heaven.

When we worship God, we must do so in \_\_\_\_\_ and in \_\_\_\_\_.

Let's read the following scenarios and decide whether or not the students below were able to worship in spirit and in truth.

1. Kevin had just finished his school week and couldn't wait to play video games after school. He rushed home and started playing that one level he was trying to beat. He kept playing for hours and was only ten points away from winning until his mom called him to go to church. Reluctantly, Kevin put down the controller and went to church with his parents. At church, Kevin was unable to concentrate on the sermon because he kept replaying the video game level over and over again in his head. **So, even though Kevin was physically at church, do you think Kevin was truly worshipping God when his mind was filled with thoughts of video games? What could Kevin have done differently?**
2. Margaret had a big science project due on Monday. It was Friday and she had already spent over an hour looking up information on the Internet. She was still working on finishing the project after dinner when her mom called her to go to church. She only had a little more to go, but she knew that she had to go to church, so she left her project at home unfinished. While she was praying at church and listening to the sermon, Margaret could only think about her project and what she needed to do to finish it. **Do you think Margaret was truly worshipping God when she kept thinking about her science project while at church? What could Margaret have done differently?**
3. Cody had a big swim meet before church on Saturday morning. He had been practicing for this meet for months and his goal was to win first place. Much to his sadness, Cody came in second place, and even though his parents were proud of him, he still couldn't stop thinking about first place. After the meet, Cody's family went to church and Cody went to sit in the first pew, as usual. However, during the sermon, Cody could only think about how he didn't win first place and he couldn't concentrate on writing his sermon notes. During prayer, Cody was filled with anger and sadness, so he was unable to focus on God. **Even though Cody was taking notes and praying, do you think Cody was truly worshipping God while being filled with anger at church? What could Cody have done differently?**

# E2 Year 1 Book 1 Lesson 7—Jesus and Nicodemus, and the Samaritan Woman's Rebirth

## Homework Assignment

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Parent signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Weekly Bible Reading: \_\_\_\_\_

**Bible Reading:** Check each box when you complete that day's reading.

**Prayer:** Check each box after you pray to God that day.

|      | 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. **(John 3:5)**

\_\_\_\_\_

1. What does it mean to be born of water and the Spirit?
2. What is the evidence of receiving the Holy Spirit?
3. In what ways can the Holy Spirit help you in your daily life?
4. Nicodemus came to see Jesus by night. He may have been afraid to let his peers see him talk with Jesus. Are you afraid to let your friends and peers know that you believe in Jesus Christ? How do you think you can encourage yourself or others to overcome this fear?
5. Nicodemus and the Samaritan woman seem like two people who come from very different worlds. Can you list some differences or similarities between them? What can this teach you about God's salvation?

# LESSON 8

## THE WAY TO THE HEAVENLY KINGDOM



### OBJECTIVES

1. To understand that the heavenly kingdom is for those who make the effort and work hard.
2. God gives us the wisdom to make the right choices if we rely on Him fully.
3. To make the right decisions in our lives.

### MEMORY VERSE

“But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.”

(Matthew 6:33)

### PRAYER

1. Thank God for gathering us here so that we can worship Him and learn more about His words.
2. May God help us to keep to the narrow path toward the heavenly kingdom.
3. May God also help us make the right choices in our lives.
4. Ask God to help us focus on this lesson and apply its teachings to our lives.



### Overview

#### 1. Jesus' Mission: Preaching & Healing

#### 2. The Way to the Heavenly Kingdom

- Walk the narrow path
- Transform into a good tree to bear good fruit
- Build yourself upon the rock that is God

#### 3. Linking to the Ten Basic Beliefs—Salvation is given by the grace of God through the faith of believers.

#### 4. Life Application

- Testimony: Staying on the narrow path
- Dealing with anger
- Speaking bad words and swearing
- Lying
- Victory in Christ—Taking off old self and putting on new self through renewal

#### 5. Activity—The House on the Rock



### Background Knowledge for Teachers

Jesus came to this world for many reasons. However, His main purposes were to save mankind from the bondage of sin and to preach the truth. Jesus was also full of compassion for all people, healing them on many occasions. Aside from Jesus' sacrifice for us and His power of healing, the most important things to us are His teachings, especially the ones about how to live our lives and what to do on the way to the heavenly kingdom.



## Reaching Out to Your Students

Students at this age may not think a lot about the path to the heavenly kingdom. They most likely only know that proper baptism and the Holy Spirit are all that are required to enter heaven. Thus, it's important to stress to your students that we must pursue the heavenly kingdom, and that does not just mean receiving the precious Holy Spirit and proper baptism. We must live according to God's word with the help of the Holy Spirit. We must apply God's teachings to our lives and strive to separate ourselves from worldly things in order to be holy.



## Opener

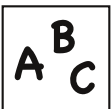
*5 Minutes*

Before we begin today's lesson, let's review the lesson you learned about John the Baptist. What did John do that was so important? (He prepared the way for Jesus. He baptized people.)

Let's open our Bibles and read Matthew 4:12-17.

We can see that when John was put in jail, this became the signal for Jesus to begin His ministry. John's mission of preparing the way for Jesus was completed.

Let's also read John 3:23-36. John mentioned something very important in verse 36: "He who believes in the Son has everlasting life; and he who does not believe the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God abides on him." This brings us to the lesson today: One of the purposes for Jesus coming into this world was to save our souls. This is one of the reasons why Jesus began His ministry by saying, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand" (Mt 4:17). But what is the way to the heavenly kingdom? We will learn about this today.



## Vocabulary

**resist:** to stand firm against the actions, effects, or force of something; to keep from giving in

**persecution:** the act of treating a person or a group of people badly, especially because of race, religion, beliefs, etc.

**zeal:** great enthusiasm or interest; active pursuit

**deceive:** to mislead by a false appearance or statement

### Homework Answer Key

1. False; the narrow way is the most difficult.
2. True
3. True
4. This is the easy path. The wide gate and broad way represent the world and the kind of people who travel on this path. Most of the people in the world travel on this path because it's much easier to give in to our worldly desires than to try to resist them.
5. This is the difficult path. Most people choose not to take this path because it's narrow and difficult. But those who follow it are those who follow God's will.
6. We need to examine ourselves spiritually to make sure that we have good motives and that we listen to and obey the word of God daily.
7. doing, will
8. God
9. tests, worries, money





## Bible Discovery & Spiritual Teaching

30-35 Minutes

### FOR TEACHERS

Print out the Bible Discovery worksheet before class. Distribute it to the students now. The students will be filling it out as you go through the lesson. Keep one copy for yourself to reference. The answers are underlined throughout this section.

Today we'll learn about the way to the heavenly kingdom.

### The Narrow and Wide Gates

Let's turn to Matthew 7:13-14.

Here, Jesus explains the narrow and wide gates:

*"Enter by the narrow gate; for wide is the gate and broad is the way that leads to destruction, and there are many who go in by it. Because narrow is the gate and difficult is the way which leads to life, and there are few who find it."*

What does Jesus mean?

Let's take a look at the first teaching on the Bible Discovery worksheet.

The wide gate and the broad way represent the world and the kind of people who travel on this path. Most of the people in the world choose to travel on this path because it's easier, but it leads to destruction. How is this path easier, though?

Following the ways of the world around us is easier than following the Bible. Can you think of a time when you've been tempted to do something wrong, such as play instead of work, skip church, or lie your way out of a situation? These are all examples of worldly things and actions that pull people away from God, and these people either don't know it's happening or simply do not wish to resist this pull. By letting their worldly desires take over, they are walking the path that leads to death, rather than the path that leads to life.

Let's look at the next teaching.

### The Way to Eternal Life

In verse 14, it says that the way that leads to life is difficult. This path is for the people who follow Christ's commands and God's will. The broad way of the world leads to destruction; Jesus teaches us clearly which path leads to eternal life, and why taking that path can be so difficult. Let's turn to Luke 18:18-30.

The story here is simple: a rich man came to Jesus to ask how to inherit eternal life. But when Jesus told him to

leave all of his belongings behind, he just couldn't do it. After this, Jesus even told His disciples, "How hard it is for those who have riches to enter the kingdom of God!" He knows that when we have things that we value, it's difficult for us to just leave them behind and pursue God.

Can you think of a very precious object that you have in your life? It could be anything: a toy or a piece of jewelry, your cash box, or even a person whom you love very much. Maybe you have several things that you feel like you wouldn't be able to live without. Now, can you imagine being asked by Jesus to throw all these things away and follow Him? I think this would be very hard for all of us to do. Jesus knows this, which is why He calls the way to eternal life narrow and difficult to walk. It isn't just about being persecuted for believing in Christ, it's also about being able to disregard any of our worldly possessions or material dreams, and only focusing on Jesus.

But there's another part in these verses that we need to pay attention to. Let's read verses 29-30 again. What is the ultimate prize that Jesus offers us? (Eternal life.) Can you imagine being able to enter heaven and living there forever? This is what Jesus offers us in exchange for walking the narrow way. So even though it may be difficult, in the long run, God will bless us abundantly if we choose to follow His commands instead of choosing the easier, broader path of the world.

Now, let's look at the next teaching and turn back to Matthew 7:16-20.

### Bearing Fruit

The Bible often uses fruit to represent a person's deeds, actions, or qualities. A good fruit represents good actions or behavior. The Bible lists the fruit of the Spirit as "love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control" (Gal 5:22-23).

In order to bear good fruit, though, Jesus states that you must first be a good tree. "Do men gather grapes from thornbushes or figs from thistles?" He asks. Only good trees can bear good fruit, whereas bad trees can only bear bad fruit. So, in order to have qualities such as love or faithfulness in our actions, we must first become a good tree. This means that we need to examine ourselves spiritually to make sure that we have good motives, and that we listen to and obey the word of God daily (Mt 12:33-35). Once we transform ourselves into a good tree, we will naturally bear fruit that is pleasing to God.

Let's read Matthew 7:21-23.

**Do God's Will**

Simply accepting Christ and calling on His name does not guarantee our place in the heavenly kingdom. Even being able to cast out demons and perform miracles in Jesus' name does not necessarily mean that God is pleased with us. What do you think will please God? Jesus mentions in verse 21 that doing God's will is of the utmost importance. On the other hand, those who practice lawlessness, and not His word, will be rejected by God on the last day. Therefore, as we walk the path to the heavenly kingdom, we need to remember to examine ourselves constantly to see if our thoughts, speech, attitude, motives, and deeds are pleasing to God.

Finally, let's look at the example of two builders in Matthew 7:24-27.

**The Wise and Foolish Builders**

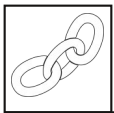
We represent the house and God is the rock. We know that rocks are hard, solid, and very strong. People who

build on the rock are those who hear the word of God and **put it into practice**. That means they apply God's word to their lives. If we build ourselves upon the rock, then we will not fall apart when the rain, floods, and winds come.

What do the rain, the flood, and the winds refer to? These refer to any form of a trial or test that may come to any one of us. This includes persecution (Mt 13:21), the many worries of this world, being deceived by money and riches (Mt 13:22), etc.

Simply understanding or knowing God's word won't help us during trials. Spiritual maturity comes by constant training. We can train ourselves by reading the Bible, praying, singing/listening to hymns, attending Sabbath service, going to SSC, etc.

The way to the heavenly kingdom is about obeying God's will and living out God's word (Jas 1:22-25; 2:14-17).

**Linking to the Ten Basic Beliefs***2-5 Minutes*

**Salvation is given by grace through faith.**

1. Jesus came to save us from our sins. He is our Savior.
2. In order to receive salvation and enter the heavenly kingdom, we must obey the will of God, stay on the narrow way, bear good fruit, and put our faith in God.

Salvation is given by the grace of God through the faith of believers. They must rely on the Holy Spirit to pursue holiness, to honor God, and to love all people.

**Check for Understanding***5 Minutes*

1. **What does the broad way and wide gate mean? What is it referring to? Is this the easy path or the difficult path?** This is the easy path. The wide gate and broad way represent the world and the kind of people who travel on this path. Most of the people in the world travel on this path because it's much easier to give in to our worldly desires than to try and resist them.
2. **What do the narrow way and narrow gate refer to? Is this the easy path or the difficult path?** This is the difficult path. Most people choose not to take this path because it's narrow and difficult. But those who follow it are those who follow God's will.
3. **How do we become a "good tree"?** We need to examine ourselves spiritually to make sure that we have good motives and that we listen to and obey the words of God daily.
4. **Jesus mentions in Matthew 7:21 that \_\_\_\_\_ (doing) God's \_\_\_\_\_ (will) is of the utmost importance.**
5. **We must build ourselves on the rock. The rock represents \_\_\_\_\_ (God).**
6. **What does the beating of the rain, the floods, and the winds refer to?** It refers to any form of a trial or test that may come to any one of us. This includes persecution, the many worries of this world, being deceived by money and riches, etc.



## Life Application

10 Minutes

[There are 4 Life Application worksheets included in this lesson; please go over them with the students as time permits.]

### 1. Bearing Good Fruit

**Objective:** To understand the teaching of leading a life on the narrow way and what it means to bear good fruit.

Read the testimony together with the students or ask the students to read it silently to themselves. When they have finished reading, ask them to answer the questions below, then go over the questions together as a class.

#### Questions

**1. What did the couple do on Saturday? What happened the next day on Sunday, when the couple reopened the restaurant?**

They closed their restaurant and observed the Sabbath by going to church. Their business made double the amount of money the next day.

**2. Which path is this couple traveling on, the narrow or the wide? What is the evidence?**

They are traveling on the narrow path, the path less traveled. While the other people around them are not observing Sabbath and are keeping their businesses open, this couple chose to close and go to church.

**3. This couple bore good fruit because they had good motives, and they listened to and obeyed the word of God daily.**

**4. How is this couple like people who build their house on the rock?**

They heard the word of God, His commandment to keep the Sabbath, and put it into practice by applying it to their lives.

**5. Think of a time when you had to choose between the narrow path and the wide path. Explain which path you chose and why you chose that particular path.**

[Invite students to share their answers.]

### 2. Slow to Anger

**Objective:** To understand the teachings about good trees and bad trees and to help students deal with anger. In order to be a good tree that bears good fruit, we must ask God to help us during our times of weakness.

After the students have read the story and answered the questions, go over the answers together. Then, conclude by sharing "The Bible Truth about Anger".

#### Questions

**1. How do you think Terry felt after his little brother explained why he was in his room?**

He probably felt a little embarrassed for getting so angry about it. He also might have calmed down.

**2. Feeling anger is not wrong, but how might Terry have reacted to the mess in his bedroom if he had correctly understood the situation?**

It would have helped him deal with the situation in a better way and not become so angry about it.

**3. Did you ever become angry quickly, only to find out later that you misunderstood the situation?**

[Invite students to share their answers.]

#### The Bible Truth about Anger

**Proverbs 14:29** "He who is slow to wrath has great understanding, but he who is impulsive exalts folly."

**James 1:19-20** "So then, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath; for the wrath of man does not produce the righteousness of God."

These are the teachings from God about anger. We need to follow these instructions to set us apart from others in the world and take the narrow path. Anger is an emotion everyone in the world has, but we, as children of God, must learn to control it by trying to understand a situation before becoming very angry and yelling. This way, we can become a good tree because people can recognize us by our words and deeds.

### 3. Doing the Right Thing

**Objective:** To understand the teaching of the Wise and Foolish Builders; to learn how to put the word of God into practice; and to obey His commands. Cursing and using the Lord's name in vain are against the teachings of God.

**Proverbs 3:1** "My son, do not forget my law, but let your heart keep my commands."

Give the students time to read the scenario, then have them answer the questions. Go over the questions when they have finished answering them, then conclude with the following.

#### Questions

**1. How did Greg do the right thing?**

He did not swear or curse like his friends did.

**2. What is the commandment from Exodus 20:7 about?**

It is about misusing God's name. God does not want us to use His name in vain or without real purpose. That means we should not dishonor God's holy and great name by using it without care. It "cheapens" His name.

**3. Do your friends also use bad words or swear? Are you ever tempted to say the same things they do?**

[Invite the students to share their answers.]

#### Conclusion

In Colossians 4:6, Paul tells us, "Let your speech always be with grace, seasoned with salt, that you may know how you ought to answer each one." Our speech should contain wholesome, pure, kind, and beneficial words. These are words that encourage and build up, instead of tear down or curse God.

More verses to keep in mind:

- **Proverbs 16:23** "The heart of the wise teaches his mouth, and adds learning to his lips."
- **Proverbs 25:11** "A word fitly spoken is like apples of gold in settings of silver."
- **Exodus 20:7** "You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain, for the Lord will not hold him guiltless who takes His name in vain."

### 4. The Three Steps to Victory in Christ

Lead a short discussion on how it is important for us to take off our old self and put on a new self. Afterward, ask the students to fill out "The Three Steps to Victory in Christ" worksheet.

Read Colossians 3:1-10, 12-14.

Let's look at verses 9 and 10. We must take off our **old self** and put on a **new self**. According to Romans 6:4, "Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we should also walk in newness of life."

This means that when we are baptized, our old self "dies," and we are reborn. We must therefore take off our old selves and rid ourselves of the wicked things of the world. The world is the broad way and the wide gate. We must travel on the path of righteousness, which is the narrow path and the path less taken. Taking off our old selves also means getting rid of "all these: anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy language out of your mouth" (Col 3:8).

The only way we can be reborn into a new self is with the Holy Spirit. After we have put away this world, we must **put on Christ**. How do we put on Christ? We put on Christ with the **renewal** of our mind, by knowing more about God's word.

Romans 12:2 says, "And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God."

The renewing of our mind and this transformation into our new self does not take place overnight. We must draw near to God daily by praying, reading the Bible, singing or listening to hymns, and applying the teachings of God to our lives. If we can continue in this transformation, we will also know and follow God's good, pleasing, and perfect will. When we rely on Jesus, He can guide us on the narrow path, and He can lead us to the narrow gate where we will enter and find the heavenly kingdom.





## Activity

### The House on the Rock

10-15 Minutes

**Objective:** To remind the students to build their house upon Jesus Christ, the rock.

#### Materials

- Origami paper or square pieces of paper
- Smooth rocks for each student about the size of your palm or fist
- Glue

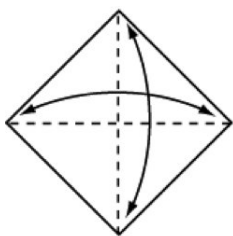


#### Instructions

1. Give each student a piece of origami paper.
2. Following the instructions, teach them how to fold an origami house. They can decorate the house with rooms and windows after they finish making the house.
3. When they are done, ask them to write this verse on the roof of the house:

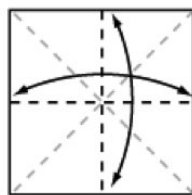
"Therefore whoever hears these sayings of Mine, and does them,  
I will liken him to a wise man who built his house on the rock." (Matthew 7:24)

4. Paste the bottom of the stand of the house (made in Step 7) to the top of the rock.
5. The students can place this in their room as a reminder.
7. Conclude with a prayer.

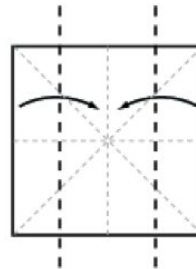


1. Start with a square piece of paper, white side up.

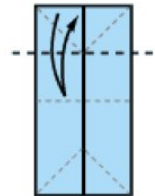
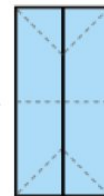
Fold the top corner of the paper down to the bottom corner. Crease and open again. Then fold the paper in half sideways.



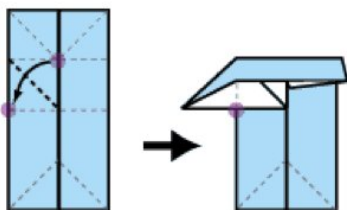
2. Fold the paper in half, crease well and open, and then fold again in the other direction.



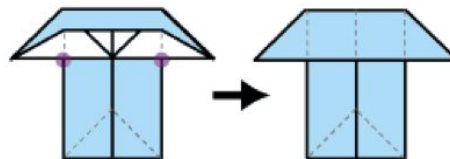
3. Now fold the outer edges in to the center line. Crease well.



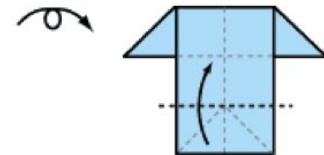
4. Fold the top edge down to the center line and open out again.



5. Take the inside flap and fold down along the crease shown, to the outside edge. Flatten.



6. Repeat on the other side, and flatten.



7. Turn the house over and fold the bottom edge up to the bottom of the roof.

Open it out partially. This is the stand for the house.



## The Way to the Heavenly Kingdom

| Teaching  | Meaning  |
|---|--|
| <b>Verse 14: For wide is the gate and broad is the way that leads to destruction, and there are many who go in by it.</b> | The wide gate and the broad way represent the _____. This path is _____ to take, but it leads to _____.  |
| <b>Verse 14: Enter by the narrow gate</b>   | The way that leads to _____ is _____. This path is for the people who follow Christ's _____ and God's _____.   |
| <b>Verses 15-20: What is bearing "good fruit"?</b>  | A good fruit refers to good _____ or behavior. The Bible lists the fruit of the Spirit as "_____, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, _____, gentleness, self-control." |
| <b>Verses 15-20: What is a "good tree"?</b>   | A person who always examines themselves _____ to make sure that they have good _____, and that they listen to and _____ the word of God daily.                                     |
| <b>Verses 24-27: Who is the rock and who is the house?</b>  |  |
| <b>Verses 24-27: What do the people who build their house on the rock do?</b>   | People who build on the rock _____ the word of God and put it into _____.  |
| <b>Verses 24-27: What do the rain, the flood, and the winds refer to?</b>   | These refer to any form of a trial or _____ that may come to any one of us. This includes persecution, the many _____ of this world, being deceived by money and riches, etc.      |
| <b>Conclusion</b>   | The way to the heavenly kingdom is about obeying God's _____ and living out God's _____.   |

## Bearing Good Fruit

**Instructions:** Read the short testimony and answer the questions below.

There was a very hardworking couple in our church. They owned a restaurant and did their best every day to run their business. They opened every day except Saturday, the Sabbath day. For any restaurant owner, this would be a foolish thing to do, as the weekends are the busiest days of the week because more people have time to go out. Thus, Saturday would be one of the days when they would make the most money. However, they knew that they had to keep the Sabbath holy and not do any work that day. They did not worry that they would lose money. Every Saturday, they attended service all day at church while the other restaurants around their area stayed open.



Each Sunday, they would open their restaurant again. Something miraculous always happened: they noticed that on Sundays they made double the amount of money. They gained the extra amount that they lost from closing on Saturdays. How wonderful!

God was showing them that if they make the right choices in their lives, obey God's command, and live out God's word, there is nothing to worry about.

*"But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness,  
and all these things shall be added to you." (Mt 6:33)*

### Questions

1. What did the couple do on Saturday? What happened the next day on Sunday, when the couple reopened the restaurant?
  
2. Which path is this couple traveling on, the narrow or the wide? What is the evidence?
  
3. This couple bore good fruit because they had good motives and \_\_\_\_\_ to and \_\_\_\_\_ the word of God daily.
  
4. How is this couple like people who build their house on the rock?
  
5. Think of a time when you had to choose between the narrow path and the wide path. Explain which path you chose and why you chose that particular path.

**Slow to Anger**

**Instructions:** Read the story below and answer the questions that follow.

Terry loved his little brother, but found him to be very annoying at times. One day while Terry was away at school, his little brother got into his room, took everything out of the closet and piled it all on the bed.

When Terry got home and found the mess, he flew into an angry rage. He stormed around the house looking for him, but when he could not find his brother, he became even angrier. Finally, he found his brother playing in the neighbor's yard. He yelled at him, "Did you come in my room and mess everything up?"

His little brother, shaking with fear, said, "Yes, I was in your room, but I..."

"Why were you in my room?" Terry snapped back. "Why are you touching my stuff? You took everything out and didn't put anything back!"

Terry's brother continued, "I didn't mess up your room. I was cleaning the closet for you. Some food fell inside your closet and it started to smell."

**Questions**

1. How do you think Terry felt after his little brother explained why he was in his room?
2. Feeling anger is not wrong, but how might Terry have reacted to the mess in his bedroom if he had correctly understood the situation?
3. Did you ever become angry quickly, only to find out later that you misunderstood the situation?



**The Three Steps to Victory in Christ**

**Instructions:** Read Colossians 3:1-10, 12-14. Fill in the blanks in the tables below.

### Step 1: Take Off Our Old Self

List the things that you would like to get rid of, such as anger, lies, and things of the world. Try to be as specific as possible.

| Old Self |    |
|----------|----|
| 1.       | 4. |
| 2.       | 5. |
| 3.       | 6. |

### Step 2: Put On Christ

### Step 3: Renew Our Minds

In the first column below, briefly describe how you will take off the old things listed in Step 1 above. In the second column, list some things you will do to renew yourself daily, such as read the Bible, spend time practicing God's word at home (by doing chores or helping your parents), set aside time in prayer, or ask for the fullness of the Holy Spirit to grant you the strength to put off your old self and renew your mind.

| How I Will Remove the Old Self | Ways I Will Renew My Mind |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1.                             |                           |
| 2.                             |                           |
| 3.                             |                           |
| 4.                             |                           |
| 5.                             |                           |





# LESSON 9

## THE LAST SUPPER

### OBJECTIVES

1. To learn the events surrounding Jesus and His disciples at the Last Supper.
2. To recognize the spiritual significance of Footwashing and Holy Communion.
3. To recognize the sacrifice our Lord Jesus made to enable Footwashing and Holy Communion.
4. To learn about and practice the teachings behind the sacraments of Footwashing and Holy Communion.
5. To learn that love is a priority in our lives.

### MEMORY VERSE

"Peter said to Him, 'You shall never wash my feet!' Jesus answered him, 'If I do not wash you, you have no part with Me.'"

(John 13:8)

### PRAYER

1. Thank God for His guidance in the past week.
2. Recall the sacrifice the Lord Jesus made to enable our salvation.
3. Ask God for understanding and guidance during the lesson.
4. Thank and praise God for opening a way to salvation and for giving us the sacraments and the precious teachings behind them.



### Overview

#### 1. Jesus establishes the Holy Communion

- Matthew 26:1-46; Mark 14:1-42; Luke 22:1-46
- Purpose: To remember the Lord's death; to be resurrected on the last day
- Teachings: Oneness, purity, and the covenant
- How to partake of it: unleavened bread; grape juice
- Participants: Ordained ministers and members

#### 2. Jesus washes His disciples' feet

- John 13
- Purpose: To have a part with Jesus
- Teachings: Humility, holiness, love, and forgiveness

#### 3. Linking to the Ten Basic Beliefs—Holy Communion; Footwashing

#### 4. Life Application—What God Teaches Matters the Most

#### 5. Activity—Mutual Footwashing



### Background Knowledge for Teachers

#### The Passover

The Passover was instituted in the time of Moses. During the last plague, all of Egypt's firstborn were killed by the Lord. It was only then that the Hebrew people were released and allowed to leave Egypt. The firstborn of the Israelites were spared if they heeded Moses' instructions. A year-old male lamb had to be killed at twilight on the fourteenth day of the first month, and the blood of the lamb was to be smeared on the two doorposts and the lintel to the house so that the angel of the Lord would pass over that house and spare the firstborn.

The Passover lamb is ultimately fulfilled in Jesus Christ. The meal eaten during the Passover took on a new meaning with the new covenant established by our Lord Jesus. The disciples, in taking the bread and cup during the Last Supper, were partaking of the flesh and blood of our Lord. Just as the disciples were commanded to do this often in remembering the Lord, we also hold Holy Communion regularly to remember the Lord's death. We hope in the resurrection to come when we can partake of the wedding feast of the Lamb and His bride, the church.

#### Footwashing

In Roman times, sandals were the customary footwear. Upon arrival at a host's house for a meal, guests would be welcomed with the washing of feet, performed by the household servants as a gesture of customary hospitality. Walking on the roads made a person's feet dusty, even if that

person had bathed before embarking on their route.

When Jesus washed the feet of His disciples, Peter was taken aback because he thought Jesus was performing the work of servants! This, however, was no customary footwashing. Jesus was actually setting a precedent. He was instituting the Sacrament of Footwashing, enabling a person to have a part in the Lord (Jn 13:8). When Peter realized the significance of Jesus' actions, he quickly changed his mind and insisted that the Lord wash his hands and head also (Jn 13:9). This reiterates the fact that this was a new institution of spiritual significance.

From the Sacrament of Footwashing, we are reminded to walk towards God, practicing a life of love, humility, and forgiveness.



## Reaching Out to Your Students

1. Take the time to explain to the students what a privilege and grace it is to be part of the household of God—of all the people in the world, He has chosen a handful for Himself. Remind them that through the thousands of years of human history, He has made His salvation plan known to us chosen few in these last years.
2. Have students recall a time when someone made a significant sacrifice for them or vice versa. Use the opportunity to bring to their minds the great sacrifice Jesus made in laying down His life, so that we can find forgiveness, grace, and peace in the sacraments.

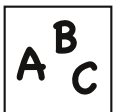


## Opener

*5 Minutes*

Sharing a meal is one way of sharing closeness with our family and friends. In times of celebration, such as a wedding or a birthday party, food usually gets passed around as we happily talk with one another. In times of sadness, such as a funeral, family and friends who attend usually hold a wake in remembrance of the person who died. When we join in these meals, it is only by special invitation.

There is one most special meal that **only** brothers and sisters in our church are invited to share. It might be held once a year, twice a year, or perhaps more often. In fact, Jesus told us to hold this meal often to remember Him. Do you know what meal that might be? (Holy Communion.) Holy Communion was the last meal that Jesus had with His disciples. It is also called the Last Supper. The Lord Jesus promises that those who partake of Holy Communion will be raised with Him when He comes again.



## Vocabulary

**institute:** to establish or begin

**covenant:** a promise or agreement

**conscious:** to be aware of something

**sacrament:** a religious observance

**spiritual effect:** the spiritual result of an action



## Bible Discovery & Spiritual Teaching

30-35 Minutes

### FOR TEACHERS

Hand out Bible Discovery Worksheet #1 now. The students will complete it before starting the lesson.

The **purpose** of the lesson is to investigate the establishment of the Sacraments of Holy Communion and Footwashing in the context of the night of Jesus' betrayal, and to learn the spiritual teachings of those sacraments.

Ask students to familiarize themselves with the passages to be studied by spending a few quiet minutes to fill in the table.

#### Answers

**Section 1:** Mt 26:1-5; Mk 14:1-2; Lk 22:1-2

(The chief priests, elders, and scribes are planning to kill Jesus.)

**Section 2:** Mt 26:6-13; Mk 14:3-9

(A woman anoints Jesus with expensive perfume.)

**Section 3:** Mt 26:14-16; Mk 14:10-11; Lk 22:3-6

(Judas agrees to betray Jesus.)

**Section 4:** Mt 26:17-19; Mk 14:12-16; Lk 22:7-13

(Jesus' disciples prepare the Passover.)

**Section 5:** Mt 26:20-30; Mk 14:17-26; Lk 22:14-23

(Jesus eats the Last Supper with His disciples.)

**Section 6:** Jn 13:1-20

(Jesus washes His disciples' feet.)

**Section 7:** Mt 26:31-35; Mk 14:27-31; Lk 22:31-34

(Jesus predicts that the disciples will fall away and that Peter will deny Him three times.)

**Section 8:** Mt 26:36-46; Mk 14:32-42; Lk 22:39-46

(Jesus prays in the garden of Gethsemane.)

Jesus had to use these last precious hours wisely. On the last night before He was betrayed, Jesus instituted the Holy Communion and Footwashing and commanded His disciples to do likewise. Holy Communion and Footwashing are two sacraments of our church that are performed after baptism.

### Origin

The Holy Communion was a sacrament instituted by the Lord Jesus Himself during this last Passover with His disciples. Let's read 1 Corinthians 11:24-25. "And when He had given thanks, He broke it and said, 'Take, eat; this is My body which is broken for you; do this in remembrance of Me.' 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.'"

### Purpose

During the Holy Communion, we meditate on and proclaim the immense grace of our Savior shown by His personal sacrifice. The sacrament is also an important time for us to renew our determination to love the Lord more by giving our lives to serve Him.

### The Teachings of the Holy Communion

#### 1. Oneness

The "one bread" used in the Holy Communion signifies that Jesus has only one body and that all the believers are members of that one body. Therefore, the bread we partake of during the Holy Communion joins us with the body of Christ. The eating of this bread reinforces our unity and fellowship with the Lord Jesus and with other believers.

#### 2. Purity

The "unleavened bread" represents the holiness of Jesus. It is a reminder that, as the body of Christ, we must strive to be holy and blameless. We must keep our thoughts, speech, and daily conduct pure. We must also uphold the church's integrity and pledge her allegiance to the truth of God.

#### 3. The covenant

The "cup" we receive is the cup of the new covenant established by the blood of Jesus Christ. This new covenant is a sign that we have become God's chosen people through Jesus Christ and that we are to abide by His commandments.

Ask the students to put themselves in Jesus' shoes. He knew that He was about to die and that He didn't have much more time left to spend with His disciples.

When someone knows they don't have much time left, they don't waste time talking nonsense. They don't waste time worrying about what shows are on TV, or about buying the latest and greatest toy. What do you notice about people who know that they are about to die? They will usually have the people they love the most around them and tell them how much they are loved. They might give advice to the ones they love most on what they have learned in their own lives. Many people turn to God in prayer and strengthen their faith in Him, though they may have been weaker in past years. *Whatever they choose to do, they will usually use their last moments to do what is most important to them.*

## How to Partake of the Holy Communion

The elements of the Holy Communion consist of one large piece of unleavened bread and grape juice. The ordained minister (usually an elder, pastor, or deacon) gives thanks for the bread in the name of the Lord Jesus, breaks it, and distributes it to the congregation, which says a silent prayer before eating it. The grape juice is also received in a similar manner. All the bread and grape juice must be consumed on the same day. With the presence of the Holy Spirit, the bread and juice become the spiritual flesh and blood of Jesus Christ. Together, flesh and blood represent life. To partake of Jesus' flesh and blood means to partake of His spiritual life. On the last day, Jesus Christ will resurrect us and give us His everlasting life.

## Participants

To partake of the Holy Communion, we need to have been cleansed through water baptism and must not have committed any serious sin. The Holy Communion is to be received in a worthy manner. During the Holy Communion, or even the week before, we should examine ourselves, repent of our sins, and remove any grudges against others.

### FOR TEACHERS

Hand out Bible Discovery Worksheet #2 to the students now. Help the students complete it as you go over the lesson.

Tell students to use the Bible verses to help them fill in the right side of both tables. It will help them understand why these sacraments are important.

### Answers

#### 1. Holy Communion

**Action:** Blessed, broke, and distributed the bread; blessed and distributed the cup

**Physical objects:** Bread and cup of the fruit of the vine (grape juice)

**What do these become spiritually:** The bread is Jesus' body. The grape juice is Jesus' blood.

**Spiritual effects:** To be raised on the last day; to abide in Jesus and have Him abide in us.

The Holy Communion only uses one piece of bread. This is because the Lord Jesus has only one body, so there is only one bread.

#### 2. Footwashing

**Action:** Washing feet

**Physical object(s):** Water (and basin and towel)

**Spiritual effect:** To have a part with the Lord

## The Sacrament of Holy Communion

When we partake of Holy Communion, it is very serious. Jesus had to die in order for us to be able to have Holy Communion. We always need to remember that when we take the bread and juice, we are actually partaking of Jesus' flesh and blood.

In the time of the apostolic church, there were some believers who didn't take Holy Communion seriously. Let us read about what happened in 1 Corinthians 11:20-34.

### FOR TEACHERS

Ask students to answer the following questions on Worksheet #2. The answers have been provided below.

#### 1. What were the believers doing wrong when they had their Holy Communion?

They treated Holy Communion like an ordinary meal. They did not examine themselves or repent of their sins.

#### 2. What happened to these believers who did not take Holy Communion seriously?

Some became weak and sick, and others died.

#### 3. What are we actually doing when we hold Holy Communion (1 Cor 11:24-26)?

We are remembering the Lord Jesus and proclaiming His death until He comes again.

When we remember that the Lord Jesus died for us, we are actually remembering the great love He has for us. He came to earth in human form. Even though He created the earth, many did not know who He was, and rejected Him. He was betrayed by one who was close to Him and died a painful death, all so that we might have a chance to go to heaven and be with Him.

## The Sacrament of Footwashing

Read John 13:1-20.

## The Purpose of Footwashing

"If I do not wash you, you have no part with Me" (Jn 13:8). These words, spoken by Jesus to Peter, should be heeded by anyone who wishes to have a part in God's kingdom.

### FOR TEACHERS

Ask students to answer the fill in the blanks in the last section of Worksheet #2. The answers have been underlined in the following text.

The supper had finished and Jesus knew that His time was quickly coming to an end. He knew that He was to be crucified soon. "He loved them to the end" (Jn 13:1). Jesus did not simply give up because He knew the hardest part was coming. At the end of supper, He was going to show the disciples how much He loved them by washing their feet.

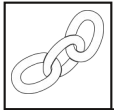
Footwashing is performed for everyone who has just been baptized. When we are baptized, all our past sins are forgiven us. However, the change cannot stop there. We cannot continue acting the way we used to, repeating our



bad habits. Jesus wants us to change so we become more and more like Him every day. Please read Psalm 119:101. The psalmist is not literally talking about keeping his feet from walking into evil. Here, the feet refer to his conduct or behavior. Footwashing is a reminder that we have to be conscious of our conduct, that we are choosing good behavior over sinful actions. We need to spiritually walk towards God every moment by growing in holiness day by day.

Read John 13:10. Footwashing is performed by a pastor for the newly baptized, just as Jesus, who was the master, washed His followers' feet. This shows Jesus' humility. In church, Jesus wants us to serve one another, just as He served us. He wants us to treat others as being more important than ourselves.

When He washed His disciples' feet, He washed the feet of all twelve disciples. Jesus already knew that Judas was going to betray Him. Despite this, Jesus still washed his feet. Jesus was willing to show forgiveness to Judas. Jesus wanted Judas to do the right thing and repent. Jesus set this example for us to follow. Even when we are wronged, we can trust that Jesus will help us find the heart to forgive.



## Linking to the Ten Basic Beliefs

2-5 Minutes

On the night of the Last Supper, Lord Jesus instituted two of the three sacraments of the True Jesus Church. The Lord Jesus commanded us to carry out these sacraments that will enable us to go to heaven.

Even though we don't celebrate the Passover like the Jewish do, we hold Holy Communion as commanded by our Lord Jesus. When we hold Holy Communion, we remember Jesus' death on the cross for us. When we partake of the Holy Communion, the Holy Spirit transforms the bread and grape juice so that, spiritually, they are the flesh and blood of our Lord. We will resurrect with Him on the Last Day because we are eating the flesh and drinking the blood of our Lord Jesus.

Footwashing allows us to have a part with our Lord. Even though Jesus was God, He washed His disciples' feet and commanded us to do likewise. From Footwashing, we learn about love, holiness, humility, service, and forgiveness.



## Check for Understanding

5 Minutes

1. **What are the physical elements of Holy Communion?** Unleavened bread and grape juice.
2. **What do the physical elements represent spiritually?** The body and blood of the Lord Jesus.
3. **What are the teachings of Footwashing?** Love, humility, holiness, and forgiveness.



## Life Application

10 Minutes

### Love Is Priority Number ONE!

When love is defined in the word of God, it is very practical. 1 John 3:17 records, "**But whoever has the world's goods, and sees his brother in need, and shuts up his heart from him, how does the love of God abide in him?**" Can you imagine the scenario being described here? Suppose you see a beggar lying by the side of the street. He is trying very hard to make eye contact with you. As you walk by, he says, "Can you help me? Do you have any spare change? Will you help me?" What will you do? You might be tempted to close your heart toward him as these thoughts go through your mind: If I give him some money, he will just go get drugs or cigarettes. How can I be sure that he is not pretending to be in need? Most likely, his family has already abandoned him. It is useless to help him. He needs to get a real job!

The life application here is that in these situations **your heart is either opening or closing to love**. If you open your heart to love, you will see every moment in your life as an **opportunity to truly love God and act out your love!**

In a way, you might say that loving someone means giving up something that you value to enrich the life of that person. That's love! Most people nowadays will say, "I will do these things for you, but only if you do these things for me." However, the Bible teaches us to place others before ourselves (Phil 2:3; Heb 10:24). That's love! When you do your part and submit to God's teaching on love, others will see Christ in you.



## Activity

### Mutual Footwashing

10-15 Minutes

**Objective:** To remind students that Jesus, the master, washed His disciples' feet.

#### Materials

- Basins of water
- Clean, dry towels

#### Instructions

1. Wash each of your students' feet in turn and dry them. Then ask them the following questions.
  - What did it feel like when your teacher washed your feet?
  - What were you thinking?
2. Pair up the students. Have them take turns to wash and dry each other's feet. Ask them the questions below.
  - What did it feel like when you washed each other's feet?
  - What were you thinking when you had your feet washed?
  - What did it feel like to have another student wash your feet?
3. Ask the students to imagine that someone was really mad at them. Ask them to imagine that person washing their feet. How would they feel? What if they were really mad at someone and were asked to wash that person's feet? How would they feel?
4. Use their responses to link their feelings with Christ's humility and the disciples' acceptance when Jesus washed their feet. Take the opportunity to explain Jesus' heart of forgiveness when He washed the feet of Judas Iscariot, knowing that he would betray Him, and Judas' hardness of heart when he refused to repent.

#### Homework Answer Key

1. Passover is observed to remember how the Lord spared the firstborn of the Israelites when the tenth plague took place in Egypt. A lamb was killed in place of the firstborn. The Jewish continue to observe Passover every year by killing a lamb and eating a Passover meal to remember how God saved them from the hands of the Egyptians.
2. A
3. C
4. To have a part with Jesus (John 13:8)
5. Humility, holiness, love, and forgiveness
6. So that we know what it means to follow Christ and to grow in Him.

## The Last Supper

**Instructions:** The passages relevant to the Last Supper are listed in the left column. In the right column, use one sentence to summarize what happened.

|   |  |
|---|--|
| <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Section 1</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mt 26:1-5</li> <li>• Mk 14:1-2</li> <li>• Lk 22:1-2</li> </ul>       |  |
| <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Section 2</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mt 26:6-13</li> <li>• Mk 14:3-9</li> </ul>                           |  |
| <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Section 3</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mt 26:14-16</li> <li>• Mk 14:10-11</li> <li>• Lk 22:3-6</li> </ul>   |  |
| <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Section 4</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mt 26:17-19</li> <li>• Mk 14:12-16</li> <li>• Lk 22:7-13</li> </ul>  |  |
| <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Section 5</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mt 26:20-30</li> <li>• Mk 14:17-26</li> <li>• Lk 22:14-23</li> </ul> |  |
| <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Section 6</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jn 13:1-20</li> </ul>  |  |
| <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Section 7</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mt 26:31-35</li> <li>• Mk 14:27-31</li> <li>• Lk 22:31-34</li> </ul> |  |
| <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Section 8</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mt 26:36-46</li> <li>• Mk 14:32-42</li> <li>• Lk 22:39-46</li> </ul> |  |

## Holy Communion

|   |  |
|---|--|
| Action (What did Jesus do?)<br>(Mt 26:26-27; Mk 14:22-23; Lk 22:19-20)            |  |
| Physical objects (What did Jesus use?)<br>(Mt 26:26-29; Mk 14:22-25; Lk 22:19-20) |  |
| What do these become spiritually?<br>(Mt 26:26-28; Mk 14:22-24; Lk 22:19-20)      |  |
| Spiritual effects<br>(Jn 6:54-56)   |  |

The Holy Communion makes use of only one piece of bread. This is because \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_ (1 Cor 10:17).

## Footwashing

|                              |  |
|------------------------------|--|
| Action (Jn 13:5)             |  |
| Physical object(s) (Jn 13:5) |  |
| Spiritual effect (Jn 13:8)   |  |

### Questions

1. What were the believers doing wrong during Holy Communion? Read 1 Corinthians 11:20-34.
2. What happened to these believers who did not take Holy Communion seriously?
3. What are we actually doing when we hold Holy Communion (1 Cor 11:24-26)?

### Fill In the Blanks

1. "He \_\_\_\_\_ them to the end." (Jn 13:1)
2. The psalmist is not literally talking about keeping his feet from walking into evil. Here, the feet refer to his \_\_\_\_\_ or behavior. (Ps 119:101)
3. We need to spiritually walk towards God every moment by growing in \_\_\_\_\_ day by day.
4. This shows Jesus' \_\_\_\_\_. In church, Jesus wants us to serve one another, just as He served us.
5. Jesus already knew that \_\_\_\_\_ was going to betray Him.
6. Jesus was willing to show \_\_\_\_\_ to Judas.

### What God Teaches Matters the Most


As Christians, we need to trust in God to give us the strength and wisdom to produce the needed changes in ourselves. God already showed us His everlasting love by dying on the cross for us and sending His word upon us. He also washed His disciples' feet so that we could be cleansed and have a part in Him. We need to keep growing!

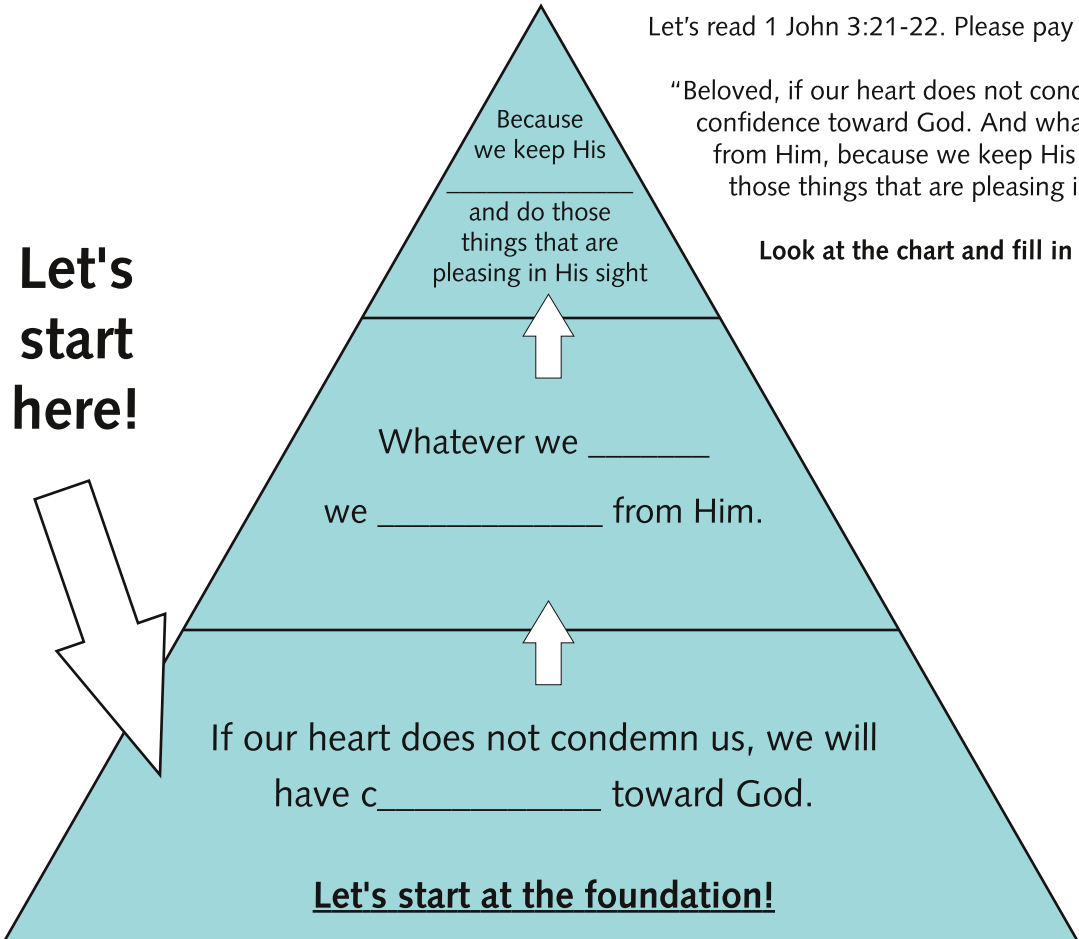
It is so important for us to study God's word regularly so that we can know what it means to follow Christ and to grow in Him. This way, we will have a growing understanding of the truth. So, the next time you find yourself wondering, "Am I really a follower of Christ?", just ask yourself this question: "Is love a priority in my life?"

Romans 13:10 records, "Love does no harm to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfillment of the law." That's an incredible statement! In other words, someone who understands God's love will:

1. Forgive others instead of holding grudges (Who do you need to forgive?)
2. Honor their parents (How are you going to honor your parents this week?)
3. Love those who are difficult to love (Who do you need to love?)
4. Sacrifice their time and money for others (Who needs your time and money?)
5. Ask God to help them be a loving person toward their family (Who can you be loving toward?)

**Let's start here!**





Because we keep His \_\_\_\_\_  
and do those things that are  
pleasing in His sight

Whatever we \_\_\_\_\_  
we \_\_\_\_\_ from Him.

If our heart does not condemn us, we will  
have c \_\_\_\_\_ toward God.

**Let's start at the foundation!**

Let's read 1 John 3:21-22. Please pay attention to the pattern.

"Beloved, if our heart does not condemn us, we have confidence toward God. And whatever we ask we receive from Him, because we keep His commandments and do those things that are pleasing in His sight."

**Look at the chart and fill in the blanks.**



## E2 Year 1 Book 1 Lesson 9—The Last Supper

# Homework Assignment

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Parent signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Weekly Bible Reading:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Bible Reading:** Check each box when you complete that day's reading.

**Prayer:** Check each box after you pray to God that day.

|      | 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. (John 13:8)

\_\_\_\_\_

1. What happened at Passover (recorded in Exodus 12)? What were the Jews remembering?
  
2. \_\_\_\_ : What are the teachings of the Holy Communion?
  - a. Oneness, purity, and the covenant
  - b. Oneness, flesh, and blood
  - c. Flesh, blood, and fullness of life
  
3. \_\_\_\_ : What are the spiritual effects when we partake of the Holy Communion?
  - a. We will be raised on the last day.
  - b. We will have Jesus abide in us.
  - c. All of the above.
  
4. What is the purpose of having the Sacrament of Footwashing?
  
5. What can we learn from Footwashing? Name three teachings.
  
6. Why is it so important for us to study God's word regularly?

# LESSON 10

## JESUS' PRAYER IN THE GARDEN OF GETHSEMANE



### OBJECTIVES

1. To understand that Jesus prayed for God's will, not His own.
2. To turn to God in times of trouble or weakness.
3. To learn to pray when you need to make a decision.

### MEMORY VERSE

"The Lord is my strength and my shield; my heart trusted in Him, and I am helped."

(Psalm 28:7a)

### PRAYER

1. Thank God for guiding us throughout the week and gathering us here to worship Him.
2. Remember that Jesus suffered for us in this world and that He prayed to God and obeyed His will.
3. Ask God to give us the strength to do the right thing, even though sometimes we may not want to, by following the example of Jesus.



### Overview

#### 1. Jesus prayed in the garden of Gethsemane

- a. "Father, if it is Your will, take this cup away from Me..."
- b. "...nevertheless not My will, but Yours, be done."

#### 2. The disciples could not keep watch and instead fell asleep

#### 3. An angel came to strengthen Jesus

#### 4. Linking to the Ten Basic Beliefs—The promised Holy Spirit

#### 5. Life Application—The importance of praying earnestly

#### 6. Activity—Weighed Down



### Background Knowledge for Teachers

Jesus was aware that His time to die for mankind was near. After the last supper, He went with His disciples to the garden of Gethsemane to pray. Jesus' prayer highlights the terrible suffering He knew He was about to endure for the sins of mankind in bearing our sins on the cross. He not only had to endure the physical agony of being crucified on the cross, but His spirit also had to suffer alienation from God, a far more difficult pain to bear.

When faced with this agonizing task, Jesus was exceedingly sorrowful and afraid. He prayed so earnestly that His sweat became like drops of blood falling to the ground. He prayed to God to take this cup away from Him, but He further prayed not for His will but God's will to be done. After rising from prayer, He forged ahead to complete the mission for which He had come.

**Gethsemane** means "an oil press." The garden of Gethsemane was a garden east of Jerusalem beyond the Kidron valley and near the Mount of Olives (Jn 18:1). An olive grove was in that place, and in a field covered with olive trees, oil presses were used to extract oil from the fruit, hence, "Gethsemane."

The **Mount of Olives** was a mountain range directly east of Jerusalem, running north to south. In Jesus' time, it was rich in olives, but later was stripped bare of trees. The tallest mountain rose to about 2,700 feet (820 m), providing an impressive view of the city and the magnificent temple.

After His prayer, Jesus had the courage and strength to drink the cup that God had prepared for Him. He willingly allowed Himself to be arrested, even though He could have asked for God to send angels to protect Him. For the salvation of mankind, Jesus offered Himself as a sacrifice and died for us on the cross.



## Reaching Out to Your Students

Your students have probably experienced emotions such as fear, loneliness, sadness, or worry before. They may also have felt happiness, excitement, or love. Through this lesson, encourage the students to bring their feelings and emotions into their prayers, and to lay their life before God and ask for His guidance, especially during difficult times. It is important for our students to know that sometimes it may be difficult to do what God wants us to do, because it would mean giving up our own desires and obeying God's will. However, with God, all things are possible when we have faith.



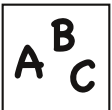
## Opener

*5 Minutes*

### Activity: What did you do when you were...?

1. Write down the following emotions on separate sheets of paper. Make one sheet for each student and yourself.  
Emotions: confused, lonely, scared, lost, angry, sad, worried, disappointed
2. With the blank side up, give one sheet to each of the students. Ask them to turn the sheet over and take a minute or two to think of a time they have felt the emotion written on their sheet of paper. Then, have them answer the following questions, either individually, in pairs, or as a whole group:
  - What made you feel this way? What happened?
  - Describe your feelings at that time.
  - What did you do when you felt that way?
  - How did you recover from that emotion?

Sometimes in life we will encounter difficulties that can make us scared, confused, lost, or sad, and we may struggle very hard to overcome these difficulties. However, there are many challenges in life that we will not be able to overcome on our own, or even with the help of our friends and family. Still, we should not forget that when we encounter these troubles, we can tell God about them. He will listen to our prayer and give us the strength to overcome any difficulty.



## Vocabulary

- Abba:** Aramaic word for "father." The word conveyed a sense of intimacy and familiarity, and was a common way for young Jewish children to address their fathers. The Jews would consider it an inappropriate way to address God in prayer.
- cup:** the cup here refers to the suffering Jesus was going to face: He was going to be taken away, put on trial, beaten, and put to death. This cup was the great task of accomplishing the salvation prepared by God.
- legion:** a regiment of Roman soldiers, though the number of men composing a legion varied throughout Roman history. It originally consisted of three thousand men, but in the time of Christ, it consisted of six thousand, exclusive of horsemen, who were in number a tenth of the foot-men. The word is used simply to express a great multitude (Mt 26:53; Mk 5:9).



## Bible Discovery & Spiritual Teaching

30-35 Minutes

### FOR TEACHERS

Hand out the Prayer Questionnaire to the students before starting. Ask them to fill it out, as this lesson is about Jesus' prayer in the garden of Gethsemane.

After the students have finished the questionnaire, hand out the Bible Discovery worksheet. The students will fill it out as you go over the lesson. Keep one for yourself as reference. The answers have been underlined in the following text. At the underlined words, make sure the students fill in the blanks before moving on.

Today we are going to study the prayer Jesus made before He suffered for us on the cross.

### Prayer in Times of Trouble

Prayer is the way we talk to God, like a spiritual telephone call. Because of this, we know that prayer is incredibly important. Through prayer, we can talk to God about anything. In our daily lives, we normally pray before we eat, just before bedtime, or at church and in RE class. This might seem like a lot of praying, but in reality, it's not nearly enough.

Jesus also prayed when He was in this world. In fact, He prayed a lot. Jesus prayed at night, early in the morning, in front of big groups, with His disciples, and even left everyone to go and pray on His own.

The Bible also tells us that Jesus prayed on the night before His death on the cross. That night, Jesus and His disciples were in Jerusalem observing the Passover. After sharing their meal, they walked up the Mount of Olives to a place called Gethsemane. Jesus often went there to be alone with God, and on this particular night, He went to pray one more time.

Let's turn to Matthew 26:36-39.

Here the Bible tells us that Jesus took His disciples with Him to Gethsemane and told them to sit and wait for Him while He went to pray. He took Peter, James, and John a little further. Let's read verses 37-38 together. Here, the Bible tells us that Jesus was very, very sorrowful. **Why was Jesus so sorrowful and distressed?** [Wait for responses.] Jesus was exceedingly sorrowful because He knew that it was time for Him to die on the cross for the sins of mankind. Why did Jesus have to suffer death on the cross? [Wait for the students to answer.]

Jesus died on the cross not because of mistakes He made, but because of our sins. Jesus loved us. In order to save us from death, He bore our sins and suffered on the cross for us. When He was in the garden, Jesus must have felt deeply afraid, knowing the pain He was about to suffer.

When Jesus felt upset and afraid, the first thing He did was turn to God. What do you do when you feel sad? [Allow students to respond.] Sometimes when we feel sad or upset, we may feel that no one can help us or cheer us up. However, we should never forget that God is always with us. All we need to do is to bring our troubles in prayer the same way Jesus did, and God will listen and understand.

### Following God's Will, Not Our Own

Let's continue to read verse 39 together.

When Jesus was in a time of distress and sorrow, He prayed for God to take away this "cup" from Him. This "cup" refers to the suffering that He was about to experience. Jesus did not look forward to His death on the cross and would rather not have to go through it. However, He continued to pray, "Nevertheless, not as I will, but as You will." Even though Jesus preferred not to suffer death on the cross, He was willing to honor God and obey His will. Jesus was willing to lay aside His own opinion and do whatever God wanted Him to do. This is how much Jesus loved God and us.

### FOR TEACHERS

This is an important concept. Sometimes, we will encounter situations where we know what we are supposed to do, but it may not be what we want to do.

Give the students an example. It is Friday night and time for church, but your best friend has asked you to a birthday party. What do you want to do? What is the right thing to do?

We need to learn from Jesus to put aside our own desires and do what God wants us to do!

### Be Watchful and Pray

Let's continue to read Matthew 26:40-45.

Jesus took His three closest disciples with Him to pray. He wanted so much for them to keep watch with Him; however, when Jesus returned to them from His prayer, He found that they had fallen asleep. Jesus woke them up and said, "What! Could you not watch with Me one hour? Watch and pray, lest you enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak."

Three times Jesus prayed, and three times He found the disciples asleep. Jesus knew that the disciples wanted to pray with Him, but their bodies were weak. However, if we cannot be watchful and pray, we will fall into temptation easily and sin against God. We will not have the strength to face the difficulties ahead of us.







## Check for Understanding

5 Minutes

1. **Where did Jesus take His disciples to pray the night before He was crucified on the cross?** The garden of Gethsemane.
2. **Why was Jesus sorrowful?** Jesus knew that He would soon take upon Himself the sins of the world. He knew that He was going to suffer pain, death, both physically and spiritually, and alienation from God.
3. **How many times did Jesus pray?** Three times.
4. **What did Jesus pray for and what can we learn from His prayer?** Jesus prayed for the Father to remove the cup from Him, but He also prayed for God's will to be done. Sometimes, we may want God to help us according to our ways, but we need to learn from Jesus and be willing to obey God's will.
5. **What could Jesus have done to those who came to take Him away?** He could have asked God to send more than twelve legions of angels to protect Him. He didn't, however, because He knew it was not God's will, and He had received the strength to follow what God wanted Him to do.
6. **Fill In the Blanks:** “\_\_\_ and pray, lest you enter into \_\_\_. The \_\_\_ indeed is willing, but the \_\_\_ is \_\_\_” (Mt 26:41).  
Watch, temptation, spirit, flesh, weak



## Life Application

10 Minutes

[Hand out the Life Application worksheet and ask the students to read the case study silently to themselves. When they are done, they can answer the questions about what to do. After all the students have finished, invite some to share their answers, then read the conclusion on the left.

Afterwards, ask the students to read the testimony and answer the questions that follow.]

### Case Study: Turn to God, or Rely on Yourself?

Alana is a 6th grade student in school. She has always achieved good grades in class and is well liked by everyone. One day, she was working on her big science project. It was a difficult project and it took Alana an entire month to compile all the data. As the project was due in two days, Alana was anxious to get it completed. After working on it for hours, she took a break and went out of her room. As she returned, she realized that she had accidentally knocked a glass of water over her laptop, causing the laptop to completely stop working. She could no longer access any of her work. Later, Alana's brother told her that he did the same project two years ago and that she could just copy it. Alana was not sure about this idea, so she turned to you for advice.

**What would you do if you were Alana?**

**What advice would you give Alana?**

**Suggested answer:** In the worst case scenario, if the laptop cannot be revived, Alana should still be honest and not copy someone else's work and call it her own. She may need to ask the teacher for an extension, which might create a lot of stress for her, but we need to remember that God wants us to make the right choice: to be honest and good Christians.

### Conclusion

This actually happened to a sister before. One Sabbath morning, this sister was working very hard on a church project and accidentally spilled her tea over her laptop. The laptop stopped working, and she was unsure of what to do. She knelt down and prayed to God for help.

After her prayer, her heart was very peaceful. She was still not sure if the laptop would work again, but she had the peace of God in her heart. She went to church to attend service and forgot all about it. On Sunday morning when she woke up, she turned on the laptop, and miraculously, the laptop started to work again! The sister did not lose her work after all! She was very thankful and from this, she knew that God truly takes care of His children.



## Activity

### Weighed Down

10-15 Minutes

**Objective:** To emphasize that when we feel overwhelmed by struggles, we can pray to God and He will help us.

#### Materials

- Heavy books

#### Instructions

1. Ask the class to form a circle and ask a volunteer to stand next to you in the middle of the circle.
2. Tell the class the different reasons why Jesus was sad in the garden of Gethsemane. For example, His friends fell asleep when He asked them to pray, He knew He was going to be arrested, and Judas was about to betray Him.
3. As you describe each reason, give the volunteer a heavy book to hold, illustrating how Jesus was literally weighed down by sadness. Explain how God sent an angel to strengthen Jesus, and take the books from the volunteer's arms.
4. Do the exercise again, except when you give the books to the volunteer, describe struggles that children face, such as "a friend laughs at you" or "your sibling is mean to you." Tell them that Jesus knows what it's like to be sad and that He can send help.
5. Ask the volunteer to return to his/her seat.
6. Tell them that God likes to listen to our prayers, just as we like talking to our close friends.
7. Ask the students to find a time that suits everyone in the evening and set it as the class prayer time. The students and teachers are to pray together at the designated time every evening for ten minutes.

#### Homework Answer Key

1. Jesus prayed for the Father to remove the cup from Him, but He further prayed for God's will to be done.
2. Sometimes, we may want God to help us according to our ways, but we need to learn from Jesus and be willing to obey God's will. Additionally, God will give us the strength to follow His will.
3. cup, My, Yours
4. angel
5. blood
6. sleeping
7. temptation



### Jesus' Prayer in the Garden of Gethsemane

**Read Matthew 26:37-38.**

Jesus took Peter, James, and John to the garden of Gethsemane.

Why was Jesus sorrowful and distressed? \_\_\_\_\_

**Read verse 39.** Jesus prayed to God to take away "this cup" from Him. What is the "cup" referring to?

The cup referred to the \_\_\_\_\_ that He was about to \_\_\_\_\_.

**Read verses 40-45.** After Jesus woke them up, what did He say?

"Could you not watch with Me one hour? \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_, lest you enter into \_\_\_\_\_.

The spirit indeed is \_\_\_\_\_, but the flesh is \_\_\_\_\_."

**Read Luke 22:43-44.**

Here, an \_\_\_\_\_ appeared to Him from heaven, \_\_\_\_\_ Him. Then, Jesus prayed so earnestly that His \_\_\_\_\_ became great drops of \_\_\_\_\_ falling down to the ground.

### The Garden of Gethsemane

**Instructions:** Find the words below in the word search.

- |                 |        |            |
|-----------------|--------|------------|
| AGONY           | ANGEL  | BETRAY     |
| BLOOD           | CUP    | DISCIPLES  |
| EAR             | FATHER | HEALED     |
| JESUS           | JUDAS  | KISS       |
| KNELT           | WILL   | TEMPTATION |
| MOUNT OF OLIVES | PRAY   | SLEEPING   |
| SWEAT           | SWORD  | YOURS      |



### Case Study: Turn to God, or Rely on Yourself?

Alana is a 6th grade student in school. She has always achieved good grades in class and is well liked by everyone. One day, she was working on her big science project. It was a difficult project and it took Alana an entire month to compile all the data. As the project was due in two days, Alana was anxious to get it completed. After working on it for hours, she took a break and went out of her room. As she returned, she realized that she had accidentally knocked a glass of water over her laptop, causing the laptop to completely stop working. She could no longer access any of her work.

**What would you do if you were Alana?**

Later, Alana's brother told her that he did the same project two years ago and that she could just copy it. Alana was not sure about this idea, so she turned to you for advice.

**What advice would you give Alana?**

### Testimony

Below is a testimony from a sister in Australia. She learned from her mother that through prayer, God will give us strength to face difficulties in life and that His grace always surpasses our understanding!

*Every time my mother sees me playing the piano, she always reminds me of how I am so blessed that I still have my hearing today.*

*When I was a 6-month-old baby, my intestines were infected by bacteria called pseudomonas, which was a very aggressive type of bacteria that had taken the life of many young children back in the 1970s. My father, who was a pediatrician, had treated children with this type of infection in the hospital before. After he realized that his own daughter was suffering from the same infection, he told my mother to prepare herself for the worst; it was very unlikely that a six-month-old baby would be able to survive this type of infection. Even if she did survive, due to the side effects of the antibiotics used, she would most likely become deaf.*

*My mother was very upset when she heard the news, and it was also very difficult for her to watch her little baby having intravenous drips and needles injected into her little arms and legs every day, but my parents kept on praying for me. My mother also called her parents and the church to intercede for me. My mother had to look after my older brother and me by herself during the day, and my father had to go to work in the morning and come home to a sick baby. They took turns to stay by my side at all times, as they were scared that my condition could worsen at any time and that my life would slip away. My mother later recounted that she could not remember how they managed to survive those sleepless nights, or how my brother—who was only 4 years old then—was so understanding. He never cried or complained, and once even ate plain rice from the rice cooker when he was hungry, because he didn't want to disturb our parents! My mother knew that it was God who helped them through this time of trial, and that despite my illness, God protected and preserved the family. It was also through the prayers of many brothers and sisters that our family was able to walk through this difficult time. My mother told me she knew that her only hope was in God, and that only God could help her little baby.*



*God is truly a God who listens to prayers. A month passed and my condition gradually got better. At this time, my mother started to worry about my hearing. She thanked God that I had survived the infection, but she prepared herself to raise a deaf daughter. She would often call out to me from behind to see if I would respond. It wasn't until I started to learn to speak that she realized that my hearing was still intact!*

*As I grew up, my mother always reminded me that my life and my hearing were special gifts given by God, and that I should not forget to use my life to serve Him. I really thank God for giving me the opportunity to grow up healthy. I also really thank my parents for raising me up in the Lord, and I hope I can remember the grace of God all the days of my life. May the glory and praise be unto Him forever. Amen.*

Try to imagine the many emotions this sister's parents must have felt at the time. What kinds of prayers do you think they made? What would you do if you were going through something like this? Many times in our lives, we will encounter challenges that seem too big to overcome, or encounter situations where we feel upset or alone. It is in these times that we should learn to rely even more on God. If we place our burdens before Him, God will always listen to our prayers and give us the strength to face challenges that come our way.

There are also times when we feel like our prayers aren't being heard, and we subsequently complain to God. But we should first examine ourselves:

- **How earnest was my prayer to God?**
- **How persistent was my prayer?**

In the Bible, it teaches us that we should pray without ceasing (1 Th 5:17). To pray without ceasing means to pray constantly. Additionally, Ephesians 6:18 (NIV) warns us to "stay alert and be persistent in your prayers."

### **What does it mean to be persistent in our prayers?**

To be persistent in prayer means to pray over and over again. Being persistent really helps us to focus our attention. When we pray for a prayer request repeatedly, we are not praying to remind God. He doesn't need to be reminded. It's to remind ourselves who's the source of our answers and the source of our needs. Persistent prayer keeps us **focused** on God!

### **What is the benefit of persistent prayer?**

Imagine that every time you prayed, you instantly got results. If that happened, each time you prayed, you would only think about the blessing. God wants us to think about the One who gives blessings, who is God Himself. God wants us to focus on Him. Therefore, sometimes, He holds back the answer to force us to focus on Him because He is the source of all our needs.

Since God is the source of all our needs, we should be asking Him to help us with our needs, not looking to other people to meet our needs. We look to our families and our friends to make us feel good. Meanwhile, God is saying, "Why aren't you looking to Me?"

Never give up in prayer!

E2 Year 1 Book 1 Lesson 10—Jesus' Prayer in the Garden of Gethsemane

# Homework Assignment

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Parent signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Weekly Bible Reading: \_\_\_\_\_

**Bible Reading:** Check each box when you complete that day's reading.

**Prayer:** Check each box after you pray to God that day.

|      | 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. (Psalm 28:7a)

\_\_\_\_\_

1. Jesus prayed very earnestly in the garden of Gethsemane. What was the content of His prayer?
2. What are two things that you have learned from Jesus' prayer?

### Fill In the Blanks: Luke 22:42-46

3. "'Father, if it is Your will, take this \_\_\_\_\_ away from Me; nevertheless not \_\_\_\_\_ will, but \_\_\_\_\_, be done.'"
4. "Then an \_\_\_\_\_ appeared to Him from heaven, strengthening Him."
5. "His sweat became like great drops of \_\_\_\_\_ falling to the ground."
6. "When He rose up from prayer, and had come to His disciples, He found them \_\_\_\_\_ from sorrow."
7. "Then He said to them, 'Why do you sleep? Rise and pray, lest you enter into \_\_\_\_\_.'"

# LESSON 11

## JESUS IS CRUCIFIED

### OBJECTIVES

1. To learn the story of Jesus' death in more detail.
2. To understand that Jesus died for our sins so that we could obtain eternal life.
3. To understand that because Jesus died for our sins, we should live as good Christians.

### MEMORY VERSE

"For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."

(Romans 6:23)

### PRAYER

1. Thank God for bringing us together through His word.
2. Ask God to help us learn about how Jesus sacrificed Himself for us.
3. Ask God to help us learn how we can repay God's love for us.



### Overview

#### 1. Jesus' trials

- Trial before the Sanhedrin
- Pilate finds Jesus innocent

#### 2. Jesus carries the cross to Golgotha

- People scourge and mock Him
- He carries our sins

#### 3. Jesus is crucified

- Miracles occur at His death
- Why Jesus died for us

#### 4. Linking to the Ten Basic Beliefs—Jesus died on the cross to redeem our sins.

#### 5. Life Application—Seven sayings on the cross; the qualities of Jesus

#### 6. Activity—Be a Good Christian



### Background Knowledge for Teachers

It can be said that Jesus' crucifixion is the culminating point of the entire Bible. All thirty-nine books of the Old Testament record events that prepare the way for Jesus' coming, His offering of blood, and ultimately, His sacrifice for the atonement of our sins. Isaiah chapter 53 prophesies extensively of the coming and the death of the Messiah, and Jesus proves every word to be true. We repeatedly remind ourselves of His crucifixion, because it is His death that gives us the hope to live. The Holy Spirit testifies to this remarkable event, and in itself is additional evidence that our hope is true.

Jesus suffered through six trials: three before the Jewish authorities, and three before the Roman authorities. Throughout these trials, the Bible mentions several blatantly illegal actions taken by the Jewish leaders. Jesus was clearly innocent; His accusers resorted to using unlawful procedures in order to convict Him, to the extent of bringing in several false witnesses to support their attempts. In a scene of morbid irony, it was only when Jesus spoke the plain truth that they found a reason to condemn Him (Mt 26:64-66). Yet, despite the obviously fabricated accusations, Jesus offered no defense for Himself, a marvel remarked upon by Pilate (Mt 27:12-14). Following the trials, Pilate could not back down from the demands of the Jews, even when he had confirmed Jesus' innocence himself (Jn 19:6), and the condemnation of a guiltless Man was assured.

Pilate's defense of Jesus is noteworthy. During his time as governor, Pilate came into conflict with the Jews on several occasions, and he probably disliked the Jews as a whole. However, when the problem of Jesus fell into his lap, he found Him innocent, even publicly pronouncing this three times. The Bible notes his insight in accurately judging that the issue was a matter of envy (Mt 27:18; Mk 15:10; Jn 18:35-38). As was customary during Passover, he offered the freedom of one prisoner, hoping that the people would choose Jesus; this would allow him to make a political compromise and not insult the Jewish leaders. However, the Jewish leaders overwhelmed the people by clamoring for Pilate to crucify Him (Jn 19:6), and the moment was lost. Finally, Pilate washed his hands in a symbolic gesture, a vain attempt to free himself of the guilt of condemning an innocent person to death by crucifixion.

The horror of crucifixion was acknowledged even by the Romans themselves. The only people unfortunate enough to experience this punishment were slaves from the various provinces under Roman control. Roman citizens were not permitted to be crucified. It was a painful death reserved for the bottom ranks of their society, and for people who committed only the worst crimes. Jesus—who was indisputably innocent—suffered the most disgraceful, agonizing death that was reserved for the lowliest of criminals. Yet, even in His suffering, Jesus manifested His authority and status by saying, "Into Your hands I commit My spirit." Only when His task was completed did He allow His Spirit to be surrendered. Ultimately, Jesus' suffering and death found meaning in His resurrection, and, in the redemption of our sins, the sole purpose for His life on earth.



## Reaching Out to Your Students

Your students have probably been taught many times about Jesus' sacrifice for us. But at this age, the concept of His crucifixion may still be an abstract, unreal thing to them. Throughout this lesson, try to emphasize the reality of Jesus' suffering, and the ultimate purpose of His sacrifice: to break down the barrier of sin between God and us, and to bring us closer to Him so that we might have the chance of avoiding death from sin. At this age, they are also starting to become aware of their own faith, rather than leaning solely on their parents' faith. Use this opportunity to remind them that they are individuals and that Jesus died for each one of them. Emphasize the importance of their personal relationship with Jesus, and encourage them to develop their own communication with Him.



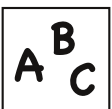
## Opener

5 Minutes

**Materials:** A bag of candy (optional), several chairs

Arrange the chairs so that they form a "barrier" between the students and the bag of candy/yourself. Tell them that whoever gets to the candy can have it (or if you have no candy, simply instruct them to try and get to the other side), but they must abide by one rule: they are not allowed to touch the chairs or go around them.

The purpose of this activity is to demonstrate the untouchable wall of sin that as sinners, we cannot get around no matter how we try. Particularly resourceful students might think to ask the teacher to move the chairs for them, since there is no rule that forbids the teacher from touching the chairs.



## Vocabulary

- false witness:** a person who deliberately gives a false testimony
- condemn/convict:** to pronounce guilty
- scourge:** to punish severely, usually with a special whip
- Sanhedrin:** the leaders of the Jewish community
- riot:** a disorderly public protest that involves violence and noise
- mock:** to make fun of or ridicule; to look down on



## Bible Discovery & Spiritual Teaching

30-35 Minutes

### FOR TEACHERS

Distribute the Bible Discovery Worksheet to the students now. The students will be filling it out during the lesson. Keep one copy for yourself. The answers to have been underlined in this section. Allow time for students to answer the questions before moving on.

Just now, we discovered that there was no practical way of getting to the other side of the "wall" without external help. In the same way, sin was an untouchable barrier that existed between God and His people. Today, we're going to study the solution that God offered: Jesus, His only Son. Jesus had to suffer both physically and spiritually, and eventually die on the cross. But the reason He went through all of that was to remove the wall that existed between God and us. As we go through the story of Jesus' crucifixion, try to remember that everything He went through was all for our sakes.

### Jesus is put on trial before the Jewish and Roman authorities.

After Judas' betrayal in the garden of Gethsemane, Jesus had to suffer through six trials, all of them humiliating and unjustified. Let's briefly go through His trials before the Jewish council and before Pilate, first turning to **Matthew 26:59-68**.

Jesus' silence frustrated all the members of the Sanhedrin, but while witness after witness testified against Him, they couldn't find anything wrong with what Jesus had said or done. In the end, it was not the false witnesses who managed to give the high priest something to convict Him with. It was actually Jesus Himself who did! Let's go back to the passage again and focus on **verses 62-65**. Since Jesus was innocent, they couldn't find any fault in Him until He spoke the truth to the unbelievers. After He spoke, they finally found something to say against Him and quickly accused Him of blasphemy.

After beating Him and mocking Him, the Jewish authorities sent Jesus to Pilate. Previously, Jesus faced the Sanhedrin, who was eager to condemn Him, but now He faced a Gentile who saw Him as guiltless and undeserving of crucifixion. Pilate did not find Jesus guilty. Let's read what happened when Jesus faced the Roman authorities in **Matthew 27:11-14**. The passage records that Pilate "marveled greatly" at Jesus' silence and refusal to defend Himself before His accusers. Normally, a person facing crucifixion would try to defend himself, but Jesus said nothing in His own defense.

Let's read on to **verses 15-18**. Accustomed to releasing a prisoner to the people during Passover, Pilate took this chance to try to free Jesus, who he believed was innocent. But let's read **verse 20** to see what the response was. The

priests and elders "persuaded the multitudes" against releasing Jesus, so they asked for the release of a murderer instead of Jesus (v.21-26).

We can see that throughout these trials, despite all the accusations from the Jewish council and the repeated calls for His crucifixion, Jesus remained innocent. Even Pilate told them three times that he considered Jesus innocent! Despite this, though, he was forced to send Jesus to be crucified because he was scared that the Jews would riot if he didn't. So with these few words, "I am innocent of the blood of this just Person. You see to it," Jesus, an innocent Man, was condemned to death.

### Jesus carries the cross to Golgotha.

Before being crucified, Jesus was not only beaten by the Jews after His trial before the Sanhedrin, but He was also scourged after His trial before Pilate. Scourging was a lot more painful than a simple whipping, and was considered a life-threatening punishment. When scourging, the Romans would use a whip that had numerous strips of leather instead of just one. Not only that, attached to the end of each strip was a piece of bone or metal that would rip through the person's skin. Can you imagine how much it must have hurt to be whipped with that?

After scourging Jesus, the soldiers twisted a bunch of thorns into a crown and put it on His head, and then draped Him in purple, mocking the kingly status that Jesus claimed, as purple was a color reserved only for nobility and rulers. It is difficult to imagine how painful this must have been, but Jesus suffered through this intense pain and humiliation even before being crucified.

After all of this, they forced Jesus to carry His own cross while walking to Golgotha, the site of His eventual crucifixion. Can you imagine having been recently scourged, and then forced to carry this heavy piece of wood along a long road to the place where you're sentenced to die? Perhaps in this situation a criminal would have regretted his actions as he carried his burden, but remember that Jesus was totally innocent; He had done nothing that deserved such a punishment. It was only because of our sins that He continued onwards.

### Jesus is crucified.

Crucifixion still remains one of the most painful criminal punishments to have ever existed. It was particularly cruel because a person could have potentially hung on the cross in severe pain for days before dying. Sometimes, the executioners would use rope to tie the person to the cross, but if the executioners wanted the person to die faster, they would use nails instead. When hanging on the cross, not only would the person have experienced a lot of pain from the nails, they would also have difficulty breathing



and experience extreme thirst. Jesus suffered an excruciating death. Let's read **Matthew 27:45-54** to understand why He had to go through this.

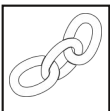
**FOR TEACHERS**

If your students are unclear on what crucifixion entails, you can draw an illustration to show the students. The overall lesson aim, though, is not to simply emphasize the pain that Jesus went through, but also to stress the purpose of His death.

What were some of the miracles that occurred in this passage? (The sun darkened, the veil of the temple was torn, the earth shook, and people were resurrected.) These are all very significant, but the miracle that is of particular importance to us is the tearing of the temple veil. Do you know what this veil is? The temple veil was a special cloth that was hung to separate the Holy of Holies from the rest of the temple. Physically, it hid the tabernacle from sight.

Spiritually, it hid God from the sight of the people. If the Jewish people wanted to talk to God, they had to go through the high priest, the only person permitted to enter the Holy of Holies. The veil represented the barrier between God and men, and kept men from being able to obtain eternal life.

Jesus refused to defend Himself and willingly walked to His death because He knew that unless He died, men would never be able to obtain eternal life. People mocked Him and said that if He was Christ, then He should save Himself and come down from the cross. He certainly had the power to do so, but because He loved us, He remained on the cross until He died. Because Jesus died for us, the wall of sin between God and us no longer exists, and we now have the chance to obtain eternal life. In the end, Jesus' humiliation and suffering ended with Him victoriously offering every one of us a chance to live with Him in heaven.



## Linking to the Ten Basic Beliefs

*2-5 Minutes*

**Jesus Christ, the Word who became flesh, died on the cross for the redemption of sinners.**

God is perfect and pure. Man, on the other hand, is born in sin. Sin acts as a wall between God and us, meaning that after we die, we cannot live in heaven. Do you remember how the Jews got rid of sin in the Old Testament? (They offered animal sacrifices.) In order to get rid of sin, blood had to be shed. Even the high priest had to make an offering before entering the Holy of Holies. These animals had to be sacrificed again and again, every year. This is because animal sacrifices weren't enough to get rid of man's sin. So, God's solution was to offer Jesus. Through His blood, we are now cleansed of our sins, and can have the hope of obtaining eternal life, a hope that was only made possible by His death on the cross.



## Check for Understanding

*5 Minutes*

- Briefly explain what happened in Jesus' trial before the Sanhedrin.** The council tried to accuse Jesus of wrongdoing, and brought in several false witnesses to help them. However, they could not find any fault in Him. It wasn't until Jesus spoke that they could convict Him and send Him to Pilate.
- What did Jesus do that made Pilate marvel greatly? Why?** He remained silent. Normally, people would try to defend themselves to avoid being crucified, but Jesus didn't say a word against His accusers.
- What made scourging so painful?** Scourging involved using a special whip that had several strips of leather with pieces of bone or metal attached to the ends. It was a life-threatening punishment.
- What did the soldiers do to Jesus after He was scourged? Why did they do these things?** They twisted a crown of thorns to place on His head and draped a purple robe on Him. They were mocking the kingly status that Jesus claimed.
- Where was Jesus crucified?** He was crucified at a place called Golgotha.
- What miracles occurred when Jesus died?** The sun darkened, the earth shook, the temple veil tore in two, and the dead resurrected.
- Which miracle is important to us? What did it represent?** The tearing of the temple veil; it represented the removal of the barrier of sin between God and men.



## Life Application

10 Minutes

**Objective:** To learn the various qualities that Jesus exhibited while He was on the cross, and to learn how to bring these same qualities into our lives.

[Have the students spend some time filling out Life Application Worksheet #1. After they have completed it, go through the answers. Then hand out Life Application Worksheet #2 and answer the discussion questions, which are a follow-up to Worksheet #1. Once you have finished the discussion, ask students to fill out Life Application Worksheet #2.]

### 1. The Seven Sayings

1. **Matthew 27:45-46** "*Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani?*" ("*My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?*")  
Jesus was crying out to God because He was bearing all of our sins and was experiencing the darkness and pain of being separated completely from God.
2. **Luke 23:32-34** "*Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they do.*"  
Jesus was interceding for the soldiers who crucified Him and put up His cross, because He knew they were acting in ignorance.
3. **Luke 23:39-43** "*Assuredly, I say to you, today you will be with Me in Paradise.*"  
Jesus was crucified with two criminals. The first mocked Jesus and His power, but the second rebuked him, saying that while they were criminals, Jesus had done nothing wrong. He then asked Jesus to remember him after He went up to heaven.
4. **John 19:25-27** "*Woman, behold your son!*" / "*Behold your mother!*"  
Jesus saw His mother standing nearby and, out of love for her, placed her in the care of His disciple John.
5. **John 19:28-29** "*I thirst!*"  
Jesus had been on the cross for so long that He experienced extreme thirst. So some people filled a sponge with sour wine to give it to Him.
6. **Luke 23:45-46** "*Father, into Your hands I commit My spirit.*"  
Jesus, knowing the time had come, willingly gave up His Spirit and took all of our sins with Him.
7. **John 19:30** "*It is finished!*"  
Jesus had finally accomplished everything that He had come to earth to do. His life's work was finally complete, and men could now receive eternal life through His blood.

### 2. The Qualities of Jesus

#### Discussion Questions

1. What qualities of Jesus do these sayings portray? (*Answers may vary.*) *He: was submissive to God's will; was compassionate; yearned for God; interceded for persecutors; showed filial piety; endured while performing God's will; and loved.*
2. Do we exhibit any of these qualities in our lives? If we don't, how can we?
3. What are some ways we can repay Jesus' love in our daily lives?

Despite His own innocence, Jesus suffered for our sins so that we didn't have to. However, Jesus didn't have to go through so much pain; He could have called down a legion of angels at any time to save Him (Mt 26:53). But He obeyed God's will, even to the point of extreme pain and death (Phil 2:8). If we disobey God, we are only showing that we don't care that Jesus sacrificed so much for us. We should always remember Jesus' incredible act of love every day and work hard at being better Christians to show our thankfulness to God.



## Activity

### Be a Good Christian

10-15 Minutes

**Objective:** To remind students that Jesus' death tore open the veil, so they need to strive to be good Christians.

#### Materials

- White construction paper
- Markers
- Scissors
- Glue

#### Instructions

1. Take two pieces of construction paper and put them in landscape orientation.
2. On one of them, draw either a temple veil (something that resembles a window curtain) or a wall.
2. On the veil/wall, write down some bad choices you have made in your life, or some sins that you have committed, such as hiding things from your parents or not obeying them.
3. Fold the short sides of the construction paper backward (away from you) about one inch in, and keep those parts folded.
4. Still in landscape orientation, cut the paper in half vertically to make shutters for a window. These shutters will be glued to the second piece of construction paper to complete the window effect.
5. Glue the folded sections along the short edges of the second piece of construction paper (also in landscape form), lining them up so that the edges align. Now you should have a "window" that opens up to show the second piece of construction paper.
4. Open your wall/veil and, on the second piece of construction paper, draw a cross on a hill. Color it if you wish.
5. Below the picture, write down the memory verse. In the blank space around the cross, write down some Christian qualities that we discussed that you think you should improve on.

#### HOMEWORK ANSWER KEY

1. They offered animal sacrifices. These sacrifices had to be repeated yearly because they couldn't completely remove sin.
2. He sent Jesus to be sacrificed instead.
3. The sun darkened, the earth shook, the temple veil tore in two, and the dead resurrected.
4. The tearing of the temple veil is important to us. It represented the removal of the barrier of sin between God and men.
5. False; Jesus did not speak out against His accusers when they were falsely accusing Him.
6. True
7. True
8. False; Jesus' death was required to open up our path to eternal life.

#### BIBLE DISCOVERY WORKSHEET ANSWER KEY

##### **Jesus is put on trial before the Jewish and Roman authorities.**

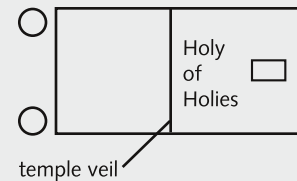
1. false witnesses, innocent
2. No.
3. Jesus' silence and refusal to defend Himself.

##### **Jesus carries the cross to Golgotha.**

1. beaten, scourged
2. They twisted a bunch of thorns into a crown to place on His head and draped a purple robe on Him.
3. carry, Golgotha

##### **Jesus is crucified.**

1. The tearing of the temple veil
2. See diagram.
3. eternal life



### Jesus Is Crucified

**Jesus is put on trial before the Jewish and Roman authorities.**

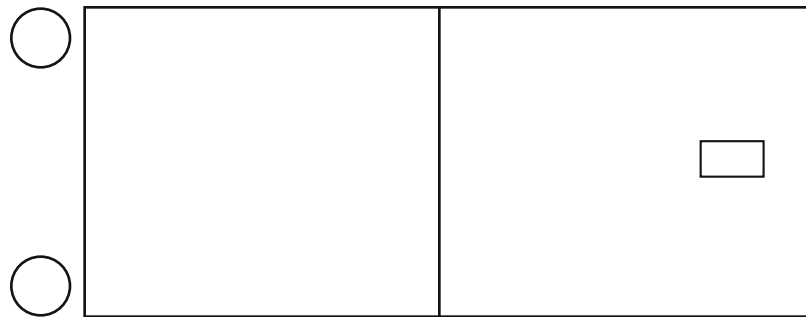
1. While Jesus was standing before the Sanhedrin, the Jewish leaders brought several \_\_\_\_\_ forward to try and convict Him. However, Jesus was \_\_\_\_\_, and could not be convicted until He Himself spoke, saying, "It is as you said. Nevertheless, I say to you, hereafter you will see the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of the Power, and coming on the clouds of heaven" (Mt 26:64).
2. Did Pilate find Jesus guilty?
3. What did Pilate marvel at?

**Jesus carries the cross to Golgotha.**

1. Before being crucified, Jesus was \_\_\_\_\_ after His trial before the Sanhedrin, and \_\_\_\_\_ after His trial before Pilate.
2. What did the soldiers do to Jesus afterwards?
3. Jesus had to \_\_\_\_\_ His cross to \_\_\_\_\_.

**Jesus is crucified.**

1. Of the miracles that occurred at the time of Jesus' death, which one is particularly important for us?
2. In the diagram of the temple below, label the Holy of Holies and the veil.



3. Jesus allowed Himself to be nailed to the cross because He knew that without His sacrifice, men would not be able to communicate with God. Now, because of His death, we can obtain \_\_\_\_\_.

## The Seven Sayings

**Did you know?** When Jesus was still suffering on the cross, He spoke what we call today "the seven sayings." Using the reference verses below, find them and write them down, and then give a brief summary of the situation. An example has been given to help you get started.

| Verse            | What Jesus Said   | The Situation   |
|------------------|---|---|
| Matthew 27:45-46 | "Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani?" ("My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?") | Jesus was crying out to God because He was bearing all of our sins and was experiencing the darkness and pain of being separated completely from God. |
| Luke 23:32-34    |   |   |
| Luke 23:39-43    |   |   |
| John 19:25-27    |   |   |
| John 19:28-29    |   |   |
| Luke 23:45-46    |   |   |
| John 19:30       |   |   |



### The Qualities of Jesus

From the qualities we discussed just now, pick out three qualities you want to improve on and write them in the left column. In the right column, write how you plan on improving those qualities. In other words, write down your action plan for improving yourself as a Christian.

Jesus:

- was submissive to God's will
- was compassionate
- yearned for God
- interceded for persecutors
- showed filial piety
- endured while performing God's will
- loved

| Quality | Action Plan (How I will improve on this quality) |
|---------|--|
|         |  |
|         |  |
|         |  |

E2 Year 1 Book 1 Lesson 11—Jesus Is Crucified

# Homework Assignment

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Parent signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Weekly Bible Reading: \_\_\_\_\_

**Bible Reading:** Check each box when you complete that day's reading.

**Prayer:** Check each box after you pray to God that day.

|      | 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. **(Romans 6:23)**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## Short Answer

1. In the Old Testament, what did the Jews have to do to remove their sins? What was wrong with this method?
2. What was God's solution to the above problem?
3. What miracles occurred when Jesus died?
4. Which miracle is important to us? What did it represent?

## True or False

5. Jesus defended Himself to the very end. \_\_\_\_\_
6. Jesus was completely innocent, and had no sins to be charged guilty of. \_\_\_\_\_
7. In order to remove sin, blood has to be shed. \_\_\_\_\_
8. Even before Jesus' death, we already had the chance of obtaining eternal life. \_\_\_\_\_

# LESSON 12

## JESUS IS RISEN AND HE IS WITH US



### OBJECTIVES

1. To understand that if Jesus had not been raised from the dead, our faith would be empty.
2. To understand the power of God and that He is able to do all things if we have faith in Him.
3. To live a life worthy of the promised salvation.

### MEMORY VERSE

“Having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, He poured out this which you now see and hear.”

(Acts 2:33b)

### PRAYER

1. Thank God for gathering us here so that we can worship and learn more about His word.
2. May God help us follow His teachings so that He will bless us.
3. Jesus, please be among us today as we learn about Your word.
4. May God help us focus on this lesson and apply its teachings to our lives.



### Overview

#### 1. The Tomb of Jesus

- Jesus had resurrected.
- The angels explained what happened.

#### 2. The Road to Emmaus

- Jesus appeared to the two men.
- Jesus explained the Scriptures to the men.

#### 3. Linking to the Ten Basic Beliefs

- Jesus is the One True God
- The Second Coming of Christ

#### 4. Life Application—The Power of God

#### 5. Activity—Jesus Is with Us!



### Background Knowledge for Teachers

The two disciples returning to Emmaus didn't recognize Jesus when He was walking beside them. They were too upset and disappointed because they were counting on Jesus to redeem Israel, to save them from its enemies. They didn't realize that the Messiah had to come to save the people from slavery and sin. They simply couldn't understand that Jesus' death offered them the greatest hope. After they explained their sadness and confusion, Jesus responded by referring to the Scriptures and applying it to their needs.

This lesson may bring up questions about Easter, which celebrates the resurrection of Christ. While the students will learn of the significance of Jesus' resurrection in this lesson, it is something we do not celebrate. Jesus wants us to remember His death, not His birth nor His resurrection. All are important, but if the Bible does not instruct us to celebrate or participate in something, then we shall not.



## Reaching Out to Your Students

At this age, your students may challenge the truth of what they hear. When a student asserts that something happened or repeats an idea he heard, his peers are likely to say, "Oh, yeah? Prove it." Since students want proof at this age, today's Bible story will hit a responsive chord in them. The students' acceptance of the truth usually hinges on the credibility of the source, on the belief that the person who is speaking is trustworthy. Ultimately, of course, our faith depends on the reliability of Jesus and God's word. However, students will come to depend on Christ by first trusting in the people who tell them about Him. As a teacher, we ourselves need to first believe in the message we teach. God's word needs to first be active in our lives. We can't fool the students. They can tell when we're teaching something that isn't vital in our own lives. But when God's word is working in our own lives, our students will sense it, and they can more easily believe in Christ and trust in Him as their Lord and Savior.

One of the goals of today's lesson is to help your students gain assurance of their salvation and Jesus' presence as they study the Bible.



## Opener

*5 Minutes*

Before class, scramble the word "mystery" on the whiteboard or a large piece of paper. You can come up with an easy one or use this: "ysyemrt". Then, have your students copy the scrambled letters down into their notebooks or onto a piece of paper. Tell them to look carefully at the letters and try to rearrange them to make a word that means "a baffling problem."

Give your students two or three minutes to unscramble the word. Afterwards, ask if anyone has any guesses or ideas. Then ask, "Have any of you ever solved a mystery?" [Allow for responses.] What made it a mystery? Some students might answer that they didn't have all the facts, the facts didn't make sense, or the facts were vague. In our Bible story, two men are trying to solve a mystery. They have some clues too, but they don't know how to make sense of them.



## Vocabulary

**conquer:** to defeat or bring under control; to overcome

### Homework Answer Key

1. men, lightning
2. risen
3. Romans, sin
4. True
5. True
6. It gives us the hope that one day we can rise from the dead as well. Jesus conquered death so that we can conquer death, too.
7. It is related to our beliefs that Jesus is the one true God and the only Savior of mankind, and that He will return again to judge the world. Jesus Christ came to this world to die for our sins and resurrected on the third day. Jesus is the one and only Savior of mankind, the Creator of heaven and earth, and the only true God.
8. The Lord will give us spiritual bodies just like the body Jesus had after He rose from the dead.

### Activity Answer Key

#### Across

4. spiritual
6. hope
7. risen
8. sin

#### Down

1. Emmaus
2. forty
3. five
5. lightning



## Bible Discovery & Spiritual Teaching

30-35 Minutes

### FOR TEACHERS

Hand out the Bible Discovery worksheet and tell the students that they will be filling it out as you go through the lesson. Answers are underlined throughout this section. Keep one copy for yourself. Pause when you reach the sections with the underlined words. Allow time for students to fill in the answers before moving on.

Let's open our Bibles to Luke 24.

After Jesus died on the cross, His body was brought to the tomb. Very early on the first day of the week, just after sunrise, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome were on their way to the tomb. They had brought spices so that they could put them on Jesus' body. When they arrived at the tomb, they noticed that the extremely heavy stone that sealed Jesus' tomb had been rolled away. They were surprised and wondered what had happened.

While they were thinking about this, two men in clothes that gleamed like lightning suddenly appeared and stood beside them. The women were so scared that they bowed down with their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, "Why do you seek the living among the dead? He is not here, but is risen! Remember how He spoke to you when He was still in Galilee, saying, 'The Son of Man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men, and be crucified, and the third day rise again.'" Then they remembered His words.

How would you react if you saw this happen? How would you feel?

When the women returned from the tomb, they told everything to the eleven apostles and to others. But they did not believe that such a thing could have happened. Peter, however, got up and ran to the tomb. Bending over, he saw the strips of linen lying by themselves, and he went away, wondering to himself what had happened. The strips of linen he saw were pieces of cloth that people used to wrap bodies for burial.

Let's look at Luke 24:13-35. This is our main lesson for today.

Later on that same day, two men were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem. They were talking with each other about the things that had happened earlier that day and about the report from the women. As they talked and discussed these things with each other, Jesus Himself came up to them and walked along with them, but these two men were kept from recognizing Jesus. Jesus asked them, "What were you two

just discussing that made you so sad?"

Why do you think they were sad? They were sad because they thought that Jesus came to the world to free the Jewish people from Roman rule. But that was not Jesus' purpose.

One of them, named Cleopas, asked Him, "Are You only a visitor to Jerusalem and do You not know the things that have happened there in these days?"

"What things?" He asked.

"About Jesus of Nazareth," they replied. "He was a prophet, powerful in word and deed before God and all the people. The chief priests and our rulers handed Him over to be sentenced to death, and they crucified Him; but we had hoped that He was the one who was going to redeem Israel. And what is more, it is the third day since all this took place. In addition, some women that we know amazed us. They went to the tomb early this morning but didn't find His body. They came and told us that they had seen a vision of angels, who said He was alive. Then some of our companions went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but they did not see Jesus' body."

Jesus said to them, "How foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken! Did not the Christ have to suffer these things and then enter into His glory?" And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, Jesus explained to them what was said in all the Scriptures concerning Himself.

These men jumped to the wrong conclusion. God promised to send Christ and told His people what Christ would be like, but these men didn't understand until Jesus explained the Scriptures to them.

Jesus did not come to the world to set them free from the Romans. He came to set them, and us, free from sin. This must have made these two men very excited and happy.

Even though Jesus does not walk among us today, He still guides us when we need to be corrected in our ways and our thoughts. He does so through the Spirit.

As they approached the village, Jesus pretended that He was going to continue along the path by Himself. But the men strongly urged Him to stay with them since it was getting late. So Jesus went in to stay with them.

When He was at the table with them, He took bread, gave thanks, broke it and began to give it to them.

Then, at that moment, the men's eyes were opened and they finally recognized Jesus. Immediately, Jesus disappeared from their sight. They asked each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while He talked



with us on the road and explained the Scriptures to us?"

They got up and returned at once to Jerusalem. There they found the eleven and those with them assembled together and said to them, "It is true! The Lord has risen and has appeared to Simon."

Then the two told everyone what had happened on the way, and how they recognized Jesus after He broke the bread.

In addition to these two men, the women, and Peter, there were many other witnesses who saw Jesus alive after His death. The rest of the disciples saw Him, too. At one point five hundred people saw Him at the same time. And during the forty days between His resurrection and ascension to heaven, the Lord appeared to many of His followers. These are recorded in Acts 1:1-3 and John 20:19-21.

### Conclusion

Why is this important to our faith? Jesus gave us a new and living hope through His resurrection (1 Pet 1:3). Jesus' resurrection opens the way to revive our spirit, which had been dead in sin, and restore it to life (Col 2:12-13). Jesus' resurrection also gives life to our mortal bodies in the last days (Rom 8:11, 23; Jn 6:39-40). Jesus is the firstfruit (first of its kind) of the resurrected, and God, who raised Jesus from the dead, will also raise us from the dead (2 Cor 4:14). So the Bible says that our seat is in the heavenly

places (Eph 2:6). How wonderful a grace God gives to us through Jesus' resurrection!

Jesus defeated sin and conquered death. You may know the story of when Jesus was tempted by the devil. He resisted all the temptations and thus conquered evil, worldly desires, and temptations. This gives us the hope that we can conquer evil as well. Moreover, when He died on the cross for us, He paid our debts and allowed us to speak directly to God. Lastly, after Jesus resurrected, He conquered death.

You might be wondering what our bodies will be like when we resurrect. When Jesus rose from the dead, God showed us what our new bodies would be like after we die. Sometimes people die because they are old and their bodies are worn out. Sometimes people die because their bodies are so sick that doctors and hospitals can't make them well again. There are other people whose bodies are so badly hurt in accidents that they can't go on living. But once we're dead, it won't matter what had happened to our bodies. The Lord will give us spiritual bodies just like the body Jesus had after He rose from the dead.

"Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord. Therefore comfort one another with these words" (1 Th 4:17-18).



## Linking to the Ten Basic Beliefs

2-5 Minutes

### One True God: Jesus Is the Savior

Jesus Christ came to this world to die for our sins and resurrected on the third day. Jesus is the one and only Savior of mankind, the Creator of heaven and earth, and the only true God.

### The Second Coming of Christ: Jesus Will Return

On the Last Day, Jesus will descend from heaven to judge the world. The righteous will receive eternal life, while the wicked will be condemned.



## Check for Understanding

5 Minutes

- 1. Describe what or who the women saw when they arrived at Jesus' tomb.** They saw two men in clothes that gleamed like lightning.
- 2. What did the women report to the eleven apostles and the others with them?** They reported that Jesus was not in the tomb because He had risen.
- 3. What did Jesus discuss with the two men on the road to Emmaus?** Jesus explained to them what was said in all the Scriptures concerning Himself.
- 4. Jesus' resurrection gives us a new and living hope. What hope is that?** The hope that one day we can rise from the dead and conquer death, too.
- 5. Which of the Ten Basic Beliefs is this lesson related to? Describe them.** It is related to our beliefs that Jesus is the one true God and the only Savior of mankind, and that He will return again to judge the world. Jesus Christ came to this world to die for our sins and resurrected on the third day. Jesus is the one and only Savior of mankind, the Creator of heaven and earth, and the only true God.



## Life Application

10 Minutes

**Objective:** To learn and understand the power of God.

[Hand out the Life Application worksheets and go over them with the students as time permits.]

### 1. Prove It!!

Jesus rose from the dead. God not only has the power to raise the dead, He also has the power to do many things. His power is unlimited and He can always help us if only we believe in Him. Let's look at some proof in the New Testament.

**Instructions:** Read the verses and fill in a brief description on how the power of God was shown, and then answer the question at the bottom of the page.

#### 1. He has power over nature

- Matthew 8:23-27: Jesus stilled a raging storm of wind and waves.
- John 2:1-11: Jesus changed water into wine.
- Matthew 14:22-33: Jesus walked on water.

#### 2. He has power over sickness and disease

- Matthew 9:20-22: He healed a woman who had been suffering from hemorrhages for twelve years.
- Matthew 9:27-31: He healed two blind men.
- Mark 1:21-28: He healed a demon-possessed man.
- Matthew 8:1-3: He healed a leper.

#### 3. He has the power to raise the dead

- John 11:1-44: He resurrected Lazarus.
- Luke 7:11-17: He resurrected the dead son.

**Have you heard of any miracles that have happened in the True Jesus Church? Have you witnessed or been part of one before?**

### 2. I've Got the Power!

Jesus provides power to those who depend on Him to do His will.

**Instructions:** Read each scenario and discuss the amazing power of God.

Note: The teacher can choose to read the scenarios to or with the students, or ask the students to read the scenarios quietly to themselves. Read one scenario at a time and discuss after reading.



# Activity

## Jesus Is with Us!

10-15 Minutes

**Instructions:** Complete the crossword puzzle using the clues below.

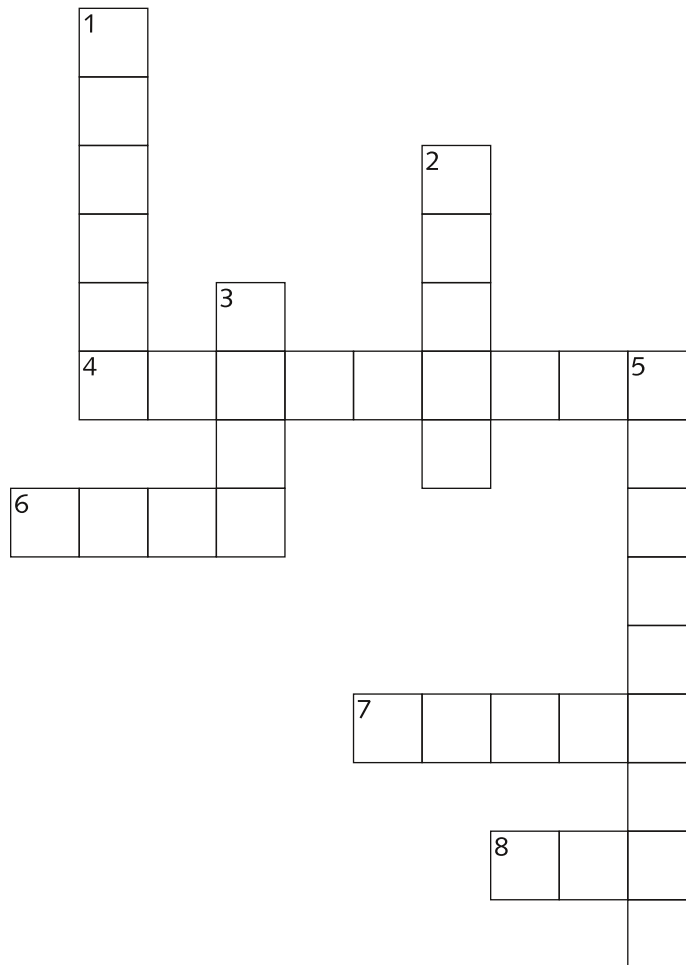
### Clues

#### Across

4. On the Last Day, the Lord will give us \_\_\_\_\_ bodies just like the body Jesus had after He rose from the dead.
6. Jesus gave us a new and living \_\_\_\_\_ through His resurrection.
7. The men at the tomb told the women, "He is not here, but is \_\_\_\_\_!"
8. Jesus came to set them, and us, free from \_\_\_\_\_.

#### Down

1. The two men were traveling to the village of \_\_\_\_\_.
2. During the \_\_\_\_\_ days between His resurrection and ascension to heaven, the Lord appeared to many of His followers.
3. At one point \_\_\_\_\_ hundred people saw Him at the same time.
5. At the tomb, the women suddenly saw two men in clothes that gleamed like \_\_\_\_\_.



### Jesus Is Risen and He Is with Us!

**Instructions:** Listen carefully to the lesson and fill in the blanks.

1. When the women arrived at the tomb, they noticed that the stone that sealed Jesus' tomb had been \_\_\_\_\_.
2. While they were thinking about this, two men in clothes that gleamed like \_\_\_\_\_ suddenly appeared and stood beside them.
3. The men said to them, "Why do you seek the living among the dead? He is not here, but is \_\_\_\_\_!"
4. Later on that same day, two men were going to a village called \_\_\_\_\_.
5. They were sad because they thought that Jesus came to the world to free the Jewish people from \_\_\_\_\_ rule.
6. That was not what Jesus came to this world to do. So beginning with \_\_\_\_\_ and all the \_\_\_\_\_, Jesus explained to them what was said in all the \_\_\_\_\_ concerning Himself.
7. Jesus came to set them, and us, free from \_\_\_\_\_.
8. At one point \_\_\_\_\_ people saw Him at the same time.
9. During the \_\_\_\_\_ days between His resurrection and ascension to heaven, the Lord appeared to many of His followers.
10. Why is this important to our faith? Jesus gave us a new and living \_\_\_\_\_ through His resurrection.
11. Jesus' resurrection opens the way to revive our \_\_\_\_\_, which had been dead in sin, and restore it to life.
12. The Lord will give us \_\_\_\_\_ bodies just like the body Jesus had after He rose from the dead.

## Prove It!!

Jesus rose from the dead. God not only has the power to raise the dead, He also has the power to do many things. His power is unlimited and He can always help us if only we believe in Him. Let's look at some proof in the New Testament.

**Instructions:** Read the verses and fill in a brief description on how the power of God was shown, then answer the question at the bottom of the page.

### 1. He has power over nature

| Bible Verse      | Description |
|------------------|-------------|
| Matthew 8:23-27  |             |
| John 2:1-11      |             |
| Matthew 14:22-33 |             |

### 2. He has power over sickness and disease

| Bible Verse     | Description |
|-----------------|-------------|
| Matthew 9:20-22 |             |
| Matthew 9:27-31 |             |
| Mark 1:21-28    |             |
| Matthew 8:1-3   |             |

### 3. He has the power to raise the dead

| Bible Verse  | Description |
|--------------|-------------|
| John 11:1-44 |             |
| Luke 7:11-17 |             |

### The Greatest Proof of All – Jesus Christ Rising from the Dead!

#### There Is Power in Jesus!

Have you heard of any miracles that have happened in the True Jesus Church? Have you witnessed or been part of one before?



## I've Got the Power!

Jesus provides power to those who depend on Him to do His will.

**Instructions:** Read each scenario and discuss the amazing power of God.

### The Power of Healing - Illness



Bryan and his family had already booked airplane tickets to go to a funeral together. But then Bryan contracted an ear infection that was serious enough that the doctor advised him not to fly. The funeral was too far away for them to drive to. Bryan began taking medicine, but they were supposed to leave the next day, which was hardly enough time for Bryan to recover. Then, Bryan's mother reminded him that there was one thing they hadn't done: pray and rely on God to heal him. It was also important that he believed that God had the power when they prayed. So, the family prayed that afternoon and again in the evening. And then they prayed again in the morning of the next day. After the morning prayer, they took him to the doctor again, and to their surprise, the doctor said that the ear infection was completely gone! Thank God! The doctor could not believe it had healed so quickly.

### The Power of Healing - Injuries



Jamie was playing indoor volleyball during gym class at school when she accidentally ran into her teammate trying to get the ball. She fell and twisted her ankle. It hurt really badly, and since the school nurse could not give her pain medication, her father picked her up and took her to the doctor for examination. The doctor said that it was nothing too serious. She got medicine for the pain and swelling, and was told it would heal in about a week. But Jamie had a very important piano audition in two days, and her ankle hurt too much for her to press the pedal. There was no way she would be able to heal in time. Her family and her RE teacher encouraged her to pray. So, in the next couple of days she prayed with her family. She believed that God had the power to heal her, and that God would grant her request. When she stepped out of bed on the morning of the audition, she felt no pain as she began to walk. Thank God! God listened to her prayer and healed her ankle. God indeed is a great physician.

### The Power to Provide



Jayden's father recently lost his job. At first, Jayden didn't realize how serious it was, and thought that his father would simply be able to find a new job. However, at that time, there were many people who were also without a job, as there were too few jobs available. His mother had not been working because she wanted to stay home to take care of Jayden and his younger sister, so they had no income while his father was out of a job. The family had some savings to use, and his father could collect unemployment money from the government. Still, the savings ran out quickly, and the unemployment money wasn't enough to support a family of four. On top of this, without any medical insurance, if any of them got sick, they might not be able to afford medication. Jayden's father told them that he would do his part to look for another job, but they must also pray and rely on God for help. If God can raise the dead, He surely has the power to help their family, too. They prayed as a family every evening and believed that God had something in store for them. Miraculously, after only one month, Jayden's father found a new job. God truly has the power to provide for those who rely on Him.

### The Power of Protection



Daniel was about one year old when he started walking. Since he was just starting and not very good at it, his parents put him in a baby walker to help him learn. One day, Daniel was in the walker and walking around while his father and grandfather were carrying items to the basement. His mother turned away for a moment, and since the door to the basement was wide open, Daniel wandered in that direction. Suddenly his walker's wheels caught the edge of the stairs and he and the walker tumbled down the stairs together. His mother yelled "Hallelujah!" and just as suddenly, the walker got caught on the side railing of the last step, right before hitting the floor at the bottom. Thank God! If it had not been for the protection of God, Daniel would have been hurt really badly.

E2 Year 1 Book 1 Lesson 12—Jesus Is Risen and He Is with Us

# Homework Assignment

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Parent signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Weekly Bible Reading:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Bible Reading:** Check each box when you complete that day's reading.

**Prayer:** Check each box after you pray to God that day.

|      | 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. (Acts 2:33b)

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

### Fill In the Blank

1. The women saw two \_\_\_\_\_ in clothes that gleamed like \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Jesus was not in the tomb because He had \_\_\_\_\_.
3. Jesus did not come to this world to set the Israelites free from the \_\_\_\_\_. Instead, He came to set us all free from \_\_\_\_\_.

### True or False

4. The men on the road met Jesus, but did not recognize Him at first. \_\_\_\_\_
5. When Peter went to see the tomb, he only found strips of linen inside. \_\_\_\_\_

### Short Answer

6. Why is Jesus' resurrection important to our faith?
7. Which of the Ten Basic Beliefs is this lesson related to? Explain.
8. Describe the bodies we will have when we resurrect.

# 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 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

### Match the Beatitudes

1. For they shall inherit the earth.
2. For theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
3. For they shall obtain mercy.
4. For they shall be comforted.
5. For theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
6. For they shall see God.
7. For they shall be called sons of God.
8. For they shall be filled.

### Memory Verse Fill In the Blank

1. life, Father
2. virgin, Immanuel
3. wisdom, God
4. preach
5. Scripture
6. teach
7. water, spirit, kingdom
8. seek, righteousness
9. I, Me
10. strength, trusted
11. death, eternal
12. Holy Spirit

### Jesus' Life and Death

8, 4, 7, 1, 3, 9, 6, 2, 10, 5

### Short Answer and Life Application

1. Footwashing – To have a part with the Lord.  
Baptizing – To have your sins washed away.  
Holy Communion – To be one with the Lord by eating His flesh and drinking His blood; we are remembering His death when we partake of the Holy Communion.
2. Satan tempted Jesus with lust of the flesh, lust of the eyes, and pride of life. We can rely on the word of God to help us resist temptation. Each time Jesus was tempted, He resisted Satan by quoting from the Bible. Likewise, when we find ourselves tempted by

something, we should remember what we have read in the Bible about overcoming temptation. The best way to overcome temptation is to follow Jesus' example, and the only way we can do that is by reading the Bible regularly and praying to God to strengthen us continually.

3. Answers may vary. Students will probably answer that they feel very special and happy that Jesus loved them so much that He died on the cross for them. We can show our love to God by obeying His commandments and loving others. God's love for us is so great that He sent His only Son to die for us. When we love others as God has loved us, we are doing exactly what God wants us to do.
4. Answers may vary. We can try to overcome this fear by remembering that God is with us, so we should have nothing to fear. It does not matter if our friends laugh at us or don't believe what we say; what matters is that we try our best to preach to others, even if they won't listen. The best thing we can do for our friends is to preach to them and bring them to know God.
5. Answers may vary. In order to stay on the narrow path, we must put away the things of this world and focus on God. We need to choose wisely and decide if movies, TV shows, or video games are glorifying to God. In addition, are these things getting in the way of worshipping God and taking time away from our Bible reading and prayer? The more time we spend on the things of this world, the less time we will have to spend with God. Most importantly, we must build our relationship with God when we are young, since it is the most important foundation for our faith.

### Match the Beatitudes

**Instructions:** Match the beginning of the Beatitude on the left to its correct ending on the right.

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1. Blessed are the meek...   | ...For theirs is the kingdom of heaven.  |
| 2. Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake... | ...For they shall see God.               |
| 3. Blessed are the merciful...                                     | ...For they shall be called sons of God. |
| 4. Blessed are those who mourn...                                  | ...For theirs is the kingdom of heaven.  |
| 5. Blessed are the poor in spirit...                               | ...For they shall inherit the earth.     |
| 6. Blessed are the pure in heart...                                | ...For they shall obtain mercy.          |
| 7. Blessed are the peacemakers...                                  | ...For they shall be filled.             |
| 8. Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness...    | ...For they shall be comforted.          |

### Jesus' Life and Death

**Instructions:** Starting from 1, number the events in the order that they happened.

- \_\_\_\_\_ Jesus carries His cross to Golgotha after being beaten and scourged.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Jesus institutes the Holy Communion and washes His disciples' feet.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Jesus is tried in front of the Sanhedrin, then Pilate.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Jesus is born to a virgin in Bethlehem.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Jesus preaches to a Samaritan woman.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Jesus dies on the cross, but resurrects three days later.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Judas comes with the chief elders to arrest Jesus.
- \_\_\_\_\_ John the Baptist prepares the way for and baptizes Jesus.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Jesus ascends to heaven.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Jesus goes to the garden of Gethsemane and prays three times.

**Memory Verse Fill In the Blank**

**Instructions:** Complete the memory verses by filling in the blanks with the missing words.

1. "Jesus said to him, 'I am the way, the truth, and the \_\_\_\_\_. No one comes to the \_\_\_\_\_ except through Me.'" (John 14:6)
2. "Therefore the Lord Himself will give you a sign: Behold, the \_\_\_\_\_ shall conceive and bear a Son, and shall call His name \_\_\_\_\_." (Isaiah 7:14)
3. "Jesus increased in \_\_\_\_\_ and stature, and in favor with \_\_\_\_\_ and men." (Luke 2:52)
4. "Go into all the world and \_\_\_\_\_ the gospel to every creature." (Mark 16:15)
5. "All \_\_\_\_\_ is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness." (2 Timothy 3:16)
6. "Blessed is the man whom You instruct, O Lord, and \_\_\_\_\_ out of Your law." (Psalm 94:12)
7. "Jesus answered, 'Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born of \_\_\_\_\_ and the \_\_\_\_\_, he cannot enter the \_\_\_\_\_ of God.' " (John 3:5)
8. "But \_\_\_\_\_ first the kingdom of God and His \_\_\_\_\_, and all these things shall be added to you." (Matthew 6:33)
9. "Peter said to Him, 'You shall never wash my feet!' Jesus answered him, 'If \_\_\_\_\_ do not wash you, you have no part with \_\_\_\_\_.'" (John 13:8)
10. "The Lord is my \_\_\_\_\_ and my shield; my heart \_\_\_\_\_ in Him, and I am helped." (Psalm 28:7a)
11. " For the wages of sin is \_\_\_\_\_, but the gift of God is eternal \_\_\_\_\_ in Christ Jesus our Lord." (Romans 6:23)
12. "Having received from the Father the promise of the \_\_\_\_\_, He poured out this which you now see and hear." (Acts 2:33b)

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### Short Answer and Life Application

**Instructions:** Answer the questions.

1. What are the three sacraments of True Jesus Church? What is the significance of each?
2. What were the three types of temptation that Satan used against Jesus? What can we do to keep ourselves from giving in to temptation?
3. Jesus came to earth to die on the cross for our sins so that we could be with Him in heaven one day. How does it make you feel to know that He loves you so much? What can you do to show Him that you love Him, too?
4. Nicodemus came to see Jesus by night. He may have been afraid to let his peers see him talk with Jesus. Are you afraid to let your friends and peers know that you believe in Jesus Christ? How do you think you can encourage yourself or others to overcome this fear?
5. Think about how you are living your life right now. Are you on the broad path that leads to death or the narrow path that leads to heaven? Why? If you are on the broad path, what can you do to get back on the narrow path?



For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.

-- 1 Timothy 2:3-4



Jesus Is My Savior

**Elementary 2**

Year 1 Book 1

**General Assembly of True Jesus Church**

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