

# Six Days of Creation and the Sabbath

## Unit 1 Lesson 1



### MEMORY VERSE

Genesis 1:31(a)

*New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)*

31 God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good.

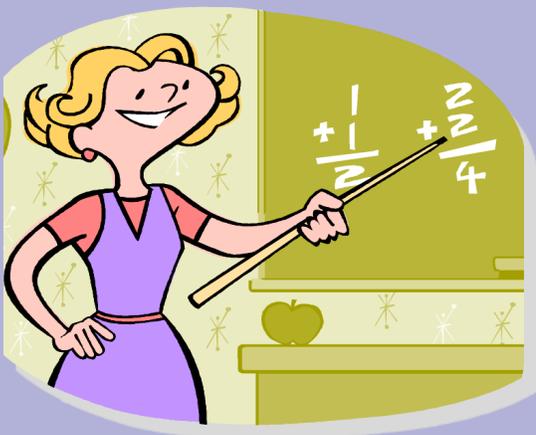


### VALUES FOR LIFE:

God created the world and everything we see has a purpose. We need to take care of God's creation.

### LIFE RESPONSE/MY DECISION:

I will love and respect God's creation.



**LESSON THEME:** God created the world with His word and He saw it was good.

**AIM:** WE MUST APPRECIATE AND PROTECT GOD'S CREATION.



## Bible Passage

### Genesis 1:26-2:3

New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)

<sup>26</sup> Then God said, “Let us make humankind in our image, according to our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the wild animals of the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth.”

<sup>27</sup> So God created humankind in his image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them.

<sup>28</sup> God blessed them, and God said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it; and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over every living thing that moves upon the earth.” <sup>29</sup> God said, “See, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree with seed in its fruit; you shall have them for food. <sup>30</sup> And to every beast of the earth, and to every bird of the air, and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food.” And it was so. <sup>31</sup> God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.

2 Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all their multitude. <sup>2</sup> And on the seventh day God finished the work that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all the work that he had done. <sup>3</sup> So God blessed the seventh day and hallowed it, because on it God rested from all the work that he had done in creation.



SOME ANIMALS MENTIONED IN GOD'S WORD: • Ant- Proverbs 6:6 • Antelope- Isaiah 51:20 • Ape- 1 Kings 10:22 • Bat- Isaiah 2:20 • Bear- 1 Samuel 17:34-37 • Bee- Judges 14:8 • Camel- Matthew 3:4 • Cobra- Isaiah 11:8 • Cow- Luke 14:5 • Deer- Deuteronomy 14:5 • Dog- Judges 7:5 • Donkey- Isaiah 1:3, John 12:14 • Eagle- Isaiah 40:31 • Fish- Jonah 1:17 • Goat- 1 Samuel 17:34 • Moth- Matthew 6:19 • Ox- Samuel 6:6 • Peacock- 1 Kings 10:22 • Rooster- Matthew 26:34 • Sheep- Matthew 25:22 • Stork- Jeremiah 8:7 • Spider- Isaiah 59:5 • Swallow and Turtledove- Jeremiah 8:7 • Viper- Isaiah 30:6 • Worm- Isaiah 66:24



# Main Ideas

Read the following with the children. Let them repeat the words in “ ” (quotes).

*In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. God said, "Let there be light." And there was light. God called the light "Day". He called the darkness "Night". There was evening and morning on **Day One**.*

*God said, "Let there be a huge space between the waters above and the waters below." God called the space "Sky". There was evening and morning on **Day Two**.*

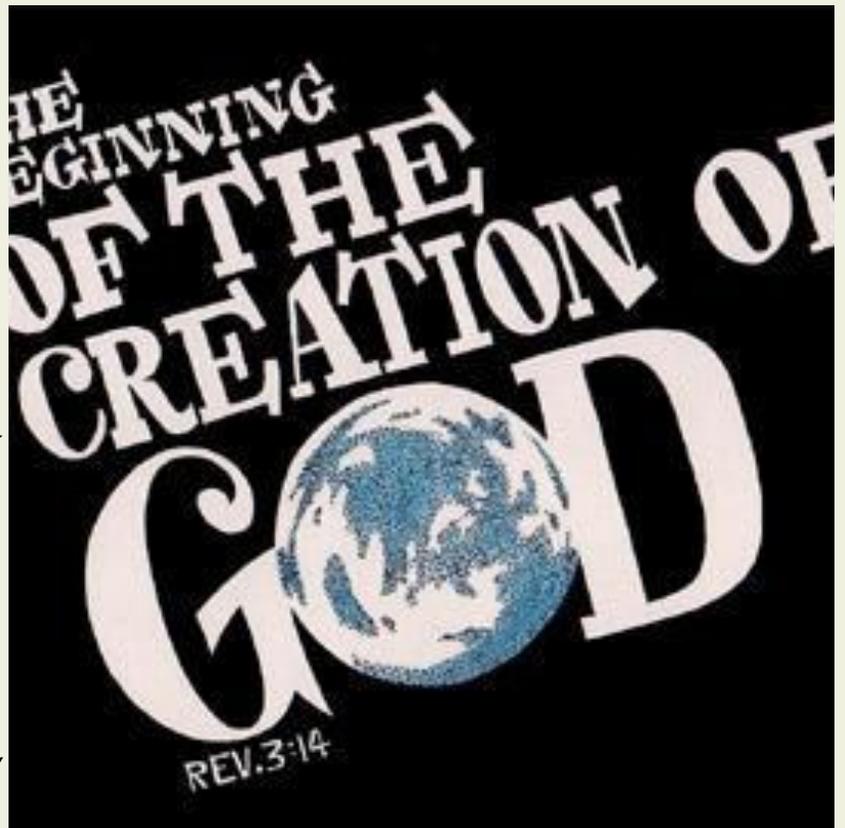
*God said, "Let dry ground appear". And it was so. God said, "Let the land grow plants and trees with fruit and seed." And it was so. There was evening and morning on **Day Three**.*

*God said, "Let there be lights in the sky to tell time." The larger light will govern the day and the smaller light will govern the night. He also set stars in the night sky. There was evening and morning on **Day Four**.*

*God said, "Let there be all kinds of living things in the water below and birds in the air." And it was so. There was evening and morning on **Day Five**.*

*God said, "Let there be all kinds of animals and creatures on the land." And that's exactly what happened! Then God said, "Let us make man in our likeness." So God created man in His own likeness. There was evening and morning on **Day Six**.*

*God saw everything he had made and it was good. God rested. There was evening and morning on **Day Seven**.*



# Activities & Review

**Materials:** Construction paper: black, white or yellow, blue, brown, green. Stickers or small pictures of animals, fish, & man. scissors and glue

- Start with black construction paper to show it was darkness and chaos when God started creation. Fold the paper in half along the width.
- Next take the white/yellow construction paper. Fold and cut the paper in half and have the kids stick it on the right half of the black paper. Say, "God separated the light from the darkness and there was evening and morning the first day."
- Next take the blue construction paper. Cut out a dome (1/3 of a half sheet folded along the shorter side) to represent the sky. Say the words, "God created the sky on the second day."
- Use the brown paper to denote land and bits of blue for the oceans. Say the words, "God separated land and water on the third day."
- Cut out trees and grass from the green paper. Say the words, "God also created plants and fruit bearing trees on third day."
- Cut out or draw the sun, moon and stars to add appropriately to the dark and light side of the papers. Say the words, "On the fourth day, God made the Sun to govern the day, moon to govern the night. He also placed stars in the sky to tell time."
- Add pictures/stickers of birds, fish, animals and man to the collage. Say the words, God created birds and fish on the fifth day. God created animals and man on sixth day."
- Look at the wonderful collage each of you has made. Give yourself a pat on your back! God saw all his creation was good. On the seventh day, God enjoyed His creation just as you are enjoying your handy work. Don't forget to go show your work to your parents.

Watch video (3-4 minutes) on creation: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DxUmt4GG2kI>

## Lesson Review:

**Fill in the blanks / or choose the correct answer:**

1. God \_\_\_\_\_, "Let there be light."
2. In the Bible we learn that God created the world in \_\_\_\_\_ days, and rested on the \_\_\_\_\_ day.
3. God \_\_\_\_\_ that it was good. (saw, heard)
4. The earth brought forth vegetation: plants yielding \_\_\_\_\_ of every kind, and trees of every kind bearing \_\_\_\_\_ with the seed in it. (seed, fruit, rocks, pencils).

# TEACHER'S CORNER



## TEACHER'S NOTES

*Read (Genesis 1, Psalm 136:1, Psalm 19:1, Proverbs 8:22, Mark 10:6)*

*Creation is one of the most beautiful and interactive stories that a first grader will enjoy. Share it with enthusiasm and wonder. It will spark a lot of chatter and curious questions. Patiently answer and direct their curiosity to reliable sources. Rhyme and Rhythm is an integral part of learning. Have the children repeat the key phrases like*

*God said....      It was so.....      And He saw it was good.....*



## OPENING PRAYER

Dear God, Thank you for bringing us together today to learn from your word. Open the eyes of our hearts and the ears of our mind to listen to your message for us today.

Amen.



## CLOSING PRAYER:

Dear Lord,

Thank you for creating animals, plants, fish and birds for me to enjoy. Thank you for the sun, moon and stars. Thank you for day and night. Teach me to love and respect your world.

Amen.

# GOD CREATED HUMANS

## GOD CREATED HUMANS?

### Unit 1 Lesson 2



#### MEMORY VERSE

*Ephesians 2:10*

New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)

10 For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life.

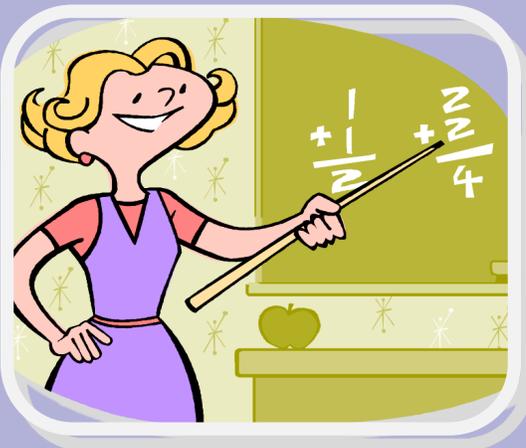


#### VALUES FOR LIFE:

Our body is made of many parts, two hands, two legs, two eyes, two ears, one nose, one mouth, ten fingers and ten toes. By themselves these parts are neither beautiful nor useful. But as a part of our body they perform unique functions. When they work together in harmony, we are happy and healthy. In the same manner, each of us is an important part of God's body. We need to work together to bring glory to God.

#### LIFE RESPONSE/MY DECISION:

I am precious in God's eyes. He has a plan for me.



**LESSON THEME:** God created the world with His word and He saw it was good.

**AIM:** Our origins in God's Word.



## Bible Passage

*Genesis 2:4-7*

New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)

<sup>4</sup> These are the generations of the heavens and the earth when they were created.

*Another Account of the Creation*

In the day that the Lord God made the earth and the heavens, <sup>5</sup> when no plant of the field was yet in the earth and no herb of the field had yet sprung up—for the Lord God had not caused it to rain upon the earth, and there was no one to till the ground; <sup>6</sup> but a stream would rise from the earth, and water the whole face of the ground— <sup>7</sup> then the Lord God formed man from the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and the man became a living being.

## Main Ideas

For thousands of years, people have wondered how we and our world came to be. Some people today still puzzle over the very same question. Many people have come up with different theories, like a cosmic explosion, but when you take a look at yourself and the people around you, it's plain that only an amazing Creator could achieve what we see today creating a part of the world,

Each day, when God had finished creating a part of the world, He said that it was “good.” However, after he had created man and woman, he said that it was “*very good*”.

Each of us is like a piece of a jigsaw puzzle. Have you ever done one of those? Every piece is different, but without one of them, the puzzle is not complete. God's plan is not complete without one of us, so each person is very important and “good” to God.

### Vocabulary:

Creation: something that has been made (in this case, by God)

Cosmic: relating to the orderly universe

Unique: special and different

# Color the picture



On cardstock paper make a printout of the creation page from resources (<http://coloringpageshub.com/wp-content/uploads/2011/08/Creation-Coloring...>). Have the children color these pictures. Then cut out into jigsaw puzzle pieces. Let them have fun putting it back together. Say, "Just as the picture is not complete without one of the pieces in the puzzle, God created each of us for a purpose and we have to do our part in His world. What do you think is your part? Use plastic bag to take puzzle pieces home.

Use plastic bag to take puzzle pieces home.

# TEACHER'S CORNER



## TEACHER'S NOTES

Read Genesis 1:21, 26, 27, 28; 2:4, 5:1,2; Deuteronomy 4:32

In the story of creation, we learn from the Bible that all creation originated with God's word. He spoke and it was so. Man is special because he was made in God's image. In His image was man created. God touched us with His fingers and breathed life into us. How precious we are in His eyes. Life is precious because it is from God. He also made male and female to be together. This was God's



## OPENING PRAYER

Dear God,

Thank you for bringing us together today to learn from your word. Open the eyes of our hearts and the ears of our mind to listen to your message for us today.

Amen.



## CLOSING PRAYER:

Dear God,

Thank you for making me special and precious. Help me to know your will in my life.

Amen.

# God hears Hagar's cry for water

## Unit 1 Lesson 3



### MEMORY VERSE

*Genesis 21:19*

New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)

19 Then God opened her eyes and she saw a well of water. She went, and filled the skin with water, and gave the boy a drink.

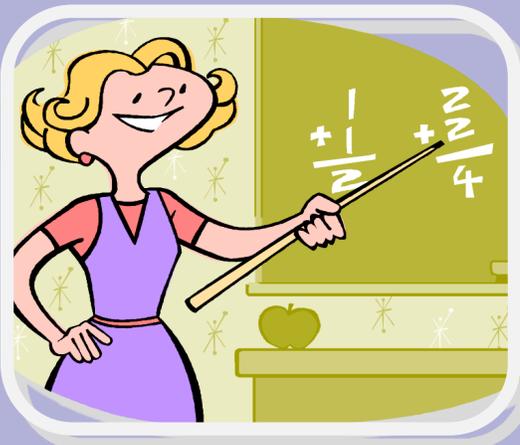
### VALUES FOR LIFE:

1. Water is one of God's special creations
2. Without water we wouldn't be alive
3. Water is very precious, so we shouldn't waste or pollute it
4. Water is a gift from God. We should thank God for giving us water.

### LIFE RESPONSE/MY DECISION:

Water is a scarce resource in many countries today. India is one of those countries. There are many reasons why there is a water shortage in parts of India. Sometimes, weather changes affect the water. A lack of rain can cause a water shortage. Sometimes water is not drinkable because of pollution. Sometimes there is not enough water for everyone because people waste water. Often, people who have enough water will not share with those in need.

We must learn to be thankful and take good care of the water that God gives. We must also pray for those in need of water.



**LESSON THEME: WATER IS A BLESSING FROM GOD for all living things**

**AIM: OUR GOD SATISFIES OUR NEEDS - WATER IS A PRECIOUS GIFT FROM GOD TO ALL CREATION.**



## **Bible Passage**

### *Genesis 21:15-19*

New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)

<sup>15</sup> When the water in the skin was gone, she cast the child under one of the bushes. <sup>16</sup> Then she went and sat down opposite him a good way off, about the distance of a bowshot; for she said, “Do not let me look on the death of the child.” And as she sat opposite him, she lifted up her voice and wept. <sup>17</sup> And God heard the voice of the boy; and the angel of God called to Hagar from heaven, and said to her, “What troubles you, Hagar? Do not be afraid; for God has heard the voice of the boy where he is. <sup>18</sup> Come, lift up the boy and hold him fast with your hand, for I will make a great nation of him.” <sup>19</sup> Then God opened her eyes and she saw a well of water. She went, and filled the skin with water, and gave the boy a drink.

## **Main Ideas**

Water is very special. Without water we wouldn't be alive. God knows our needs. He gives us rain. We get water from rivers and wells. We purify water and bring it in pipes for drinking. We should always remember that many people in the world do not have enough water to drink. They can get very sick without water.

Hagar, the servant of Sarah, who was the wife of Abraham, was chased with Ishmael out of the house after Isaac and Ishmael started bonding. They were supplied with some food and water. When they ran out of supplies, Hagar ran away from where Ishmael was because she didn't want to see him die. She started praying to God to give them supplies. Suddenly, God opened her eyes to see a spring nearby.

### ***Key Words:***

Pollute – To make dirty or impure

Bitter – A drink or food item that has a bad taste

Desert – Land that gets very little rain and has few plants and animals

Purify – To make clean

# Activities & Review

Bring in a pitcher of water and glasses and share drinks of water with the class. Talk about how thirsty you can get and how wonderful water feels trickling down your throat

**Circle the things that you use water for:**

1. Doing your homework
2. Shopping
3. Washing the dishes
4. Coloring
5. Farming
6. Traveling
7. Playing
8. Fishing
9. Bathing

**Answer the following questions:**

1. Who created water? \_\_\_\_\_
2. What is the name of the boy who cried in the desert for water? (Genesis16:15)  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. What did Hagar do when her son became very sick?

## Hagar Word Search

T P R A Y V D E J F T C Z K Y  
S U O I C E R P Q V H C K S E  
B V F M E C E L N C I O K A U  
E S R J J U T G T C R C S R S  
E Q U I L D Q E G I S W A V X  
R O C S D U E N C A T I D W G  
J E F H T O Z E V A F R A I D  
R J T M O A G J N G O B F G E  
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Q U O Q Y C I F S N M G C A F  
F Y D L G N N J F A L M I A I  
W O J J G U M Y H A G A R F D

ISHMAEL

HAGAR

ABRAHAM

WATER

THIRST

DROUGHT

GOD

SUSTAINS

PRECIOUS

GIFT

NEED

BLESSING

ASK PRAY CRY

ALONE

AFRAID

LOVE

# TEACHER'S CORNER



## TEACHER'S NOTES

Water is an important part of life. All living creatures need water. Fish and many other animals live in water. Plants need water to grow.

Our own bodies are made up mostly of water. Water refreshes us when we are thirsty. We need water in order to live.

Pure, fresh water is a gift from God. We should never waste water. Many people in the world do not have enough water. This can cause many problems, such as sickness or a lack of food. We should always give thanks to God for the water that He gives us.



## OPENING PRAYER

Dear God, Thank you for bringing us together today to learn from your word. Open the eyes of our hearts and the ears of our mind to listen to your message for us today.

Amen.



## CLOSING PRAYER:

Dear Jesus,

Thank you for giving us water and all that we need when we need it. We pray for the people around the world who need water. Please give them the water and other things that they need.

Amen.

# GOD DELIVERS - DANIEL AND THE LION'S DEN

## Unit 1 Lesson 4



### MEMORY VERSE

**Daniel 6:27**

New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)

<sup>27</sup>He delivers and rescues, he works signs and wonders in heaven and on earth; for he has saved Daniel from the power of the lions.”

### VALUES FOR LIFE:

- ⇒ God has control over all of His creation.
- ⇒ Even when we feel alone, God is with us and will send His angels to protect us.
- ⇒ God will deliver those who are faithful to Him.

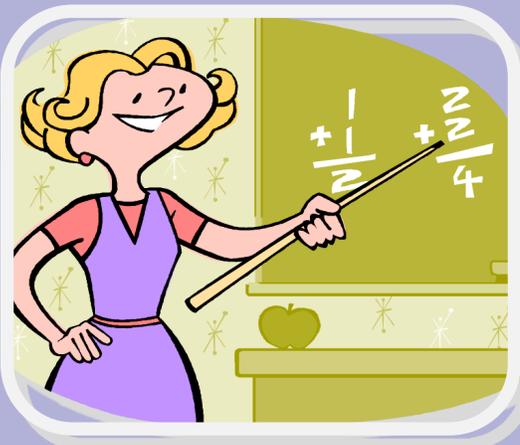
### LIFE RESPONSE/MY DECISION:

- What would you do if there was a rule that you couldn't pray to God?
- Will you be faithful to God even though it could get you in trouble?
- Will you put your trust in God to protect you?

**My Decision:** I will stand firm like Daniel and trust in God to deliver me from all dangers. We must also pray for those in need of water.

**LESSON THEME:** God takes care of those who trust and obey Him.

**AIM: GOD EVEN CONTROLS HIS CREATION FOR THOSE WHO TRUST IN HIM.**





## Bible Passage

### Daniel 6:15-23

New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)

<sup>15</sup> Then the conspirators came to the king and said to him, “Know, O king, that it is a law of the Medes and Persians that no interdict or ordinance that the king establishes can be changed.”

<sup>16</sup> Then the king gave the command, and Daniel was brought and thrown into the den of lions. The king said to Daniel, “May your God, whom you faithfully serve, deliver you!”

<sup>17</sup> A stone was brought and laid on the mouth of the den, and the king sealed it with his own signet and with the signet of his lords, so that nothing might be changed concerning Daniel. <sup>18</sup> Then the king went to his palace and spent the night fasting; no food was brought to him, and sleep fled from him.

### Daniel Saved from the Lions

<sup>19</sup> Then, at break of day, the king got up and hurried to the den of lions. <sup>20</sup> When he came near the den where Daniel was, he cried out anxiously to Daniel, “O Daniel, servant of the living God, has your God whom you faithfully serve been able to deliver you from the lions?” <sup>21</sup> Daniel then said to the king, “O king, live forever! <sup>22</sup> My God sent his angel and shut the lions’ mouths so that they would not hurt me, because I was found blameless before him; and also before you, O king, I have done no wrong.” <sup>23</sup> Then the king was exceedingly glad and commanded that Daniel be taken up out of the den. So Daniel was taken up out of the den, and no kind of harm was found on him, because he had trusted in his God.

### Main Ideas

Daniel did not obey King Darius’ law to only worship him. Instead, Daniel continued to worship the One True God. King Darius was trapped by his own laws to do something he didn’t want to do: punish Daniel for disobeying his laws. Daniel was punished by being thrown into a den of lions but King Darius hoped that Daniel’s God would deliver him. When King Darius rushed to the den the next day, Daniel was able to tell him that His God is a faithful God who sent an angel to shut the mouths of the lions. God rewarded Daniel for being faithful to Him.

# Activities & Review

## Activity 1: Song “Daniel and the Lions” (to the tune of “Joshua Fit the Battle of Jericho”)

Daniel was thrown into the lions’ den, lions’ den, lions’ den.  
Daniel was thrown into the lions’ den,  
‘Cause he prayed to God alone.

God sent His angel to the lions’ den, lions’ den, lions’ den.  
God sent His angel to the lions’ den  
And He shut the lions’ mouths.

## Activity 2: Play “Lion, Lion, Daniel” (similar to “Duck, Duck, Goose”)

- Have the children sit on the floor or on chairs in a circle and roar like lions.
  - Similar to “Duck, Duck, Goose”, one child (representing an angel from God) will tap the other children on the head in a circle and either call them a “Lion” or a “Daniel”.
  - If they are lions, they have to stop roaring and close their mouths like the lions did in the story. If they are Daniel, they have to get up and chase the “angel” child around and race for the empty seat. Whoever doesn’t reach the seat will become the next angel.
- Remind the children that Daniel is only safe from the lions because God sent His angel.

## Lesson Review:

### Key Terms:

- Interdict/Ordinance: rule or law
- Den: home for wild animals
- Signet: small seal or stamp
- Fasting: going without food

## Review Questions:

1. Why did King Darius throw Daniel into the den of lions?
2. How did King Darius feel about doing that?
3. What did King Darius do while Daniel was shut away with the lions?
4. Was it right or wrong for Daniel to not follow King Darius’ rules?
5. Who helped Daniel to live thru the night with the lions?

# TEACHER'S CORNER



## TEACHER'S NOTES

Sometimes our own rules prevent us from serving God. In this case, we learn about King Darius' rules putting his friend Daniel in danger. But God is able to turn a scary situation into an example of His power over all of creation and His love for His servant, Daniel.

- Discuss how King Darius was forced to do something that he didn't want to do.
- Show how King Darius revealed his devotion to his friend, Daniel.
- God saved Daniel from the mouth of the lions because Daniel was faithful to Him.
- God delivers those who are faithful to Him.
- We are called to follow God even when we follow Him alone.



## OPENING PRAYER

Dear God, Thank you for bringing us together today to learn from your word. Open the eyes of our hearts and the ears of our mind to listen to your message for us today.

Amen.



## CLOSING PRAYER:

Dear God,

Thank you for protecting me always. Help me to stay strong like Daniel even when I could get into trouble. Send Your angels to watch over me just like they watched over Daniel.

Amen.

# Elijah and the Widow at Zarephath

Unit 1 Lesson 5



## MEMORY VERSE

**Psalms 55:22** Cast your burden on the LORD, and he will sustain you; he will never permit the righteous to be moved.

## VALUES FOR LIFE:

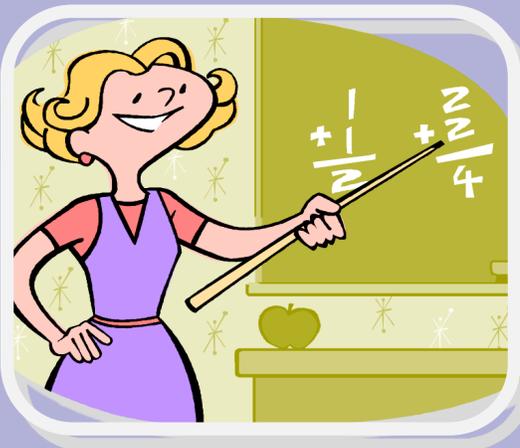
- God has a plan for each one of us.
- We should trust God at all times, good and bad.
- Always be ready to share. God will bless your giving hands, just as he blessed the widow at Zarephath.



## LIFE RESPONSE/MY DECISION:

1. Where and what do you think you could share today?
2. Would you consider sharing your snack with a friend at school?
3. Would you share some of your toys with children who don't have any?
4. You can share with anyone anywhere. Start sharing here at Sunday school, church, home, school, or even when you are on vacation.

**My Decision:** I will trust the Lord with all my heart and lean on him always.



**LESSON THEME:** God sustains—He cares for those who obey His will.

**AIM: WHEN IN TROUBLE, LEAN ON HIM**



## Bible Passage

### 1 Kings 17: 7-15

7 But after a while the wadi dried up, because there was no rain in the land. 8 Then the word of the LORD came to him, saying, 9 “Go now to Zarephath, which belongs to Sidon, and live there; for I have commanded a widow there to feed you.” 10 So he set out and went to Zarephath. When he came to the gate of the town, a widow was there gathering sticks; he called to her and said, “Bring me a little water in a vessel, so that I may drink.” 11 As she was going to bring it, he called to her and said, “Bring me a morsel of bread in your hand.” 12 But she said, “As the LORD your God lives, I have nothing baked, only a handful of meal in a jar, and a little oil in a jug; I am now gathering a couple of sticks, so that I may go home and prepare it for myself and my son, that we may eat it, and die.” 13 Elijah said to her, “Do not be afraid; go and do as you have said; but first make me a little cake of it and bring it to me, and afterwards make something for yourself and your son. 14 For thus says the LORD the God of Israel: The jar of meal will not be emptied and the jug of oil will not fail until the day that the LORD sends rain on the earth.” 15 She went and did as Elijah said, so that she as well as he and her household ate for many days.

## Main Ideas

A long time ago, King Ahab and Queen Jezebel ruled over Israel. Queen Jezebel worshipped another God named Baal. She forced the Israelites to stop worshipping God and offer sacrifices to Baal. God sent Prophet Elijah to warn King Ahab of his punishment, a famine. During the famine, God took care of Elijah, a poor widow and her son.



Elijah and the Widow at Zarephath. Illustration © Review and Herald Publ. Assoc.

# Activities & Review

## **Activity 1: Song – Cast your cares on the Lord**

Listen to the song and learn together. This is the memory verse, Ps 55:22 put to music. <http://youtu.be/Vc9pEb-Ej7U>

## **Activity 2: Song - Christ the Solid Rock I stand**

My hope is built on nothing less Than Jesus' blood and righteousness; I dare not trust the sweetest frame, But wholly lean on Jesus' name. On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand; All other ground is sinking sand, All other ground is sinking sand.

## **Activity 3: Hands-on “Making of the Bread”**

Supplies:

Flour (to make 'bread')

Water (symbolizes oil)

Bowl (vessel)

Instruction: Have the kids act out the story of Elijah by using the supplies to demonstrate the widow's circumstances. Pretend to make food for all the kids. Help the children visualize what was created from so little.

Bring in some bread and break into pieces to share with the children.

## **Lesson Review:**

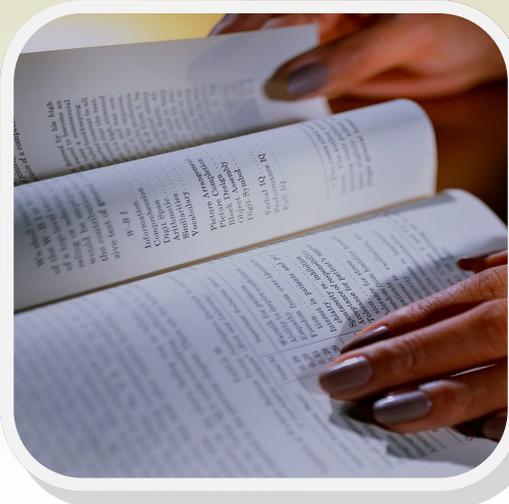
### **Key Terms:**

- Prophet – a messenger from God
- Widow- a woman who has lost her husband
- Vessel- container, bowl
- Famine- lack of food
- Baal- false god
- Brook- a small stream

### **Questions:**

- What is the role of a prophet? Who is the prophet in the story?
- In the story of Elijah, where did God tell him to go meet the widow and her son?
- What was the woman doing when Elijah arrived?
- What did you learn from the story of Elijah and the widow?

# TEACHER'S CORNER



## TEACHER'S NOTES

**Background/ Application:** Imagine you have only one piece of candy in your hand. Would you share it or would you have it all to yourself? Today, we will learn about a widow who had little and was asked to share with someone else.

### Teaching Points:

- Explain the role of a Prophet.
- Disobedience to God yields consequences.
- Obedience to God is Faith.
- It is important to follow God in good and bad times.



## OPENING PRAYER

Dear God, Thank you for bringing us together today to learn from your word. Open the eyes of our hearts and the ears of our mind to listen to your message for us today.

Amen.



## CLOSING PRAYER:

Dear God,

I thank you for everything that you have given me. Enable me to share what I have with others and help me to be kind to others just like the widow was kind to Elijah. Thank you for your love and protection.

Amen.

# Abraham, the father of the faithful

## Unit 2 Lesson 6



### MEMORY VERSE

#### Genesis 12:2

New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)

<sup>2</sup> I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing.

#### VALUES FOR LIFE:

We must be willing to listen to God and to follow God.

We should make ourselves available.

We should never make excuses.

When we do what God tell us to do, He will bless us.

God always keeps His promises.

#### LIFE RESPONSE/MY DECISION:

How would you feel if God spoke to you today?

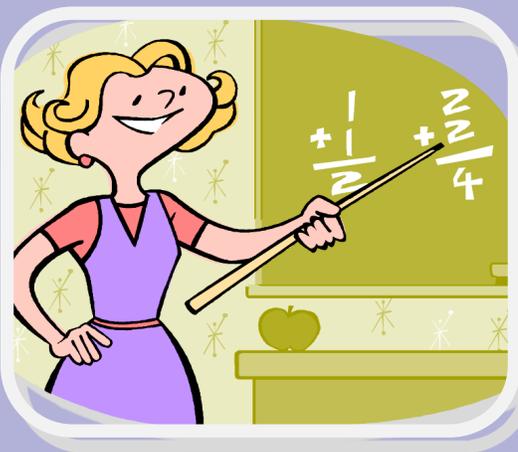
Would you be willing to listen to God?

Would you be willing to give up your favorite possession (favorite toy, favorite food, favorite shirt) for God?

God will bless us if we are willing to listen to Him and follow Him. Just like we listen to our parents and follow them, we must be willing to listen to God and to follow in His footsteps.

My Decision:

When God speaks to me, I will be willing to listen to God and to faithfully follow Him.



**LESSON THEME:** God's Calling and Abram's Faithfulness

**AIM:** OUR RESPONSE TO GOD'S CALL SHOULD BE OBEDIENCE LIKE FATHER ABRAHAM.



## Bible Passage

Genesis 12:1-5

New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)

### The Call of Abram

12 Now the Lord said to Abram, “Go from your country and your kindred and your father’s house to the land that I will show you. <sup>2</sup> I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. <sup>3</sup> I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”

<sup>4</sup> So Abram went, as the Lord had told him; and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran. <sup>5</sup> Abram took his wife Sarai and his brother’s son Lot, and all the possessions that they had gathered, and the persons whom they had acquired in Haran; and they set forth to go to the land of Canaan.

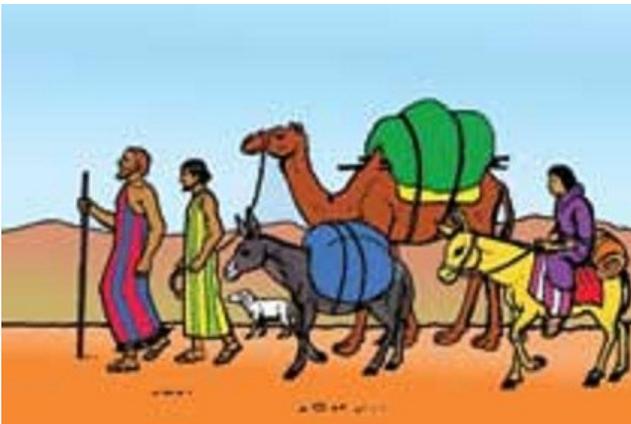
## Main Ideas

### Introduction:

*What do you think Abram was doing when God spoke to him for the first time? Was he finishing his breakfast? Was he watching his wife Sarai in the kitchen? Was it the weekend or just a normal regular weekday?*

*Imagine God talking to you on a normal day, just like he did to Abram. How would you feel?*

*Today, we are going to hear a story about how God spoke to Abram on a normal day, and the willingness of Abram to listen to God and to faithfully follow Him.*



*As an introduction, have the children sing the song, Father Abraham:*

*Father Abraham, had many sons,  
and many sons had Father Abraham.  
I am one of them and so are you.  
So let’s just praise the Lord.*

### Story:

One day, God spoke to Abram, who was 75 years old. God told Abram, despite his old age, to pack up all his belongings and to leave his home and move to another land. At that time, God did not tell Abram where he was going. But Abram trusted God and obeyed him. Abram took his wife Sarai and his nephew Lot, and immediately left his home and went to the land of Canaan. Because of Abram’s willingness to follow God, God blessed him. God promised Abram that he would have many children and grandchildren and that his family would become a great nation. Abram thanked God for blessing him.

Lets look at what God promised Abram as Abraham was known before the blessing.

“I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”

Abraham had a very special place in God’s story of the world. His faith and willingness to obey God was an example for generations to come. Abraham was called to be a blessing. We too are called to be a blessing to those around us. Our families and friends should be able to receive God’s blessing through us.

# Activities & Review

## Activity 1

Tell the children that you will say a fact about the story. If it is true, they should clap their hands. If it is not false, they should remain silent.

1. God commanded Abram to leave his home and go to a new land.
2. God did not care what happened to Abram, he just wanted him to leave.
3. God wanted to bless Abram.
4. God promised Abram that he would be the father of a great nation.
5. God always keeps his promises.
6. God does NOT want us to follow Him.
7. Abram left and followed God immediately.
8. Abram thanked God for blessing him.

## Activity 2

God made a promise to Abram. God promised to bless Abram. God always keeps His promises. God wants us to keep our promises too. What kind of promises can you make that you can keep?

Encourage the children to think of something that they can promise. Once they think of a promise that they can make to someone, such as promising to do all their homework to their parent, or promising to share a favorite toy with a sibling, give them a piece of paper and ask them to draw a picture of the promise that they made. Write "I promise to \_\_\_\_\_" on the top of the page. When the child has finished their picture have them fold it and seal it in an envelope. Write the name of the person they are giving their promise to on the outside of the envelope. Have the children take these pictures home and encourage them to keep their promises. Say, God kept his promise to Abram, and he wants you to keep your promise too.

## Key Terms

- ◆ Obedience – to hear God and to do what God tells us to do
- ◆ Trust – to have full confidence in God
- ◆ Canaan – the promised land
- ◆ Faithful – to be loyal and steadfast to God
- ◆ Blessing – a favor or gift given by God

## Questions

1. Who spoke to Abram?
2. What did God tell Abram to do?
3. Did Abram make any excuses?
4. Was Abram obedient to God? What does it mean to be obedient?
5. What did God promise Abram?
6. How will God reward you for being faithful?

Additional References <http://ministry-to-children.com/lesson-abram-follows-god-genesis-12/>



Abram offered sacrifices to the Lord for being chosen as "The Father of His People"

# TEACHER'S CORNER



## TEACHER'S NOTES

*There are countless stories of man's response to God's calling in the Bible and in recent history. Abraham's response of obedience even when there was no reason to continue his faithful journey with God is exemplary. Abraham was very old when God promised him that he would become a father. Abraham had doubts too. But he obeyed without questioning God's plan. We can learn from Abraham that even though it takes time for God's promises to unfold, we should prayerfully continue in faith. Hold onto the promises. God's promises always come true. His word is unfailing.*

*Share an example from your life or a recent event on how God's promise was fulfilled even though it seemed impossible at the time.*



## OPENING PRAYER

Dear God, Thank you for bringing us together today to learn from your word. Open the eyes of our hearts and the ears of our mind to listen to your message for us today.

Amen.



## CLOSING PRAYER:

Dear God,

Thank you for this day. Thank you for teaching us about Abram and his faithfulness. Help us to hear you O Lord and to faithfully follow you just as Abram did. Help us to know that You are a God that keeps Your promises. We love you Lord.

Amen.

# Esau sells his birthright

## Unit 2 Lesson 7



### MEMORY VERSE

#### Proverbs 3:5 (NRSV)

Trust in the Lord with all your heart,  
and do not rely on your own insight.

### VALUES FOR LIFE:

Every choice we make in life has a consequence. Sometimes the consequence may be good and sometimes it may be bad. Esau made a poor choice when he chose food over his birthright.

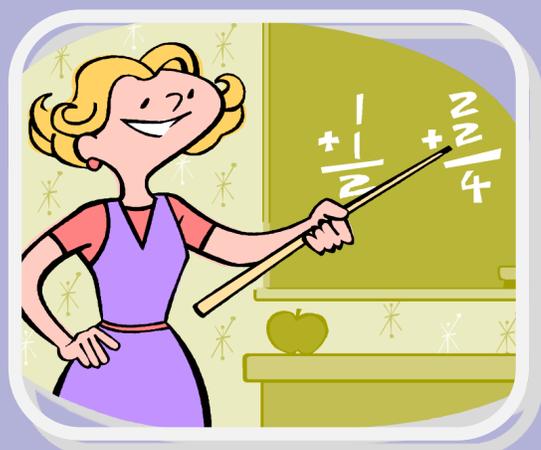
Life can be unfair. Just like Jacob tricked his own brother, we may trick our own brother and sister, or even our parents. But just because we get away with it, does not make it right

### LIFE RESPONSE/MY DECISION:

Sometimes in life, we have to make a choice between what we want in life and what we actually need. What will you choose in life? Esau chose what he wanted, which was food, rather than what he needed, which was his rights/privileges as the older brother.

If you wanted something that someone else had, would you feel okay tricking them into getting what you wanted?

I will think about the big and small choices I make in life. I will try not to be unfair to others in order to get what I want. I will learn to be less selfish and more generous.



### LESSON THEME: Right Choices

**AIM:** There are consequences to choices that we make and even the smallest decision can be very important.

# Main Ideas

## Background/Application

Can you think of a time when you wanted something your older brother or sister had? Would you think about tricking them into giving that to you even though you knew it was wrong?

Today, we are going to hear a story about two brothers who were twins. Esau was the older brother and was to receive special blessings from his dad, Isaac. However, Jacob, the younger brother, tricked Esau into giving up his special blessings so that he could have it.

## Story

One day, Esau came home tired and hungry from a busy day of hunting. His brother, Jacob, had been cooking all day and the house smelled so good. So Esau asked his brother if he could have some soup. But Jacob would not share his food with his brother unless Esau gave him his birthright, which was his rights as the older brother. Esau was so hungry that he immediately did not think twice about what he was about to do. He sold his birthright to Jacob. Hungry and tired, Esau was happy to get some stew and bread from his brother. Little did he realize what he had done by giving away his right to their father's blessing.. Jacob had tricked Esau into selling his birthright. Later on, Esau was sorry for the choice he had made. But what had been given away could not be taken back.

## Key Terms

- Birthright – special privileges/blessings for being the oldest son
- Twins – two children born at the same time
- Hunter – a person that finds animals and kills them for food
- Choice – making a decision when faced with two options

## Questions

1. What were the names of the two brothers?
- 2.. Which brother came home tired and hungry from hunting all day?
3. Which brother was at home cooking food?
4. What did Jacob want from his brother before he would share his food?
5. When faced with the choice between food and his birthright, which did Esau choose?
6. How did Esau feel about his decision?
7. What can we learn from the story of Jacob and Esau?



## Bible Passage

Genesis 25:29-34

New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)

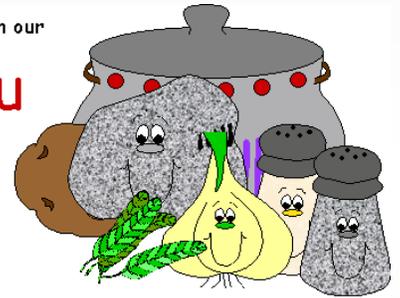
### Esau Sells His Birthright

<sup>29</sup> Once when Jacob was cooking a stew, Esau came in from the field, and he was famished. <sup>30</sup> Esau said to Jacob, "Let me eat some of that red stuff, for I am famished!" (Therefore he was called Edom.) <sup>31</sup> Jacob said, "First sell me your birthright." <sup>32</sup> Esau said, "I am about to die; of what use is a birthright to me?" <sup>33</sup> Jacob said, "Swear to me first." So he swore to him, and sold his birthright to Jacob. <sup>34</sup> Then Jacob gave Esau bread and lentil stew, and he ate and drank, and rose and went his way. Thus Esau despised his birthright.



Unscramble the letters to find the words in our

## Jacob and Esau Anagram



ccehios \_\_\_\_\_

opsu \_\_\_\_\_

ehnrtu \_\_\_\_\_

behorrst \_\_\_\_\_

eehlpr \_\_\_\_\_

bghhiirrtt \_\_\_\_\_

degiissu \_\_\_\_\_

begilnss \_\_\_\_\_

cikrt \_\_\_\_\_

instw \_\_\_\_\_



Answers: choices, soup, hunter, brothers, helper, birthright, disguise, blessing, trick, twins

# Activities & Review

## Jacob & Esau Word Search

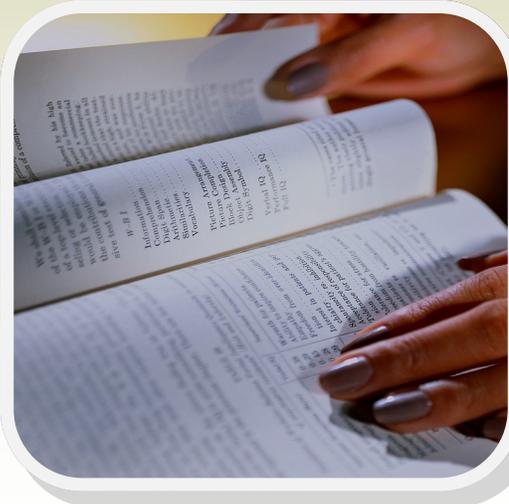
R G E N Q V B L S N E J D E S  
C G N I T N U H U S S H B B I  
T H G I R H T R I B R E O T A  
C J O V S E P U Y E E L C W Q  
F A P I V S G U S G H P A I F  
F M A R C S E A O W T I J N E  
Q I E S I E U L G S O N R S I  
C S P D I W S X B S R G D I L  
Y O U N G E S T L R B R I A H  
Z Z I L T R I C K E U V K L A

**BLESSING  
BIRTHRIGHT  
BROTHERS  
CHOICES  
DISGUISE  
ESAU  
HAIR  
HELPING  
HUNTING**



**ISAAC  
JACOB  
LIE  
RUN  
SERVE  
SOUP  
TRICK  
TWINS  
YOUNGEST**

# TEACHER'S CORNER



## Teacher's Notes

*Sibling rivalry and their consequences if not directed with Godly wisdom is the lesson we learn from the story of Esau and Jacob. Here were twin brothers who should have cared for each other going their separate ways because of deception and hurt feelings. Years later they are brought back together by the grace of God. But the love and time they could have shared together was lost forever. We should not make rash decisions that can affect our relationship with our family. When we put our brother or sister before our selfish needs we will be able to hear God's wisdom and will in our life.*



## Opening Prayer

Dear God, Thank you for bringing us together today to learn from your word. Open the eyes of our hearts and the ears of our mind to listen to your message for us today.

Amen.



## Closing Prayer:

Dear Lord,

Thank you for teaching us the story of Jacob and Esau today. Help us to be wise in the choices we make in life. Help us to realize what we need from you O Lord rather than what we want. Help us to be kind to those around us even though others may be unfair to us. Fill us with Your love O Lord. In Jesus name we pray.

Amen.

# Joseph and his brothers

## Unit 2 Lesson 8



### MEMORY VERSE

Proverbs 16:28

*New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)*

A perverse person spreads strife,  
and a whisperer separates close friends.

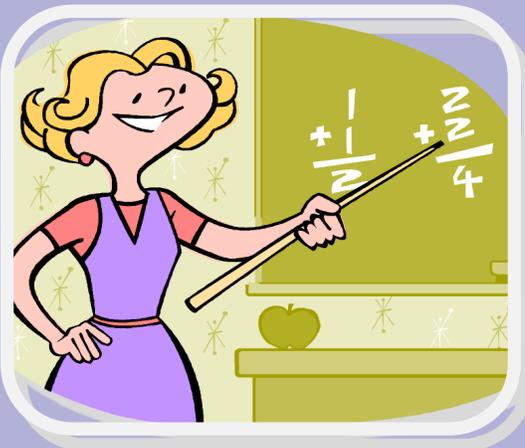


### VALUES FOR LIFE:

God gives us what we need. Ask him for direction and wisdom to handle your feelings. Do not be jealous. It will harm you and your loved ones.

### LIFE RESPONSE/MY DECISION:

I know that God will provide all my needs. I do not need to own what my friend or brother has because I know that God can talk to them and ask them to share it with me.



**LESSON THEME:** Jealousy tears apart. Forgiveness brings back together.

**AIM:** God is the giver of all good things. He will give you according to His will.



# Bible Passage

## Genesis 37

New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)

### Joseph Dreams of Greatness

37 Jacob settled in the land where his father had lived as an alien, the land of Canaan. <sup>2</sup> This is the story of the family of Jacob.

Joseph, being seventeen years old, was shepherding the flock with his brothers; he was a helper to the sons of Bilhah and Zilpah, his father's wives; and Joseph brought a bad report of them to their father. <sup>3</sup> Now Israel loved Joseph more than any other of his children, because he was the son of his old age; and he had made him a long robe with sleeves. <sup>4</sup> But when his brothers saw that their father loved him more than all his brothers, they hated him, and could not speak peaceably to him.

<sup>5</sup> Once Joseph had a dream, and when he told it to his brothers, they hated him even more. <sup>6</sup> He said to them, "Listen to this dream that I dreamed. <sup>7</sup> There we were, binding sheaves in the field. Suddenly my sheaf rose and stood upright; then your sheaves gathered around it, and bowed down to my sheaf."

<sup>8</sup> His brothers said to him, "Are you indeed to reign over us? Are you indeed to have dominion over us?" So they hated him even more because of his dreams and his words.

<sup>9</sup> He had another dream, and told it to his brothers, saying, "Look, I have had another dream: the sun, the moon, and eleven stars were bowing down to me." <sup>10</sup> But when he told it to his father and to his brothers, his father rebuked him, and said to him, "What kind of dream is this that you have had? Shall we indeed come, I and your mother and your brothers, and bow to the ground before you?" <sup>11</sup> So his brothers were jealous of him, but his father kept the matter in mind.

### Joseph Is Sold by His Brothers

<sup>12</sup> Now his brothers went to pasture their father's flock near Shechem. <sup>13</sup> And Israel said to Joseph, "Are not your brothers pasturing the flock at Shechem? Come, I will send you to them." He answered, "Here I am." <sup>14</sup> So he said to him, "Go now, see if it is well with your brothers and with the flock; and bring word back to me." So he sent him from the valley of Hebron.

He came to Shechem, <sup>15</sup> and a man found him wandering in the fields; the man asked him, "What are you seeking?" <sup>16</sup> "I am seeking my brothers," he said; "tell me, please, where they are pasturing the flock." <sup>17</sup> The man said, "They have gone away, for I heard them say, 'Let us go to Dothan.'" So Joseph went after his brothers, and found them at Dothan. <sup>18</sup> They saw him from a distance, and before he came near to them, they conspired to kill him. <sup>19</sup> They said to one another, "Here comes this dreamer. <sup>20</sup> Come now, let us kill him and throw him into one of the pits; then we shall say that a wild animal has devoured him, and we shall see what will become of his dreams." <sup>21</sup> But when Reuben heard it, he delivered him out of their hands, saying, "Let us not take his life." <sup>22</sup> Reuben said to them, "Shed no blood; throw him into this pit here in the wilderness, but lay no hand on him"—that he might rescue him out of their hand and restore him to his father. <sup>23</sup> So when Joseph came to his brothers, they stripped him of his robe, the long robe with sleeves <sup>24</sup> that he wore; and they took him and threw him into a pit. The pit was empty; there was no water in it.

<sup>25</sup> Then they sat down to eat; and looking up they saw a caravan of Ishmaelites coming from Gilead, with their camels carrying gum, balm, and resin, on their way to carry it down to Egypt. <sup>26</sup> Then Judah said to his brothers, "What profit is it if we kill our brother and conceal his blood? <sup>27</sup> Come, let us sell him to the Ishmaelites, and not lay our hands on him, for he is our brother, our own flesh." And his brothers agreed. <sup>28</sup> When some Midianite traders passed by, they drew Joseph up, lifting him out of the pit, and sold him to the Ishmaelites for twenty pieces of silver. And they took Joseph to Egypt.

<sup>29</sup> When Reuben returned to the pit and saw that Joseph was not in the pit, he tore his clothes. <sup>30</sup> He returned to his brothers, and said, "The boy is gone; and I, where can I turn?" <sup>31</sup> Then they took Joseph's robe, slaughtered a goat, and dipped the robe in the blood. <sup>32</sup> They had the long robe with sleeves <sup>33</sup> taken to their father, and they said, "This we have found; see now whether it is your son's robe or not." <sup>34</sup> He recognized it, and said, "It is my son's robe! A wild animal has devoured him; Joseph is without doubt torn to pieces." Then Jacob tore his garments, and put sackcloth on his loins, and mourned for his son many days. <sup>35</sup> All his sons and all his daughters sought to comfort him; but he refused to be comforted, and said, "No, I shall go down to Sheol to my son, mourning." Thus his father bewailed him. <sup>36</sup> Meanwhile the Midianites had sold him in Egypt to Potiphar, one of Pharaoh's officials, the captain of the guard.

# Main Ideas

Joseph was a dreamer. His father loved him and made a special robe for him. His elder brothers however did not like him. One day Joseph came up to his family really excited and said, “Listen to this dream I dreamed. We were out in the field binding sheaves. Suddenly my sheaf rose and your sheaves bowed to mine.” Don’t you think this would have made his brothers who were already jealous of him mad?

Joseph came up to them once again another day and said, “I had another dream. The sun, moon and eleven stars bowed down to me!” Now Jacob was angry. He was worried and confused as to why Joseph was having these dreams. He kept his thoughts to himself.

One day out in the fields while they were tending their sheep the brothers plotted to get rid of Joseph. They thought their father would love them if Joseph was not around. How wrong they were. When Joseph came out to find out how they were doing, the brothers took away his robe and threw him into a pit. Some time later, the brothers noticed a traveling caravan. They decided to sell Joseph to the arabs who were headed towards Egypt.

Reuben had a soft heart. He thought he’d come back after dark and take Joseph home. He knew his brothers were angry at Joseph but would soon forget about their feelings and love him again. But when he came to the pit and saw that it was empty, he was afraid. What would he tell his father? The brothers decided to kill a goat, smear Joseph’s beautiful robe and tell Jacob that wild animals had gotten their baby brother.

Back home Jacob was getting worried that Joseph was not home yet. When the older brothers came and told him what had happened to Joseph, he was heart broken and wept.

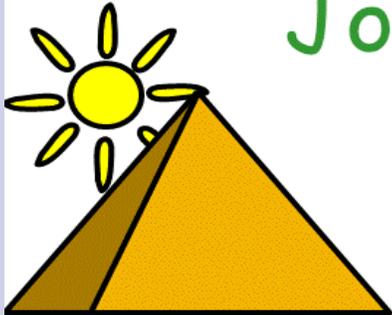
- \* The brothers did mean things to Joseph because they were jealous of him. Jealousy can make us do bad things. We should pray about how we feel. Ask God to help us feel good about the blessings and gifts given to others. Be thankful for what we have. Then we will be happy and joyful. We will also be able to share the gifts that God has given us and others.
- \* God was preparing Joseph for bigger things. Joseph and his family did not know of God’s plans. God revealed it to Joseph in dreams. But Joseph was not ready to understand and interpret those dreams.
- \* The memory verse “*Proverbs 16:28 A perverse person spreads strife, and a whisperer separates close friends*” talks about what happens when we do and say something with evil thoughts in our heart. Jealousy creates these evil thoughts. The bible tells us that we can break friendship and family just as we see in the story of Joseph.
- \* Joseph must have been afraid and sad in the pit. He must have been torn and felt betrayed when he was dragged away as a slave. Yet, as we read on about the story of Joseph we learn that he never doubted God’s plan. Joseph led a life that was pure and holy. He became a blessing to his family. He did rule over them just as he had dreamt. Many years later he even forgave his brothers and was reunited with his father.

## Key words:

Perverse—thinking of or doing what is not right, true and morally incorrect.

# Activities & Review

## Joseph Crossword



### Word List:

Egypt	famine
Benjamin	coat
jealousy	blood
forgave	ring
dreams	sold

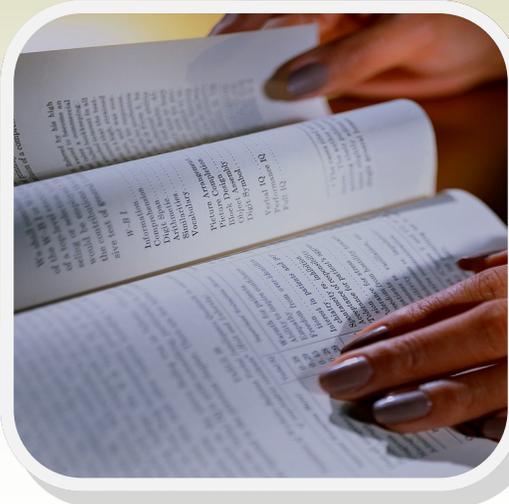
### Across

- Pharaoh gave this to Joseph when he put him in charge of Egypt.
- Joseph's brothers didn't kill him, they \_\_\_\_ him.
- After God told Joseph about Pharaoh's dreams he became in charge of this whole place.
- During the seven years of this, Joseph had enough food in reserve to share with those in need.
- It was because of this that Joseph ended up in Egypt.

### Down

- This is the name of the youngest brother.
- Joseph did the right thing when he \_\_\_\_ his brothers.
- Joseph received this from his father.
- Joseph had a gift of interpreting these.
- Joseph's brother's covered his coat in animal \_\_\_\_ so their father thought he was dead

# TEACHER'S CORNER



## TEACHER'S NOTES

*Joseph is one of the most exciting and vibrant characters in the Bible. His story is rich in mystery (the dreams), family tension (the brothers), emotion (jealousy, betrayal, loss, passion, loyalty, love), victory (rises from the pit to be ruler), forgiveness and reunion. Help the children to form an intimate bond with Bible characters such as these. They will be learning more in the coming years. Share your own lessons learned from the story of Joseph.*



## OPENING PRAYER

Dear God, Thank you for bringing us together today to learn from your word. Open the eyes of our hearts and the ears of our mind to listen to your message for us today.

Amen.



## CLOSING PRAYER:

Dear Lord,

Help me not be jealous. Teach me to trust you and know that your blessings are sufficient for me. Help me to be brave and faithful as Joseph even in the darkest pit.

Amen.

# Moses the Prince of Egypt

## Unit 2 Lesson 9



### MEMORY VERSE

**2 Samuel 22:2**

New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)

<sup>2</sup> He said:

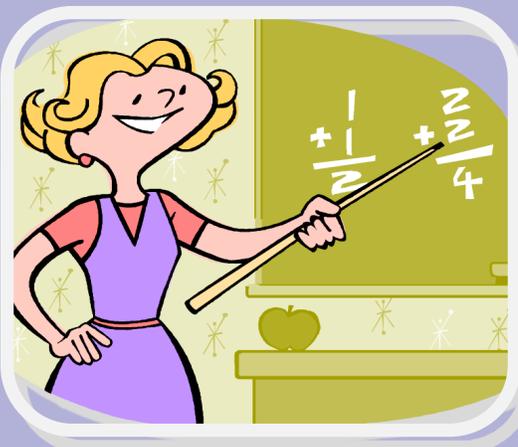
The Lord is my rock, my fortress, and my deliverer

### VALUES FOR LIFE:

Even as a baby, God protected Moses for a very special purpose. He gave Moses shelter among the very people who were harming the Hebrews. Sometimes we can feel weak and lost. Even at those times God is watching us and we are safe in His protecting hands.

### LIFE RESPONSE/MY DECISION:

I know God has a special plan for me and I am willing to let his plan become real in me. I will not interfere in His plan for me. I will trust in God's protection and plan for my life. Even in the darkest times when all around me is frightening, I know that God is with me and I can lean on Him for comfort and care. He will bring the protection and care I need through people who are near me like Moses' mother and sister, and even from those who He chooses to do His work like Pharaoh's daughter.



**LESSON THEME:** God prepares the way for His plan to unfold.

**AIM:** God placed Moses in command of His people to deliver them from the hand of Pharaoh.



## Bible Passage

### Exodus 2:5-10

New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)

<sup>5</sup>The daughter of Pharaoh came down to bathe at the river, while her attendants walked beside the river. She saw the basket among the reeds and sent her maid to bring it. <sup>6</sup>When she opened it, she saw the child. He was crying, and she took pity on him. "This must be one of the Hebrews' children," she said. <sup>7</sup>Then his sister said to Pharaoh's daughter, "Shall I go and get you a nurse from the Hebrew women to nurse the child for you?"

<sup>8</sup>Pharaoh's daughter said to her, "Yes." So the girl went and called the child's mother. <sup>9</sup>Pharaoh's daughter said to her, "Take this child and nurse it for me, and I will give you your wages." So the woman took the child and nursed it. <sup>10</sup>When the child grew up, she brought him to Pharaoh's daughter, and she took him as her son. She named him Moses, "because," she said, "I drew him out of the water."

## Review

### Review Questions:

- What does Moses mean?
- Who was Moses sister?
- Where was Moses born?

# Activity

**Psalm 90** is one of the oldest psalms and was a prayer of Moses. He compares man's days to God's eternity. We are reminded to live each day well, remembering our place in His creation and submitting to God's will.

Sing the song together:

Youtube link to song: <http://youtu.be/gtLcELU1brA>

Lyrics:

When Israel was in Egypt's land,  
Let My people go!  
Oppressed so hard they could not stand,  
Let My people go!  
Refrain:  
Go down, Moses,  
Way down in Egypt's land;  
Tell old Pharaoh  
To let My people go!  
No more shall they in bondage toil,  
Let My people go!  
Let them come out with Egypt's spoil,  
Let My people go!  
Oh, let us all from bondage flee,  
Let My people go!  
And let us all in Christ be free,  
Let My people go!  
You need not always weep and mourn,  
Let My people go!  
And wear these slav'ry chains forlorn,  
Let My people go!  
Your foes shall not before you stand,  
Let My people go!  
And you'll possess fair Canaan's land,  
Let My people go!

[Source: [http://library.timelesstruths.org/music/Let\\_My\\_People\\_Go/](http://library.timelesstruths.org/music/Let_My_People_Go/)]

# Main Ideas

How many of you have been on a boat? Do you like floating on the water?

At the time baby Moses was born the Hebrews were being treated very badly by Pharaoh. Do you remember how God's people went from Canaan to Egypt? Yes. It was Jacob and his family who moved to Egypt to be with Joseph. Now Joseph had pleased the Pharaoh and been rewarded well. During his time the Hebrews were respected and treated well. Many years later when the Egyptians realized that God blessed His people and they were thriving in Egypt, they did not like it. They made the Hebrews do all their work. Hebrews became slaves in Egypt.

Pharaoh had ordered all the Hebrew babies to be killed at birth because he was jealous of the strength and unity of the Hebrew people. But there were a few god-fearing midwives who let the babies live. Midwives are similar to doctors.

The Hebrews cried out to God and He heard their cries. A baby boy was born to deliver them from Pharaoh's hand. When Moses was born, his mother Jochebed, hid baby Moses at home for as long as she could. She trusted in God's promise and protection. When she could not hide him anymore, she put him into a straw reed basket and let him float on the River Nile. Miriam, Moses' sister kept watch over the reed basket boat that her mother had made for her baby brother. She hid herself in the tall grass along the river and watched as it drifted away. Just then Pharaoh's daughter came to the river for a bath. She saw the reed basket and had it pulled out of the water. Pharaoh's daughter pulled him out of the water. She named the baby, **Moses**, saying, "*I pulled him out of the water.*" When she saw baby Moses, she was filled with compassion and took him to be her son. Miriam, Moses' sister who had been watching from a distance ran to the Princess and offered to find a nurse to care for the baby. She ran back home and fetched her mother. The Princess handed the baby to Jochebed who nursed him until he was ready to be returned to Pharaoh's palace as an Egyptian Prince.

We see God's protecting hand all through Moses life. Even as a baby he was protected by God through his mother, his sister and Pharaoh's daughter. Moses grew up as the Prince of Egypt. He was called to lead God's people out of Egypt.

Pharaoh's daughter finds Moses  
in his basket of reeds and cares  
for him as her own. *Exodus 2:1-10*



# Background Story of Moses - The Prince of Egypt

This story talks about how Moses was born and cared for as a baby, adopted by Pharaoh's daughter. God called Moses to deliver his people from wicked Pharaoh who was jealous of the Hebrews and made them work like slaves (Exodus 1). God protected Moses as a baby and even in the wilderness where he was hiding from Pharaoh. When the time was right, God called Moses to go back to Egypt and ask Pharaoh to let the Hebrews leave and go worship their God. Moses was sent as an answer to the prayer of the Hebrew people who cried out to God for deliverance.

Pharaoh had ordered all the Hebrew babies to be killed at birth because he was jealous of the strength and unity of the Hebrew people. But there were a few god-fearing midwives who let the babies live. When Moses was born, his mother put him into a straw basket and let him float on the River Nile. Pharaoh's daughter pulled him out of the water. She named the baby, Moses, saying, "I pulled him out of the water". Miriam, Moses' sister who had been watching from a distance ran to the Princess and offered to find a nurse to care for the baby. She ran back and fetched her mother. The Princess handed the baby to Jochebad who nursed him until he was ready to be returned to Pharaoh's palace as an Egyptian Prince.

God can use any situation to suit His plans. When Moses was a grown up, he chose to suffer with the Hebrews instead of living the royal life. However, God was molding him for mightier tasks. Moses had to flee from Egypt because of a wrong that he had done. God took care of him while he was away and continued the task of molding a leader for the Hebrews. When he was ready, God called to Moses from a burning bush. "Moses! Moses! Deliver my people." Moses had a stutter (difficulty in speech) and was not confident of speaking to Pharaoh. But God assured him that He would go with Moses.

In faith Moses went to Pharaoh and demanded, "God says, 'Let my people go. So they might worship me in the promised land.'"

God promised Moses many signs to show Pharaoh. The ten plagues are

1. Plague of Blood - where all the water in Egypt turned to blood - no water to drink.
2. Plague of Frogs - frogs came up from the water and covered all the land.
3. Plague of Gnats - swarms of gnats came into Egypt.
4. Plague of Flies - flies replace the gnats.
5. Plague of Livestock - the cattle die.
6. Plague of Boils - Egyptians are struck with skin diseases.
7. Plague of Hail - hail rains down in all Egypt.
8. Plague of Locusts - locusts destroy all vegetation, especially the crops - no food.
9. Plague of Darkness - darkness covers the land - there is no sun or moon to give light.
10. Plague of Firstborn - every firstborn among men and animals are struck down by the angel of death.

Finally, Pharaoh let the Israelites leave Egypt with all their livestock and wealth. Moses led the people right through the Red Sea. The sea parted forming huge walls of water. The people walked on the sea bed and got to the other side. The waters covered the Egyptian soldiers that followed and wanted to capture the Israelites.

In the wilderness, God provided food and water for the Israelites. He went with them as a cloud during the day and column of fire by night. But the Israelites grumbled and complained. They did not want to be in the wilderness. They also disobeyed God and made idols. God was very angry with them and punished them. Many died because of their sin. He made the journey harder than it should be. It took the Israelites 40 years to cross the wilderness!

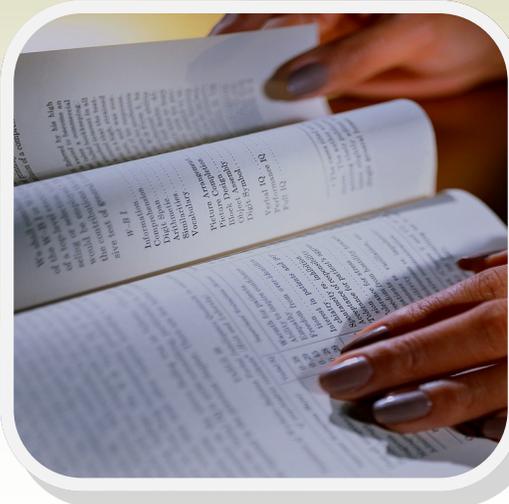
Moses was one of the greatest leaders in biblical times. He talked to God face to face. God gave the ten commandments to Moses. He stood before Pharaoh just with a staff and his brother Aaron and asked the Pharaoh to let the Hebrew people return to their chosen land. He knew God was with Him. In the wilderness, he cried out to God when troubles came his way. God heard his prayers and blessed him and provided for the Israelites during the journey. However, the Israelites rebelled against the Lord and complained when they did not have water to drink. At Meribah, Moses struck a rock and water poured out of the rock to quench the thirst of the people. For once, Moses let anger cloud his mind and he did not talk to the rock as God had commanded. God punished Moses for this sin. He could only look on the promised land. It was Joshua who would lead the Israelites into the promised land.

## Key words

Stutter—difficulty in speech, stutterer : person who has difficulty in speaking fluently.

Midwives—people who are similar to doctors, help deliver babies.

# TEACHER'S CORNER



## TEACHER'S NOTES

Story of Moses is a favorite among young children. Just like baby Jesus, this is one of the sweetest baby stories recorded in the bible. At the time of Moses birth there was great trouble among the Hebrew families. They feared for the life of their babies. Despite all the circumstances, the Hebrews continued to thrive. Encourage the children to pray and seek God's protection in their lives too.

Introduce the lesson by letting the children see the difference between objects that sink or float. Bring in a pan with water and something to float in it (like Moses' basket) and/or bring in objects that children are familiar with that float, and things that sink.



## OPENING PRAYER

Dear God, Thank you for bringing us together today to learn from your word. Open the eyes of our hearts and the ears of our mind to listen to your message for us today.

Amen.



## CLOSING PRAYER:

Dear Lord,

Help me realize I am never alone. You are always near me. You will protect me and keep me in your care.

Amen.

# Esther, the courageous queen

## Unit 2 Lesson 10



### MEMORY VERSE

#### 2 Timothy 1:7

New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)

<sup>7</sup> for God did not give us a spirit of cowardice, but rather a spirit of power and of love and of self-discipline.

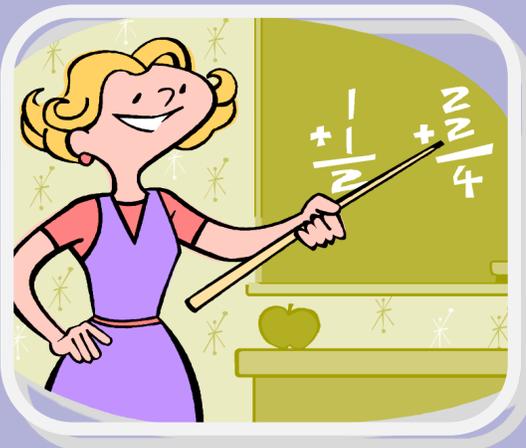


### VALUES FOR LIFE:

We must be brave to stand up for what is right no matter what the consequence. God will strengthen and enable us to do His will. Esther was brave and courageous to stand in the king's court without being invited into the court. She could have been killed for disobedience. But she knew if she was silent a lot of people would die. She could not let that happen. She was ready to sacrifice her life for her people. God honored her courageous act.

### LIFE RESPONSE/MY DECISION:

I will stand up for what is right. I will ask God to give me wisdom to choose the right way and time to do His will.



**LESSON THEME:** God uses willing instruments to fulfill His plan.

**AIM: ESTHER SHOWS HER COURAGE AND FAITH IN TIME OF NEED AND PROTECTS HER PEOPLE.**



## Bible Passage

### Esther 5:1-8

New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)

#### Esther's Banquet

5 On the third day Esther put on her royal robes and stood in the inner court of the king's palace, opposite the king's hall. The king was sitting on his royal throne inside the palace opposite the entrance to the palace. <sup>2</sup> As soon as the king saw Queen Esther standing in the court, she won his favor and he held out to her the golden scepter that was in his hand. Then Esther approached and touched the top of the scepter. <sup>3</sup> The king said to her, "What is it, Queen Esther? What is your request? It shall be given you, even to the half of my kingdom." <sup>4</sup> Then Esther said, "If it pleases the king, let the king and Haman come today to a banquet that I have prepared for the king." <sup>5</sup> Then the king said, "Bring Haman quickly, so that we may do as Esther desires." So the king and Haman came to the banquet that Esther had prepared. <sup>6</sup> While they were drinking wine, the king said to Esther, "What is your petition? It shall be granted you. And what is your request? Even to the half of my kingdom, it shall be fulfilled." <sup>7</sup> Then Esther said, "This is my petition and request: <sup>8</sup> If I have won the king's favor, and if it pleases the king to grant my petition and fulfill my request, let the king and Haman come tomorrow to the banquet that I will prepare for them, and then I will do as the king has said."



Pictures used with permission from <http://www.theglorystory.com>



## Main Ideas

Esther was a Jewish woman who became the queen of Persia according to God's divine plan. Although she was queen, she could not come into the King's court without his permission. When she heard that an evil minister in the king's court was going to harm the Jewish people she could not stay away in her palace and pretend she did not care. Esther cared.

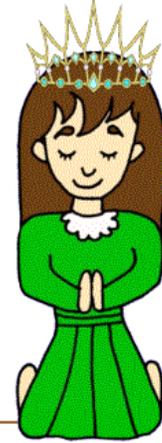
Mordecai, her uncle and all the Jews fasted and prayed along with her. On the third day, she went to the King's court to invite him to a banquet. Esther was tactful and wise. She showed respect for the laws of the land and honored her king. Because of her attitude the king was very pleased with her and ready to do anything she wanted.

We will learn later how Esther saved her people because of her wisdom and courage.

# Activities & Review

Unscramble the letters to find the words in our

## Esther the Queen Anagram



aberv \_\_\_\_\_

acegoru \_\_\_\_\_

ehijsw \_\_\_\_\_

eenqu \_\_\_\_\_

aeprry \_\_\_\_\_

acdeimor \_\_\_\_\_

adesv \_\_\_\_\_

cnorw \_\_\_\_\_

afginst \_\_\_\_\_

aejlosuy \_\_\_\_\_

**Answers:** brave, gracious, Jewish, queen, prayer, mordca, saved, crown, fasting, jealousy

### Review Questions:

1. Who was Esther?
2. How did Esther win the favor of the Persian king?

Esther meets the king. He is taken with her beauty and gentleness, and chooses her to be his queen.



# TEACHER'S CORNER



## TEACHER'S NOTES

*Esther's story is one of the few stories in the Bible about women of courage. The book of Esther is special in many ways. Fun trivia to share: India is mentioned in the book of Esther (Esther 1:1). Esther goes through rigorous beauty treatments before she is presented to the King. Just like a bride today is prepared for her wedding, so Esther was groomed and gleaned for the King. She was very brave and courageous to go into the courts of the Persian king. She was a Jew. Yet, she did as her Uncle Mordecai had instructed her to do. When it was time for her to act, she did it with prayer and fasting, seeking God's favor. Encourage the children to be vigilant in prayer and ready to act just as Esther did so many years ago.*



## OPENING PRAYER

Dear God, Thank you for bringing us together today to learn from your word. Open the eyes of our hearts and the ears of our mind to listen to your message for us today.

Amen.



## CLOSING PRAYER:

Dear God,

Thank you for Esther. Thank you that you have a plan for each of us. Guide us to know your will in our life. Help us to be ready to do what is right when it is time.

Amen.

# Remember the Sabbath Day

## Unit 1 Lesson 11

Genesis 2:1-3; Exodus 20:8-11; Exodus 31:12-17



### MEMORY VERSE

Exodus 20:8 (NRSV)

Remember the Sabbath day, and keep it holy.

### VALUES FOR LIFE:

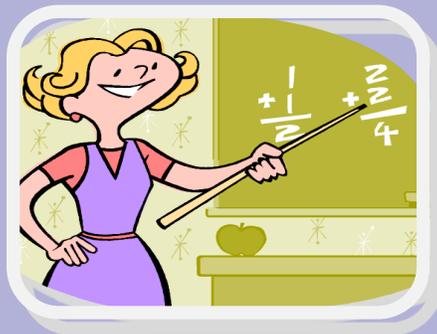
God sanctified the seventh day as “Holy” and we need to observe it as a day of rest. This is one of the commandments of the LORD.



### LIFE RESPONSE/My DECISION:

We observe Sunday as the day of rest and come to church to worship him as community.

**My Decision:** I will remember to observe one day in the week as a day of rest and worship the LORD with my family.



**LESSON THEME:** The Sabbath day is HOLY.

**AIM:** YOU SHALL REMEMBER THE SABBATH DAY.

### OPENING PRAYER

Dear God, Thank you for bringing us together today to learn from your word. Open the eyes of our hearts and the ears of our mind to listen to your message for us today. Amen.

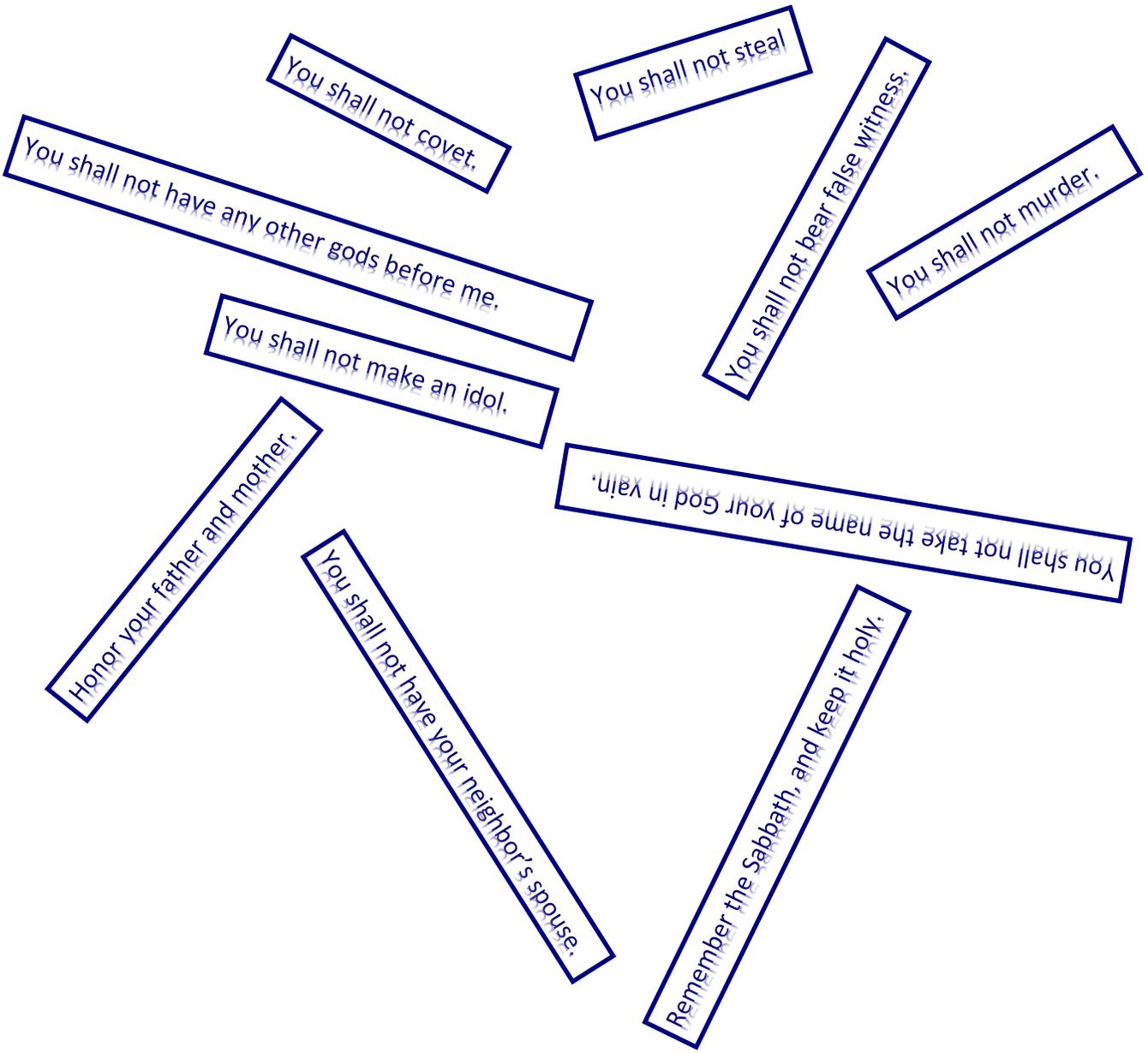
### CLOSING PRAYER:

Dear God,

Thank you for creating me so perfectly in your image and likeness. Lord, help me set aside time to worship and give glory to your name. In Jesus name I pray

Amen.





Write the ten commandments in the correct order.

1.	6.
2.	7.
3.	8.
4.	9.
5.	10.



## Bible Passage

**Genesis 2:1-3; Exodus 20:8-11; Exodus 31:12-17**

New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)

Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all their multitude. And on the seventh day God finished the work that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all the work that he had done. So God blessed the seventh day and hallowed it, because on it God rested from all the work that he had done in creation. Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy. Six days you shall labor and do all your work. But the seventh day is a sabbath to the Lord your God; you shall not do any work—you, your son or your

daughter, your male or female slave, your livestock, or the alien resident in your towns. For in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but rested the seventh day; therefore the Lord blessed the sabbath day and consecrated it.

### **The Sabbath Law**

The Lord said to Moses: You yourself are to speak to the Israelites: "You shall keep my sabbaths, for this is a sign between me and you throughout your generations, given in order that you may know that I, the Lord, sanctify you. You shall keep the sabbath, because it is holy for you; everyone who profanes it shall be put to death; whoever does any work on it shall be cut off from among the people. Six days shall work be done, but the seventh day is a sabbath of solemn rest, holy to the Lord; whoever does any work on the sabbath day shall be put to death. Therefore the Israelites shall keep the sabbath, observing the sabbath throughout their generations, as a perpetual covenant. It is a sign forever between me and the people of Israel that in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, and on the seventh day he rested, and was refreshed."

## MAIN IDEAS

God gave us commandments as rules to help us live a holy life. We have been made in the image of God. We have responsibilities to fulfill. One of the tasks God gave us was to take care of God's creation.

In the Bible times, the Ten Commandments was the law. The first three were to honor God. The fourth commandment was to keep the Sabbath day holy. The fifth commandment is to honor your father and mother. The last four commandments were to help us live in peace with our family, friends and neighbors.

You have rules in school, at the playground, at home and on the road. They keep us safe and healthy. They also help us have fun in a safe manner. It is important to follow rules.

Remember the rules that the Bible gives us.

One day as Jesus was teaching the crowds, some Pharisees asked him about the greatest commandment.

*Jesus answered, "The first is, 'Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God, the Lord is one; you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength.' The second is this, 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no other commandment greater than these."* **Mark 12:29-**

**31**

Jesus was teaching that there is nothing more important than honoring God and showing love and kindness to others.

# TEACHER'S CORNER



Earlier we learned about how God created the world in six days and rested on the seventh. When the Israelites were led out of their captivity in Egypt, they did not have any laws or rules. God called Moses to the Holy Mountain and gave him Ten Commandments.

1. You shall have no other Gods before me.
2. You shall not make idols.
3. You shall not take the name of God in vain.
4. Keep the Sabbath holy.
5. Honor your father and mother.
6. Do not murder.
7. Do not commit adultery.
8. Do not steal.
9. Do not bear false witness.
10. Do not covet.

The fourth commandment was about taking rest and keeping the Sabbath day holy. God rested on the seventh day and consecrated it as "Holy". He commanded us to set aside time to honor and worship Him.

Bible scholars have reasoned that although Saturday is the Sabbath the church recognized Sunday as the day of rest and worship because Jesus rose on a Sunday. Another theory is that we are asked to set apart the first fruit for the Lord. Sunday is the first day of our week. Therefore we set apart Sunday as the day of rest and worship.

At the time Jesus was on earth, the Jews, most of them, were eager to observe the law literally. They treated the poor and sick very badly. Jesus called them hypocrites because of their behavior. God gave us commands and rules to help us care for each other and His creation. But the Jews used the law to punish wrongly those who could not afford to observe the Sabbath rituals. Jesus healed the sick on the Sabbath. Jesus taught us to use the rules to honor God. If your mother or father is a doctor, nurse, police or military officer, they might have to work on a Sunday. Jesus did not send the sick away on the Sabbath. He healed them. He took care of their needs. Jesus still took time away from His work to pray and talk to God. Set aside the time to come worship the LORD as a family. It is pleasing to the LORD to hear our praises and prayers lifted up together.



# You shall not worship idols

## Unit 1 Lesson 12

## Exodus 32:1-6



### MEMORY VERSE

#### Exodus 20:4 (NRSV)

You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth.

### VALUES FOR LIFE:

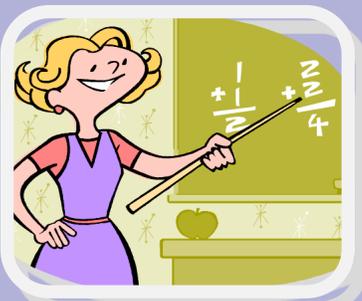
What is an idol? Anything that takes the place of God in your life is an idol. For some people it is their work, others might spend more time with their gadgets (TV, phone, car). Do you doubt there is a living God? How can you worship him when you can not see him? The Bible has answers to those questions. Read and study the word to know your God. Seek His love and plan for your life.



### LIFE RESPONSE/My DECISION:

We live in a world today where seeing is believing. Our faith, however, asks us to believe in God, a God that we do not see. Do you find yourself wondering if God is real? If you do, think about all the times where God protected you. Think about all the times he kept you safe and gave you the things you need. You have parents who love you and people who want to take care of you. Think about all the things your God does for you. Believe in Him, and one day, you will see Him.

**My Decision:** I will not worship any other gods.



### LESSON THEME: Right Choices

**AIM: OUR GOD IS ALIVE AND WE MUST NOT BOW DOWN TO IDOLS.**

### OPENING PRAYER

Dear God, Thank you for bringing us together today to learn from your word. Open the eyes of our hearts and the ears of our mind to listen to your message for us today. Amen.

### CLOSING PRAYER:

Dear Lord,  
Thank you for teaching us the story of Aaron and the golden calf. Teach us to seek your will in our life and to wait for your timing. Help us to keep your commandments and not seek our own pleasures. In Jesus name we pray, Amen.



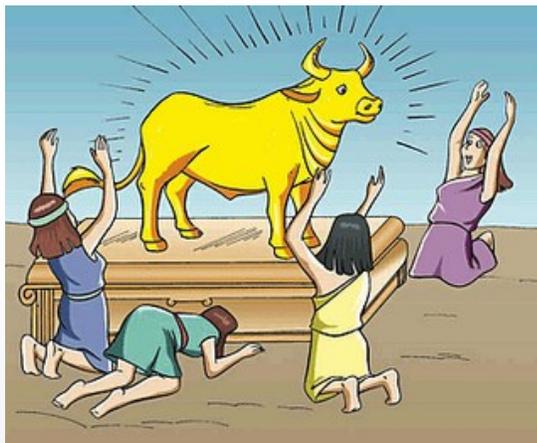


## Exodus 32:1-6

**New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)**

### The Golden Calf

**32** When the people saw that Moses delayed to come down from the mountain, the people gathered around Aaron, and said to him, "Come, make gods for us, who shall go before us; as for this Moses, the man who brought us up out of the land of Egypt, we do not know what has become of him." <sup>2</sup> Aaron said to them, "Take off the gold rings that are on the ears of your wives, your sons, and your daughters, and bring them to me." <sup>3</sup> So all the people took off the gold rings from their ears, and brought them to Aaron. <sup>4</sup> He took the gold from them, formed it in a mold,<sup>[a]</sup> and cast an image of a calf; and they said, "These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt!" <sup>5</sup> When Aaron saw this, he built an altar before it; and Aaron made proclamation and said, "Tomorrow shall be a festival to the LORD." <sup>6</sup> They rose early the next day, and offered burnt offerings and brought sacrifices of well-being; and the people sat down to eat and drink, and rose up to revel.



## Exodus 20:4-6

**New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)**  
**Commandment against idol worship**

<sup>4</sup> You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. <sup>5</sup> You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I the LORD your God am a jealous God, punishing children for the iniquity of parents, to the third and the fourth generation of those who reject me, <sup>6</sup> but showing steadfast love to the thousandth generation<sup>[a]</sup> of those who love me and keep my commandments.

# THE TEN COMMANDMENTS



1. You shall have no other gods.
2. You shall not make idols.
3. You shall not misuse the name of the Lord.
4. Remember the Sabbath, keep it holy.
5. Honor your Father and your Mother.
6. You shall not murder.
7. You shall not commit adultery.
8. You shall not steal.
9. You shall not lie.
10. You shall not covet.

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## Review Questions

1. Which commandment did the Israelites break when they made the golden calf?
2. After their escape from Egypt, who had gone up into the mountain of the LORD to talk to God?
3. What did they forget in the wilderness?
4. Who was the prophet at this time?
5. What does the bible teach us about making images and worshipping them?

## True or False (Underline the correct answer)

1. Moses asked the Israelites to make a golden calf and worship it (TRUE / FALSE)
2. The Ten Commandments were made for the Israelites to follow, not me. (TRUE/FALSE)
3. The LORD our God is a jealous God. (TRUE/FALSE)

## Main Ideas



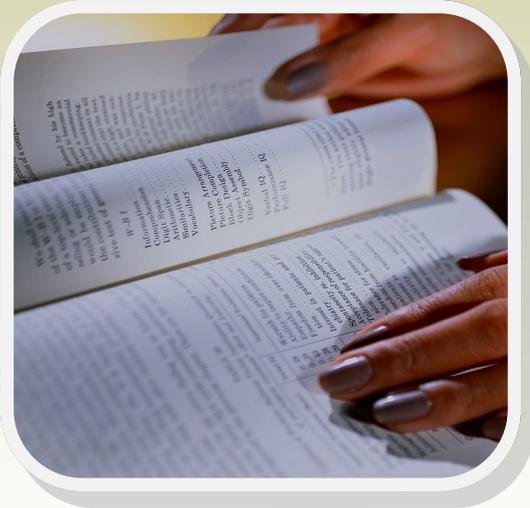
God had just brought his people out of captivity. They worked as slaves for Pharaoh. The people saw the miracles Moses and Aaron performed in Egypt. They had walked through the Red Sea. But here they were rebelling against God once again. Moses had gone up to Mount Sinai to get the commandments from the Lord. The people got impatient and asked Aaron to make an idol for them to worship. Aaron asked them to collect all the jewelry they had and bring it to him. He had the gold melted and shaped into a golden calf. The people ate, drank and danced around the calf. They even offered burnt offerings to the idol!

God the Father was very sad to see how the people had forgotten his mercies and blessings. He told Moses to go back and warn the people of the punishment that they were to receive for their disobedience and rebellion.

Have you ever wanted to rebel against your parents, teachers or God? Take a moment and remember the good things you have received from them. If you have been asked to do something by them, it is probably for your good. To keep you safe and healthy.

Today television, smartphones, video games, and other things are trying to grab your attention. Don't make them idols in your life. You are probably allowed to watch TV or play video games only an hour each day. Stick to that schedule. Spend some time reading the bible. Talk to your parents and have them answer questions you have.

# TEACHER'S CORNER



The Israelites were God's chosen people. He had promised to bless them and make them a great nation. However, they were not faithful to God. They rebelled against God and forgot his commandments. They worshipped other gods.

God delivered the Israelites from the hand of Pharaoh. Moses led them into the wilderness. But the people forgot God's mercies and deliverance. They did not want to listen to Moses anymore when they had to face the difficulties in the wilderness. In their quest to seek solutions without waiting on the LORD, the Israelites made a big mistake. They made the golden calf and worshipped it.

# The talking donkey

## Unit 1 Lesson 14

## Numbers 22:22-35



### MEMORY VERSE

#### Deuteronomy 13:4 (NRSV)

The Lord your God you shall follow, him alone you shall fear, his commandments you shall keep, his voice you shall obey, him you shall serve, and to him you shall hold fast.

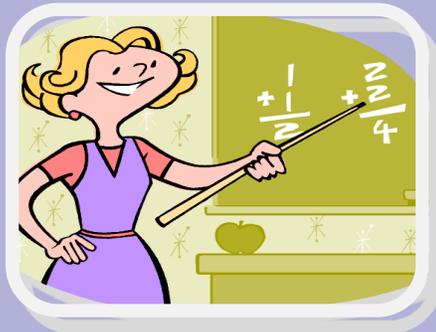
### VALUES FOR LIFE:

When you are asked to wait, what will your response be? How can you know what God wants you to do? Balaam would have been able to be a better prophet if he had obeyed God's angel and waited. Balaam's greed blinded him from God's love. He did not behave like a prophet of God.

### LIFE RESPONSE/MY DECISION:

Today, make every effort to seek God's plan in your life. Do not disobey God and think you have won the game. God will not give up on you. Come to the Lord and find strength in His wisdom. You will save yourself a lot of trouble and donkey talk!

**My Decision:** I will obey the Lord and seek His plans for me.



**LESSON THEME:** Obey God out of love and not for selfish reasons.

**AIM: YOUR THOUGHTS AND ACTIONS MUST BE ALIGNED WITH GOD'S PLANS.**

### OPENING PRAYER

Dear God, Thank you for bringing us together today to learn from your word. Open the eyes of our hearts and the ears of our mind to listen to your message for us today.

Amen.

### CLOSING PRAYER:

Dear God,

Help me to be obedient and loyal to you. Help me to honor you in my thought, word and deeds.

Amen.



## Bible Passage

### Numbers 22:22-35 (NRSV)

*Balaam, the Donkey, and the Angel*



God's anger was kindled because he was going, and the angel of the Lord took his stand in the road as his adversary. Now he was riding on the donkey, and his two servants were with him. The donkey saw the angel of the Lord standing in the road, with a drawn sword in his hand; so the donkey turned off the road, and went into the field; and Balaam struck the donkey, to turn it back onto the road. Then the angel of the Lord stood in a narrow path between the vineyards, with a wall on either side. When the donkey saw the angel of the Lord, it scraped against the wall, and scraped Balaam's foot against the wall; so he struck it again. Then the angel of the Lord went ahead, and stood in a narrow place, where there was no way to turn either to the right or to the left. When the donkey saw the angel of the Lord, it lay down under Balaam; and Balaam's anger was kindled, and he struck the donkey with his staff. Then the Lord opened the mouth of the donkey, and it said to Balaam, "What have I done to you, that you have struck me these three times?" Balaam said to the donkey, "Because you have made a fool of me! I wish I had a sword in my hand! I would kill you right now!" But the donkey said to Balaam, "Am I not your donkey, which you have ridden all your life to this day? Have I been in the habit of treating you this way?" And he said, "No."

Then the Lord opened the eyes of Balaam, and he saw the angel of the Lord standing in the road, with his drawn sword in his hand; and he bowed down, falling on his face. The angel of the Lord said to him, "Why have you struck your donkey these three times? I have come out as an adversary, because your way is perverse before me. The donkey saw me, and turned away from me these three times. If it had not turned away from me, surely just now I would have killed you and let it live." Then Balaam said to the angel of the Lord, "I have sinned, for I did not know that you were standing in the road to oppose me. Now therefore, if it is displeasing to you, I will return home." The angel of the Lord said to Balaam, "Go with the men; but speak only what I tell you to speak." So Balaam went on with the officials of Balak.

## Main Ideas

Balaam was a prophet of the Lord. He was God's messenger. One day, Balak, the leader of the Moabite people called Balaam. He wanted Balaam to make the Israelites leave their land. But God had a different plan for Balaam. He wanted Balaam to go to the Israelites and give them a message from God. Balaam was greedy for the money that Balak had promised him and did not wait for the message from God. He rode a donkey to go meet Balak. On his way, the donkey stopped in the middle of the road. Balaam hit the donkey to make it move. The donkey stopped three times and each time Balaam hit the donkey. The donkey saw the Angel of the Lord standing in the middle of the road with a drawn sword. The Angel would kill Balaam if he went forward. Balaam was so blind with greed that he did not see the Angel. Finally, the donkey opened its' mouth and said, "What have I done to you, that you have struck me these three times?"

God opened Balaam's eyes and he could see the angel. He realized that his donkey was trying to protect him. Balam learned a very valuable lesson that day. If God is not with us, our efforts and work is useless.



Y	G	G	O	Y	T	X	T	O	V	K	V	O	P	M
E	S	O	M	H	D	C	K	F	C	Z	V	P	P	G
K	X	D	R	B	M	J	Q	U	B	A	L	A	K	R
N	B	E	W	C	C	A	R	X	B	G	N	A	A	W
O	E	N	U	K	R	T	A	G	G	I	K	L	A	T
D	G	T	D	P	S	N	L	L	M	T	S	V	E	U
M	A	A	N	G	O	K	K	F	A	C	E	D	P	H
Q	O	N	B	R	G	T	H	X	P	B	Y	U	N	R
R	Y	V	G	E	J	S	S	N	N	G	E	M	G	J
S	D	J	C	E	O	U	K	G	R	P	U	V	T	B
H	V	L	D	D	L	P	Z	P	B	Y	B	A	E	P
D	S	H	V	W	N	G	E	E	M	D	F	E	A	D
U	Y	E	B	O	S	I	D	N	D	L	D	J	W	E
H	V	S	A	Z	N	Y	Z	Q	D	G	O	F	J	U
M	K	L	Y	C	L	Z	Y	T	Z	D	F	U	L	D

ANGEL	EYES	ROAD
BALAAM	FACE	STOP
BALAK	GOD	STRUCK
DISOBEY	GREED	TALK
DONKEY	OPEN	THREE

### FREEZE DANCE

Play some music and have the kids play freeze dance. Tell the children to dance when they hear music . They must freeze when the music stops. Play until the end of the song or until only one child is standing.

Teach the kids that it is important to freeze and listen to what God has to say. God’s plans are always better than our best efforts.

### Review Questions

- 1) Who was Balam?
- 2) Why was God angry with Balam?



# TEACHER'S CORNER



## Introduction

What should you do when facing a difficult task and you do not know how to solve the problem?

## TEACHERS NOTES

Share this story with the children to help them relate to the scenario.

Derek: "Mommy, can I go out and play today?"

Mommy: "No, it is going to rain this evening."

Derek: "Please Mommy, I've been indoors all day."

Mommy: "Derek, I do not want you to go out and get wet. You will catch a chill."

Derek: "Oh! You never let me have any fun. I hate being your son."

Mommy ignores the last comment and goes in to do the laundry. Derek waits for a little while. He knows Mommy is going to be busy with the laundry for a while. He quietly sneaks out of the house and heads for the nearby park to meet his friends. But his friends are not there. Derek turns around to return home. He did not notice the car heading down the road. In a flash, he is hit and thrown into the air. "I should have listened to Mommy and stayed home." That was the last thought Derek had before he hit the ground hard and saw the blood on his hand and leg.

Have you ever felt you were being told to do something that was silly? Like Derek had to stay indoors.

Read the complete story of Balaam in Numbers 22-24. Balaam had very good intentions. He was a prophet and knew God's commandments. But in this story, we learn about how Balaam did not wait for God to reveal his message. He was impatient and decided to take matters into his own hands.

Sometimes God stops us when we are headed in the wrong direction. If we do not listen to him, we go our way. But the result is never good. God loves us so much and has given us boundaries to keep. Balaam went to meet the king even though God had told him not to go. He was so blind that he did not notice the Angel of the Lord standing there to stop him. The donkey was wiser. God opened the mouth of the donkey to talk. Can you imagine the surprise on Balaam's face? A talking donkey! Who has ever heard of such a thing? That is God's power. Don't dismiss a donkey as a dumb animal. Yes, God can even use a donkey to discipline us if we do not open our eyes and seek His will in our life.

Today, make every effort to seek God's plan in your life. Do not disobey God and think you have won the game. God will not give up on you. Come to the Lord and find strength in His wisdom. You will save yourself a lot of trouble and donkey talk!

**Additional Reading: Numbers 22-24**

# Solomon builds the temple

## Unit 1 Lesson 14

1 Chronicles 28:6-29:1; 1 Kings 6:1



### MEMORY VERSE

**1Chronicles 29:1(b) (NRSV)**

The temple will not be for mortals but for the Lord God.

### VALUES FOR LIFE:

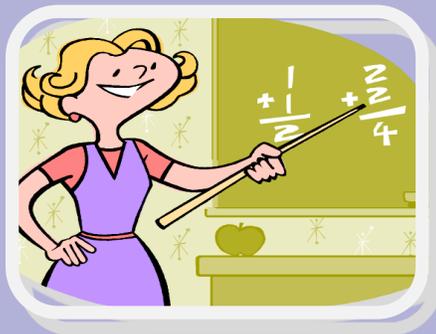
You are called to be the temple of God. King Solomon was given specific instructions on how to build the temple and what to put inside it. God created you in His image. The construction is complete. Do not add or take away from what God has made. We honor God by the choices we make and how we take care of the temple of God.



### LIFE RESPONSE/My DECISION:

What am I reading? What am I watching? What am I listening to? What am I doing? Am I honoring God? Am I ready to worship God in truth and spirit? These are questions you should ask everyday to keep yourself holy and pure.

**My Decision:** I am fearfully and wonderfully made. I have a purpose to fulfill. I have to use the talents God has given me to praise and worship Him alone.



**LESSON THEME:** Your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you. You were bought with a price; therefore glorify God in your body.

**AIM: HONOR GOD WHEREVER YOU ARE PLACED.**

### OPENING PRAYER

Dear God, Thank you for bringing us together today to learn from your word. Open the eyes of our hearts and the ears of our mind to listen to your message for us today.  
Amen.

### CLOSING PRAYER:

Dear God,  
Give us wisdom to know your plans for us. Help us each day to do your will. In whatever we do, may we honor you and bring glory to your name.  
Amen.



## Bible Passage

### 1 Chronicles 28:6-29:1; 1 Kings 6:1

New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)



He said to me, 'It is your son Solomon who shall build my house and my courts, for I have chosen him to be a son to me, and I will be a father to him. I will establish his kingdom forever if he continues resolute in keeping my commandments and my ordinances, as he is to-day.' Now therefore in the sight of all Israel, the assembly of the Lord, and in the hearing of our God, observe and search out all the commandments of the Lord your God; that you may possess this good land, and leave it for an inheritance to your children after you forever.

"And you, my son Solomon, know the God of your father, and serve him with single mind and willing heart; for the Lord searches every mind, and understands every plan and thought. If you seek him, he will be found by you; but if you forsake him, he will abandon you forever. Take heed now, for the Lord has chosen you to build a house as the sanctuary; be strong, and act."

Then David gave his son Solomon the plan of the vestibule of the temple, and of its houses, its treasuries, its upper rooms, and its inner chambers, and of the room for the mercy seat; and the plan of all that he had in mind: for the courts of the house of the Lord, all the surrounding chambers, the treasuries of the house of God, and the treasuries for dedicated gifts; for the divisions of the priests and of the Levites, and all the work of the service in the house of the Lord; for all the vessels for the service in the house of the Lord, the weight of gold for all golden vessels for each service, the weight of silver vessels for each service, the weight of the golden lampstands and their lamps, the weight of gold for each lampstand and its lamps, the weight of silver for a lampstand and its lamps, according to the use of each in the service, the weight of gold for each table for the rows of bread, the silver for the silver tables, and pure gold for the forks, the basins, and the cups; for the golden bowls and the weight of each; for the silver bowls and the weight of each; for the altar of incense made of refined gold, and its weight; also his plan for the golden chariot of the cherubim that spread their wings and covered the ark of the covenant of the Lord.

"All this, in writing at the Lord's direction, he made clear to me—the plan of all the works."

David said further to his son Solomon, "Be strong and of good courage, and act. Do not be afraid or dismayed; for the Lord God, my God, is with you. He will not fail you or forsake you, until all the work for the service of the house of the Lord is finished. Here are the divisions of the priests and the Levites for all the service of the house of God; and with you in all the work will be every volunteer who has skill for any kind of service; also the officers and all the people will be wholly at your command."

#### **Offerings for Building the Temple**

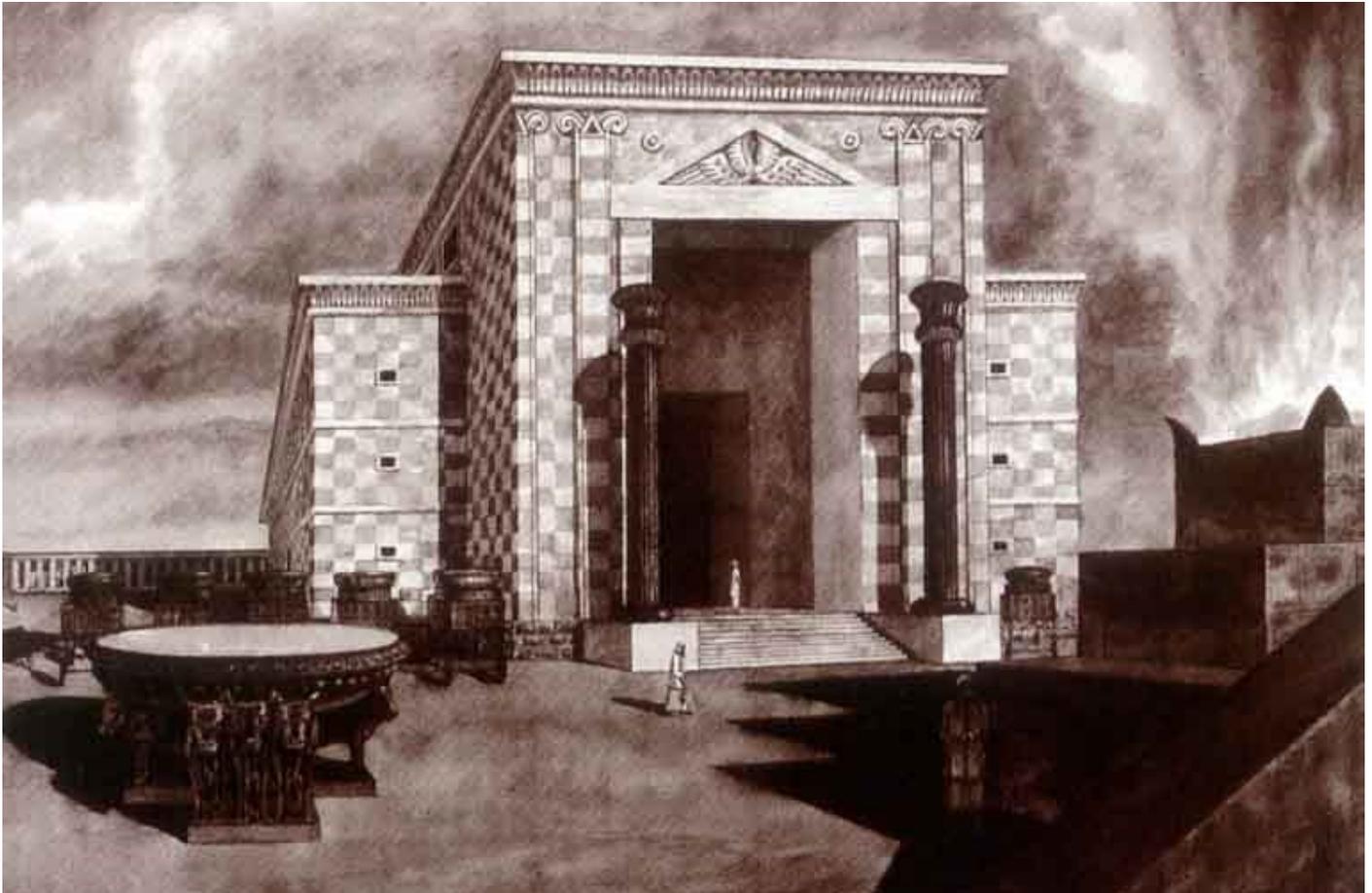
King David said to the whole assembly, "My son Solomon, whom alone God has chosen, is young and inexperienced, and the work is great; for the temple will not be for mortals but for the Lord God.

#### **Solomon Builds the Temple**

In the four hundred eightieth year after the Israelites came out of the land of Egypt, in the fourth year of Solomon's reign over Israel, in the month of Ziv, which is the second month, he began to build the house of the LORD.

## Main Ideas

When David was done building the kingdom, he decided it was time to settle his people into towns and build a house for the Lord. But God did not want David to build the temple. We read in the Bible that David was chosen when he was young to fight Goliath. Have your parents read that story to you if you would like to know how a little boy with a sling shot and five little stones killed a huge man. God chose and prepared David for a special task. The



kingdom of Israel had forgotten about God and followed other gods. King Saul who was the first king of Israel was not leading them back to God. David was anointed as the next king. As king, David did a lot of good things. But David too was weak and did a few bad things. David was humble and always came back to God. He asked God to forgive him and repented for his sins. He knew without God there was no purpose to his life. Building the temple to the Lord was his idea of honoring the Lord.

God chose Solomon to build the temple. David accepted God's plan and gave directions to Solomon. He also assigned tasks to the Levite priests and other officers to help Solomon in his work.

We can learn to be humble like David and accept God's appointment and plan. King David is said to have written a number of psalms. Psalm 23 is one of the beautiful verses where he calls God a shepherd.

The Bible has a story of how Solomon got his gift of wisdom. One day God called Solomon and said, "I am very pleased with you. Ask me for anything and I will give it to you." Imagine your parents saying that to you. What would you ask for? Do you know what Solomon asked for? He asked for wisdom! God granted his wish and also gave him great wealth. Solomon is known as the wisest king. People came from distant lands to hear of his wisdom. The book of Proverbs in the Bible is said to be written by Solomon.

Ask God for wisdom and He will definitely bless you too.

## Activity: GRAB THAT WORD

WHAT YOU'LL NEED: index cards, markers, Bible

This activity is to help the kids learn the memory verse. Write each word on a card. Make a set of cards for every team of 5 or 6 kids. Mix up each set of cards and put them in a separate pile.

WHAT YOU'LL DO: 1. Read the memory verse to kids several times. Then divide kids into teams of 5 or 6. Designate a set of cards for each team, and place the cards about 20 feet away. 2. The kids will take turns grabbing words from the pile to complete the memory verse. Each team decides what the first word should be, and a member of the team runs to the pile of cards, finds the word, and brings it back. Then the team decides together what the next word should be, and another person runs to grab that word. Continue until each team has put the words in order.

### Review:

Who did God choose to build the temple?

Who was David?

Application Question: Does God need a house to live in?

## Find the hidden words

L J S H R V L L E A B Y P D B  
M P R B T G T L K R O O R A I  
V U E E O L P M O M R J I U O  
V B K O S M E N W I R W E B T  
S A R X E U Z V J C H O S E N  
S O O T E E O T I P V D T D L  
D P W N S Y D H M T N L I R F  
P E O N O M O L O S E I N C H  
W T R U J G T U L W M U C N E  
S H X D D O G N X D L B F X H  
R X P B N O E J J K F K O I R  
A L E Q L U B N Z L I O U L L  
H C O D T B H D Z M J B R S X  
E J U R V C E D A R E P Y C K  
D I V A D Z U X F C U Z E Z G

BRONZE  
BUILD  
CEDAR  
CHOSEN  
DAVID  
FOUR

GOD  
GOLD  
HOUSE  
HUNDRED  
LEVITE  
LORD

PRIEST  
SOLOMON  
STONE  
TEMPLE  
WORKERS

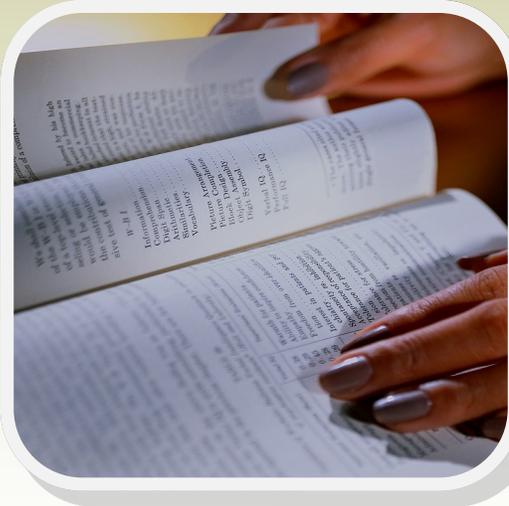


RaisingOurKids.com

King Solomon built a beautiful temple for God.

# TEACHER'S CORNER

## BACKGROUND



David is known as the man after God's own heart. God loved David. He did many heroic things in the name of the Lord. He was a good king. He conquered many kingdoms and expanded the Jewish territory. When he decided that there was peace in the kingdom he wanted to build a temple for the Lord. But God stopped him and said, "It is your son Solomon who will build a temple for me."

David accepted God's plan and assigned roles and responsibilities to the officers, the priests and the Levites. Would you be able to accept God's plan if he asks you to step down and has someone else fulfill his work? Be like David, humble and wise.

Solomon is known as the wisest king. People came from distant lands to meet him and seek his advise.

The temple he built was as per the designs drawn by David, his father. It is said that the temple was truly beautiful and had some of the finest riches on its walls.

## APPLICATION

There were rules on who went into the temple and how they offered prayers and sacrifices. It was the holy place to worship and honor God.

In 1 Corinthians 6 we learn that our body is the temple of God. It is a difficult concept for first graders. Help them draw the parallels of temple—Body; altar—heart. We are to treat our bodies as the temple of God. It is holy because the Holy Spirit dwells in us. We have to be careful of what we think, see, hear and do. We must not do what does not honor God.

What do you think will honor God?

How do we honor God with our bodies?

What does the bible say about tattoos and piercings?

# Walk in the way of the LORD

## Unit 1 Lesson 15

## Psalm 1



### MEMORY VERSE

**Psalm 6:1 (NRSV)**

The LORD watches over the way of the righteous.

### VALUES FOR LIFE:

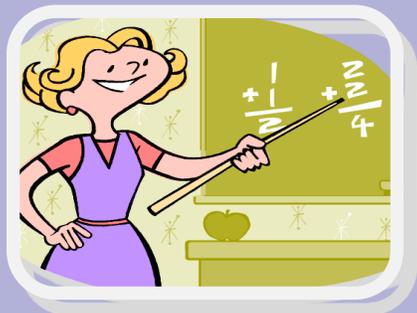
Jesus showed us how to choose the right path. He was obedient to His Father in Heaven at all times. He did not question God's plans. Even when it was tough, He trusted His Father and stayed on the right path. We too must seek God's will in our lives and with prayerful hearts do His will. Grow in the grace and knowledge of our LORD Jesus Christ.



### LIFE RESPONSE/My DECISION:

I might not understand all God's ways. But I do know that he loves me and will not do anything to harm me. I know this because the Bible tells me of His love.

**My Decision:** I will be like the tree planted by the stream and draw strength from God. I will seek His will in my life.



**LESSON THEME:** Your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you. You were bought with a price; therefore glorify God in your body.

**AIM: HONOR GOD WHEREVER YOU ARE PLACED.**

### OPENING PRAYER

Dear God, Thank you for bringing us together today to learn from your word. Open the eyes of our hearts and the ears of our mind to listen to your message for us today.  
Amen.

### CLOSING PRAYER:

Dear God,  
Teach me to walk in your ways. May your words be a lamp to my feet and guide me all the days of my life.  
Amen.





## Bible Passage

### Psalm 1 (NRSV)

#### The Two Ways

Happy are those who do not follow the advice of the wicked, or take the path that sinners tread, or sit in the seat of scoffers; but their delight is in the law of the Lord, and on his law they meditate day and night.



They are like trees planted by streams of water, which **yield their fruit** in its season, and their **leaves do not wither**. In all that they do, **they prosper**.



The wicked are not so, but are like chaff that the wind drives away. Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous; for the Lord watches over the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked will perish.



## MAIN IDEAS

We have the choice to follow in God's way or go our way. How do we know and follow God's way?

- Read the Bible
- Pray without ceasing. (In the morning, noon, evening and night.)
- Ask the LORD to help you make the right choice.
- Be humble.
- Say sorry when you are wrong.
- Be happy. (Rejoice always).
- Be thankful.
- Be alert and watchful.. Don't let the devil trap you in any schemes.

In Psalm 1 we read that God will bless those who obey his commandments and stay close to him. He is like the stream of water. We are like the trees. Just as a tree that gets enough water and light bears good fruit in its season, we too will be a blessing to others when we stay connected with God.



## Activity: SKETCH THAT VERSE

WHAT YOU'LL NEED: paper, crayons,/markers, Bible

This activity is to help the kids learn the memory verse. Have the children repeat one phrase at a time of a verse. After rehearsing the memory verse, invite volunteers to sketch one short element from the verse. Do an example of one verse. Have the children make their own pictures. When they are done, review the verse again. They will find it easier to memorize when associated with a picture..

### Review:

Who is a righteous person?

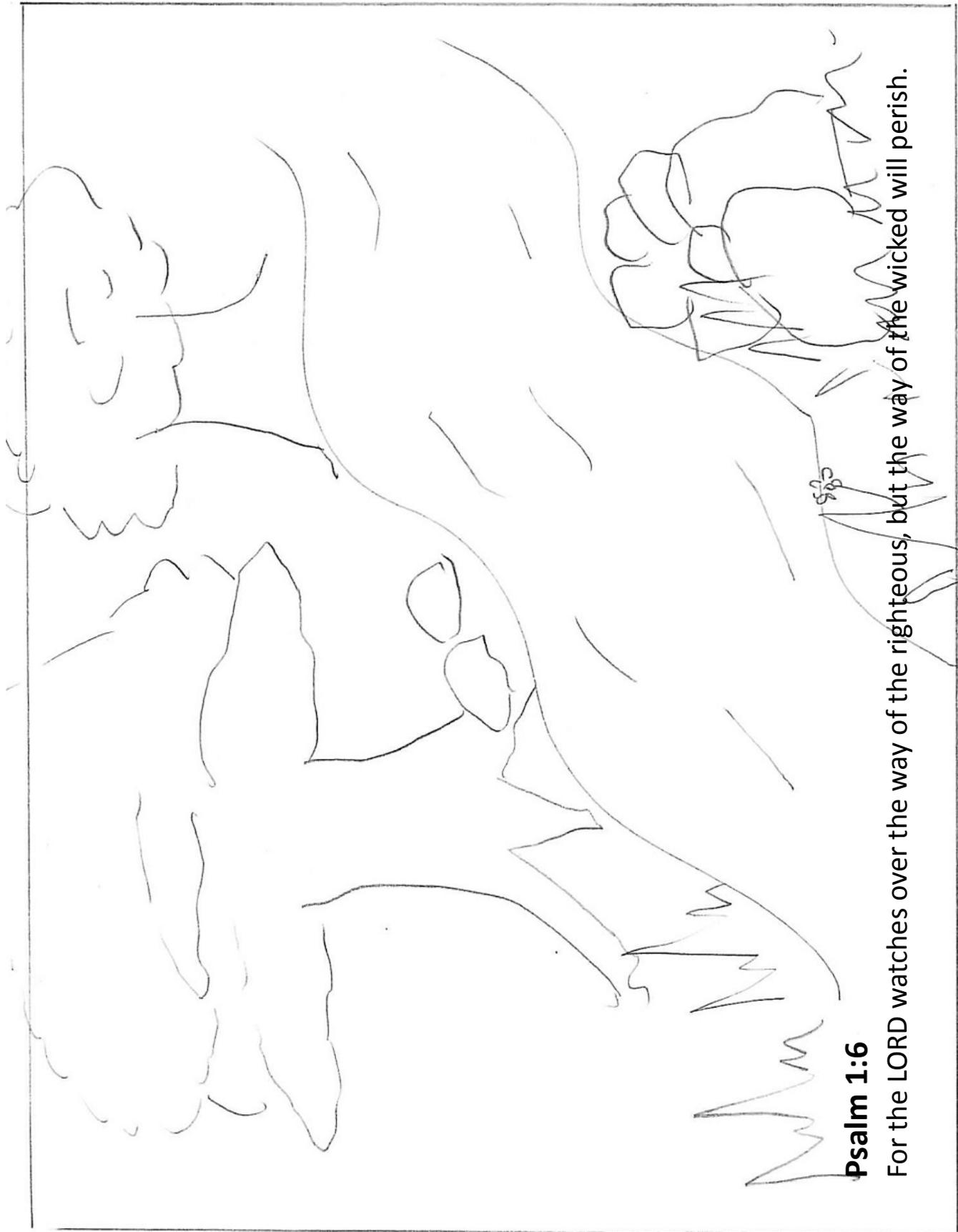
What did God promise those who obey His word?

Application Question: How can you be righteous?

## Find the hidden words

t h s i r e p d e c e n e k t  
q n v j l d e k t w h n k i h  
k m e o u t e o a n r a u x d  
g j r m n l c l t e m r f x u  
a d g a g r e u i k f d j f x  
e w l n u d s t d g y i e l d  
m p u s c t u n e v h p w t u  
h t a p r k e j m n j t i r s  
e c h e a o m l b g j d c e e  
w c a s u o e t h g i r k e v  
f m i s t h k x e j l j e c a  
w i p v e r g e r r y f d j e  
n c z l d g b v b l t f r i l  
y h b n o a j j l p w g t x m  
b l e s s e d u g n p y q z t

advice      blessed      chaff      delight  
fruit      judgment      leaves  
lord      meditate      path  
perish      planted      righteous  
stream      tree      wicked      yield



**Psalm 1:6**

For the LORD watches over the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked will perish.

Color the picture and add some fruit to the trees.

# TEACHER'S CORNER



This is a lesson that is easier taught with some props. Show a photograph of a big, mature tree such as an oak tree.

You: "How did this tree become so big and tall?" Some answers (soil, water, sun, air, etc) "We, too, need things to grow. We will not grow to be more like Jesus on our own. We need to be fed in order to become strong, just like this tree."

*Draw a large, leafless tree on the board.*

You: "This tree will not bear any fruit if it does not get light and water. You and I are like this tree. "

*Draw a stream near the tree. Add leaves to the tree.*

You: "Now that the tree has water, it can get water and make food. It is able to sprout new leaves. We need to be near Jesus to be able to grow big and strong in the

LORD. We need to read the Bible, our spiritual food! "

*Draw fruits to the tree.*

You: " Now that the tree is grown, it can bear fruit. You and I will bear fruit when we become more like Jesus.

Let's review. Who is a righteous person? A righteous person is one whose sins have been forgiven. We need to accept that Jesus is the son of God and He died for our sins. Jesus gave us a chance to become right with God. A righteous person delights and meditates on God's Word. A righteous person needs to read God's Word in order to grow big and strong in the Lord.

*Optional Activity: Give each child a small pack of tree seeds to take home as a reminder that God makes us grow to become righteous. Write "Psalm 1" on the outside of the package.*

## **Additional Resources:**

**Ephesians 4:17-19** talks about what the wicked think and how their minds are hardened and they do not keep the commandments. Their punishment is definite when Jesus comes again to judge the living and dead.

**John 7:37-39** assures us that when we are rooted in Christ, the Holy Spirit will reside in us and we will be a source of blessing to others.

**2 Peter 3:8** exhorts us to grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.



# Good News to Shepherds

## Unit 1 Lesson 16

## Luke 2:8-20



### MEMORY VERSE

#### Luke 2:14 (NRSV)

"Glory to God in the highest heaven,  
and on earth peace among those whom he favors!"

### VALUES FOR LIFE:

Humble shepherds heard about the birth of Jesus first. Why? Why was Jesus born in a manger?

Who are some of the people you see today that might be in the same situation as the shepherds?

How can you reach out to people similar to the shepherds in the Christmas story?



### LIFE RESPONSE/My DECISION:

Jesus wants me to be humble and meek. Even though He was the creator of the universe, he humbled himself to be born as a baby in a manger. He loved me so much that he gave up His throne and power and lived as a little child like me. Even though a king, he cared for the poor and lonely people like the shepherds.

**My Decision:** I will be humble just as Jesus was and help others.



**LESSON THEME:** God loved me and sent His son.

**AIM: GOD USES THE HUMBLE AND MEEK IN HIS KINGDOM WORK.**

### OPENING PRAYER

Dear God, Thank you for bringing us together today to learn from your word. Open the eyes of our hearts and the ears of our mind to listen to your message for us today.

Amen.

### CLOSING PRAYER:

Dear God,

Thank you for sending your son to save us from death. Thank you for the Messiah. Jesus, we worship you and lay our lives before you.

Amen.





## Bible Passage

The Escape to Egypt

**Matthew 2:13-23**

New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)

### The Shepherds and the Angels

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

"Glory to God in the highest heaven,  
and on earth peace among those whom he favors!"

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

## Main Ideas

Long time ago in Bethlehem, baby Jesus was born and placed in a manger. His mother Mary, had been told that she would give birth to *The Messiah, Jesus*. Mary and Jesus had traveled long time to reach Bethlehem. But they did not find any room for the night. Jesus was born in a stable, where horses are kept at night. Some shepherds were outside the city grazing their flock of sheep. Suddenly, they saw a great light and were afraid when they heard the angels voices. One of the angels spoke to them and said, "Don't be afraid. I am bringing you good news."

They immediately left to see baby Jesus and worship him.

# Good News to the Shepherds

M O W B J A D X B E O E P E W  
F U F G V Z F N V E K V H Q I  
U A N O L Q V V S O Z S T M J  
J I T P P M T H A X O G L D Z  
M H Y V X E Z Y D E O V Z Q D  
A A V V S H E P H E R D L V O  
R I B Q G E S S X J V Q Y E O  
Y S I D E L I I H C X O X R G  
C S R L Y H O R K R B T L H A  
H E T G F T L R D X U W A V V  
R M H X P E M F Y N R J N G L  
J E S U S B N D X L R W G D H  
F H V Z M P N E A U N I E I G  
J O S E P H P H W O U W L K V  
Z E Q N Y X L C V S X Z F D R

ANGEL  
BETHLEHEM  
BIRTH  
GLORY  
GOOD  
JESUS  
JOSEPH  
LOVE  
MARY  
MESSIAH  
NEWS  
SHEPHERD





**And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were so afraid.**

***Luke 2:9***

## Activities & Review

Sing this song with the children.

### "MARY'S LITTLE BOY CHILD"

LONG TIME AGO IN BETHLEHEM

SO THE HOLY BIBLE SAY

MARY'S BOY CHILD JESUS CHRIST

WAS BORN ON CHRISTMAS DAY

HARK NOW HEAR THE ANGELS SING

A NEW KING BORN TODAY

AND MAN WILL LIVE FOR EVERMORE

BECAUSE OF CHRISTMAS DAY

TRUMPETS SOUND AND ANGELS SING

LISTEN WHAT THEY SAY

THAT MAN WILL LIVE FOR EVERMORE

BECAUSE OF CHRISTMAS DAY

WHILE SHEPHERDS WATCH THEIR FLOCK BY NIGHT

THEY SEE A BRIGHT NEW SHINING STAR

THEN HEAR A CHOIR SING

THE MUSIC SEEMED TO COME FROM AFAR

NOW JOSEPH AND HIS WIFE MARY

COME TO BETHLEHEM THAT NIGHT

THEN FIND NO PLACE TO BORN THE CHILD

NOT A SINGLE ROOM WAS IN SIGHT

HARK NOW HEAR THE ANGELS SING

A NEW KING BORN TODAY

AND MAN WILL LIVE FOR EVERMORE

BECAUSE OF CHRISTMAS DAY

TRUMPETS SOUND AND ANGELS SING

LISTEN WHAT THEY SAY

THAT MAN WILL LIVE FOR EVERMORE

BECAUSE OF CHRISTMAS DAY

BY AND BY THEY FIND A LITTLE NOOK

IN A STABLE ALL FORLORN

AND IN A MANGER COLD AND DARK

MARY'S LITTLE BOY WAS BORN

LONG TIME AGO IN BETHLEHEM

SO THE HOLY BIBLE SAY

MARY'S BOY CHILD JESUS CHRIST

WAS BORN ON CHRISTMAS DAY

HARK NOW HEAR THE ANGELS SING

A NEW KING BORN TODAY

AND MAN WILL LIVE FOR EVERMORE

BECAUSE OF CHRISTMAS DAY

TRUMPETS SOUND AND ANGELS SING

LISTEN WHAT THEY SAY

THAT MAN WILL LIVE FOR EVERMORE

BECAUSE OF CHRISTMAS DAY

HARK NOW HEAR THE ANGELS SING

LISTEN WHAT THEY SAY

THAT MAN WILL LIVE FOR EVERMORE

BECAUSE OF CHRISTMAS DAY

[HTTP://WWW.AZLYRICS.COM/LYRICS/ALL4ONE/  
MARYSLITTLEBOYCHILD.HTML](http://www.azlyrics.com/lyrics/all4one/maryslittleboychild.html)

# TEACHER'S CORNER



Christmas story is the most told story. Jesus, the messiah was born on Christmas day. The angels brought the good news to lowly shepherds first. They were the first to hear about the birth of the Promised Savior.

Make sure all the kids know the story of Christmas. Some of the stories that have been told so well in children's story books are the angel Gabriel announcing to Mary that she has been chosen to be God's handmaid, the story of Elizabeth and Mary greeting each other, the journey to Bethlehem for the census, the wise men visit, and the angels singing. Share with the kids these stories with song and action. Use multimedia if available.

Have them tell you what they know about Christmas. Introduce the story of why Jesus coming is so special.

# Flight to Egypt

## Unit 1 Lesson 17

## Matthew 2:13-23



### MEMORY VERSE

#### Matthew 7:7 (NRSV)

“So I say to you, Ask, and it will be given you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you.

### VALUES FOR LIFE:

Have you been afraid of a bully at school? What did you do to defend yourself?

God will give you strength and wisdom to deal with anything that comes against you. All you have to do, is trust him and obey. It must have seemed crazy to Joseph to take baby Jesus the promised Messiah and flee. Why can't the messiah save them from Herod with a snap of his finger? Why flee? But we don't see Joseph or Mary asking those questions. They trust God's plan and obey. God protects their family according to His plan and time.



### LIFE RESPONSE/My Decision:

God knows everything about you. Your yesterday, your today and your tomorrow. He knows what you did or said yesterday. He knows what you will do today and He also knows what will happen to you tomorrow. It is best to trust his wisdom and ask for strength and wisdom from God.

**My Decision:** I will pray and talk to God everyday.



**LESSON THEME:** If God is for us, who can be against us. Romans 8:31

**AIM: GOD'S PROMISES WILL BE FULFILLED DESPITE ALL ODDS.**

### OPENING PRAYER

Dear God, Thank you for bringing us together today to learn from your word. Open the eyes of our hearts and the ears of our mind to listen to your message for us today.

Amen.

### CLOSING PRAYER:

Dear God,

Give us the courage to lay down our plans at your feet and take your plans for us. Help us to know what you want us to do in our lives.

Amen.





## Bible Passage

The Escape to Egypt

### Matthew 2:13-23 (NRSV)

Now after they had left, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, "Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you; for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him." Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother by night, and went to Egypt, and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet, "Out of Egypt I have called my son."

The Massacre of the Infants

When Herod saw that he had been tricked by the wise men, he was infuriated, and he sent and killed all the children in and around Bethlehem who were two years old or under, according to the time that he had learned from the wise men. Then was fulfilled what had been spoken through the prophet Jeremiah:

"A voice was heard in Ramah,  
wailing and loud lamentation,  
Rachel weeping for her children;  
she refused to be consoled, because they are no more."  
The Return from Egypt

When Herod died, an angel of the Lord suddenly appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt and said, "Get up, take the child and his mother, and go to the land of Israel, for those who were seeking the child's life are dead." Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother, and went to the land of Israel. But when he heard that Archelaus was ruling over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. And after being warned in a dream, he went away to the district of Galilee. There he made his home in a town called Nazareth, so that what had been spoken through the prophets might be fulfilled, "He will be called a Nazorean."

## Main Ideas

You have heard beautiful stories about Christmas. Baby Jesus, Angels singing, shepherds watching, wise men visiting and of course Joseph and Mary. There is one more story about Christmas that is not told much.

At the time of Jesus birth, Herod was the king. Herod was a mean king who wanted to rule forever. When he heard that the Messiah King was born to fulfill the prophecies, he sent out messengers to find and kill the baby. But God sent an angel to warn Joseph. They fled to Egypt and lived there until Herod was dead. Joseph, Mary and Baby Jesus later came and lived in a small town called Nazareth. That is why Jesus is called Jesus of Nazareth.



Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother by night, and went to Egypt, and remained there until the death of Herod.



<b>Artist</b>	<a href="#">Nicolas Poussin</a>
<b>Year</b>	<a href="#">1657</a>
<b>Location</b>	<a href="#">Musée des Beaux-Arts</a>

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

## flight to egypt

A A B R H E R O D M B F J S M  
M P L K X A V G A D J O L D U  
P F D O K Q H B N H H S V V V  
Q I L Z B H W Y G T G T R B A  
H I Y E K Z P C E E Z J G X Y  
C P L H Y D P U L R A L B Y L  
A P E F H B W Z C A U U D A G  
S C M S K M A P I Z E K C N C  
R Y Q S O X J B F A G K I L L  
I S N D T J R M T N Y R A M A  
Q C F D O W E L U P P L N C G  
Y A X M Y G P S G A T H V H F  
Z R W F V G E S U O T D H Y E  
X E A T L X W O U S N S A Y G  
Y O P O J M D Z O Z S G J R G

ANGEL  
BABY  
CARE  
EGYPT  
GOD  
HEROD  
JESUS  
JOSEPH  
KILL  
MARY  
NAZARETH

### Review:

1. Where were Mary and Joseph going to hide from Herod?
2. Who warned Joseph in his dream?
3. Where did Mary, Joseph and Jesus live after Herod died?

**Activity:** Make greeting cards to give children in a nearby hospital. Avoid stickers, glitter, glue. Some of the kids could be allergic to these things. Share your lunch with someone at school or bring lunch to an elderly person who is homebound.

# Lollipop Angel

Materials:

- lollipop
- Wrapping tissue paper (prefer white ) / coffee filter
- String or wool to tie
- scissors
- Markers to decorate
- OPTIONAL: small wiggly eyes
- OPTIONAL: glitter glue

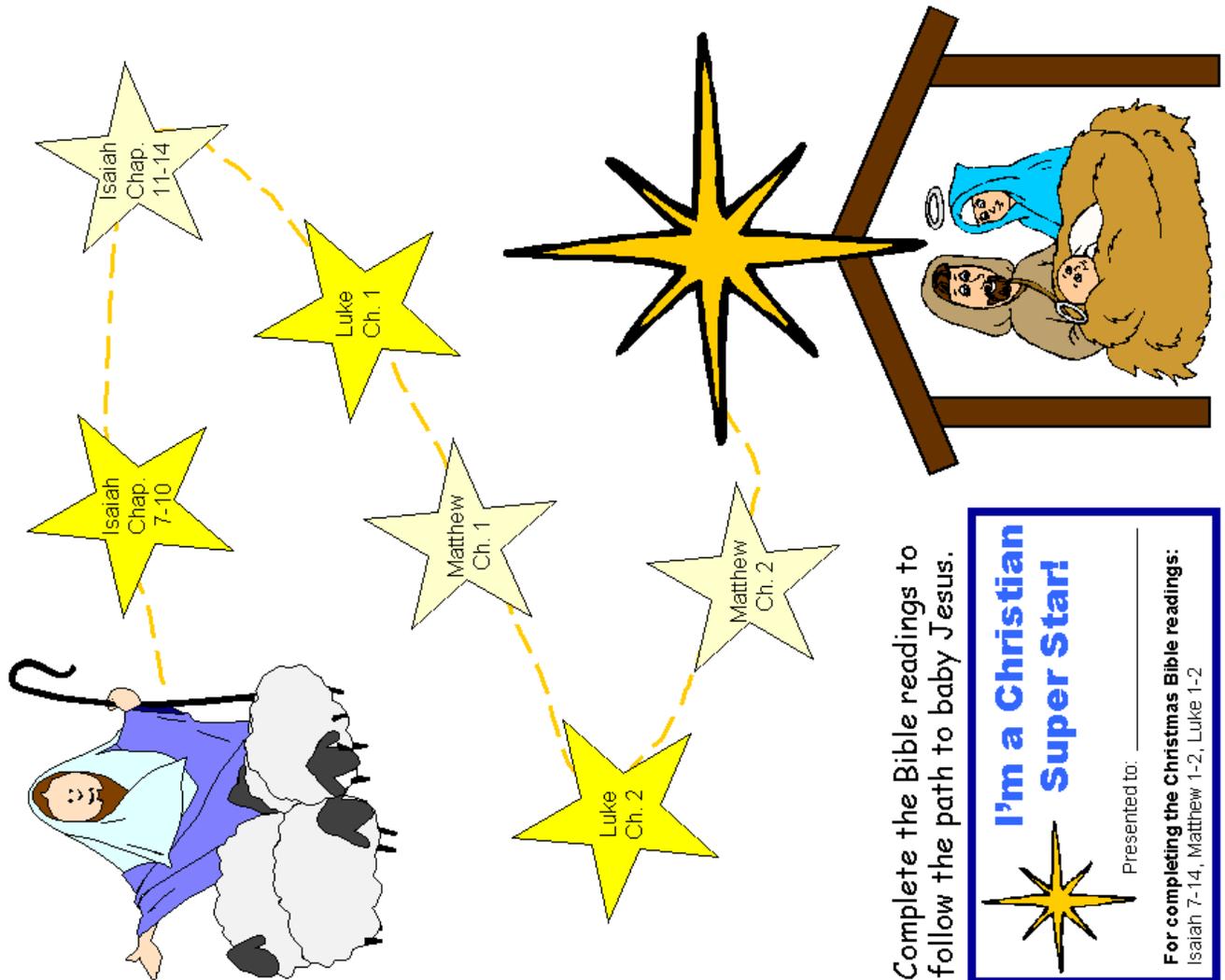


Instructions:

- Angel body: Poke the stem of the lollipop into the center of the square piece of tissue and tie to the pop. This forms the skirt of the angel.
- Wings: Twist a rectangular piece of paper to form the wings. Glue or tie it to the angel body.
- Let each child decorate their angels with markers.



## Christmas Bible Reading Chart



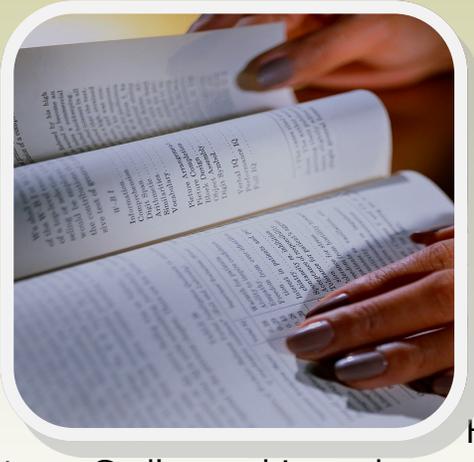
Complete the Bible readings to follow the path to baby Jesus.

**I'm a Christian Super Star!**

Presented to: \_\_\_\_\_

**For completing the Christmas Bible readings:**  
Isaiah 7-14, Matthew 1-2, Luke 1-2

# TEACHER'S CORNER



Teachers, please feel free to teach another Christmas story if you feel this story is not suitable for your kids. It is important to gauge your students level of maturity to assimilate the story. This is not a story that is usually taught to 5-6 year olds. Use your discretion.

At the time of Jesus birth an evil King Herod ruled the kingdom. He had heard of the prophecies of the Messiah. He was determined not to allow the prophecy to come true. God's word is unchangeable. Jesus was born as was prophesied. Despite Herod's efforts, Jesus was safe with his parents, Joseph and Mary in Egypt. Later they came and settled in Nazareth. Thus the prophecy of Jesus being called a Nazorean also was fulfilled.

God's word is final. Have you ever heard that said? God does not lie. The prophets were God's messengers. God fulfills His plans for His glory. When we read and learn the Bible, we find many stories where man in his foolishness has thought their ideas are better than God's plan. But we also read about people who submitted to the Lord's plan in their life. We should be able to submit our lives into his keeping and accept His plan for us, just as Mary did when she was told about Jesus birth.

# Jesus teaches us how to pray

## Unit 1 Lesson 18

## Matthew 6:9-13



### MEMORY VERSE

#### Luke 11:9 (NRSV)

So I say to you, Ask, and it will be given you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you.

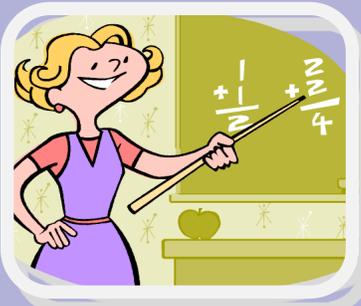
### VALUES FOR LIFE:

Jesus prayed alone when he was sad, happy or wanted help from God. The disciples had seen how he talked to His father. They were not sure of how to do it themselves. So Jesus taught them this simple prayer. We can use the same prayer to talk to God. Learn the prayer and share with your family.

### LIFE RESPONSE/MY DECISION:

God wants to be your heavenly father and hear from you. Will you respond to his call today and pray to him?

**My Decision:** I will pray and talk to God everyday.



**LESSON THEME:** Discipline in prayer life reminds us to give God glory and honor before laying our needs and wants before him.

**AIM: PRAYER IS DAILY CONVERSATION WITH GOD.**

### OPENING PRAYER

Dear God, Thank you for bringing us together today to learn from your word. Open the eyes of our hearts and the ears of our mind to listen to your message for us today.

Amen.

### CLOSING PRAYER:

Dear God,

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come. Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. Forgive us our debts as we also have forgiven our debtors. And do not bring us to the time of trial but rescue us from the evil one. For yours is the kingdom, the power and the glory forever.

Amen.





# The Lord's Prayer



Our Father, who art in heaven,  
Hallowed be thy Name.

Thy kingdom come.

Thy will be done,

On earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our trespasses,

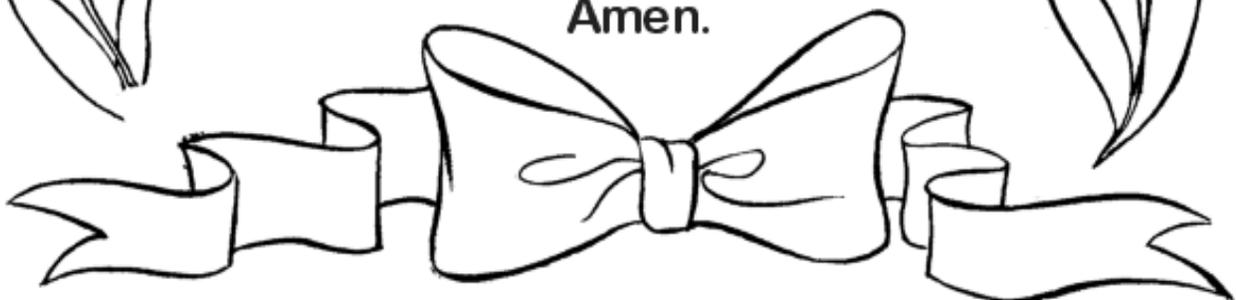
As we forgive those  
who trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation,

But deliver us from evil.

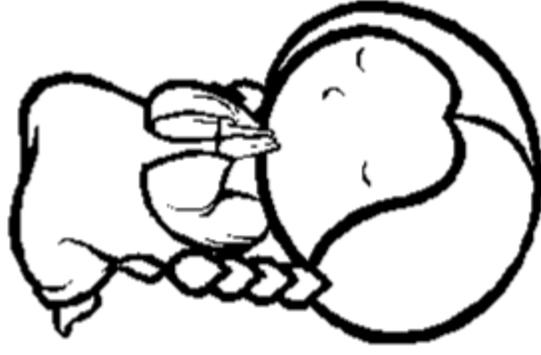
For thine is the kingdom,  
and the power, and the glory,  
for ever and ever.

Amen.



COLOR CAREFULLY AND FRAME THIS PAGE FOR YOUR ROOM

Our Father, who art in  
heaven, hallowed be Thy  
name.



## The Lord's Prayer



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

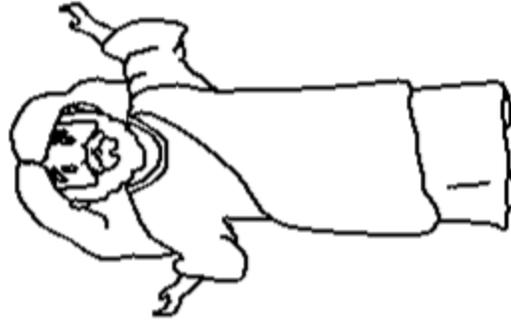
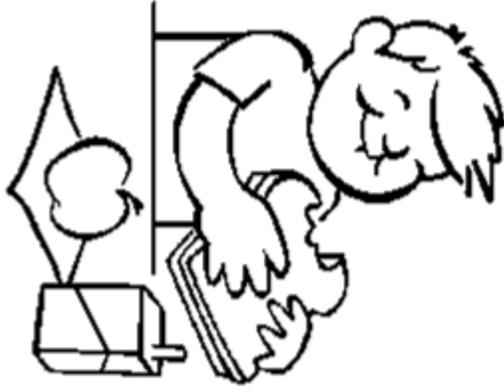
Thy kingdom come, Thy  
will be done on earth as  
it is in heaven.



**DLTK-Bible  
Itsy Bitsy Books**

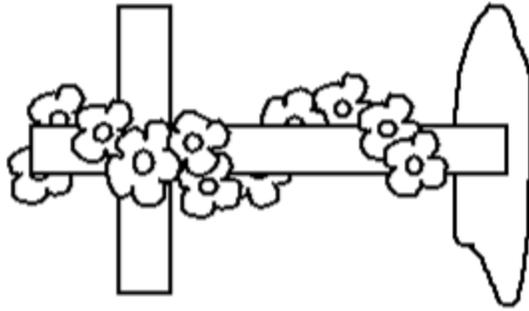
Free printables from:  
<http://www.dltk-bible.com>

Give us this day our daily  
bread.



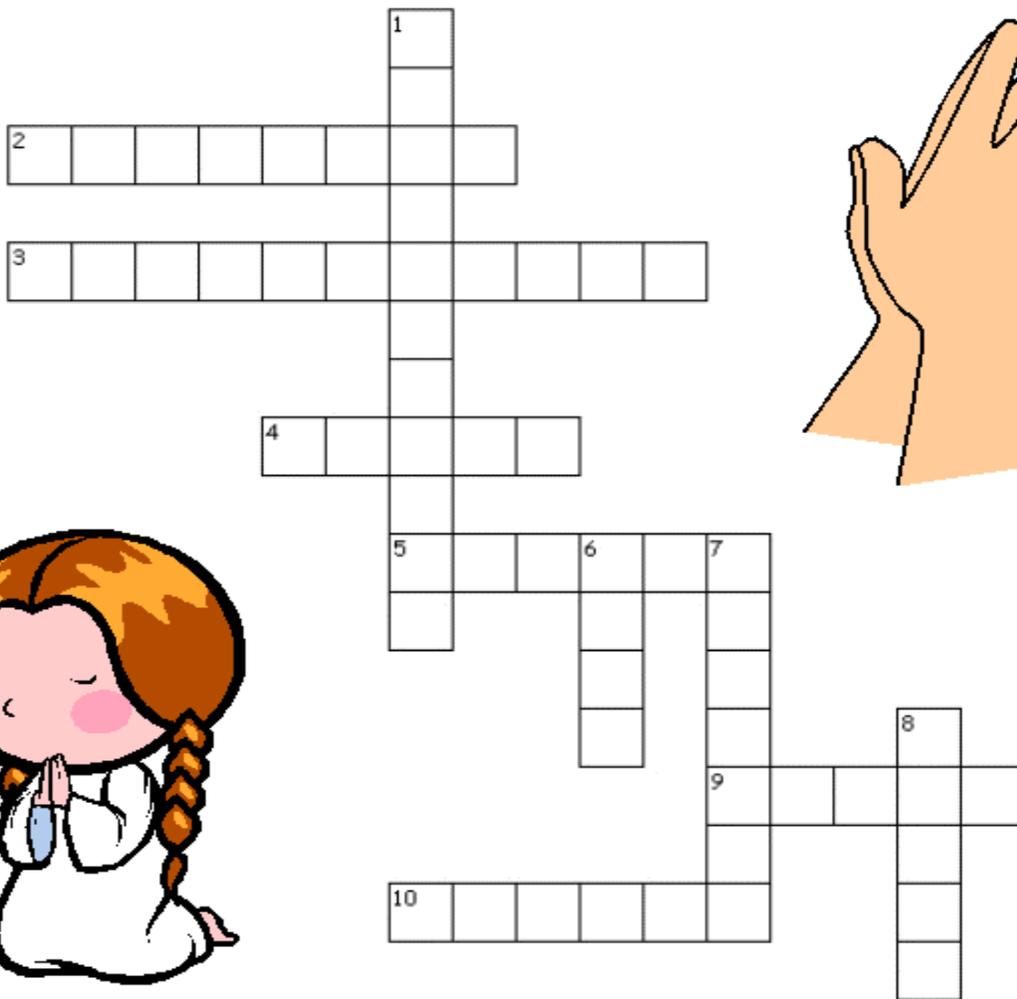
For thine is the kingdom,  
and the power, and the  
glory, for ever and ever.  
Amen.

And forgive us our  
trespasses, as we forgive  
those who trespass  
against us.



And lead us not into  
temptation, but deliver  
us from evil.

# Lord's Prayer Crossword



## Across

2. We can pray anytime and \_\_\_\_.
3. Prayer is the special way we \_\_\_\_ with God.
4. We fold these out of respect and to avoid distraction when we pray.
5. Instead of using fancy words when we pray it's best to keep it this.
9. Praying has a lot of this because God can do anything.
10. Include this in your prayer to God because he deserves to hear it.

## Down

1. An important part of prayer is to ask for this.
6. God wants us to do this all the time. When things are good and bad.
7. The Lord's Prayer is an \_\_\_\_ so we can know how to pray.
8. God always \_\_\_\_ us when we pray.

**Activity:** Break the prayer into 8 parts. Have the children take turns and say a line of the prayer in order. When they have each had a turn at saying the prayer, let them try to say it from the beginning. Let the next kid have a turn when one of them gets stuck.



## Bible Passage

The LORD's Prayer

Matthew 6:9-13 (NRSV)

“Pray then in this way: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come. Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. And do not bring us to the time of trial, but rescue us from the evil one.

## Main Ideas

This is how Jesus told us we should pray:

**Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name.**

**Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread.**

**And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.**

**And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil:**

**For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.**

**Our Father in heaven, Hallowed be thy name.** We can call God “Our Father in heaven”. Isn’t that amazing? Picture yourself sitting on your father’s lap and having a talk about your day. That is what God wants from us through prayer. The second part of this sentence is giving praise to God’s name.

**Thy kingdom come, thy will be done.** We are accepting that God is above all and submitting to his will.

**Give us this day our daily bread.** All things come from God. He gives us what we need for each day. Just as the birds of the air and the flowers of the field are cared for, God will care for us, His most precious creation.

**And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.** God has commanded us to forgive those who forgive us. We should love our brothers and sisters and live at peace with everyone around us.

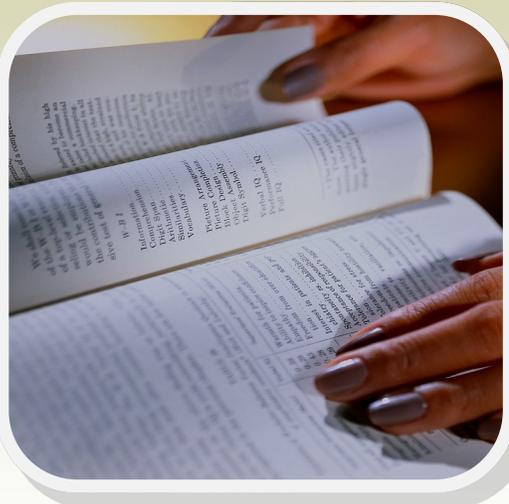
**And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.** Only God can give us the strength to escape the devil’s power. We need to seek the help of the Holy Spirit to fight the bad thoughts that the devil brings into our mind.

**For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.** We end the prayer once more submitting to God’s rule, power, and glory. There is nothing apart from God. We were created by God and we must remember that everyday of our lives to be thankful and observe his commandments.

## Vocabulary

- Forgive: stop feeling angry about someone who hurt you.
- Debt: something you have to return to the owner.
- Debtor: someone who gives you a credit, or loans you something for a short period of time.
- Hallowed: give glory
- Temptation: a desire to do something wrong.

# TEACHER'S CORNER



## APPLICATION

Prayer is talking to God. Jesus taught us how to pray with a very simple prayer. Jesus talked to God alone and even before he did some miracles. Prayer is not a time to show off or settle scores. It is an honest conversation with God, Our Father. The LORD's prayer as it is commonly known is just 6 sentences. The first 3 are directed to God. The next 3 are for our supplications or requests.

Jesus set the order and rhythm of prayer. Our purpose is to glorify God. Accepting His will in our lives. We can ask our father in heaven whatever we want just as we ask our father on earth. Elsewhere Jesus teaches us about how our father in heaven will listen to our requests and give us what we need.

# Jesus heals ten lepers

## Unit 1 Lesson 19

## Luke 17:11-19



### MEMORY VERSE

Luke 17:19(b) (NRSV)

Get up and go on your way; your faith has made you well.

### VALUES FOR LIFE:

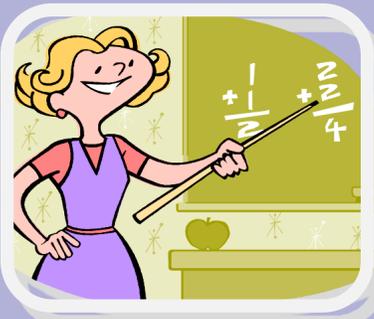
Did you thank anyone recently? How did you feel when you said "Thank you"? How did the other person react?

Being thankful is not something that comes naturally to us. We need to remind ourselves every day to thank God, our parents, our teachers and our friends who help us in so many ways. God gave us life, our breath. Hold your breath. How long can you stay without breathing? Think about it. Be thankful.

### LIFE RESPONSE/MY DECISION:

The Samaritan who came back to thank the LORD did not learn the scriptures as the Jews had. But he chose to recognize the gift he had received. He went back to thank Jesus.

**My Decision:** I will remember to be thankful. I will give thanks and praise God's name.



**LESSON THEME:** Give thanks always and for everything to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**AIM: THE KINGDOM OF GOD IS OPEN TO ALL PEOPLE.**



### OPENING PRAYER

Dear God, Thank you for bringing us together today to learn from your word. Open the eyes of our hearts and the ears of our mind to listen to your message for us today.  
Amen.

### CLOSING PRAYER:

Dear God,  
Make me thankful. Let me always have a thankful spirit within me. And LORD when I am not thanked, let me not be sad. Above all, God thank you for being my Father and God. Thank you for all the blessings you have showered upon me.  
Amen.



## Bible Passage

Jesus Cleanses Ten Lepers

### Luke 17:11-19

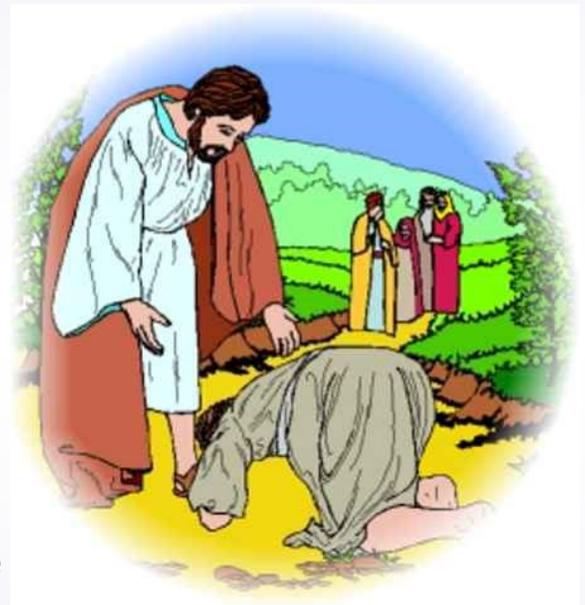
New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)

11 On the way to Jerusalem Jesus was going through the region between Samaria and Galilee. 12 As he entered a village, ten lepers approached him. Keeping their distance, 13 they called out, saying, "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!" 14 When he saw them, he said to them, "Go and show yourselves to the priests." And as they went, they were made clean. 15 Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice. 16 He prostrated himself at Jesus' feet and thanked him. And he was a Samaritan. 17 Then Jesus asked, "Were not ten made clean? But the other nine, where are they? 18 Was none of them found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?" 19 Then he said to him, "Get up and go on your way; your faith has made you well."

## Main Ideas

### Jesus cleanses ten lepers

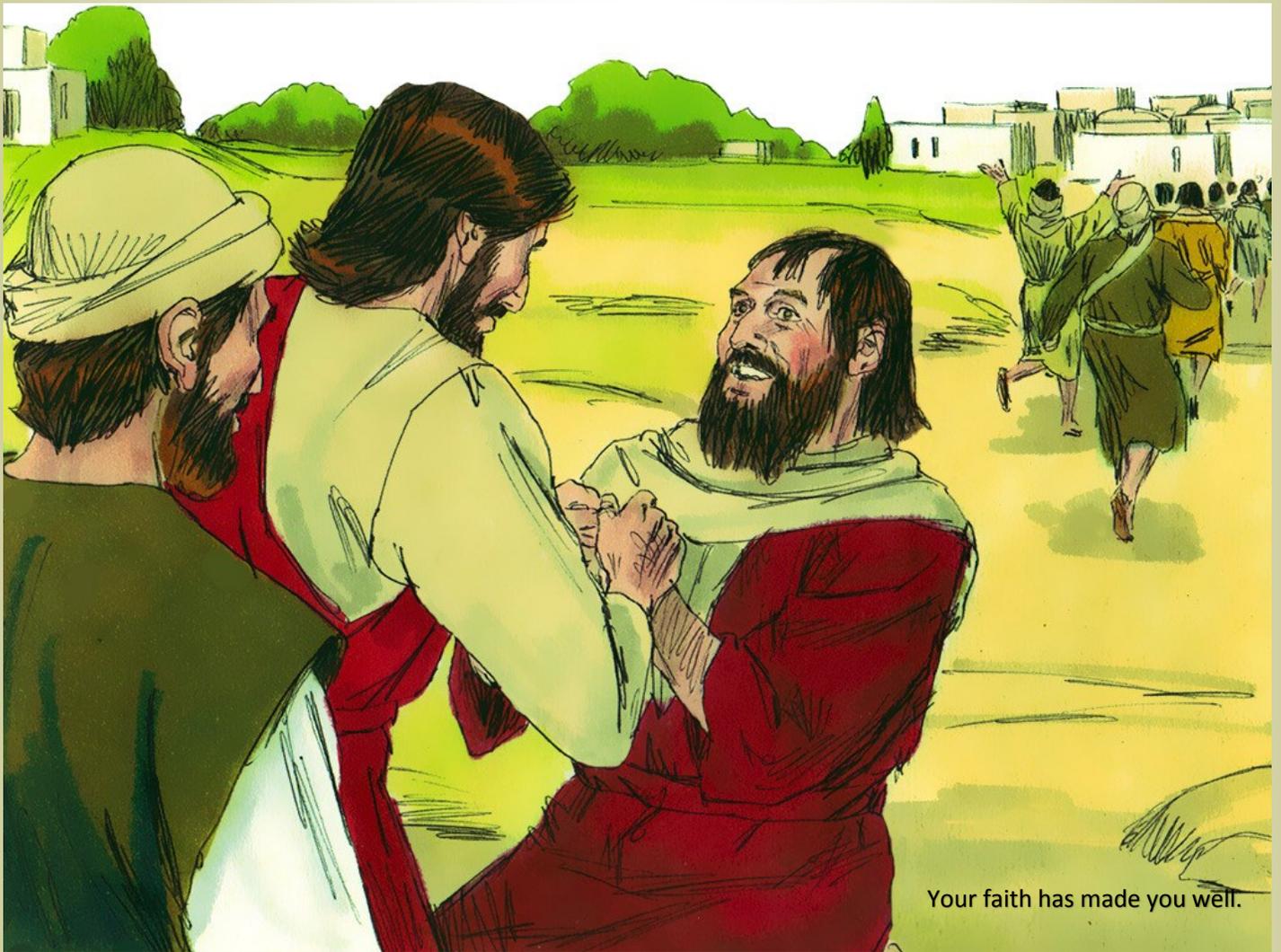
One day ten lepers were by the road when Jesus was on his way to Jerusalem. The men called out to him for mercy. They had leprosy. They had to keep their distance from other people. The law required that they shout "Unclean!" so people could move away from them.



Leprosy was thought to be highly contagious. The people thought that those who had leprosy were punished by God. Now we know that was not true. Jesus touched and healed many lepers during His ministry.

Jesus heard the men call out, "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!" He stopped, called out to them to go and show themselves to the priests. They had heard about Jesus healing powers. Something wonderful happened as they walked away. They were healed! When they looked down at their hands and legs they were amazed to see they had no scars or leprosy.

They were happy. Nine of them continued on their way to the temple to show the priests. One man, a Samaritan, someone who is considered unclean and an alien, came back to thank Jesus. He fell at Jesus feet and praised the name of the Lord.



Luke 17:17-19

Fill in the blanks using the New King James Version of the Bible.

So Jesus \_\_\_\_\_ and said, "Were there not \_\_\_\_\_? But where are the \_\_\_\_\_? Were there not any \_\_\_\_\_ who \_\_\_\_\_ to give glory to \_\_\_\_\_ except this \_\_\_\_\_?" And He said to him, "\_\_\_\_\_, go your \_\_\_\_\_. Your \_\_\_\_\_ has made you \_\_\_\_\_."

Review Questions:

1. Where was Jesus going when he met the ten lepers?
2. Where was the leper who thanked Jesus from?

# Activities & Review

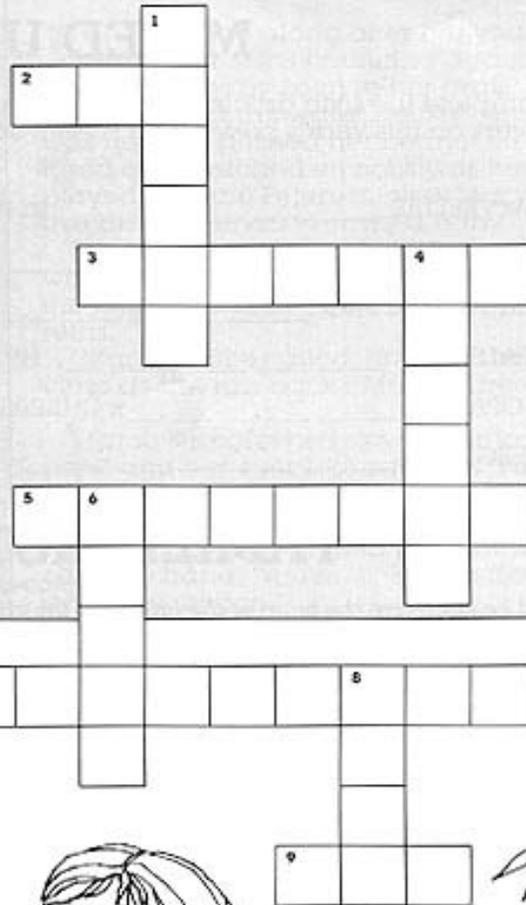
## I Believe in Having a Happy Heart

### Across

- The number of lepers who thanked the Savior
- The disease that causes large, spreading sores on the body
- What one thankful leper said to the Savior (2 words)
- The city where the Savior was going
- The number of men who were healed

### Down

- The ten men were \_\_\_\_\_ because they did what Jesus told them.
- Another name for Jesus
- We have a happy \_\_\_\_\_ when we remember to say thank you.
- The book in the New Testament that tells the story of the ten lepers



# TEACHER'S CORNER



## **BACKGROUND**

Every day God blesses us and He answers our prayers. Sometimes we get busy and forget to say Thank You for all that He has done for us. Just like the nine lepers. Thankful heart leads to contentment and happiness. We must remind ourselves to have the attitude of the thankful leper. He came back and was blessed. He was made whole. Jesus blessed him and sent him on his way. The others too were healed. But their healing was limited to their illness. They did not receive complete healing. Imagine the possibilities of being made whole by the LORD. Be like the one leper who

came back to Jesus to say Thank You.

Leprosy is a disease that eats away a person's skin. In Jesus' day there was no medical cure for this disease. So a leper could have parts of his skin missing, like a finger, hand or foot.

## **APPLICATION**

One hot summer day some volunteers brought ice cream to a local school. The kids were screaming and eager to get their ice cream. When all of them got their ice cream they ran away to play. One little boy sat down to enjoy his blueberry popsicle. He opened the wrapper and as was his practice said grace quietly and was about to take his first bite. He stopped suddenly, looked back at the volunteers who had brought the boxes of ice cream. They were cleaning up before they left. He ran to them, hugged each one of them and said, "Thank you for the ice cream. This is the best day at school." The volunteers were taken by surprise. They had brought in over 200 ice creams and this was one boy who came back to thank them. They were overjoyed. The boy heard them say, "That little boy made it worth it. Our efforts were rewarded". The little boy smiled to himself as he took a big bite of his ice cream. He was glad he had remembered what his parents had taught him about being thankful.

Share with the students other personal stories of experiencing gratitude or being gracious.

# Jesus raises Lazarus to life

Unit 1 Lesson 20

JOHN 11:38-44



## MEMORY VERSE

John 11:40 (NRSV)

Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?

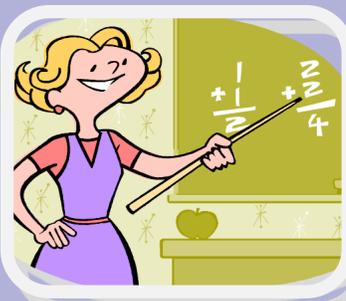
## VALUES FOR LIFE:

Have you smelt dirty socks? Have you come across a dead bird? How did it smell? Awful right! Dead people have a smell that is worse. Jesus was not afraid to call out stinky, smelly Lazarus. He loved him enough to call him back from the dead. Jesus said, "I am the resurrection and life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Jesus conquered death and rose again to give us hope and salvation.

## LIFE RESPONSE/My DECISION:

What a mighty God we serve! One who can raise the dead to life. Would you entrust your life to God today? Believe in Him. He has promised to give you eternal life if you believe.

**My Decision:** I realize that only Jesus can raise me from death. I give my life into his keeping.



**LESSON THEME:** There is nothing impossible with God, even raising the dead.

**AIM: IF YOU BELIEVE, YOU CAN SEE THE GLORY OF GOD.**

## OPENING PRAYER

Dear God, Thank you for bringing us together today to learn from your word. Open the eyes of our hearts and the ears of our mind to listen to your message for us today.  
Amen.

## CLOSING PRAYER:

Dear God,  
Thank you for sending Jesus to conquer death and save us. Thank you for the gift of eternal life. Teach us to walk in your ways everyday so that we may bring glory to your name.  
Amen.





## Bible Passage

### John 11:38-44

New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)

38 Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. 39 Jesus said, "Take away the stone." Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, "Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead four days." 40 Jesus said to her, "Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?" 41 So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upward and said, "Father, I thank you for having heard me. 42 I knew that you always hear me, but I have said this for the sake of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me." 43 When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" 44 The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth, and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, "Unbind him, and let him go."



## Main Ideas

### The Raising of Lazarus

Mary, her sister Martha and brother Lazarus were very close friends of Jesus. He visited them often in their home. One day Martha sent word to Jesus that Lazarus was sick. Jesus knew this was going to be a time when God's glory is revealed. He stayed in the same place for another two days before heading to Mary and Martha's home. By the time he reached Bethany, Lazarus was dead. Lazarus had been in the tomb for four days. Martha and Mary were in mourning. When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she ran out to meet him. He was still at the edge of the town when she found him. Sobbing she said, "Master, if you were here, Lazarus would not have died." Jesus comforted her and said, "Your brother will rise again." Martha thought he was speaking of the resurrection at the end of time. She didn't understand that Jesus had command over death. He was going to raise Lazarus from the

dead.

Jesus told her that He was the resurrection and the life. He asked, "Do you believe me?" She said, "Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God who was to come into the world."

Martha went to get her sister, Mary, who came and fell at Jesus' feet. She said the same thing that Martha had said, "If you had been here he would not have died." When Jesus saw them crying, he was moved with compassion and cried with them.

They went to the place where Lazarus had been buried. It was a cave with a stone over the opening. Jesus told them to take away the stone. Then he prayed to God and said, "Lazarus, come out!", and from the cave Lazarus came walking out. He was wrapped up with strips of linen and a cloth around his face.

Jesus said, "Take off the grave clothes and let him go."

Mary and Martha and their friends were so happy. Lazarus was alive and back with them again! After this, many of the Jews believed on Jesus.



"I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?"

# Activities & Review

## Activity 1: Lazarus Mummy

Materials: Empty paper towel rolls, googly eyes, bathroom tissue, glue.

Let the children make their own Lazarus Mummies. Roll some bathroom tissue around the empty rolls and stick the googly eyes onto the mummy. This is how they used to wrap dead people during the time of Jesus. Lazarus was wrapped similarly after he died and placed in the tomb.

Circle the statements below that are TRUE.

1. We will all rise again one day.
2. Jesus was trying to impress others when he performed his miracles.
3. Jesus really did not love Lazarus and his sisters, Mary and Martha.
4. Mary and Martha did not believe Jesus could bring Lazarus back to life.
5. We will not understand what God has planned all the time.

Fill in the blanks with the correct words from the list:

1. I am the \_\_\_\_\_ and the \_\_\_\_\_. Those who believe in me, even though they \_\_\_\_\_, will \_\_\_\_\_.

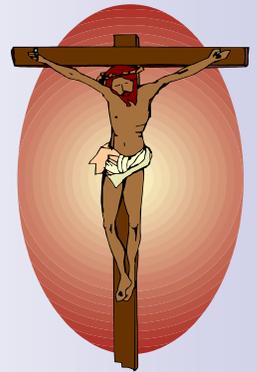
(die, lie, live, resurrection, life, alive)

## Vocabulary

resurrect: to come to life again after death

## Review Questions:

1. Who were Mary and Martha?
2. How many days was Lazarus in the tomb?
3. Who said these words? "I am the resurrection and life."
4. Was Lazarus a stranger to Jesus?
5. Why did Jesus want to show God's power over death?



Lazarus,  
come out!



# TEACHER'S CORNER



The Story of Mary, Martha, Lazarus and Jesus is the most endearing story. Jesus wept -John 11:35, one of the shortest verses in the bible is from this story account. Jesus, the Messiah came to rule the world. Yet in this story we see a compassionate friend who comes to reveal God's infinite plan in our life. Jesus is the resurrection and life. We are called to believe him. This story is also important because of the context. He called Lazarus back from the dead just days before He was crucified.

Earlier in John 11 we read about Jesus exhorting His disciples to open their eyes to the light. He was talking to them about His divine nature. He was preparing for his return to heaven. He would not be with them physically for ever. He wanted the disciples to remember the events and His teachings to help them understand the plan God had for them.

## **BACKGROUND**

Jesus had been teaching about His death on the cross and preparing the disciples for that time. Before he left for Bethany, Jesus knew that Lazarus was dead. He knew it was God's plan for a teaching moment to the Jews who did not recognize Jesus as the messiah.