

A Standard of Attainment

FOR YOUNG BELIEVERS

\$ 4.50



A book designed to help young believers understand basic Bible doctrines as they relate to our Foursquare heritage.

INTERNATIONAL CHURCH OF THE FOURSQUARE GOSPEL
National Department of Christian Education

A Standard of Attainment

FOR YOUNG BELIEVERS

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A STANDARD OF ATTAINMENT For Young Believers

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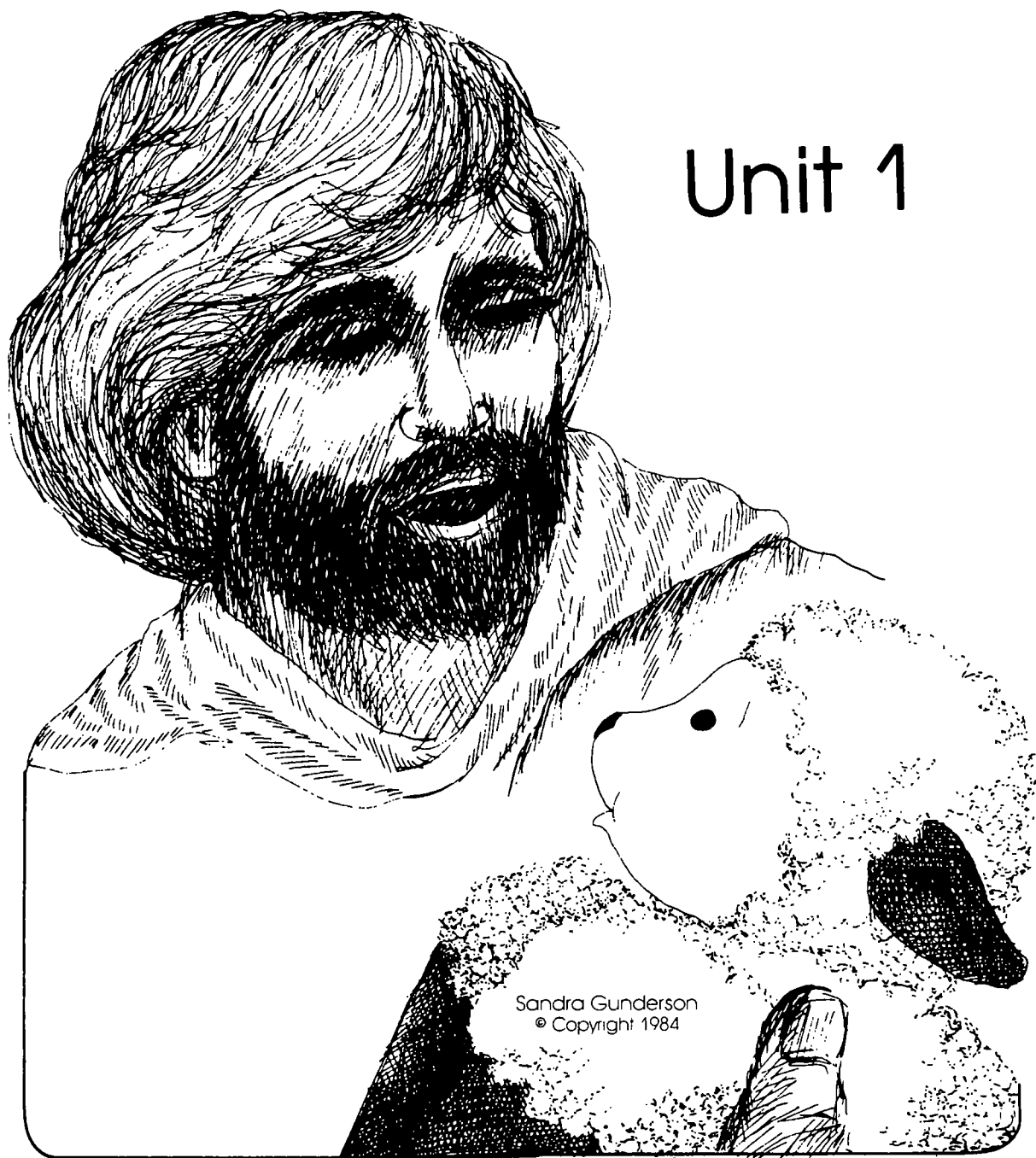
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Unit 1



Chapter 1

The Holy Bible



AIM

To know the Bible is God's Word. To feel the need for God's Word. To learn how to use God's Word.



KEY BIBLE VERSE

"But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ the Son of God; and that believing you may have life in His name" (John 20:31).



LESSON

THE HOLY BIBLE, GOD'S WORD, IS THE BEST OF ALL BOOKS.

We will begin studying about the most wonderful book ever written. That book is God's book, the Holy Bible. We believe that the Bible is the best of all books!

It is best because of the way it is written. It is considered to be a very important piece of literature by great scholars. Reading it helps us to know what we should do to please God, to live for Him, and to share with others the story of Jesus Christ.

It is best because it is absolutely true. The Lord Jesus, Himself, said, "*Your word is truth*" (John 17:17). Since God told different men what to write, it must be true because "*God . . . cannot lie*" (Titus 1:2).

It is best because it is God's message to people; you and me and everyone we know. When we hear people preach the Word of God, we receive it knowing that it is God speaking to us.

It is best because it is written to tell us what God wants us to do. No other book gives us this information as the Bible does.

WHY WE NEED GOD'S WORD

The Holy Bible expresses God's words to us. That is why it is important that we understand why He gave it to us.

The Bible is called "holy" because God is the author. He did not do the writing, but put the words and the thoughts in the minds of men who wrote it. God inspired (guided, gave and showed) these men to write what they did. It is what we read in our Bibles today. The Bible is full of holy words. The men could do nothing without God's help and direction. Forty different men wrote the Bible over a period of 2,000 years.

The Holy Bible is God's promise to His people. There are sixty-six books within the Bible, with 39 books in the Old Testament and 27 books in the New Testament. (An easy way to remember these numbers is that $3 \times 9 = 27$ and 3 next to 9 is 39). Another word for "testament" is "a will" or "an agreement" between two people who promise to do something for each other. God has made a promise in both the Old and New Testament. In the Old Testament, God promised that if the people who lived in Israel would obey His commandments and keep His laws, they would be His special people. He promised to keep them in the land that He had given them. In the New Testament, God promised that if we, you and me, would love and trust Him, He would make us His disciples.

Reading the Bible helps us know what we should do to please God.

God did not do the writing, but put the words and the thoughts in the minds of men who wrote it.

We cheat ourselves when we forget to read God's Word every day.

The Bible was written so we could know more about Jesus Christ, God's Son. Before Jesus was born, Isaiah, one of the prophets of the Old Testament wrote about Jesus who was to be born years later. In the New Testament we find the story of Jesus' life on this earth.

The Bible is an up-to-date book. It was written for the prophets like Isaiah; written for New Testament people like Peter, James and John; and it was written for you and me and for all the people in the world. Many things, people, and places change, but not God's Word. In Isaiah 40:8, Isaiah says, "*The grass withers, the flower fades; but the Word of our God (the Bible) stands forever.*"

HOW TO USE GOD'S WORD

The Bible is the most interesting and exciting book in the whole world. There are many kinds of stories in God's Word — like adventure stories, mysteries, war stories, scientific information, biographies, and exciting history and doctrinal studies. Best of all are the stories about the Lord Jesus Christ. All of us want to be more like Him, so we need to read about His life.

We cheat ourselves when we forget to read God's Word every day. Joshua 1:8 tells us what we should do with God's Word. In this verse we are told that if we want to be prosperous and successful in this life we must:

Read God's Word because it is the Christian's spiritual food; we need it to grow.

Memorize God's Word because it is the Christian's spiritual sword; we need to know it in order to live on the winning side! When you get tempted to do wrong, say Bible verses which the Devil can't stand to hear.

Think about God's Word because we become what we think. The thoughts that we think are sure to come out in our actions and in our words. We want to think on good things and the Bible will help us to do this. The Devil will try to put bad thoughts into our minds, but we can fight him off with the Word of God.

Obey God's Word because it is important that we live for Christ as well as talk about Him. We can keep our lives clean by reading God's Word and praying daily.

Study God's Word because that is the way we can get the most out of God's Book. We must do more than just read it; we must study it so we can understand what we have read.



BIBLE VOCABULARY

MATCH THE WORD WITH ITS MEANING:

BIBLE	TO GUIDE
TESTAMENT	GOD'S WILL
INSPIRED	ETERNAL
HOLY	A "WILL"
FOREVER	SACRED



SCRIPTURAL FOUNDATIONS

LOOK UP EACH VERSE IN YOUR BIBLE.
COPY THEM ON A PIECE OF PAPER AND MEMORIZE THEM.

* Isalah 40:8; John 17:17b; * John 20:31; 1 Thessalonians 2:13; 2 Peter 1:21

** Recommended for use with younger students.*



QUESTIONS/ANSWERS

- 1. Question: Which is the best of all books?
Answer: **The Bible.**
- 2. Question: What is the Bible?
Answer: **God's Word — His message to people (1 Thessalonians 2:13).**
3. Question: What does the Bible tell us?
Answer: **"But these are written, that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing you may have life in His name" (John 20:31).**
- 4. Question: Who wrote the Bible?
Answer: **God is the author, but it was written by holy men of God as they were inspired by the Holy Spirit (2 Peter 1:21).**
5. Question: How many different writers helped to write the Bible?
Answer: **About 40 different writers.**
- 6. Question: How many parts does the Bible have and what are they called?
Answer: **It has two parts — the Old Testament and the New Testament.**
7. Question: What does the word "testament" mean?
Answer: **Testament means a will or an agreement between two people who promise to do something for each other.**
- 8. Question: How many books are included in the Bible?
Answer: **There are 66 books in the Bible.**
- 9. Question: How many books are found in the Old Testament?
Answer: **There are 39 books in the Old Testament.**
- 10. Question: How many books are found in the New Testament?
Answer: **There are 27 books in the New Testament.**
11. Question: Why is the Bible called "holy"?
Answer: **Because God is the author and He is holy.**
- 12. Question: What is the one main teaching of the Bible?
Answer: **That Jesus Christ is our Savior.**
13. Question: Name all the books of the Bible.
(Memorize from the list printed at the beginning of the Bible).

14. Question: Since the Bible is so old, is it becoming out of date?
Answer: **No, the Bible is for people living today.**
- * 15. Question: For whom was the Bible written?
Answer: **For everyone in the world.**
16. Question: Is the Bible a true book?
Answer: **Yes, the Bible is a true book (John 17:17).**
17. Question: How long will the Bible stand?
Answer: **The Bible will stand forever (Isaiah 40:8).**
- * 18. Question: How should we read the Bible and how often?
Answer: **We should read it each day and think about what we read.**
19. Question: Why should we study the Bible?
Answer: **Because reading and studying the Bible will help us to grow, help us to have answers about God and His Son, Jesus, and will tell us the way we should live.**

Chapter 2

God



AIM

To believe in God, the Father, Maker of heaven and earth. To believe the Bible record of Creation is true. To understand what God is like and to discover ways to know Him.



KEY BIBLE VERSE

"... the Lord is God and that there is none else" (1 Kings 8:60).



LESSON

GOD MADE ALL THINGS

"All things were made through Him; and without Him nothing was made that was made" (John 1:3). Have you ever wondered how everything got here? Well, long before you were born, or even your grandfather or grandmother were born . . . in fact, so long ago that it can't be fully described, there was no earth or sky, no moon or stars. Everything was darkness! Then God decided to create or make our earth and heavens. The Bible tells us all about it in the first and second chapters of Genesis.

God created all things out of nothing. Genesis 1:1 says, "In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth." It was God who made our beautiful earth and all its pretty flowers, trees and grass. He made the heavens also. Have you ever laid down on the grass and looked up at the beautiful blue sky, watching the fluffy clouds go by? Or have you ever looked at the twinkling stars at night? God created these things for us to enjoy. But that is only part of the story. The Bible says that God made everything out of nothing. God just spoke and things came into being (Hebrews 11:3).

God created the world in six days. On the first day, God made light. He started out with the most important thing because nothing can live without light. It is the light from the sun's rays which helps things to live and grow. On the second day, God divided the waters. He put some in the sky to protect the earth from the hot rays of the sun and some on the earth to give the plants and animals the water they needed. On the third day, God made the water go into the oceans and lakes and rivers. When the dry land appeared, God called it earth and He told the plants and trees to grow. On the fourth day, God caused the sun, moon and stars to shine down upon the earth. These lights give us our days and our months and our seasons. On the fifth day, God said, "Let the waters abound with an abundance." He commanded the waters to be filled with fish and other creatures of the sea. He even made the great big whales. Then He made the beautiful birds that fly in the sky and sing to us. On the sixth day, God made the cattle and creeping things and all the beasts of the field. Can you think of some animals God made?

God also made His greatest and most wonderful creation — man — on the sixth day. God made us: you and me. God made the first man and woman just like Himself! He took the dust from the ground and shaped it into man's body. He made every part just like it should be — the eyes, nose,

Have you ever wondered how everything got here?

God made you and me.

We need God's love and care.

mouth, ears, heart, lungs and all other parts. He made everything just right! Genesis 2:7 tells us that then God "*breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living being*" After God made him so perfect, he still needed life. He needed God's life, His love and His care. And just so the first man, whose name was Adam, wouldn't be all alone, God brought all the animals to him so he could give them names. Then God made a woman from one of Adam's ribs and she was named Eve. How happy Adam was that God had made him a good wife. Now he wouldn't have to be alone ever again.

God created everything good. After God had finished creating the world and everything in it. He was very pleased. Genesis 1:31 tells us, "*Then God saw everything that He had made, and indeed, it was very good.*" So, on the seventh day God rested from all the work which He had created. That is why we set aside at least one day a week for services in our church. On Sundays we worship God, Who created us and gave us our physical and spiritual life.

God is still taking care of His creation. What do you suppose would happen if God stopped taking care of His creation? All the trees and plants would stop growing, the rain wouldn't fall and the sun might not come up at all. Everything would be in a terrible mess! But God is everywhere keeping watch over all things in His creation. He rules the whole earth and His power never fails to keep the entire creation working perfectly.

God made everything for a purpose. We see the world and we know that it was made; made by someone who knew how to make it and is able to keep it working. But the most important of all is that God made the world and all of the things in it for a purpose. God meant for the world to be useful to people. Because God made our world, He has the right to expect us to appreciate His creation and to take care of what he has made for us.

WHAT IS GOD LIKE?

We are introduced to God in the very first verse of the Bible. We have been learning that God is the Creator and the ruler of all things. But what is God really like?

God is Spirit. John 4:24 says, "*God is Spirit and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and in truth.*" But what is a spirit like? A spirit is a personal being without a body. He can think, love and has a will.

God is infinite. That means that He is unlimited and boundless. If we were to travel to the farthest star which is billions of light years away, we would find out that God is there too. God is not limited to a body, time or space.

God is omnipotent. That means that God is all-powerful. God can do the impossible! He can heal bodies and He can make miracles happen. There are some things that only God can control and make happen.

God is omnipresent. That means that God is everywhere at the same time. He is right here with us and He is everywhere all over the world. No matter where we call on Him, He is there to answer. We need never be afraid for He is with us even though we cannot see Him as we see one another.

God is omniscient. That means that God knows everything. He knows the past and the future, too. God even knows our thoughts. We can never hide even the smallest thing from Him. He sees all and knows all.

God is eternal. God has always been and always will be. There never was a time when there was no God like our Heavenly Father. He was never born. He had no beginning. He is the only One who has eternal life and He says that we can have it too if we accept Jesus His Son as our Savior and friend. To live eternally means that we will never die but we will live on and on forever.

God is sovereign (that means He rules and reigns supreme — He has total control). Nothing is greater than God. It is impossible for something to be

God is everywhere at the same time.

greater or better than the One Who created the world. He is the ruler of everything that exists.

God is immutable. The word "immutable" means we can always depend on God. He never changes or never fails to keep His promises. It sure is good to have a friend like God Who never changes even though we may change.

God is holy. God has never committed a sin. He is absolutely perfect. It is impossible for God to do one bad thing. He hates everything that is evil and bad.

God is a just God. That means that God is fair. God has no favorite people for He loves everyone. It is impossible for God to make a mistake. That means that no one is punished for someone else. They get what they deserve. But, those who want forgiveness can be set free from the punishment of sin. All one has to do is to ask God for forgiveness, tell God he is sorry and then accept Jesus Christ, His Son as his personal Savior and friend. After that a person is a Christian, one of God's children who will someday live in heaven forever.

God is the only true God. There are people around the world in far away places that worship gods of wood and stone. Some worship the sun, moon and stars, even animals. People in our country also worship these kinds of gods. Most terrible of all is the fact that some even worship the Devil. The people's prayers are unanswered because their gods are helpless. But our God is greater than all. There is nothing our heavenly Father cannot do for His children. Our God is the only true God. All other gods are not really gods at all.

God is a trinity. The word "trinity" means "three in one". The names of the Holy Trinity are: God, the Father; God, the Son; and God, the Holy Spirit. God is the Father, Jesus Christ, and the Holy Spirit. We do not have three Gods, but three persons make up the one Spirit whom we call God. They have the same will, same thoughts, and the same characteristics. They are all equal in power and they cannot be separated. God sent Jesus to this earth. Jesus died on the cross and took our punishment for our sins. The Holy Spirit makes us to know that we have done wrong and then He helps us to know Jesus as our personal Savior and friend.

HOW WE CAN KNOW GOD

We have never seen God so how do we know that there really is a person like Him? What proof do we have that there is a God? How has He revealed (shown) Himself or made Himself known to people like you and me?

God is revealed in nature. The word "reveal" means to show or to make obvious. We cannot look at the beautiful hills covered with trees and flowers, rivers and lakes without knowing that there is a Creator. None of these beautiful things just happened. They had to be made. God made them all! Everything God made works perfectly. He didn't make one mistake when He created this beautiful world in which we live. Nature tells us that God is our Creator.

God is revealed through conscience. God has given every one of us the ability to know right from wrong. When a person knows the difference between good and evil we say that he has a conscience. It is important that we follow our conscience so we know what is pleasing to God.

God is revealed through the law. God saw people becoming more and more sinful. They didn't pay attention to their conscience. God talked to Moses and called him up to the top of Mt. Sinai. He gave Moses some commandments or rules that the people were to obey. We find these commandments in the book of Exodus, chapter 20. These same commandments tell us how we should act toward God and how God expects us to treat one another.

God is revealed through the prophets. The people were always breaking God's law. God sent prophets (men that spoke for God) to warn the people;

God loves everyone.

**Three persons make up
the one Spirit we call
God.**

**None of these beautiful
things just happened;
God made them all.**

Prophecy means telling about something that has not yet happened.

There are many ways we can show our respect and love for God.

to tell them to repent (turn away from their wrong doing) and feel sorry for their wrong-doing. The prophets showed the people from the Bible, what sin was and it's punishment. The prophets even talked about Jesus who had not been born. This is called a "prophecy", telling about something that has not yet happened.

God is revealed through Jesus. God wanted to show us that He really loved us so He gave us Jesus. When people saw Jesus, they were seeing God. When they learned about Jesus, they learned about God. It is the same thing today — when we really know Jesus as our Savior and friend, then we get to know God. John 14:9 says, "He who has seen me has seen the Father."

God is revealed through us. When you read a letter sometimes it tells you exciting news and sometimes it is sad news. We are like letters. The way we live, talk and act will tell people whether or not we belong to God. Many people who are not Christians do not read the Bible, so the only way then can know about Jesus is through us. We can talk to them about Jesus and we can live a Christ-like life.

GOD LOVES US AND WE LOVE HIM

God loved us before we even knew Him. 1 John 4:19 says, "We love Him because He first loved us." Sometimes we hear people talk about fearing God. This does not mean that we are to be afraid of God, but that we are to respect Him. And to respect God means to pay attention to Him. There are many ways we can show our respect and love for God.

If we love God we will listen to and honor God. We listen to God when we read His Word, the Bible. One place where we can listen to God is in church. God speaks through people like our pastor and teachers. Our church is the place where we can show our respect and love for God. We do this by giving attention to the Bible and doing what the Bible tells us to do.

If we love God, we will show our thanks for all He has done. When we show our love and our thankfulness in song and in prayer, we can be sure that God can hear us, help us and He will and can answer our prayers because He loves us.

If we love God, we will live the Christian life. One of the best ways to show that we are grateful to God for His love, is to live the Christian life. As a Christian we will want to serve God.



BIBLE VOCABULARY

MATCH THE WORD WITH ITS MEANING:

CREATOR

A SPIRIT

THE TRINITY

OMNIPOTENT

OMNIPRESENT

OMNISCIENT

ALL POWERFUL

FATHER, SON, & HOLY SPIRIT

EVERYWHERE

KNOWS ALL

GOD

A PERSONAL BEING WITHOUT A BODY



SCRIPTURAL FOUNDATIONS

LOOK UP EACH VERSE IN YOUR BIBLE.
COPY THEM ON A PIECE OF PAPER AND MEMORIZE THEM.

* Genesis 1:1; Genesis 1:27; * 1 Kings 8:60; Psalm 19:1;
John 1:3; * 1 John 1:9

** Recommended for use with younger students.*



QUESTIONS/ANSWERS

- 1. Question: What is the first verse of the Bible?
Answer: **"In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth" (Genesis 1:1).**
2. Question: What person is introduced in the first verse of the Bible?
Answer: **God, our heavenly Father.**
- 3. Question: Who is God?
Answer: **God is the Creator and ruler of all things.**
- 4. Question: Where is God?
Answer: **God is everywhere.**
5. Question: What does God know?
Answer: **God knows all things, even our thoughts.**
6. Question: What can God do?
Answer: **God can do whatever He chooses to do.**
- 7. Question: How many days did God take to make the world and what did He make on the last day?
Answer: **God made the world in six days and He made man on the last day.**
8. Question: What did God do on the seventh day and what should we do at least one day a week?
Answer: **God rested on the seventh day. We should set aside at least one day a week to worship God at church.**
- 9. Question: How long has God lived?
Answer: **God has always lived and will live forever.**
10. Question: When we say God is a just God what do we mean?
Answer: **It means that God is fair. God doesn't have any favorite people because He loves everyone.**
11. Question: Does God ever change?
Answer: **God is always the same. "For I am the Lord, I do not change" (Malachi 3:6).**
- 12. Question: Is there more than one God?
Answer: **There is only one true and living God.**
13. Question: Can we see God?
Answer: **God is Spirit and cannot be seen.**

14. Question: What is a spirit?
Answer: **A spirit is a personal being without a body, a being that can think and love and will.**
15. Question: How do we know that God lives?
Answer: **Because He has shown Himself in Jesus Christ, His Son; in nature and in people.**
- * 16. Question: What word do we use to express the fact that these three persons: the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit are one God?
Answer: **The Trinity.**
17. Question: What are the three words that describe God as all-powerful, all-knowing, and everywhere present?
Answer: **Omnipotent — all powerful; omniscient — all knowing; omnipresent — everywhere present.**
- * 18. Question: Who does God love?
Answer: **God loves everybody in the whole world, for "God is love" (1 John 4:7-8).**
19. Question: How should we act toward God?
Answer: **We should honor and honor God's name by what we say and how we act.**
- * 20. Question: Why should we love God?
Answer: **"We love Him because He first loved us" (1 John 4:19).**

Chapter 3

Jesus Christ

Part 1



AIM

To know that Jesus Christ is God's Son, that He ministered on this earth, and that His life is an example of how we can serve God.



KEY BIBLE VERSE

"... you shall call His Name Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins" (Matthew 1:21b).



LESSON

GOD'S SON AS A BOY

Jesus was a very special baby. At just the right time God sent the angel Gabriel to the city of Nazareth, where a woman named Mary lived. The angel announced to Mary that she was to become the mother of a special baby boy. Jesus was the name that God chose to call His Son. That name means "Savior". The angel told Mary that her son would "save his people from their sins". Mary was so happy that God would give her the privilege of becoming the mother of Jesus. On the first Christmas day, the Son of God was born. He was born in the city of Bethlehem in a stable where the cattle and sheep ate their hay. Then He was placed in a manger. This place was very different from His home in heaven. Jesus did not have any man for His father like you or me. God was Jesus' Father. Mary's husband's name was Joseph and he loved Jesus, too.

Jesus' name has a special meaning. The first ones to hear of the Savior's birth were some shepherds on a hillside near Bethlehem. An angel told them the good news and a choir of angels sang praise to the new born Son of God. The angel used another one of the names of God's Son. He called Him "a Savior which is Christ the Lord." The name "Lord" means "Master". The name "Christ" means "Anointed One". In the Bible it was the priests and kings who were anointed before they started their work. Usually a prophet poured oil all over them from the top of their head to the tips of their toes. Jesus was anointed, not with oil but with the Holy Spirit. He could and still can do anything because He has the power to do so. At Christmas time and in church you will hear the word "Messiah". This is the Hebrew word for "Christ" and means the same thing, "Anointed One".

Jesus began to do His heavenly Father's business when He was twelve years old. Jesus' mother and Joseph took Jesus to the temple at Jerusalem. They started home to Nazareth and had travelled a whole day before they discovered that Jesus was not with them. They thought he was with some relatives or friends. When they discovered He wasn't, they went looking for Him and found Him back at the temple. Around Him were the important teachers and leaders. These people did not know that Jesus was God's Son. Even Mary was surprised that He knew so much about God. Jesus told His mother that He had to do His work for His heavenly Father. He spent a lot of time in the temple teaching people about God. Today, we go to church and learn about God from our teachers. Jesus grew up like other boys and

The name Jesus means Savior.

Jesus spent a lot of time teaching people about God.

Jesus loved and obeyed Mary and Joseph.

girls. Joseph provided a good home for Jesus. Joseph knew that Jesus was God's Son. He took good care of Him and Jesus often helped Joseph in the carpenter shop. (A carpenter is someone who makes things like cabinets and furniture.) Jesus obeyed and loved Mary and Joseph. He is a good example for us today. We also want to love and obey our parents. Jesus went to school and loved to study. He got plenty of exercise and sleep and ate good food so His body grew strong and healthy. He went to the temple, worshipped God and prayed so He grew spiritually. He also grew socially because He loved people and knew how to get along with them. "And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and man" (Luke 2:52). Jesus grew in every way.

GOD'S SON MINISTERS

Jesus Christ is God's Son. Because He is God's Son, He is equal with God. The Lord Jesus proved that He was the Son of God by the life He lived and by the miracles He performed. A miracle is an unusual thing or event that takes place. A miracle is a supernatural work of God. No person can do all that God can do. God's Son did many miracles. In the New Testament we can find recorded many of these miracles. Can you think of some of them? (Jesus turned water into wine — John 2:1-11. He healed the lame man — John 5. He fed the five thousand people with two fish and five loaves of bread — John 6. He walked on the water — John 6. He healed the blind man — John 9. He raised Lazarus from the dead — John 11. He cleansed the lepers — Luke 17. He made the deaf and dumb boy speak and hear — Mark 9. He cast out demons — Luke 8.). The Bible tells us that Jesus can do the same things today. Hebrews 13:8 says, "Jesus Christ the same yesterday and today and forever."

If Jesus had not died, we would not be a part of God's family.

Performing miracles was part of Jesus' ministry. He was always trying to help somebody. He loved everyone. He loved us so much that He was willing to die on a cross so that we could have forgiveness of sin. This is the greatest of all miracles. If Jesus had not died, we would not belong to God's family. Because Jesus died for us, someday we can go to heaven where everything is perfect, even though we have disobeyed God's commandments. That is a miracle!

Jesus Christ started His ministry (which means service to God) by being baptized in water. When Jesus was thirty years old He went down to a river called Jordan. John the Baptist baptized Jesus in the river. As Jesus came up out of the water, the Holy Spirit came down from heaven in the form of a dove and rested on Him.

When that happened God said, "This is my beloved Son, I am wonderfully pleased with Him." God expects every Christian to be baptized (immersed or put under the water) just as Jesus was. Jesus did not preach one sermon or perform one miracle until He had been baptized in water and in the Holy Spirit.

Jesus Christ defeated Satan.

Jesus Christ defeated Satan. Right after He was baptized in water, Jesus went to a lonely desert spot where He was tempted by the Devil. Three times the Devil tempted Jesus and three times Jesus won over him. In Hebrews 4:15 we read that Jesus was tempted as we are tempted. Jesus used Bible verses when He talked to the Devil. We can do the same thing. That is why it is important that we know what the Bible says so we can know what to say whenever we are tempted by the Devil to do wrong.

Should the Devil tempt you to do wrong all you need to do is follow Christ's example to defeat him. Jesus used the Scripture, — you can too — read your Bible. Jesus spoke to His Father, — you can too — don't forget to pray.

Jesus is our example of how we can serve God, too. As a young boy Jesus served God, His heavenly Father. As a grown man He continued to minister and serve God by helping people. You can serve God now and for the rest of your life, but first you must know Jesus as your own personal Savior and Friend.

Remember that God is our helper.



BIBLE VOCABULARY

MATCH THE WORD WITH ITS MEANING:

JESUS	SERVICE TO GOD
MIRACLE	CHRIST
THE ANOINTED ONE	WHERE JESUS WAS BORN
MINISTRY	A SUPERNATURAL WORK OF GOD
BETHLEHEM	SAVIOR



SCRIPTURAL FOUNDATIONS

LOOK UP EACH VERSE IN YOUR BIBLE.
COPY THEM ON A PIECE OF PAPER AND MEMORIZE THEM.

* Matthew 1:21b; Matthew 3:16, 17; * Luke 2:11; Luke 2:52; * Hebrews 13:8

** Recommended for use with younger students.*



QUESTIONS/ANSWERS

- 1. Question: Where was Jesus born?
Answer: **He was born in Bethlehem of Judea.**
- 2. Question: Who first told the good news of Jesus' birth?
Answer: **The angels of God told shepherds the good news of His birth.**
- 3. Question: How was Jesus' name chosen?
Answer: **It was chosen by God, His heavenly Father. "And she will bring forth a Son, and you shall call His name Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins" (Matthew 1:21).**
- 4. Question: When the angels spoke to the shepherds by what name was Jesus called?
Answer: **He was called Christ the Lord. "For there is born to you this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord" (Luke 2:11).**
- 5. Question: Who were Jesus' earthly parents?
Answer: **Mary and Joseph.**
- 6. Question: What does the name Christ mean?
Answer: **The name Christ means, "The Anointed One".**

7. Question: Where was Jesus taken when He was twelve years old?
Answer: **When Jesus was twelve years old He was taken to the temple at Jerusalem.**
8. Question: What are we told about the boyhood of Jesus at Nazareth?
Answer: **"And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and men" (Luke 2:52).**
- * 9. Question: How old was Jesus when He began His ministry?
Answer: **He began His ministry when He was about 30 years of age.**
- * 10. Question: What event took place at the very beginning of Jesus' ministry?
Answer: **Jesus went to John the Baptist and was baptized by him in the River Jordan.**
11. Question: What was seen and heard right after Jesus was baptized?
Answer: **The Holy Spirit came upon Him like a dove and a voice from heaven said, "This is my beloved Son."**
12. Question: How did Jesus win over the tempter (Satan) in the wilderness?
Answer: **Jesus won over Satan by speaking parts of the Bible.**
- * 13. Question: What are some of the miracles that Jesus did?
Answer: **The blind received their sight, the lame walked, the lepers were cleansed, the deaf heard and the dead were raised up.**
14. Question: What greater work than miracles did Jesus do?
Answer: **He changed people and their way of living when He forgave them of their sins.**
- * 15. Question: Can Jesus still do miracles and change people's lives today? Why?
Answer: **Yes, He can! "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today and forever" (Hebrews 13:8).**

Chapter 4

Jesus Christ

Part 2



AIM

To believe Jesus died, rose again, lives and reigns today.



KEY BIBLE VERSE

"For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believes in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life" (John 3:16).



LESSON

GOD'S SON SUFFERED

God's Son, Jesus, was betrayed. This means that someone turned against Him. Judas, one of Jesus' followers and friends had been with Jesus for three and one-half years. Judas saw Jesus heal people, make the impossible happen, raise people from the dead, and make people happy. But in spite of all he had seen and heard, he sold Jesus for 30 pieces of silver, which is about \$25.00 in our money today. Judas also showed the officers where Jesus was praying in the Garden of Gethsemane. The other disciples were sleeping in the same place near Jesus. Judas kissed Jesus as a sign to the officers that the man he kissed was Jesus. Jesus was then arrested and his disciples were so frightened that they ran away and left Him alone.

God's Son, Jesus was falsely accused. This means He was blamed for things He didn't do. On that night the officers took Jesus to the High Priest. There He was asked many questions. People told lies about Jesus, but they couldn't prove anything. When Jesus told the High Priest that He was God's Son, the priest became furious. People began to spit on Him and make fun of Him. They said He was talking against God and anyone who did such a thing should die.

Next, Jesus was taken to Pilate, the Governor because Pilate was the only one who had the power to put Jesus to death. Pilate listened to all they had to say about Jesus and then decided to send Him to King Herod. Jesus did not answer any of King Herod's questions. He did not try to defend Himself or to get out of it because He knew that someone had to pay for our wrong doing. Jesus was willing to do this because He loved everyone so much. He knew His death would mean that everyone who asked forgiveness could have eternal life. He wanted to do this for you and me.

God's Son, Jesus, was unfairly condemned. This means that the officers were unfair with Jesus. They treated Him like a criminal, which He never was. King Herod sent Jesus back to Pilate who tried to set Him free. They couldn't find a reason for Him to be put to death, but the people standing around started to scream out, "Crucify Him! Crucify Him!" Pilate wanted to please the people, so he turned Jesus over to them.

God's Son, Jesus, was hatefully whipped and crowned with thorns. He was whipped 39 times on his back. They put a crown made from long thorns on

People told lies about Jesus.

Jesus' death meant that everyone who asked forgiveness could have eternal life.

When we come to church on Sunday, we are celebrating His resurrection.

Each one of us should help to get the story of Jesus to others.

The Lord Jesus is alive today and loves us very much.

his head. They spit in his face, plucked out His beard, tore his clothes, and treated Him unkindly. They made Him a cross and led Him away to be nailed to it.

God's Son, Jesus was nailed to the cross. At the top of a hill called, "Calvary or Golgotha", they nailed Jesus to the cross. Jesus suffered for you and me. During this time, Jesus took our punishment so we will not have to be punished if we ask Him to forgive us for our sins and then live the Christian life.

God's Son, Jesus, died and was buried. But He did not remain dead or stay in the tomb. Jesus was raised from the dead after three days by God the Father. We call this the Resurrection and it took place on the first day of the week, Sunday. That is why we call Sunday, the Lord's Day and when we come to church to worship Jesus on Sunday, we are celebrating His resurrection. By being raised from the dead, Jesus proved that He was the Son of God. Acts 1:3 tells us that Jesus proved He was alive and had risen from the dead by appearing to and talking with many of his friends. As many as 500 people, at one time, saw Jesus alive after His death. *"To whom He also presented Himself alive, after His suffering, by many infallible proofs, being seen by them during forty days, and speaking of the things pertaining the kingdom of God" (Acts 1:3).*

GOD'S SON LIVES

Jesus Christ lives to help us spread the Gospel. Just before the Lord Jesus Christ went back into heaven, He left us a command. We call this command, "The Great Commission." He said, *"Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. According to this command, each one of us should help to get the story of Jesus to others. "Gospel" means "good news" and the story of Jesus is good news! Everyone in the whole world should know Him.*

Jesus Christ lives to give us power (ability) to witness. We do not need to be afraid to tell others about Jesus whether it be in our neighborhood or some place around the world. Jesus has promised to be with us at all times. He promised to give us the ability and courage to be witnesses for Him. Acts 1:8 tells us, *"But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witness to me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."* A witness is someone who has seen, heard, or experienced something; one who gives proof of something or someone. Because of our experience of salvation in Jesus Christ, we can be a witness to this experience.

Jesus Christ lives to save and to keep us. Only a living Jesus can save us from the punishment of sin; only a living Jesus can keep us and help us to live the Christian life. The Lord Jesus Christ is alive today and He loves us very much. Romans 8:34 says, *"It is Christ Who died, and furthermore is also risen, who is even at the right hand of God, Who also makes intercession for us."* That means that Jesus is alive and sitting on the right hand side of God the Father, and that He prays for us. Whenever we make a mistake, we should talk to God about it and ask Him to forgive us and help us to do right. He forgives us, no matter what we have done. With His help we will try not to sin on purpose. When we do sin, we should never be afraid to confess it to God for He already knows and He waits to hear us say, "I'm sorry". God promises us in 1 John 1:9 that He will forgive us — *"If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."*

GOD'S SON GIVES

Jesus gives His life. When Adam and Eve disobeyed, God was displeased, but He still loved them even though they had done wrong. He didn't like what they did, but He loved them as persons. He loves you too, even though

you have done wrong things. We really deserve to be punished for our sin. Because God loved us, He decided He would send Jesus to take the punishment in our place. You or I could not be punished for someone else's sins because we have so many sins of our own that we should be punished for. But Jesus, God's Son, never sinned. He was the Only One ever born into this world who could die for someone else's sins. He died so you would not have to be punished, but could go to heaven instead. Jesus, who didn't need or deserve to die, wanted to suffer and die for you and me. And because of what He did, we can have forgiveness for ALL the wrong things we have done, such as: lying, cheating, swearing, and fighting.

Jesus gives eternal life. Because Jesus died for our sins, and because He forgives us when we ask Him to, we are saved from the punishment of sin. Romans 6:23 says, "*For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Jesus Christ our Lord.*" The punishment for sin is death, but because of what Jesus has done for us, we can have eternal life instead. Someday we will go to heaven where Jesus lives now and will live there with him forever and ever. This is called, "eternal life" which means life will go on and on. There will be no end.

None of us have seen heaven, but we know there is a heaven because we believe what the Bible says. In heaven there will be no sickness or pain. We will have perfect health and will always be with each other because no one ever dies in heaven. Everyone will love each other and get along. In John 14, Jesus tells us that there are mansions in heaven that we will live in. Heaven, our future home, is a place where Christian people will live with God, Jesus and the angels for eternity. Most people want to go to heaven, but there is only one way, we can be sure that we will go there. The only way is to have our sins forgiven and then live the Christian life with God's help. Jesus gave His life so that we could live forever with Him in heaven!

Jesus was the only One born into this world who could die for someone else's sins.



BIBLE VOCABULARY

MATCH THE WORD WITH ITS MEANING:

HEAVEN

CALVARY

WITNESS

RESURRECTION

ETERNAL LIFE

JESUS RAISED FROM THE DEAD

FUTURE HOME OF CHRISTIANS

LIFE FOREVER WITH JESUS

WHERE JESUS WAS CRUCIFIED

SOMEONE WHO HAS SEEN, HEARD,
OR EXPERIENCED SOMETHING



SCRIPTURAL FOUNDATIONS

LOOK UP EACH VERSE IN YOUR BIBLE.
COPY THEM ON A PIECE OF PAPER AND MEMORIZE THEM.

Matthew 28:19; * John 3:16; John 16:13; * Romans 6:23; 1 John 1:9

** Recommended for use with younger students.*



QUESTIONS/ANSWERS

- 1. Question: What did God do so people could have eternal life?
Answer: *"For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life "* (John 3:16).
2. Question: What main events led up to and included Jesus' death?
Answer: **He was betrayed by Judas, was falsely accused before the high priest, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried.**
- 3. Question: Where was Jesus crucified?
Answer: **Jesus was crucified outside the Gate of Jerusalem at a place called, "Calvary or Golgotha".**
- 4. Question: Why was it necessary that Jesus die on the cross?
Answer: **To take our punishment for the wrong things we have done.**
5. Question: By what power did Jesus rise from the dead?
Answer: **Jesus rose from the dead by the power of God through which He did His other mighty works.**
- 6. Question: What does the resurrection of Jesus prove to us?
Answer: **The resurrection of Jesus proves to us that He is the Son of God.**
- 7. Question: On what day of the week did Jesus rise from the dead?
Answer: **Jesus rose from the dead on the first day of the week, now called Sunday, or the Lord's Day.**
- 8. Question: How long did Jesus live on the earth after He arose?
Answer: **Jesus was seen by His disciples for 40 days after He arose from the dead.**
9. Question: What was the Great Commission that Jesus gave His disciples?
Answer: *"Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit" (Matthew 28:19).*
10. Question: Does Jesus still live and reign today?
Answer: **Jesus lives and reigns at the right hand of God. "It is Christ Who died, and furthermore is also risen, who is even at the right hand of God, who also makes intercession for us" (Romans 8:34).**
11. Question: What great truths about Jesus Christ as the Savior of men can you read in the Bible?
Answer: **That all men need to have their sins forgiven; that Jesus Christ died for all people; that eternal life is the gift of God when we believe in Jesus.**
12. Question: We have been saved from the punishment of sin by Jesus' death on the cross. What is the punishment of sin?

Answer: *"For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Jesus Christ our Lord"*
(Romans 6:23).

- * 13. **Question:** What will heaven be like?
Answer: **There will be no sickness or pain or death. We will live in mansions and everyone will love each other.**
- * 14. **Question:** How can you be sure you'll go to heaven?
Answer: **Ask Jesus to forgive you of your sins and be your Savior and live the Christian life with God's help.**
- 15. **Question:** What are three of the reasons Jesus lives today?
Answer:
1. Jesus Christ lives to help us spread the gospel.
2. Jesus Christ lives to give us power to witness.
3. Jesus Christ lives to save and to keep.

Chapter 5

The Holy Spirit

Part 1



AIM

To know who the Holy Spirit is. To understand what the Fruit of the Holy Spirit is, and to know that it is produced in us as the Holy Spirit controls our lives.



KEY BIBLE VERSE

"But the Helper, the Holy Spirit whom the Father will send in My name, he will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you" (John 14:26).



LESSON

WHO THE HOLY SPIRIT IS

The Holy Spirit is God. He is one of the three persons in the Holy Trinity. The word "trinity" means "three in one". We have only one God, but He reveals Himself to us in three different ways. *"For there are three that bear witness in heaven: the Father, the Word (Jesus), and the Holy Spirit; and these three are One" (1 John 5:7).* We have already met God the Father, and God, the Son in previous lessons. Now we will meet God, the Holy Spirit and we will learn that He gives us power to testify and witness for the Lord Jesus. He also gives us power (ability) to serve God. All three of the persons in the Trinity are equal. They think the same thoughts and have the same great power because they are really one instead of three.

The Holy Spirit convicts. The Holy Spirit convicts or proves to us that we have sinned. He shows us that we need Jesus to forgive us of our sins. When you feel your conscience bothering you about something you have done wrong, this is the Holy Spirit, the third person of the Trinity, that is making you feel your need for forgiveness from God, the Father (John 16:7, 8).

The Holy Spirit gives assurance. The Holy Spirit makes us to know that we really are God's children. We belong to Him. He is our Heavenly Father. *"The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit, that we are children of God" (Romans 8:16).*

The Holy Spirit is our guide. After we become a Christian we want to grow spiritually, which means we want to become a better Christian, more like Jesus everyday. As we read the Bible each day, the Holy Spirit helps us to understand its meaning and we will grow to be strong spiritually. There is no end to what we can learn with the Holy Spirit as our teacher. He serves as a guide because what He teaches us, guides us to truth. *"But the Helper, the Holy Spirit whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all things I have said to you" (John 14:26).*

THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT

The Holy Spirit helps us to live like a Christian should. He can help us and give to us what we need to live a good Christian life before others. The way we live, the things we say and do, will let others know that we belong to God's Christian family. In Galatians 5:22-23, we are told that when the Holy

All three persons of the Trinity are equal.

The Holy Spirit is our teacher.

The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, long-suffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, and temperance.

Jesus is our perfect example.

Spirit controls our lives, He will produce this kind of fruit in us: *"The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance..."*

"Fruit" means "good actions". The Fruit of the Spirit is proof to people around us that we are children of God.

The Fruit of the Spirit is love. "Agape" is the word for Christian love. That means that we see and accept people like Jesus does. It should not matter what they look like; whether they are rich or poor, big or little, black or white. Because Jesus loves all people; we too must love.

The Fruit of the Spirit is joy. Joy means to feel happy. We have a reason to be happy as Christians. We belong to God's family. He belongs to us.

The Fruit of the Spirit is peace. Peace is a feeling that everything will be all right because God is always aware of us. When you feel peace inside you don't feel troubled or afraid. Instead, you trust God and believe that He will take care of everything.

The Fruit of the Spirit is longsuffering. A person who is longsuffering is a patient person. This does not mean that we suffer pain like we do when we get hurt or we are sick, but it means that we are always ready to forgive. We are slow to anger. We keep calm and show patience with people.

The Fruit of the Spirit is temperance. Temperance means self-control. We want to have a well-balanced life. God will help us to control our eating, sleeping, habits and actions.

The Fruit of the Spirit is gentleness. Gentleness means the same as kindness. When we are gentle people, we are thinking of others. We want to help, not hurt other people.

The Fruit of the Spirit is goodness. Goodness means that our lives produce good things. Jesus is our perfect example. As a Christian, we want to be like Jesus.

The Fruit of the Spirit is meekness. To be meek means to be humble — not to think of yourself as better than others. Meekness is the opposite of proud. Jesus was meek. We should also be meek.

The Fruit of the Spirit is faithfulness. Faithfulness means that we are loyal, that we can be trusted and depended on. First, we must be faithful to God and then to our family, our church and friends.

We all need God's help if we are to bear this good fruit. It should be a part of our life everyday.



BIBLE VOCABULARY

MATCH THE WORD WITH ITS MEANING:

HOLY SPIRIT

FRUIT

TRINITY

LONGSUFFERING

TEMPERANCE

GENTLENESS

THREE IN ONE

SELF-CONTROL

GOOD ACTIONS

GOD

KINDNESS

PATIENCE



SCRIPTURAL FOUNDATIONS

LOOK UP EACH VERSE IN YOUR BIBLE.
COPY THEM ON A PIECE OF PAPER AND MEMORIZE THEM.

* John 14:26; John 16:7; 8; Romans 8:16; * Galatians 5:22; 1 John 5:7

** Recommended for use with younger students.*



QUESTIONS/ANSWERS

- 1. Question: Who is the Holy Spirit?
Answer: **He is the third person of the Trinity God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit.**
- 2. Question: How does the Holy Spirit helps us to become a Christian?
Answer: **The Holy Spirit shows us our sins and helps us to feel our need for Jesus who died on the cross.**
3. Question: What does it mean when we say that the Holy Spirit gives us assurance?
Answer: **It means the Holy Spirit makes us to know that we are really God's children. "The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit, that we are children of God" (Romans 8:16).**
- 4. Question: What does the Holy Spirit do for us when we read the Bible?
Answer: **He teaches us and helps us understand God's truth.**
- 5. Question: When does the Holy Spirit help us?
Answer: **He helps us when we witness, pray, serve and when we are tempted and in trouble.**
6. Question: Does the Holy Spirit help Christians to tell others about Jesus Christ?
Answer: **The Holy Spirit will give us courage (power) to tell (or witness to) others.**
7. Question: What is proof to people around us that we are children of God?
Answer: **The Fruit of the Spirit being produced in our lives.**
- 8. Question: What is the fruit of the Spirit?
Answer: **"The Fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, long-suffering, temperance, gentleness, goodness, meekness, faith" (Galatians 5:22,23).**
9. Question: How will you bring forth the Fruit of the Holy Spirit?
Answer: **By living a Christian life and being obedient to Jesus Christ.**
- 10. Question: What does it mean to be longsuffering?
Answer: **Longsuffering means to be patient with other people, always being ready to forgive and slow to anger.**

11. Question: What does temperance mean and in what area of our life should we have this fruit?
- Answer: **Temperance means self-control and it should be in every area of our life — eating, sleeping, habits and actions.**

Chapter 6

The Holy Spirit

Part 2



AIM

To understand what the Baptism of the Holy Spirit is. To desire the spiritual gifts God gives.



KEY BIBLE VERSE

"But you shall receive power, when the Holy Spirit has come upon you: and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea, and Samaria, and unto the end of the earth" (Acts 1:8).



LESSON

THE BAPTISM OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

The Baptism of the Holy Spirit is a promise of the Father and the Son. Jesus promised the Holy Spirit to His disciples in John 14:26. According to Luke 24:49, He also promised the Holy Spirit to a large group of His followers at the time when He went back into heaven. The Holy Spirit is promised to everyone of God's children.

The Baptism of the Holy Spirit is a gift of the Father and the Son. It is a free gift like everything else which we receive from God. When we become a Christian, we receive the gift of eternal life. In Acts 2:38 we discover that when we are baptized in the Holy Spirit we receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

The Baptism of the Holy Spirit is a command of our Lord. Jesus commanded all of His followers to first be endued ("clothed") with power or have the Holy Spirit before they began to work for Him (see Acts 1:4).

The Baptism of the Holy Spirit gives a Christian power to live for Jesus. *"But you shall receive power, when the Holy Spirit has come upon you: and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea, and Samaria, and to the end of the earth" (Acts 1:8).* You will have power in your own life not to give in to temptations or do wrong things. You will also have power to be a witness for Jesus, so you won't be afraid to tell others about Him. You will find living the Christian life easier for you.

Jesus baptizes us with the Holy Spirit. When you are baptized in water, a minister baptizes you by putting your body under water. But Mark 1:8 tells us that it is Jesus who baptizes us with the Holy Spirit. Because the Baptism of the Holy Spirit is a gift, you need to want it in order to receive it. Jesus will not force it on you. But because we know that Jesus loves us, we can be sure that the Baptism of the Holy Spirit is not something we need to fear, but can look forward to.

When you are baptized with the Holy Spirit, you speak in a language you do not understand. This is often called "speaking in tongues". 1 Corinthians 14:2 tells us, *"For he who speaks in a tongue does speak to men but to God. . ."* Other people will not understand what we say, but God will. A person who speaks to God in this way usually feels very good inside. It is an expression of what we feel inside. We can sing in tongues, praise the Lord in tongues, and pray in tongues. Ever since the Day of Pentecost when the first followers of the

The Holy Spirit is promised to everyone of God's children.

The Baptism of the Holy Spirit is something we can look forward to!

Speaking in tongues is the initial evidence of the Baptism of the Holy Spirit.

Only God can make miracles happen.

God understands what we are saying.

Lord received the Gift of the Holy Spirit, people have spoken in tongues (see Acts 2:4). We call speaking in tongues the initial evidence of the Baptism of the Holy Spirit, because it is the first thing that a person does when he receives the infilling or Baptism in the Holy Spirit.

THE GIFTS OF THE SPIRIT

The Gifts of the Spirit are for Christians only. We read about these gifts in the book of 1 Corinthians 12:8-10 — *“For to one is given the word of wisdom through the Spirit, to another the word of knowledge through the same Spirit, to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healings by the same Spirit, to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another discerning of spirits, to another different kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues.”*

The gift of the word of wisdom is given to us for guidance in our personal life. This gift helps us to know what God wants us to do. It also helps leaders to know exactly what to do when important decisions must be made. All of us need the ability to say and do the right things at the right time.

The gift of the word of knowledge helps us to know more about God and to know God Himself better. The word “knowledge” means to know something that is not learned, but revealed by God. We need this gift because God is the only One who knows all things and there are many things we can never know unless God shows them to us. When God gives us knowledge of things that we did not study or learn, we know that we have received the gift of the word of knowledge.

The gift of faith is something we need in our everyday lives. Faith means “believe” or “trust”. As a Christian, I believe in God and trust Him to do all things right. I believe He can do the impossible. When we ask God for something according to His will and in the Name of Jesus, it will happen.

The gifts of healing is a ministry that God gives, through the Holy Spirit, of praying for sick people. To be healed means to be cured or made well. People receive healing for their bodies in answer to the prayer of faith. It is not the person who prays who heals, but rather it is God.

The gift of miracles takes place whenever God does something that cannot be explained by the natural laws of nature. Miracles are supernatural. Only God can make miracles happen. When the three Hebrew children were thrown in the fiery furnace and they did not burn, that was a miracle! It was also a miracle when God sent an angel to deliver Paul and John from prison. God still performs miracles today. There is nothing God cannot do for His people.

The gift of prophecy builds up and makes the people in the church strong. It encourages people and tells them things God wants them to know that will be good for them. The word “prophecy” means to foretell something. Through prophecy God talks to the people in the church. When our minister preaches under the anointing of the Holy Spirit, we can see this gift operating. The Holy Spirit speaks to us through Him.

The gift of discerning of spirits helps a Christian to be able to recognize what is of God and what is of Satan. To discern means to know the difference or recognize. We need this gift so we will not do wrong as we live for Jesus each day.

The gift of tongues is when someone speaks in an unknown tongue or language; one that has not been learned by studying. Sometimes it is used when we are alone in prayer with God and is the way we express our feelings to God when we do not know what to say. God understands what we are saying. Other times it is used in a church service as a way for God to speak to us. Whenever someone speaks in tongues in this way, the message needs to be interpreted. Interpretation lets the other people know what God is trying to say to His people.

The gift of interpretation goes right along with the gift of tongues. In church services they should always go together. When these two gifts work together, they are a great blessing to our church. God uses people to speak to us. The interpreter explains what the person is saying in an unknown tongue or language as God gives him understanding.

We are to desire to have these gifts. The Bible tells us in 1 Corinthians 12:31 to "... earnestly desire the best gifts." That means we are to desire these spiritual gifts. They are given to different believers by the Holy Spirit as they are needed and can best bless the church. When God gives you one or more of these gifts, use it to bless others.

When God gives you a gift, use it to bless others.



BIBLE VOCABULARY

MATCH THE WORD WITH ITS MEANING:

BAPTISM OF THE HOLY SPIRIT	TO BELIEVE OR TRUST
SPEAKING IN TONGUES	TO KNOW THE DIFFERENCE
FAITH	INITIAL EVIDENCE OF BAPTISM WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT
PROPHECY	PROMISED BY THE FATHER AND THE SON
DISCERN	TO FORETELL SOMETHING



SCRIPTURAL FOUNDATIONS

LOOK UP EACH VERSE IN YOUR BIBLE.
COPY THEM ON A PIECE OF PAPER AND MEMORIZE THEM.

* Acts 1:8; Acts 2:4; 1 Corinthians 12:8-10; 1 Corinthians 12:31a; 1 Corinthians 14:2

** Recommended for use with younger students.*



QUESTIONS/ANSWERS

1. Question: What is the Baptism with the Holy Spirit?
Answer: **It is the promise and the gift of the heavenly Father and His Son.**
2. Question: Who baptizes with the Holy Spirit?
Answer: **Jesus baptizes with the Holy Spirit (Mark 1:8).**
3. Question: Is the Baptism with the Holy Spirit for every Christian?
Answer: **Yes. "For the promise is to you, and to your children, and to all who are afar off . . ." (Acts 2:39).**
4. Question: What is the first sign proof when a person is baptised with the Holy Spirit?
Answer: **He speaks in an unknown language as the Holy Spirit gives him the words. Acts 2:4 says, "And they**

were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance."

5. Question: To whom are we talking when we speak or pray in a language unknown to us?
Answer: **1 Corinthians 14:2 says, "For he who speaks in a tongue does not speak to men but to God ..."**
- * 6. Question: Name the gifts of the Spirit according to 1 Corinthians 12.
Answer: **Wisdom, knowledge, discernment, healings, miracles, faith, prophecy, tongues, interpretation.**
7. Question: How can we receive the gifts of the Spirit?
Answer: **We can trust God to give us the gifts that will help us do what he wants us to do.**
- * 8. Question: Why are the gifts of the Spirit given?
Answer: **For the good and benefit of the children of God (Christians).**
- * 9. Question: Should we desire the gifts of the Spirit?
Answer: **The Scripture tells us to "covet" desire earnestly the best gifts (1 Corinthians 12:31).**
10. Question: When someone speaks a message to the church in an unknown tongue, how can people understand the meaning of that message?
Answer: **The Holy Spirit helps him or someone else interpret the message for everyone present.**
- * 11. Question: What does a message given in an unknown tongue do for people when it is interpreted?
Answer: **Christians are encouraged, comforted and helped to grow in the Lord.**
12. Question: How does speaking in an unknown tongue help a person after he has been baptized with the Holy Spirit?
Answer: **A person grows closer to God and helps himself to grow spiritually.**

Unit 2



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The Fall of Man



AIM

To know that sin is the result of disobedience. To know that all have sinned, but can have forgiveness.



KEY BIBLE VERSE

"For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God" (Romans 3:23).



LESSON

ADAM AND EVE DISOBEYED GOD

It all started in a beautiful garden called Eden, which means "delight". No sin had ever entered there. There were animals in the garden, but none of the animals were fierce or dangerous. They all lived together like a happy family. *"Then God saw everything that He had made and indeed it was good" (Genesis 1:31).*

Adam and Eve, the first man and woman created by God, lived in the Garden of Eden. We find this Bible story in Genesis, chapters two and three. Adam and Eve were pure, sweet and clean in thought and deed. God loved them and they loved God very much. God came down everyday to talk to Adam and Eve in their beautiful garden home. It must have been exciting to have such a visitor. One day, God told Adam and Eve that they could eat the fruit in the garden, except for one tree. That tree was the tree of knowledge of good and evil. God was good to give them everything in the garden but one tree. They were also told that they would be sent out of the garden and be separated from God if they disobeyed.

Satan was not pleased when God made Adam and Eve because they loved God and were happy. He decided to try to get Adam and Eve to disobey God. If they did, then they would no longer be happy. One day Satan visited Eve in the garden and tempted her. He told her a lie. He told her that the fruit from the tree of knowledge would be good for her and would make her as wise as God. She believed the lie and took fruit from the tree of knowledge of good and evil. Then she gave some to Adam and he ate of it too.

ADAM AND EVE PAID FOR THEIR SIN

God punished Adam and Eve because they disobeyed Him by eating of the fruit they were told not to eat. God always punishes sin. No one can ever get away with it. God sent them out of the beautiful Garden of Eden where they had lived. He told them they could never return.

THE FALL OF MAN

The Bible tells us in Genesis 3:8 that Adam and Eve *"hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God among the trees of the garden."* This is usually what happens when we disobey our parents. We want to run and hide and we hope they will never find out what we did. None of us want to get caught

God came down every day to talk to Adam and Eve in their beautiful garden home.

God always punishes sin.

God was not willing that they should have to live forever away from Him.

For those of us who have sinned, God gave Jesus.

God will forgive us because He loves us.

and be punished. God called out to Adam and Eve and they came out of their hiding place with bowed heads. How ashamed they must have been. Adam finally spoke and said, "I heard your voice and I was afraid." God knew what had happened and knew that He would have to do what He said He would do if they disobeyed Him and ate of the tree of knowledge of good and of evil.

Adam and Eve would have to pay for their sin. God sent them out of the beautiful garden. Now they were separated from God and had to live outside the garden where there was sadness, sickness, hard work and suffering. No longer could they walk and talk with God in the Garden of Eden.

God loved Adam and Eve very much, even though they had disobeyed Him. Although His friends had become His enemies, God was not willing that they should have to live forever away from Him. God killed some innocent animals and made coats of skins for Adam and Eve. The animal's blood had to be shed in order to pay for their sin.

JESUS PAID FOR OUR SINS

Ever since Adam and Eve disobeyed God, there has been sin. "For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God" (Romans 3:23). Can you think of some of the sins we sometimes do? Just as God punished Adam and Eve, He will punish anyone who commits sin. However, there is a way out. Remember how the animal's blood paid for Adam and Eve's sin? For those of us who have sinned, God gave Jesus.

Jesus died on the cross and His blood was shed for us. He took our place, our punishment for our wrong-doing. The Bible tells us in Romans 6:23, "For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord." That means that even though we deserve punishment for our sin, Jesus already took that punishment for us by dying on the cross. When we believe this and accept what Jesus did, we can become a Christian. Then there is always something else we want to do.

WHEN WE CONFESS OUR SINS GOD FORGIVES US

Confess means to tell on ourselves. When we tell God we have been wrong and then ask Him to forgive us, He is willing and ready. He will forgive us because He loves us. He showed us this love by sending Jesus to die on the cross for our sins. "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life" (John 3:16).

God loves you when you are good and when you are bad, but remember He does not like to see us do the wrong things. God made us and He wants us to belong to His family. This can only happen when we are ready to ask for forgiveness. The Devil would like to keep us away from God, but we are not going to listen to him. We will love and obey God.



BIBLE VOCABULARY

MATCH THE WORD WITH ITS MEANING:

EDEN

ADAM

SIN

JESUS

CONFESS

PAID FOR OUR SIN

DISOBEY GOD

TELL ON OURSELVES

GARDEN OF DELIGHT

FIRST MAN



SCRIPTURAL FOUNDATIONS

LOOK UP EACH VERSE IN YOUR BIBLE.
COPY THEM ON A PIECE OF PAPER AND MEMORIZE THEM.

Genesis 1:31; Genesis 2:16, 17; John 3:16; * Romans 3:23; * Romans 6:23

** Recommended for use with younger students.*



QUESTIONS/ANSWERS

- 1. Question: Who was the first man and woman?
Answer: **Adam and Eve.**
- 2. Question: Name the place where Adam and Eve lived.
Answer: **The Garden of Eden.**
- 3. Question: What was the Garden of Eden like?
Answer: **It was a place of delight where all the animals lived together like a happy family. No sin had ever entered there. It was beautiful.**
- 4. Question: Was man good and happy in the Garden of Eden?
Answer: **Yes, he was.**
- 5. Question: Did God make man good or bad?
Answer: **God made man good. "Truly, this only I have found, that God made man upright (good)" (Ecclesiastes 7:29).**
- 6. Question: Did man remain good after God made him?
Answer: **No, he did not. He sinned against God.**
- 7. Question: What is sin?
Answer: **Disobeying God's rules. "... Sin is lawlessness" (1 John 3:4).**
- 8. Question: How did Adam disobey God?
Answer: **He ate from the tree that was forbidden by God.**
- 9. Question: How did Eve displease God?
Answer: **She ate from the tree of knowledge of good and evil.**

10. Question: How were Adam and Eve punished?
Answer: **They were separated from God by being sent out of the garden.**
- * 11. Question: Who tempted Adam and Eve to disobey God?
Answer: **Satan, the Devil.**
- * 12. Question: What can people do so they will not be separated from God?
Answer: **Confess their sins and ask God to forgive them for their disobedience.**
13. Question: Has anyone else besides Adam and Eve disobeyed God?
Answer: **Yes, everyone, the whole human race has disobeyed God. "For all have sinned (disobeyed) and fall short of the glory of God" (Romans 3:23).**
- * 14. Question: Who paid for the punishment we deserve for our sin?
Answer: **Jesus took our punishment for our wrong-doing by dying on the cross. "For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord" (Romans 6:23).**

Chapter 2

The Plan of Salvation



AIM

To know that God has redeemed us from our sin through Jesus. To understand what it means to be born again and why it is necessary. To learn how to become a Christian.



KEY BIBLE VERSE

"If you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes to righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made to salvation" (Romans 10:9, 10).



LESSON

GOD HAS REDEEMED US FROM SIN

Redemption means "to deliver by paying a price or rescue". An example of this would be if a father would jump into a deep lake to rescue his son who was drowning, knowing that he himself might lose his own life. He was willing to give his life to save his own son from drowning. Redemption also means "to free from", "to take away", "to save from", or "to release".

God planned a way for us to be redeemed from the punishment of sin. God always loved us! Before we were born He knew about us. He knew that we would do wrong and that we would need forgiveness for our wrongdoing. If God had not planned redemption for us we would then be punished for all our sins. There would be no way out.

God promised that Jesus would take the punishment for sin. After Adam and Eve disobeyed, God let them know of His plan to save them. Throughout the Old Testament God repeated His promise to deliver and forgive people of their sins. God always keeps His promises.

God provided redemption for us by sending His only Son, Jesus, to be our Redeemer. Jesus is the One who paid for our sins. When the Lord Jesus hung on the cross, God, the Father took the sins of the whole world and placed them on Him. That means that He took your sins and mine on Himself and died in our place. We will never have to pay for our sins because Jesus paid for them once and for all. *"So Christ was offered once to bear the sins of many"* (Hebrews 9:28a).

All we need to do is believe that Jesus died for our sins and accept Him as our very own personal Savior and Lord. *"For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life"* (John 3:16). After we become a Christian we want to live the Christian life every day. God will help us. If we sin after we become a Christian we ask for God's forgiveness. We don't have to become a Christian all over again.

Jesus is our only Redeemer. The Bible tells us in John 14:6 that Jesus is the only way to heaven — *"Jesus said to him, I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me."*

JESUS TELLS US WE MUST BE BORN AGAIN

The moment we accept the Lord Jesus Christ as our Savior, we are born again! A word that means the same thing as "born again" is regeneration.

God always loved us!

Jesus is the One who paid for our sins.

Jesus is the only way to heaven.

Saul was a different man, it was like he was born again.

To repent means to feel sorry for the wrong things we have done and to turn and go in another direction.

"Regenerate" means to remake, to be re-born or make anew. "Conversion" is another word we often use when speaking of being born again. "To convert" means to change, and when we are born again we are changed completely.

Saul was a man we read about in the Bible who was born again and completely changed. Before Saul was born again, he was good. He was well-educated. He was religious and he kept the Ten Commandments. But Saul did not know or love Jesus. It was because of this that he did some mean things. In Acts 9 we read about how Saul threatened the Christians because of hate in his heart. He was ready to kill people if they would not give up serving Jesus.

One morning Saul took several soldiers with him and started for Damascus to arrest some Christians. They were getting close to the city when a light, even brighter than the sun, suddenly shone all around. Saul fell down to the ground and he heard a voice speaking out of heaven saying, "Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me?" Saul said, "Who are you, Lord?" because he knew the voice was coming from heaven. "I am Jesus whom you are persecuting," said the voice. Something mysterious happened that day. Besides the bright light and the mysterious voice, Saul became a different man. It was like he had been born again. That is exactly what happened to him. Instead of hating Christians, he loved them. Instead of being cruel and making threats, he became kind and helpful. Instead of wanting to kill, he was willing to give his own life to save someone else. Now Saul had a happy smile. He even changed his name from Saul to Paul. It was like he was a brand new person. He had a new kind of life.

"How can a man be born again?" A wise teacher, named Nicodemus, once asked Jesus this question. Jesus explained it this way; "That which is born of the flesh is flesh and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit" (John 3:6). Saul is a good example. He was born first in Tarsus and he was like his earthly father, but when he was born the second time on the Road to Damascus, he became like Jesus. "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new" (2 Corinthians 5:17). When we receive Jesus into our hearts we are changed from children of Satan to children of God. We were changed in many ways. Even our names were changed. Once we were called "sinners", but now we have a new name "Christians", which means Christ-like.

The reason that we must be born again is because we cannot get into God's family any other way. Jesus said, "... unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God" (John 3:3). This means that we can never expect to enter heaven unless we are a part of God's family. We cannot save ourselves. There is no way for us to earn our salvation because salvation is the free gift of God (Romans 6:23). Not even being born into a Christian family or joining the church can save us, for everyone must personally accept the Lord Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord. As a person realizes his need for Jesus, he is then received by Jesus and the Father and is born into God's family.

HOW WE CAN RECEIVE THE GIFT OF REDEMPTION AND BE BORN AGAIN

We must repent of our sin. To repent means to feel sorry for the wrong things (sins) we have done, and to turn and go in another direction. We decide we will obey God's rules (commandments) from that time on. The first step to being born again is repentance. It is very necessary. "Repent therefore and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out . . ." (Acts 3:19).

We must believe in our hearts. The second step is believing. Do we believe that Jesus is God's Son? Do we believe He died on the cross for our sins, rose again and now sits on the right hand of God? Then we must trust Jesus to forgive us and He will. Even though we have never seen Jesus as we see each other, we believe He is real. *Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and you will be saved . . .* (Acts 16:31).

We must confess with our mouths. The third step to being born again is to confess, which means to admit or speak. After we have repented and believed, then we will admit or say with our mouth that we believe. That means telling someone else that you believe that Jesus died for you and has forgiven you of your sin. *"If you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved"* (Romans 10:9).

We must call on the Lord. This means to talk to God in prayer. God hears us when we pray. He will never ignore us. Our prayer to God should include: 1) repentance, 2) an expression of our belief in Him, 3) confession of our sins, and 4) a thank you for sending Jesus Who gives eternal life. *"Whoever calls upon the name of the Lord shall be saved"* (Romans 10:13).

We must receive God's gift. The last important step is to accept or receive God's gift, which is eternal life through Jesus. First, we receive Jesus as our Savior and as a result of this act, we have eternal life. *"These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, that you may know that you have eternal life, and that you may continue to believe in the name of the Son of God"* (1 John 5:13). After we become a Christian, Jesus wants us to tell others about Him. We can share with them how much He loves them and how they can become a Christian too.

God hears us when we pray.

We have eternal life.



BIBLE VOCABULARY

MATCH THE WORD WITH ITS MEANING:

- | | |
|--------------|--------------------------|
| REDEMPTION | CHRIST-LIKE |
| BORN AGAIN | FEEL SORRY FOR YOUR SIN |
| CHRISTIAN | TO DELIVER OR RESCUE |
| REPENT | GOD'S GIFT THROUGH JESUS |
| ETERNAL LIFE | TO BE COMPLETELY CHANGED |



SCRIPTURAL FOUNDATIONS

LOOK UP EACH VERSE IN YOUR BIBLE.
COPY THEM ON A PIECE OF PAPER AND MEMORIZE THEM.

* John 3:3; * John 14:6; Acts 16:31; * Romans 10:9, 10;
2 Corinthians 5:17; Hebrews 9:28a

** Recommended for use with younger students.*



QUESTIONS/ANSWERS

- 1. Question: What promise was given to Adam and Eve before they were sent out of the Garden of Eden?
Answer: **They were given the promise that Jesus Christ would come and bring salvation.**

2. Question: What does the word "redemption" mean?
 Answer: **Redemption means to deliver or rescue by paying a price. "Who (Christ) gave Himself for us, that He might redeem us from every lawless deed. . ." (Titus 2:14a).**
- * 3. Question: Who is the one that forgives the sinner?
 Answer: **The only redeemer of sinners is our Lord Jesus Christ.**
4. Question: How did God make it possible for us to have eternal life?
 Answer: **"For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life" (John 3:16).**
- * 5. Question: What did Jesus do to take away our sins?
 Answer: **He died on the cross and there he was punished for our sins. ". . . while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us" (Romans 5:8).**
- * 6. Question: Did Jesus take the punishment for everyone's sins?
 Answer: **Yes. ". . . not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world" (1 John 2:2).**
7. Question: Do we become a Christian by the good things we do?
 Answer: **No, we cannot become saved by doing good things. "For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God" (Ephesians 2:8).**
8. Question: If we are born into a Christian family or join the church, does this make us a Christian?
 Answer: **No, everyone must personally take Jesus Christ as His own Savior and Lord.**
- * 9. Question: How are we born again?
 Answer: **1. By repenting of our sins.
 2. By believing on the Lord Jesus Christ.
 3. By confessing with our mouth that we believe.
 4. By receiving forgiveness for sin.**
10. Question: What is repentance?
 Answer: **Repentance is asking God for the forgiveness of our sins: telling God we are sorry for the wrong things done; and accepting Jesus Christ as our Savior.**
- * 11. Question: What is faith in Jesus Christ?
 Answer: **Faith in Jesus Christ means that I believe in Him as God's Son, that I trust Him to forgive me and to have Him become my own Savior and Lord.**
12. Question: What does it mean to be born again?
 Answer: **It means a person is born spiritually into the family of God by taking Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord. It is then we are called born-again Christians.**
13. Question: What happens when we are born again?
 Answer: **The Bible says, "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new" (2 Corinthians 5:17).**

- * 14. Question: What is the first thing that Jesus wants us to do when we are born again?
Answer: **He wants us to tell others about Him and tell them how they too can become a Christian.**
15. Question: How do we show others that we are Christians?
Answer: **By testifying of our faith in Him and our love for Him and by living a life that is pleasing to Him.**

Chapter 3

Divine Healing



AIM

To know what is meant by divine healing and to believe that it is for today. To understand God's instructions for healing.



KEY BIBLE VERSE

"Is anyone among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord. And the prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise him up" (James 5:14, 15).



LESSON

GOD IS THE DIVINE HEALER

We believe in divine healing, which means being made well by God, Who is divine (powerful, deity, supreme). Divine healing is the cure of physical sickness by the direct power of God. The greatest of doctors is God. There is no sickness or disease which is too hard for Him to heal. He has all the answers and knows all about our bodies because He made us. Divine healing is from God, the Father, through God, the Son (Jesus), by God, the Holy Spirit.

DIVINE HEALING PROMISED BY GOD

From the very first book of the Bible to the last book, God's promises of divine healing may be found. In the Old Testament, God made a covenant with His people to heal them, ". . . For I am the Lord who heals you" (Exodus 15:26b). David thanked God for healing in Psalm 103:1-3: "Bless the Lord, O my soul . . . who forgives all your iniquities, who heals all your diseases." In the New Testament, we find many testimonies of people being healed by Jesus. "And Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every sickness and every disease among the people" (Matthew 9:35). Jesus Himself said, "And these signs will follow those who believe . . . they will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover" (Mark 16:17, 18). His disciples believed His words, and the book of Acts tells us about the many times they prayed for sick people and they were healed.

DIVINE HEALING FOR TODAY

We can receive divine healing today because of what Jesus did on the cross. A prophet by the name of Isaiah had a vision of the suffering of Jesus on the cross 750 years before it actually happened. He wrote what he saw: ". . . and by His stripes we are healed" (Isaiah 53:5b). Peter, a follower of Jesus, actually saw the beating Jesus took. He wrote: "Who (Jesus) himself bore our sins in His own body on the tree . . . by whose stripes you were healed" (1 Peter 2:24). It says you WERE healed — that means Jesus already did this for us. Healing was for Old Testament and New Testament people and healing is for today. "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today and forever" (Hebrews 13:8). Jesus never has changed, never will change, and will always be the same. Therefore, we can believe that the promise in James 5:15a is for us today, too — "And the prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise him up."

Divine healing is the cure of physical sickness by the direct power of God.

We can believe that the promise for healing is for us today.

GOD'S INSTRUCTIONS FOR HEALING

When we pray for someone, we are to ask for healing in Jesus' name. *"If you ask anything in My name, I will do it"* (John 14:13). Early Christians used the name of Jesus when they prayed for the sick. In Acts 3:1-11 we read about the first miracle of healing after Jesus went to Heaven. A man who was crippled from the time he was born needed healing. He had never walked before. He sat at the Beautiful Gate of the temple. He could do nothing but beg, day after day. He really had nothing good to look forward to. But one day was different! Two men went up to the temple to pray. They were Peter and John, followers of the Lord Jesus. As the men came close to the lame man, he held out his hand to beg for money, but Peter and John didn't have any money. They could pray for him in the name of Jesus and he would be healed. They said, *"In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, rise up and walk"*. When Peter took the man by the hand and lifted him up, the lame man felt strong in his legs. He jumped and walked and praised God for healing him. He was healed through the name of Jesus. The disciples always used the name of Jesus when they prayed for the sick. Likewise, we need to ask and pray in Jesus' name.

He was healed through the name of Jesus.

The next step to divine healing is believing. *"Jesus said to him, If you can believe, all things are possible to him who believes"* (Mark 9:23). It will do us no good to ask and pray if we don't believe . . .

- That Jesus died on the cross and by His stripes we were healed.
- That Jesus is the same yesterday, today and forever.
- That God will always keep his promises and do His part in divine healing.
- That we can be healed today when we ask.

Faith is believing without seeing.

One way to build our faith is to memorize the promises of God. Our faith grows stronger and it is easier to believe when we know what God has promised to do for us. Faith is believing without seeing. When we know God's promise to heal, it helps us to believe that He will do it before it even happens.

God will not keep healing from us if we live a pleasing Christian life.

The last step is our part. We must follow Jesus. When you play follow the leader you have to keep your eyes on the leader and do what he says and does. Jesus is our leader. We must keep our thoughts and minds on Him and do what He tells us to do. We should obey His commandments, talk with Him everyday, and read the Bible that tells all about Him. He has given us orders on what we should do if we want to be healed. These orders must be followed and obeyed. Psalm 84:11 reads: *" . . . No good thing will He withhold from those who walk uprightly."* This means that God will not keep things from us, including healing, if we live a pleasing Christian life. It is important to know that this includes doing what we can to keep our bodies healthy by eating the right kind of food, getting the right amount of rest and exercise, and obeying our parents.



BIBLE VOCABULARY

MATCH THE WORD WITH ITS MEANING:

DIVINE	TO BE MADE WELL
HEALING	BELIEVING WITHOUT SEEING
FAITH	COMING FROM GOD



SCRIPTURAL FOUNDATIONS

LOOK UP EACH VERSE IN YOUR BIBLE.
COPY THEM ON A PIECE OF PAPER AND MEMORIZE THEM.

Exodus 15:26; * Psalm 103:3; * Matthew 8:17; Matthew 9:35; Mark 9:23;
* Hebrews 13:8; * James 5:15

* Recommended for use with younger students.



QUESTIONS/ANSWERS

- 1. Question: What is divine healing?
Answer: **It is the cure of physical sickness by the direct power of God. "The prayer of faith shall save the sick and the Lord shall rise him up" (James 5:15).**
- 2. Question: How is divine healing received?
Answer: **As a result of faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, the Great Physician.**
3. Question: Where is the Old Testament covenant of healing?
Answer: **It is found in Exodus 15:26 — "I am the Lord who heals you."**
4. Question: Did the Psalmist David praise and thank God for his blessing of healing?
Answer: **Yes. "Bless the Lord, O my soul; and all that is within me, bless His holy name! Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all His benefits; Who forgives all your iniquities, who heals all your diseases" (Psalm 103:1-3).**
- 5. Question: Who took our sicknesses according to Matthew 8:17?
Answer: **Jesus. "... He Himself took our infirmities and bore our sicknesses."**
- 6. Question: Why does Jesus heal the sick?
Answer: **Jesus heals the sick to show his power to heal; because He loves us and has compassion for us; and that God might be glorified.**
7. Question: Did Jesus heal people while He was on earth?
Answer: **Yes, He healed many people. "And Jesus went about all the cities and villages ... healing every sickness and every disease among the people" (Matthew 9:35).**
- 8. Question: Does Jesus heal sick people today?
Answer: **Yes, because Hebrews 13:8 tells us that "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today and forever."**
9. Question: Who can we call to pray for us when we are sick?
Answer: **"Is any sick among you? Let him call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing Him with oil in the name of the Lord" (James 5:14).**
- 10. Question: What has the Lord promised to do when we pray and believe for healing?

Answer: He has promised to heal. "And the prayer of faith will save the sick and the Lord will raise him up" (James 5:15).

- * 11. Question: What are three steps to receiving divine healing?
Answer: 1. Ask and pray in Jesus' name.
2. Believe with all your heart.
3. Follow Jesus.
12. Question: What should we believe in order to be healed?
Answer: We should believe:
• That Jesus died on the cross and by His stripes we were healed.
• That Jesus is the same yesterday, today and forever.
• That God will always keep His promises and do His part in divine healing.
• That we can be healed today when we ask.
13. Question: Who is divine healing from, through, and by?
Answer: Divine healing is from God, the Father, through God, the Son, and by God, the Holy Spirit.
- * 14. Question: How can we build our faith in God's ability to heal?
Answer: Read and memorize God's promises.
- * 15. Question: After we are healed what must we do?
Answer: Give all praise and glory to Jesus and serve Him faithfully.

Chapter 4

The Coming King

Part 1



AIM



KEY BIBLE VERSE

To know that Jesus promised He would return to take His children home with Him. To understand what will happen when He comes and how it relates to each one individually.

"... I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also" (John 14:2, 3).



LESSON

THE PROMISE OF THE SECOND COMING

Jesus promised to come back for us. He was having supper with His disciples for the last time before He died when He made the promise, "I will come back again." The disciples were very sad when He told them that He must leave them. They had hoped that He would stay with them forever on this earth and be their king. It must have made them happy when at least He told them, "*I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also*" (John 14:3).

Just before Jesus went to heaven after His death and resurrection, it was promised again that He would return. As Jesus ascended into heaven in the clouds, an angel who was standing with the disciples who were present, said to them, "*Men of Galilee, why do you stand gazing up into heaven? This same Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will so come in like manner as you saw Him go into heaven* (Acts 1:11).

We can believe the promise that Jesus will come back for you and me because He never breaks a promise. Between the books of Genesis and Revelation in the Bible, we find that the return of the Lord is mentioned 318 times in 216 different chapters. What better proof could we have that it is going to happen?

THE TIME OF HIS RETURN

The Bible tells us that Jesus will come back unexpectedly. The only One who knows exactly when He will come is God, our heavenly Father (see Matthew 24:36). We are also told that His coming will seem as a thief in the night to those who are unsaved. They will not expect him, nor will they be ready to meet Him. But we who know Jesus as our personal Savior should not be surprised, even if He should come right now. We are ready to meet Him! Jesus may come in the next second or it could be next week, or even next year. No one knows just when it will happen, but we do know He is coming because He made the promise.

No one knows the exact day or hour when Jesus will return, but in the Bible, God has given us certain signs that tell us that the coming of Jesus is very soon. In Luke 21:28 we read these words: "*Now when these things begin to happen, look up and lift up your heads, because your redemption draws near.*"

Jesus promised, "I will come back again."

Jesus will come back unexpectedly.

Jesus is coming soon.

**We will be changed
as we rise to meet Jesus
in the air.**

This is speaking of the things that will take place before Jesus comes back. Scriptures that show signs of Jesus' coming are:

- Increase in knowledge (Daniel 12:4).
- False Christs (Matthew 24:5).
- Wars and rumors of wars (Mark 13:8).
- Nation rising against nation (Luke 21:10).
- Famines (Matthew 24:7).
- Earthquakes (Mark 13:8).
- Fearful sights (Luke 21:11).
- Lovers of self (2 Timothy 3:2).
- Brutal men and women (2 Timothy 3:2).
- Disobedience to parents (2 Timothy 3:4).
- Greater love for pleasure than for God (2 Timothy 3:4).
- Unemployment (Zechariah 8:10).

*(Note: Each of these signs can be discussed further and explained.
Use current examples from newspapers, magazine articles, etc.)*

THE PLAN FOR HIS COMING

Our heavenly Father has worked everything out for the return of His Son Jesus. The first part to His plan is the Rapture. Rapture means to be caught away and the apostle Paul tells us just how the Lord will come and catch us away with Him. *"For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord"* (1 Thessalonians 4:16, 17). Suddenly Jesus will appear in the sky! Jesus will come in person and when He comes an angel will call out and the trumpet of God will sound forth. Every Christian, living or dead, will hear the angels' voice and God's trumpet. The Bible says the dead in Christ, the Christians that have died, will rise first. They will have new and perfect bodies. At that very moment, the Christians who are alive when He comes will have changed bodies. *"... We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed — in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed"* (1 Corinthians 15:51, 52). We will have glorified (meaning a body that is perfect, magnificent, wonderful) bodies just like Jesus did after he rose from the dead. We will be changed as we rise to meet Him in the air. The rapture, then is that time when Jesus will come in the air to take the Christians, both living and dead, out of this world.

After we are raptured with Jesus, we will take part in a very special special banquet. This banquet is called the "Marriage Supper of the Lamb." It is going to be like a feast. The word "lamb" represents Jesus who is like a little lamb which was sometimes offered as a sacrifice. Jesus is pure and He was offered as a sacrifice when He died on the cross. The banquet is called the "Marriage Supper" because we believe that the Christians together make up the bride of Christ. Jesus is our bridegroom. We are like a bride who wears a beautiful white dress. The bride's dress represents God's "righteousness" which means to be free from sin. We received God's righteousness when we asked Jesus to forgive us for our sins. We were made right before God. God looks at us as if we have never sinned in our whole life. This is possible because of what Jesus has done for us on the cross. Jesus is the bridegroom and when the rapture occurs it will be like the bridegroom coming to take His bride (all born-again Christians) with Him to celebrate at the "Marriage Supper of the Lamb."

While we are enjoying our life with Jesus in heaven, those who did not go with Him will not be at all happy. They will be experiencing what is called

"The Great Tribulation". A wicked person called the "Antichrist" will be the ruler of the people. "Antichrist" means that he will be against Christ. The Devil will try to make the people believe that the Antichrist is the real God. Many people will worship the Antichrist and during this period of seven years there will be war, starvation, death, pain, and much suffering. The Great Tribulation will be a time of sorrow and disappointment. There is still time now for people to become Christians so they will not have to suffer during the Tribulation.

At the end of the Tribulation, the Antichrist will gather together God-haters and actually declare war on God. And then suddenly, when the Antichrist least expects it, the heavens will open and the armies of God will come to meet his army of God-haters. We read in the Bible that Jesus, the King of Kings, will come riding on a beautiful white horse. He will be followed by His saints, who will also be riding on white horses. Then the angels of God will be seen. The book of Jude, verse 14, says, "Behold, the Lord comes with ten thousands of His saints." Almost before the battle begins, the Antichrist and his armies will be destroyed. This battle is known as the "Battle of Armageddon." This battle will end the Great Tribulation and Jesus, as King of Kings, will establish His kingdom on earth and we will enter what is called the "Millennium", which means the same as 1,000 years. So, the time of Revelation will be when Jesus comes back to earth with the Christians and His angels to reign as King!

As Christians we can look forward to the return of Jesus. Just imagine what it will be like to live with Him forever! We do not have to be afraid of what is to happen because we belong to God's family and He has promised to take us to be with Him.

The Great Tribulation will be a time of sorrow and disappointment.

Christians can look forward to the return of Jesus.



BIBLE VOCABULARY

MATCH THE WORD WITH ITS MEANING:

RAPTURE	AGAINST CHRIST
REVELATION	1,000 YEARS
ANTI-CHRIST	TO BE CAUGHT AWAY
TRIBULATION	JESUS WILL REIGN WITH HIS SAINTS OVER THE EARTH
MILLENNIUM	JESUS COMING TO EARTH AGAIN
SECOND COMING	TIME OF SADNESS AND SUFFERING



SCRIPTURAL FOUNDATIONS

LOOK UP EACH VERSE IN YOUR BIBLE.
COPY THEM ON A PICE OF PAPER AND MEMORIZE THEM.

* Matthew 24:36; Luke 21:28; * John 14:3; Acts 1:11;
1 Thessalonians 4:16, 17; * Jude 14b



QUESTIONS/ANSWERS

- 1. Question: What does the Second Coming of Christ mean?
Answer: **It means the personal, visible, and bodily return of the Lord Jesus Christ to the earth.**
- 2. Question: What are the two phases of the Second Coming?
Answer: **First, His rapture of the church (1 Thessalonians 4:16, 17). Second, His return to earth with the church (Jude 14).**
- 3. Question: What is the purpose of Jesus' return to earth?
Answer: **To set up His kingdom.**
4. Question: When did Jesus Christ come to earth the first time?
Answer: **When He was born as a baby in the town of Bethlehem.**
5. Question: How many times is the Second Coming of Christ mentioned in the Bible?
Answer: **It is mentioned 318 times in 216 chapters.**
- 6. Question: Did Jesus promise that He would come again?
Answer: **Yes, He said, "I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself" (John 14:2, 3).**
- 7. Question: When will Jesus come back to earth?
Answer: **Matthew 24:36 tells us, "But of that day and hour no one knows, no not even the angels of heaven, but My Father only."**
- 8. Question: Will Christ come for only those who are living?
Answer: **No. Christ is coming for all, both living and dead, who know Christ as their Savior.**
9. Question: What banquet will Christians enjoy with Jesus in heaven after the rapture?
Answer: **The Marriage Supper of the Lamb.**
10. Question: Why is it called "The Marriage Supper of the Lamb"?
Answer: **Because it will be a celebration of the time when the bridegroom, Jesus has come to bring His bride, all Christians, home to be with Him. The word "lamb" represents Jesus, who is pure and was sacrificed on the cross.**
- 11. Question: What happens on the earth after Christ takes away the Christians?
Answer: **The Great Tribulation takes place.**
12. Question: What is the Great Tribulation?
Answer: **It is a time of sadness and suffering when the Antichrist will be in charge of the earth.**
13. Question: Describe the Antichrist.
Answer: **A person who says he is the Christ, but is really not the Christ that we know. He is the one who will be against Christ.**

- 14. Question: How will the Tribulation end?
Answer: **It will end when Jesus Christ comes with the Christians and defeats the Antichrist and His army of God-haters.**

- 15. Question: What is the Battle of Armageddon?
Answer: **The Battle of Armageddon will take place at the end of the Tribulation and will be the time when the Antichrist and his army is destroyed by Jesus Christ.**

- 16. Question: What will Jesus do after the Tribulation period ends?
Answer: **He will set up His kingdom and reign for 1,000 years.**

- 17. Question: What do we call the period of 1,000 years when Jesus reigns with His people on earth?
Answer: **The Millenium.**

Chapter 5

The Coming King

Part 2



AIM

To help each child to look eagerly for the return of Christ by understanding how to get ready for it. To believe that Jesus has promised to reward us and to catch a glimpse of what those rewards are.



KEY BIBLE VERSE

"For the Son of Man will come in the glory of His Father with His angels, and then He will reward each according to his works" (Matthew 16:27).



LESSON

GETTING READY FOR THE RETURN OF JESUS CHRIST

One day Jesus will come to take us to heaven, but we don't know when. So, it is important that we are always ready to go. There are several things we can do to be sure we are always ready for Him to come for us. When we do these things we can look forward to Jesus coming back again. "... To those who eagerly wait for Him, He will appear a second time, apart from sin, for salvation" (Hebrews 9:28).

First and most important of all, we can abide in Christ. "And now little children, abide in Him: that when He shall appear, we may have confidence and not be ashamed before Him at His coming" (1 John 2:28). Abiding means a daily walking and talking with our Lord. We begin to abide in Him when we are saved. We continue to abide in Him as we pray and read God's Word, the Bible.

We should be faithful. This means to always be the same in our love for the Lord Jesus, wherever we go. If we are faithful to Christ, we will stand up for Him at all times. We will live for Him and witness about Him. He wants us to be faithful in our homes, too; to honor our parents by speaking kind words and being helpful. If we are faithful to our church, we will show it by our faithful attendance, our willing service, and by supporting our pastor and leaders without complaining.

We will also be pure if we are watching for the coming of the Lord. We should have pure minds. That means that they are to be clean and clear. Let's fill our minds with thoughts of Jesus and Bible scriptures. Impure thoughts are bad thoughts. Let us also remember that our bodies are the temples of the Holy Spirit, a place where the Holy Spirit lives. This is why it is important that we become close friends with those who live pure lives. Our friends can influence us for good or bad.

We will be obedient to God and His Word. There are two ways in which God tells us what He wants us to do. One is by the Bible and the other is by His Holy Spirit, who speaks to us like a still small voice within us. We should read, study and memorize the Bible so that we will know what God wants us to do. Then whenever He speaks to us, we should obey Him immediately.

We will be loving and kind to everyone we meet. Try to treat people as Jesus would if He were to meet them. We need to ask Jesus to help us to love even the people that are hard to love. We are to even be kind to those who

We are always to be ready for Christ's return.

Let's fill our minds with thoughts of Jesus and Bible Scriptures.

Treat people as Jesus would .

**Are you ready to meet
Jesus?**

**He will honor us with
crowns.**

**We will receive God's
everlasting rewards.**

are not kind to us. In John 13:35, God tells us, "By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another." This means that we show other people that we are followers of Jesus by being loving and kind to them. In this way other people can see that Jesus lives in our hearts because we show them His love.

We will be witnesses for Jesus at home, at school, and around our neighborhood. Both by our words and our actions we should tell people what Jesus has done for us. We should learn how to use our Bibles so we can show other people how they can become a Christian. Then they too will be ready for the return of Jesus. Jesus has given us the Person of the Holy Spirit to help us tell others about Him.

If Jesus came back to earth tonight, would you be ready? When He comes, it will be in a twinkling of an eye when all of God's people will meet Jesus in the air. That's quicker than blinking your eye once. If you are not ready for Jesus, you can get ready right now by asking Jesus to be your Savior and to help you live the Christian life.

RECEIVING OUR REWARDS

The Bible tells us in Matthew 16:27 that everyone who goes to be with Jesus in the rapture is going to receive rewards. "For the Son of Man will come in the glory of His Father with His angels, and He will reward each according to his works" (Matthew 16:27). One of the first things that will happen after we rise to meet the Lord will be the giving of rewards by Jesus. However, His rewards are not prizes we get for winning certain things or contests. His rewards are different. He will honor us with what the Bible calls, "crowns".

One of the crowns is called the "Crown of Righteousness". "Finally, there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will give to me on that Day, and not to me only but also to all who have loved His appearing" (2 Timothy 4:8). We do not receive this crown because we have done anything good. The Bible already tells us that our righteousness is not good enough. The righteousness which this crown represents is the righteousness of Jesus. We are forgiven for all the wrong things we have done and Jesus looks at us as if we have never done anything wrong.

The Bible also speaks of a "Crown of Life". "Blessed is the man who endures temptation; for when he has been proved, he will receive the crown of life which the Lord has promised to those who love Him" (James 1:12). The "Crown of Life" will be received by those who have put their trust in the Lord Jesus. After a person becomes a Christian they must, with God's help, live the Christian life. It is now and forever. We are to be faithful or true to the very end, even though the Devil would sometimes try to make us change our minds about being a Christian.

We read about the "Crown of Rejoicing" in the book of 1 Thessalonians 2:19 — "For what is our hope, or joy, or crown of rejoicing? Is it not even you in the presence of our Lord Jesus Christ at His coming?" This crown is for those who have told others about Jesus and eternal life. These people are often called "soul winners". It means that they win people to the side of Jesus and the people become Christians. All of us want to tell others so they too can come to know God's Son, Jesus.

The last crown is called the "Crown of Glory", which is very much like the Crown of Rejoicing. "And when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the crown of glory that does not fade away" (1 Peter 5:4). This crown is given to those who faithfully tell others about God and the Bible and it will never fade away, but will last forever.

All of God's rewards will last forever and ever. If we will love and serve God with our whole heart while we are here on earth, we will receive God's everlasting rewards after we meet the Lord in the air. Let's decide right now

that we will be faithful to God and that we will tell our friends and neighbors about Jesus and how they can become a Christian, then they too will be ready for the return of Jesus!

All of us want to tell others so they too can come to know God's Son, Jesus.



BIBLE VOCABULARY

MATCH THE WORD WITH ITS MEANING:

ABIDE	REWARDS
FAITHFUL	DAILY WALKING & TALKING WITH JESUS
SOUL-WINNER	FREE FROM WRONG OR SIN
CROWNS	TO BE TRUE & LOYAL
RIGHTEOUSNESS	SOMEONE WHO TELLS OTHERS ABOUT JESUS



SCRIPTURAL FOUNDATIONS

LOOK UP EACH VERSE IN YOUR BIBLE.
COPY THEM ON A PIECE OF PAPER AND MEMORIZE THEM.

* Matthew 16:27; *1 John 2:28; 1 Thessalonians 2:19; 2 Timothy 4:8;
Hebrews 9:28; James 1:12; 1 Peter 5:4

** Recommended for use with younger students.*



QUESTIONS/ANSWERS

1. Question: What does it mean to abide in Christ?
Answer: **Abiding in Christ means daily walking and talking with the Lord. We do this by reading the Bible and praying to Him every day.**
2. Question: Why should we abide in Christ?
Answer: **So that we will be ready at all times for His coming. "And now little children, abide in Him; that when He shall appear, we may have confidence and not be ashamed before Him at His coming" (1 John 2:28)**
3. Question: What are some ways we can be prepared to always be ready for Jesus' return?
Answer: **We should be faithful, pure, obedient to God and His Word, loving and kind to everyone, and witnessing for Jesus.**
4. Question: How can we be faithful to Jesus?
Answer: **We can be faithful to Jesus by living for Him, witnessing about Him and standing up for him at all times. Also, we should be faithful in our homes and to our church.**

5. Question: What does it mean to be a witness for Jesus?
 Answer: **To be a witness means to tell people what Jesus has done for us by our words and our actions and show them how they can become a Christian too.**
6. Question: How can we keep pure minds?
 Answer: **We keep pure minds by filling our minds with thoughts of Jesus and Bible scriptures.**
- * 7. Question: Who will receive rewards from God?
 Answer: **Everyone who goes to be with Jesus in the rapture will receive rewards. "For the Son of Man will come in the glory of His Father with His angels, and then He will reward each according to his works" (Matthew 16:27).**
- * 8. Question: What are these rewards called?
 Answer: **These rewards are called "crowns".**
- * 9. Question: What are the different crowns called and where do we read about them in the Bible?
 Answer: **"Crown of Righteousness" — 2 Timothy 4:8.
 "Crown of Life" — James 1:12.
 "Crown of Rejoicing" — 1 Thessalonians 2:19.
 "Crown of Glory" — 1 Peter 5:4.**
10. Question: What do we know about the "Crown of Righteousness"?
 Answer: **The righteousness which this crown represents is the righteousness of Jesus and it will be given to all who look for His appearing.**
11. Question: Which crown is given to those who put their trust in the Lord Jesus?
 Answer: **The "Crown of Life" is given to all who put their trust in the Lord Jesus.**
12. Question: Who will receive the "Crown of Rejoicing"?
 Answer: **Those who have told others about Jesus and eternal life will receive the "Crown of Rejoicing".**
13. Question: How long will the "Crown of Glory" last?
 Answer: **The "Crown of Glory" will never fade away, it will last forever. ". . . You will receive the crown of glory that does not fade away" (1 Peter 5:4).**
- * 14. Question: How can we receive these rewards?
 Answer: **We can receive these rewards if we love and serve God with our whole heart while we are on the earth.**

Chapter 6

Final Judgement



AIM

To understand that there is the judgement of the believer for his works at the coming of Christ and the judgement of the sinner at the Great White Throne Judgement at which time his eternal destination will be determined.



KEY BIBLE VERSE

"And I saw the dead, small and great, standing before God . . . and they were judged, each one according to his works. And anyone not found written in the Book of Life was cast into the lake of fire" (Revelation 20:12a, 13c, 15).



LESSON

THE CHRISTIAN'S JUDGEMENT

The Christian's judgement is sometimes called the believer's judgement and the judge will be Jesus. Every Christian will stand before the judgement seat of Christ. *"For we must all appear before the judgement seat of Christ, that each one may receive the things done in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad"* (2 Corinthians 5:10). The Bible says that when Jesus descends from heaven, those that died believing in Him will be raised from the grave. The believers, like you and I, will rise up and meet Him in the air and He will take us to heaven with Him, at which time we will be judged. The believers will not be judged for their sins, because by accepting Jesus as Savior their sins are forgiven and forgotten. The Christians' sins were judged on the cross when Jesus took their sins upon Himself and died for them.

The Christian will be judged for the work he or she has done while living on earth. Everything we have done for the Lord will pass by Him for inspection. If our motives have been wrong, or if we have served selfishly to bring attention to ourselves instead of Jesus, we will not be rewarded. If our service, deeds, works and actions have been done because of our love for Jesus, we will pass the inspection and we will receive rewards for what we have done. We learned about these rewards (Crown of Righteousness, Crown of Life, Crown of Rejoicing and Crown of Glory) in our last lesson.

THE GREAT WHITE THRONE JUDGEMENT

The Great White Throne Judgement is the judgement of the sinner. A throne is a symbol of kingship. Throughout the Bible we read about kings who sat on their throne and ruled people, judged people and sometimes condemned people. Just as people today are judged or brought to court for trial, so the sinners will be judged by God at the Great White Throne Judgement. We read about this in the book of Revelation, chapter 20. These verses speak of what John saw: *"And I saw the dead, small and great, standing before God . . . and they were judged, each one according to his works. And anyone not found written in the Book of Life was cast into the lake of fire"* (Revelation 20:12a, 13c, 15). Those whose names are not written in the Book of Life will be sent to hell.

God will be the judge at the Great White Throne Judgement, which will take place after Jesus has reigned on earth for 1,000 years. God will judge rightly. He will make no mistakes. As people stand before Him, they will be

Every Christian will stand before the judgement seat of Christ.

The Great White Throne Judgement is the judgement of the sinner.

There will be no second chance.

Jesus paid for our sins.

asked what they heard and were told by Christian friends, relatives or even a minister. Those who have turned their back on Jesus and have rejected or ignored Him, will have their place with the Devil. That is why it is important to know Jesus now and not wait until you get older or until you feel you really need Him.

All sinners will be judged by God Who will sit on the Great White Throne. The Bible tells us that everyone will be judged for his works. That means that the things people do and say will be judged by God. He will decide whether they are good or bad. God knows why people have done certain things and He knows the motive or reason for every action and word. When God sees that their name is missing from the Book of Life, which contains the names of all those who are Christians, He will say to them, "*Depart into everlasting punishment.*" This also means that these people will be separated from God forever. There will be no second chance.

WE HAVE A CHOICE NOW OF WHICH JUDGEMENT WE WILL FACE

Each person can choose to go the Devil's way and face the Great White Throne Judgement or God's way and be rewarded by God. We can choose to live the Christian life or to live our lives in our own way. God will not and cannot choose for people. Each person must choose for himself. Do we want to belong to God's family or are we going to just forget about God and go our own way and do our own thing?

We can escape punishment and eternal separation from God by accepting Jesus, God's Son, as our personal Savior. We must believe that Jesus died for our sins. Jesus took the punishment that we deserve for our sins so we will not have to pay for the wrong-doing we have done after it has been forgiven. I would rather be judged for my good works than for my sins. How about you? If you don't know for sure that you belong to God's family, you can be sure right now.



BIBLE VOCABULARY

MATCH THE WORD WITH ITS MEANING:

THRONE	DEEDS, ACTIONS, OR THINGS SAID OR DONE
WORKS	TO DECIDE, DETERMINE, OR PRONOUNCE
GREAT WHITE THRONE JUDGEMENT	A SEAT OF KINGLY POWER AND ROYALTY
JUDGED	THE JUDGEMENT OF THE SINNER



SCRIPTURAL FOUNDATIONS

LOOK UP EACH VERSE IN YOUR BIBLE.
COPY THEM ON A PIECE OF PAPER AND MEMORIZE THEM.

Romans 14:10a-12; * 2 Corinthians 5:10; Revelation 20:12; Revelation 20:15

** Recommended for use with younger students.*



QUESTIONS/ANSWERS

- 1. Question: What is meant by the Believer's Judgement?
Answer: **It is a time when we stand before Jesus Christ and receive our rewards for the things we have done.**
- 2. Question: Will all people appear for judgement?
Answer: **Romans 14:10 says, "... For we shall all stand before the judgement seat of Christ."**
- 3. Question: What is the Great White Throne Judgement?
Answer: **It is the final judgement of the sinner.**
4. Question: By what standard will sinners be judged?
Answer: **By the Word of God, the Bible.**
- 5. Question: When does the Great White Throne Judgement take place?
Answer: **After Jesus Christ has reigned on earth for 1,000 years.**
- 6. Question: What will happen after sinners are judged?
Answer: **They will be cast into the lake of fire — Hell (Revelation 20:15).**
7. Question: Who will judge from the Great White Throne?
Answer: **God will. "And I saw the dead, both small and great, standing before God" (Revelation 20:12a).**
8. Question: Will Christians be judged at the Great White Throne Judgement?
Answer: **No, because it is a judgement for sinners only.**
- 9. Question: Why are Christians not judged at the Great White Throne Judgement?
Answer: **Because their sin was forgiven when they accepted Jesus as their Savior and asked God's forgiveness.**
- 10. Question: How can the sinner escape the Final Judgement?
Answer: **By accepting Jesus Christ now as his or her personal Savior and by living the Christian life.**
11. Question: When will Christians be judged?
Answer: **After Jesus Christ comes back to earth and takes the Christians to heaven with him.**
12. Question: Why will Christians be judged?
Answer: **So they can be rewarded for their works. "For we must all appear before the judgement seat of Christ, that each one may receive the things done in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad" (2 Corinthians 5:10).**

Unit 3



Sandra Gunderson
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Chapter 1

Heaven Our Future Home



AIM



KEY BIBLE VERSE

To understand what and where heaven is, as well as what it will be like. To desire heaven as our future home and to learn how to make it such.

"In My Father's house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also" (John 14:2,3).



LESSON

A PLACE CALLED HEAVEN

When we say, "heaven", we sometimes think of what we see above our heads, but there are actually three heavens. The first heaven is the place where the birds fly and the clouds hang. We can see the first heaven when we look up and around. The second heaven is called the starry heaven. For a long time, only the stars and the planets existed there. But now men have sent satellites, rockets and spaceships to explore the second heaven. Astronauts have been sent to the moon and have orbited around the earth in the second heaven. The third heaven is the highest heaven where Christians will live someday soon. Jesus has told us in the Bible that in this third heaven there are mansions (John 14:2, 3). A mansion has many rooms and is usually very beautiful. Someday we will live in a mansion in heaven. Some of our friends and relatives are already with Jesus and someday we will join them.

Heaven is always described as being up from the earth. When Jesus returned to heaven He went up (Acts 1:9). When wicked men stoned Stephen to death he looked up into heaven (Acts 7:55). When Paul saw the Lord on the road to Damascus he was blinded by a light from above (Acts 9:3). So we believe that heaven is up, way beyond what we see in the first and second heaven.

Heaven also has another name. In the Bible, heaven is referred to as "The New Jerusalem". *"Then I, John, saw the holy city, New Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband"* (Revelation 21:2). Many years ago, long before your parents and great-grandparents were born, Jerusalem was the most important city in all of Palestine. It was especially important to the Jews. It was a city in which God was interested because the Temple was located in Jerusalem. It was the place of worship. Jerusalem was the city of kings. It had a great wall and gates on each side. Jerusalem was where God's people lived. God's Word describes heaven as the New Jerusalem. It will be much better than the old Jerusalem here on earth. It will be like Jerusalem because it will be a place of worship for all eternity. It is the dwelling place of the great King of Kings, Jesus Christ our Savior. It has great walls, and gates on each side, and will be the dwelling place of God's people.

In the Bible we also read that this special city in heaven will be "foursquare", that is, it will be in a perfect square. *"And the city lieth foursquare,*

The third heaven is the highest heaven where Christians will live someday soon.

The New Jerusalem is the dwelling place of the great King of Kings.

We will never see anyone crying in heaven.

and the length is as large as the breadth" (Revelation 21:16, KJV). The Bible tells us that this city will have streets made of pure gold and the sky will be pure and transparent like crystal. There will be no clouds of smog or soot to darken it. On each side of its four jasper walls are three gates, each on a separate pearl. The city itself is built with pure gold and has the appearance of transparent glass. On earth we have the light of the sun in the daytime, and at night we have street lights. But in the New Jerusalem, there will be no need of the sun, or the moon, or any kind of light such as we know. Revelation 21:23 tells us, "*And the city had no need of the sun or of the moon to shine in it, for the glory of God illuminated it, and the Lamb is its light.*" That means that Jesus, who is the light of life, is the only light in the New Jerusalem. It's almost hard to imagine such a beautiful city, but we will someday be able to see it for ourselves!

Everything will be perfect in heaven. ". . . *There shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying; and there shall be no more pain, for the former things are passed away*" (Revelation 21:4). We will never see anyone crying, arguing, or fighting in heaven. There will be no starvation or pain. The weather will always be perfect. We will never get sick or die. Not one thing will be bad or wrong. Best of all we will get to talk with Jesus; sit with Him, walk with Him and worship Him.

WHO WILL GO TO HEAVEN?

Have you ever wondered who will go to heaven? The Bible tells us that ". . . *only those who are in the Lamb's Book of Life*" will go to heaven (Revelation 21:27). The Book of Life is a big book because it contains the names of millions of men and women and boys and girls who have accepted the Lord Jesus Christ as Savior. Many people try to earn their way to heaven by good works. They feel that if they live a good life, are good to their families, go to church once in awhile, and give in church offerings, that is enough. We know that they are mistaken although Christians should do these things too. However, doing is not enough; we must have the Lord Jesus Christ in order to be saved. He is the only way — the one entrance into heaven. "*Jesus said to him, I am the way, the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me*" (John 14:6). Only people who belong to God's family, who are Christians, will go to heaven.

HOW CAN I GET TO HEAVEN?

Do you like to travel? It is fun to travel, to see the beautiful scenery and to meet interesting people. But the most important trip is the one that we are all taking right now. We start traveling together when we are born, and we continue traveling to get where we are going. But we need a map to help us stay on the right road and not get lost. The Bible is like a map because it tells us how to get to heaven, and it tells about heaven's one entrance, the Lord Jesus Christ.

The Bible, our map, tells us of just two roads and God's Word teaches that everyone of us in on one of these two roads. The "Jesus' Way" or "Narrow Way" leads to heaven. The "Broad Way" or "Satan's Boulevard" leads to hell and destruction. We need to pay attention to the map God gave us. We should read it each day and ask God to guide our steps in the "Jesus' Way". If we do this, we will reach our destination — heaven. Our name will be written in the Lamb's Book of Life.

Remember, God's way is the best way and the only way to heaven. There will be more people on the broad road than on the narrow road because it will seem like the easier road to take. But it is the narrow road that will lead us to heaven and life with Jesus forever. The Bible says, ". . . *narrow is the gate and difficult is the way which leads to life, and there are few who find it* (Matthew 7:14).

We need to pay attention to the map God has given us.

Everyone in the whole world must choose one of the two roads. When we choose Jesus and become a Christian, our name is written down in the Lamb's Book of Life. We are on the narrow road leading to heaven. Someday we will reach heaven and we will be with Jesus forever!

The narrow road leads us to heaven.



BIBLE VOCABULARY

MATCH THE WORD WITH ITS MEANING:

HEAVEN	BOOK WITH NAMES OF ALL CHRISTIANS
NARROW ROAD	STREETS OF GOLD, "FOUR-SQUARE"
NEW JERUSALEM	JESUS' WAY
LAMB'S BOOK OF LIFE	FUTURE HOME OF ALL CHRISTIANS



SCRIPTURAL FOUNDATIONS

LOOK UP EACH VERSE IN YOUR BIBLE.
COPY THEM ON A PIECE OF PAPER AND MEMORIZE THEM.

Matthew 7:14; * John 14:2; John 14:6; * Revelation 21:4; Revelation 21:23

** Recommended for use with younger students.*



QUESTIONS/ANSWERS

- 1. Question: What do we mean by "heaven"?
Answer: **Heaven is the dwelling place of our Lord Jesus Christ and God our Heavenly Father, and the Christians' future home.**
- 2. Question: Can we be sure that heaven is real?
Answer: **Yes, because Jesus said, "In my Father's house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you" (John 14:2).**
- 3. Question: Who will go to heaven?
Answer: **Everyone whose name is written in the Lamb's Book of Life. Those who are members of God's family.**
- 4. Question: What is another name for heaven?
Answer: **The New Jerusalem.**

We will never see anyone crying in heaven.

and the length is as large as the breadth" (Revelation 21:16, KJV). The Bible tells us that this city will have streets made of pure gold and the sky will be pure and transparent like crystal. There will be no clouds of smog or soot to darken it. On each side of its four jasper walls are three gates, each on a separate pearl. The city itself is built with pure gold and has the appearance of transparent glass. On earth we have the light of the sun in the daytime, and at night we have street lights. But in the New Jerusalem, there will be no need of the sun, or the moon, or any kind of light such as we know. Revelation 21:23 tells us, *"And the city had no need of the sun or of the moon to shine in it, for the glory of God illuminated it, and the Lamb is its light."* That means that Jesus, who is the light of life, is the only light in the New Jerusalem. It's almost hard to imagine such a beautiful city, but we will someday be able to see it for ourselves!

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The narrow road leads us to heaven.



BIBLE VOCABULARY

MATCH THE WORD WITH ITS MEANING:

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NEW JERUSALEM	JESUS' WAY
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SCRIPTURAL FOUNDATIONS

LOOK UP EACH VERSE IN YOUR BIBLE.
COPY THEM ON A PIECE OF PAPER AND MEMORIZE THEM.

Matthew 7:14; * John 14:2; John 14:6; * Revelation 21:4; Revelation 21:23

** Recommended for use with younger students.*



QUESTIONS/ANSWERS

- 1. Question: What do we mean by "heaven"?
Answer: **Heaven is the dwelling place of our Lord Jesus Christ and God our Heavenly Father, and the Christians' future home.**
- 2. Question: Can we be sure that heaven is real?
Answer: **Yes, because Jesus said, "In my Father's house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you" (John 14:2).**
- 3. Question: Who will go to heaven?
Answer: **Everyone whose name is written in the Lamb's Book of Life. Those who are members of God's family.**
- 4. Question: What is another name for heaven?
Answer: **The New Jerusalem.**

5. Question: In what ways is the New Jerusalem like the Old Jerusalem?
Answer: They are both places of worship and the dwelling places of kings. They each have a great wall and gates on each side and are the home of God's people.
6. Question: How is the New Jerusalem described in Revelation 21?
Answer: It is a square (verse 16); the walls are made of jasper (verse 18), and the gates are pearls (verse 21); the streets are made of pure gold (verse 21); and Jesus provides all the light (verse 23).
- * 7. Question: Will everyone be happy in heaven?
Answer: Yes, "And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes: there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying, and there shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away" (Revelation 21:4).
8. Question: What light will there be in heaven?
Answer: "And the city had no need of the sun or of the moon to shine in it, for the glory of God illuminated it, and the Lamb is its light" (Revelation 21:23).
- * 9. Question: What can be our map or our guide to heaven?
Answer: The Word of God — The Bible.
10. Question: In what direction is heaven located? Give some proof from Scripture.
Answer: Heaven is located up from the earth. When Jesus returned to heaven, He went up (Acts 1:9).
11. Question: How many heavens are there? Describe them.
Answer: There are three different heavens. The first heaven is the place where birds fly and the clouds hang — it is visible from the earth. The second heaven is called the starry heaven where the stars and planets exist. The third heaven is the highest heaven and is where all Christians will go to live someday.
- * 12. Question: What are the two roads we must choose from in life and where do they lead?
Answer: There is the narrow road which is Jesus' way and it leads to heaven, or there is the broad road which is Satan's way and it leads to hell and destruction.

Chapter 2

Hell



AIM

To show that hell is eternal for those who reject Christ. To come to an understanding of what hell will be like.



KEY BIBLE VERSE

"But the cowardly, unbelieving, abominable, murderers, sexually immoral, sorcerers, idolaters, and all liars shall have their part in the lake which burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death" (Revelation 21:8).



LESSON

A PLACE CALLED HELL

All of us have heard the word "hell" at one time or another. Some people use this word when they are mad at someone and they tell that person to go to this place called hell. Some people do not believe that it is a real place, but it is just as real as heaven. We can discover four important facts about hell by memorizing the letters, "h — e — l — l".

The first letter of this word stands for *Him — Jesus Christ*. Jesus Christ gave Himself so that we would not have to spend eternity in hell. God loved us so much that He sent His only Son, Jesus, who took our punishment for sin. He loved us before we ever loved Him (see John 3:16, 17). God loves everyone, even the sinner. A sinner is a person who is not obeying God. However, God does not like what a sinner does. Jesus has provided a way of escape for everyone, but each person must want to escape hell and the suffering that will be there. Jesus does not want to see anyone miss heaven, but He cannot and will not force anyone to be one of his followers. Everyone must decide whether or not he wants to become a Christian.

The letter "E" stands for *Eternity*. Eternity means the same as "forever and ever" or "everlasting". It means that there is no end. Those who go to heaven will live forever with Jesus. Those who choose to be on the Devil's side will be with him in hell forever. Our choice now will determine where we will spend eternity. *"He who believes in the Son has everlasting life; and he who does not believe the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God abideth on him" (John 3:36).*

The letter "L" stands for the word *Lost*. Another way of saying that a person is lost is to say that he is separated from God. It is sin that separates people from God. We have no friendship with God when we are on the Devil's side. Remember when Adam and Eve disobeyed God and ate of the tree. They were sent out of the beautiful Garden of Eden and were separated from God. Their disobedience, which is sin, separated them from God. Their friendship and relationship with God changed because of their sin. It is the same way with the people that live around us. Sin separates them from God. But when we ask forgiveness for our sin, we are friends with God; we are His children and we know that we are going to heaven.

The final "L" stands for the *Lake of Fire*. This is where all the wicked will be sent. *"And anyone not found written in the Book of Life was cast into the Lake of Fire" (Revelation 20:15).* Those whose names are not found in the Book of Life will spend eternity in hell. Those who choose to do what the Devil stands for will spend eternity with him.

Hell is a real place.

We must decide whether or not we want to become a Christian.

Sin separates people from God.

HELL IS SATAN'S HOME

Hell is prepared for the Devil and his angels. *"Then He will also say to those on the left hand, Depart from Me, you cursed, into the everlasting fire prepared for the Devil and his angels"* (Matthew 25:41). In the beginning when God created heavens and earth and everything was perfect and without sin, Satan was a creature of wisdom and beauty. He was without sin. He lived with God and the angels. He was created perfect and as an angelic being. He had great favor with God until he tried to be equal with God. Because he could not be like God, he turned against God, his Creator. He rebelled. Many angels joined him and because of their action, God cast them out of heaven to the earth. Satan became an enemy of God.

Satan stands for nothing but bad and evil; there is no good in him. He is very happy when people do wrong and becomes angry when people do right. Satan is also known as the Devil and he is very much alive. He is for real and he is busy doing many things to people and our world. Satan is a leader of a large group of evil spirits. Both he and the spirits try to make people do wrong things, to worship false gods. He also tries to keep people from believing on Jesus and to love things rather than Jesus and what He stands for. The Devil tempts us to do wrong things like stealing, cheating and fighting. Satan is very busy because he knows that he hasn't got very much longer and that Jesus is coming soon.

HELL IS THE FUTURE HOME OF PUNISHMENT FOR UNBELIEVERS

We can make our choice to accept Jesus and follow Him and know that heaven will be our everlasting home, or we can choose to go the Devil's way and choose hell as our everlasting place of punishment. The two thieves that hung on either side of Jesus' cross had a chance to make their decision. One asked forgiveness and chose heaven, the other one did not ask for forgiveness and therefore chose hell.

People will go to hell because they choose to. They have refused to believe the Bible or to believe on Jesus. *"But the cowardly, unbelieving, abominable, murderers, sexually immoral, sorcerers, idolaters, and all liars shall have their part in the lake which burns with fire and brimstone"* (Revelation 21:8).

WHAT IS HELL LIKE?

The Bible tells us what hell is like. The best scripture is found in Luke 16:19-31 where Jesus tells the story of the Rich Man and Lazarus. In this story Jesus describes hell, which is also called Hades or Sheol. In this story the rich man had wealth and luxury. Lazarus was a diseased beggar who was laid at the door of the rich man's house. The beggar would beg for scraps that were left over from the rich man's table. Finally, the beggar died and was carried by the angels to be with Abraham in the place of the righteous dead. The rich man also died and was buried, but his soul ended up in hell. Both men ended up in different places because of the choices they had made during their life.

People are tormented in hell. *"And being in torments in Hades, he (the rich man) lifted up his eyes and saw Abraham afar off, and Lazarus in his bosom"* (Luke 16:23). The rich man looked up, being in torment (that means that he was in pain, torture and suffering). But Lazarus was in a secure place with Abraham, even though he was poor.

People never die in hell. Just as there is no death in heaven, there is no death in hell. *"These shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of His power"* (2 Thessalonians 1:9). This verse tells us that people will be punished with everlasting destruction.

People are fully conscious in hell. People are able to think and talk. The rich man could see Lazarus with Abraham. He asked Abraham to send Lazarus

Satan became an enemy of God.

Hell is the punishment for those who do not become Christians.

There is no death in hell.

that he might just dip his finger in some water and cool off his tongue. This tells us that the rich man could see, talk and feel pain and suffering.

People remember in hell. Abraham told the rich man to remember how he had forgotten God. The rich man would not even give the scraps to Lazarus who was so poor and needy. Abraham told the rich man that he had such good things and Lazarus had so little. However, his riches did not get him to the place where Lazarus was. The rich man was being tormented in hell and Lazarus was safe in the bosom of Abraham.

People are separated in hell. There was a great gulf between Lazarus and the rich man (verse 26). A gulf is a gap or space between dividing one place from another. Abraham told the rich man there was no way anyone could pass from one place to the other. As Christians we must remember there is no second chance. We must be ready when Jesus comes to get us and take us to be with Him. If a person dies as a non-Christian, there is no other chance.

A WAY OF ESCAPE

Everyone can escape eternal punishment in hell, but they must choose to do so. God gave a gift to the world that would last forever. That gift is His only Son, Jesus, who died on the cross. This is our escape. Because He died and took our punishment for sin, we don't have to take the punishment that is due to everyone who is not a child of God. When you believe that God gave His Son and you accept His gift, you will automatically have eternal life. Jesus is our escape.

It is God's desire that everyone would choose Jesus and live forever with Him in heaven. *"The Lord is . . . longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance"* (2 Peter 3:9). You can let your friends and family know how important it is that they become Christians. Jesus is ready and willing to accept them as His children if they will ask Him to forgive them for their wrong-doing and then live for Him the rest of their lives.

People feel pain and suffering in hell.

Jesus is our escape.



BIBLE VOCABULARY

MATCH THE WORD WITH ITS MEANING:

TORMENT	WAY OF ESCAPE
HELL	NON-CHRISTIAN
JESUS	SUFFERING
ETERNITY	LAKE OF FIRE
SINNER	FOREVER



SCRIPTURAL FOUNDATIONS

LOOK UP EACH VERSE IN YOUR BIBLE.
COPY THEM ON A PIECE OF PAPER AND MEMORIZE THEM.

Matthew 25:41; * John 3:36; 2 Thessalonians 1:9; 2 Peter 3:9
Revelation 20:15; * Revelation 21:8

** Recommended for use with younger students.*



QUESTIONS/ANSWERS

- 1. Question: What do we mean by hell?
Answer: **It is a place of punishment for those who do not accept Jesus Christ as their Savior.**
2. Question: For whom was hell prepared?
Answer: **It was prepared for Satan and his angels. "Then He will also say to those on the left hand, Depart from Me, you cursed, into the everlasting fire prepared for the Devil and his angels" (Matthew 25:41).**
3. Question: What is another word for "hell"?
Answer: **Hades, which means a place of torment.**
- 4. Question: Why will people go to hell?
Answer: **Because they are sinners and have not accepted Christ as their Savior.**
- 5. Question: How long will the sinner be punished?
Answer: **For ever and ever. "These shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of his power (2 Thessalonians 1:9).**
6. Question: Should sinners be warned of hell?
Answer: **Yes. They should be told how they can escape hell and go to heaven.**
7. Question: Does God feel happy about people going to hell?
Answer: **No. 2 Peter 3:9 tells us that He is longsuffering or patient and is "not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance".**
8. Question: Will there be another opportunity for people to accept Christ after they die?
Answer: **No, because after a person dies, he is judged for his works and whoever is not found written in the book of life will be sent to hell.**
- 9. Question: What story did Jesus use to explain hell?
Answer: **The story of Lazarus and the rich man found in Luke 16:19-31.**
10. Question: Will people know they are in hell?
Answer: **Yes, they will know and feel the torment of hell.**
11. Question: Where will the unbelievers be sent after they are judged for their deeds?
Answer: **To the lake of fire which is hell. "But the cowardly, unbelieving, abominable, murderers, sexually immoral, sorcerers, idolaters, and all liars shall have their part in the lake which burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death" (Revelation 21:8).**
- 12. Question: Do we have a choice of where we spend eternity?
Answer: **Yes. We can choose to accept Jesus and follow Him, making heaven our everlasting home, or we can choose to follow Satan and make hell our everlasting place of punishment.**

- 13. Question: What is the way of escape from hell?
Answer: **God has provided a gift, His Son Jesus, as the way of escape. He took the punishment for our sins when He died on the cross.**

- 14. Question: What must people do to escape the punishment of hell?
Answer: **Believe and be saved. "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and you will be saved . . . " (Acts 16:31).**

Chapter 3

Daily Christian Life

Part 1



AIM

To understand what it means to be a Christian and to realize that Christians are winners in this life. To see the comparison of Christians with sheep and to see Jesus as the Good Shepherd.



KEY BIBLE VERSE

"Therefore if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new" (2 Corinthians 5:17).



LESSON

CHRISTIANS ARE "CHRIST'S PEOPLE"

A long time ago, followers of Jesus were given a nickname. We usually give people nicknames because of something about them that is different from anyone else. Many times a nickname seems to fit a person better than his real name does. In Acts 11:26 we read, *"And the disciples were first called, Christians in Antioch."* Barnabas and Saul were ministers in the church at Antioch. Many of the people of that city became members of God's family. They learned to love God and to serve Him. Everyone in the city could see a change in the way they lived, talked and treated other people. God's people were given a nickname at this time. They were called "Christians". It means the same thing as when a sinner repents and accepts Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord, and lives a life that is pleasing to Him.

One of the best ways to live a life that pleases God is to tell others about Jesus. We call this witnessing for the Lord Jesus. We witness for Jesus; not against Him. It is like going to court. There are always witnesses in court, but some are against the person on trial and some are for the person. Because of what Jesus has done for us, we cannot help but always stand up for Him. We want to remember to witness whenever we have a chance. Witness also means to testify. Your testimony will help someone else to learn about Jesus. One of the first things that Christ requires of all who accept Him is that they confess or acknowledge Him before other people. *"That if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved"* (Romans 10:9). We do this by living a life before them that is Christ-like and by telling them about Christ.

When we become a Christian, a change takes place in our lives. God gives us a new nature. Our actions are Christ-like. That means that what we say and do should be like what Jesus would say and do. *"Therefore if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new"* (2 Corinthians 5:17). The Devil would like to keep us from living for Jesus; from going to church; from reading our Bibles and praying. He likes to tempt us to do wrong. The Devil gets upset when Christians are doing the right things. We want to please Jesus, not the Devil. God will help us to win over the enemy.

Christians are winners! Winning always means "victory". When we do not listen to the Devil and we do right instead of bad, we have the victory over

God's people were given nicknames.

Your testimony will help someone else to learn about Jesus.

Christians are like soldiers.

Did you know that you were like a sheep?

Jesus Christ is our Good Shepherd.

him. Jesus is our help and He promises to give what it takes to win over the Devil. One of the best ways to win over him is to quote Bible verses whenever the Devil tries to put bad thoughts into our minds. Another way is to pray whenever you are tempted to do something that you know is wrong. Christians are like soldiers. They must have armor. In Ephesians 6:11-18 we read about the spiritual armour God has given us. There are many pieces of armor mentioned. The two most important weapons which the Christian can use to fight the Devil are Bible reading and prayer.

Even though we are Christians, sometimes we fail and we do wrong, but God still loves us even when we make a mistake. *"If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness"* (1 John 1:9). That verse tells us to confess the wrong we have done. Remember that confess means to tell on yourself. This verse also tells us that if we do this we will be forgiven. Instead we should always try not to sin, but when we do make a mistake we should ask for forgiveness.

CHRISTIANS ARE LIKE SHEEP

In several places in the Bible we find that people are compared to sheep. Did you know that you were like a sheep? But you're thinking, "No, I'm not. Sheep grow wool and I don't. Sheep have four legs and I only have two. Sheep go ba-a-a — and I can talk." That is true, but in some ways we are like sheep. In Isaiah 53:6 we read: *"All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one, to his own way; and the Lord has laid on Him the iniquity of us all."*

In Luke 15:3-7 Jesus tells an interesting story of a sheep that was lost. Have you ever been lost? Do you remember how lonely and frightened you felt? Do you remember how happy you were when someone finally found you? In this story, after a busy day in the field, the shepherd took his sheep to the fold for the night. Each sheep entered through the gate and the shepherd counted, "98, 99 and . . ." Number 100 was not around. Would the shepherd forget him? He had 99, wasn't that enough? No, the shepherd went searching for his lost sheep. He didn't want him to be killed by a lion or a bear. The shepherd walked for hours up one hill and down another calling for the sheep. Suddenly the shepherd heard a weak, faint cry. He walked toward the edge of the cliff and he saw the sheep caught in some thorns. Gently, the shepherd freed him and carried him back to the fold. The shepherd told his friends that he had found his lost sheep and his friends were happy with him.

Without Jesus we are like lost sheep. Jesus Christ is our Good Shepherd. Just as the shepherd in the story risked his life for the lost sheep, so Jesus gave his life on the cross for us. He died for you and me. Sometimes Christians go astray like the verse says in Isaiah. That means that they forget God and go back to their old ways. Yet, Jesus still loves them and He wants them back just like the shepherd wanted his 100th sheep back in the fold. When we get tempted to go our own way and do our own thing, Jesus looks for us and wants to heal our wounds and hurts. He is the Good Shepherd and we are His sheep. He loves us, cares for us and forgives us. He also keeps us safe from harm and helps us day by day. Jesus is the One who makes it possible for us to live a daily Christian life. Jesus said in John 10:11, *"I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd gives His life for the sheep."*



BIBLE VOCABULARY

MATCH THE WORD WITH ITS MEANING:

CHRISTIANS	TO BE AS JESUS IS
TESTIFY	WINNING
GOOD SHEPHERD	WITNESS OF JESUS
CHRISTLIKE	FOLLOWERS OF JESUS
VICTORY	JESUS

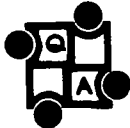


SCRIPTURAL FOUNDATIONS

LOOK UP EACH VERSE IN YOUR BIBLE.
COPY THEM ON A PIECE OF PAPER AND MEMORIZE THEM.

Isaiah 53:6; * John 10:11; Romans 10:9; * 2 Corinthians 5:17;
* Ephesians 6:11; 1 John 1:9

** Recommended for use with younger students.*



QUESTIONS/ANSWERS

- 1. Question: What is a Christian?
Answer: **A Christian is anyone who has forgiveness of sin and accepts Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord, and lives a life that is pleasing to Him.**
- 2. Question: What change takes place in us when we accept Christ as our Savior?
Answer: **God gives us a new nature. Our actions are Christ-like. "Therefore if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new" (2 Corinthians 5:17).**
- 3. Question: What is the first thing Christ requires of all who accept Him?
Answer: **That they confess Him before other people. "That if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved" (Romans 10:9).**
- 4. Question: How do we confess Jesus Christ before other people?
Answer: **By living a life before them that is Christ-like and by telling others about Christ.**
- 5. Question: How may we continue to grow in the likeness of Jesus Christ?
Answer: **By reading God's Word and praying everyday; by obeying God's Word; and by witnessing to someone about God everyday.**

- 6. Question: Christians are winners over the Devil. What are some ways we can have victory over him?
 Answer: **By quoting Bible verses whenever the Devil tries to put bad thoughts into our minds and by praying whenever we are tempted to do something that we know is wrong.**
- 7. Question: Where do we read about our spiritual armor and what are the two most important weapons?
 Answer: **We read about spiritual armor in Ephesians 6:11-18. The two most important weapons are Bible reading and prayer.**
- 8. Question: When we make mistakes what does God promise to do?
 Answer: **"If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness" (1 John 1:9).**
- 9. Question: Does this mean that we can sin on purpose because we know that God will forgive us?
 Answer: **No. We should always try not to sin, but when we do we should ask God for forgiveness.**
- 10. Question: What are people compared to in the Bible?
 Answer: **People are compared to sheep. "All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned, every one, to his own way; and the Lord has laid on Him the iniquity of us all" (Isaiah 53:6).**
- 11. Question: Who is the Good Shepherd?
 Answer: **Jesus is our Good Shepherd. "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd gives his life for the sheep" (John 10:11).**
- 12. Question: Why did Jesus tell the story of the lost sheep?
 Answer: **So we would see that without Him we are like lost sheep. But because He loves and cares for us so much, He, like the shepherd, risked his life in order that we could live.**
- 13. Question: What does it mean to go "astray"?
 Answer: **That means when a Christian forgets about God and goes back to their old ways that are disobedient to God's Word.**

Chapter 4

Daily Christian Life

Part 2



AIM

To know the importance of every day Christian living through reading the Word, prayer and our choice of friends.



KEY BIBLE VERSE

"But be doers of the Word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves" (James 1:22).



LESSON

WE GROW THROUGH THE WORD OF GOD

We will grow to be strong Christians if we will hear the Word of God. "As newborn babes, desire the pure milk of the word, that you may grow thereby" (1 Peter 2:2). To desire means to want very much. Christians cannot get along without the Bible. It is like spiritual food for them. The Bible tells us, "He who has ears to hear, let him hear!" (Matthew 11:15). We hear the Word of God by listening to our pastor and Sunday school teachers and by listening to what God has to say to us by reading the Bible.

To grow spiritually we also need to heed the Word of God. "To heed" means "to give attention to". If someone calls to you loudly you don't keep going and ignore them. Usually you stop and heed, you give attention in order to find out what that person wants. Even so we are to heed the Word of God. One way to give attention to God's Word is to hide it in our hearts. This is done when we memorize Bible verses. Just like a seed springs up and grows when it is hid in the ground, so we will grow spiritually because of what we know from memorizing God's Word.

Knowing God's Word helps us to please Him. "Your word I have hidden in my heart, that I might not sin against You" (Psalm 119:11). The Bible can help us stay away from sin and to live lives that please God.

God's Word provides for our spiritual needs and growth. "... man shall not live by bread alone: but man lives by every word that proceeds from the mouth of the Lord" (Deuteronomy 8:3). This verse tells us that we do not live by just eating bread that is on the table, but we are to live by God's Word which is also called the Bread of Life. By hearing and heeding the Word of God we know that He will provide for all our needs.

WE GROW BY TALKING TO GOD THROUGH PRAYER

Prayer is talking with God. A Christian can talk to God just as he talks to his parents or his friends. Sometimes we praise God when we pray. We tell Him how good and great He is. We can praise Him for the beautiful world He made. We also make requests or ask God for things we need. The Bible tells us to let our requests be known to God. "Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God" (Philippians 4:6). God is interested in each of us personally and wants to supply all our needs. Prayer is also worshipping God. Worship is loving Him and expressing our love to Him. We also want to always thank God for the many things He does for us.

Christians need God's Word in order to grow.

By hearing and heeding the Word of God we know that He will provide all our needs.

God always answers every prayer.

The Bible promises that God will answer our prayers. *"If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, you will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you"* (John 15:7). God always answers every prayer, but not always with the answer that we want. Sometimes God says, "yes", sometimes He says, "no", and sometimes He says, "wait awhile". He knows what is best for each of us.

Jesus taught His disciples how to pray. We can use His model prayer, found in Matthew 6:9-13, to help us learn how to pray. This is called the "Lord's Prayer." *"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 forgive our debtors. And do not lead us into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one. For yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen."* The prayer begins with the words, "Our Father". In this way Jesus taught that we should pray in faith, which means we believe our prayer is heard and that God will answer our prayer. We should be bold and not afraid to talk to God in prayer. We also need to pray to Him every day; not just when we are in trouble or have a special need. Jesus also taught us that we should pray in Jesus' Name — *"... whatever you ask the Father in My name He will give you"* (John 16:23).

Prayer helps us to live the Christian life day by day. This is why it is important that we talk to God before the day ever begins. We never know what will happen in a day, but we can know that God is always with us and will help us. Prayer helps us to remember and obey the Bible. Talking to God and asking for His help will make it possible for us to do right. Prayer helps us to act, speak and live a Christlike life.

GOOD FRIENDS HELP US LIVE A DAILY CHRISTIAN LIFE

The Bible tells us that we are to choose friends that will not be a wrong influence on us. That means we should choose friends that would not try to get us to wrong things. Our friends should be the kind that make us a better person than we are. Our Bible tells us that friendship with people who are God's enemies makes us an enemy of God. *"... whoever therefore wants to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God"* (James 4:4). We're to choose our friends carefully.

We have in the Bible several examples of Christian people who made the wrong choice of friends. From the time Samson was a little child, God was his friend. God made him very strong. God did not want Samson to cut his hair, if he did, his strength would leave him. When Samson grew up to be a young man, he wanted to marry a woman who did not love God. She was an enemy of God. Samson made the wrong choice. He disobeyed God. One night when he was asleep, the Philistines came and shaved off his hair: his strength was gone just as God said. Samson tried to be a friend to an enemy of God and still be obedient to God, but he could not.

Judas was one of Jesus' twelve followers. At one time he was a close friend to Jesus, but one day he decided to tell the people who didn't like Jesus and wanted to kill Him, how they could find Him and put Him to death. Judas sold this information for 30 pieces of silver. Because of his love for money, Judas became an enemy of Jesus. He could not be God's friend and the friend of God's enemies too. He loved the world more than He loved God. 1 John 2:15 says, *"Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him."*

Daniel is our best example of making the right choice of friends. Daniel was a strong young man who lived in a palace. The king of the palace was a wicked man. He commanded that no one, including Daniel, should worship God or pray. But Daniel loved God and was a friend of God. He would not do as the king commanded. Because of this, he was thrown in the lion's den. But because of his obedience to God, God protected him and did not allow the

Our choice of friends is very important.

lions to harm him in any way. If Daniel had listened to the king's orders, he would have sinned against God. But he wanted to be God's friend, so he could not also be the king's friend.

We are God's friends; not His enemies. Our choice of friends is very important. The Bible does teach us to love everyone and that means that it is good to tell people who don't know Jesus as their Savior about Him. But when people we think are our friends try to get us to do things that would be disobedient to God or to our parents, we need to ask Jesus to help us find friends who will be a good influence on us.

Daniel loved God and was a friend of God.



BIBLE VOCABULARY

MATCH THE WORD WITH ITS MEANING:

PRAYER	GIVE ATTENTION TO
THE LORD'S PRAYER	THE WORD OF GOD
SPIRITUAL FOOD	MATTHEW 6:9-13
HEED	TALKING TO GOD
WORSHIP	EXPRESSING LOVE TO GOD



SCRIPTURAL FOUNDATIONS

LOOK UP EACH VERSE IN YOUR BIBLE.
COPY THEM ON A PIECE OF PAPER AND MEMORIZE THEM.

- * Psalm 119:11; Matthew 6:9-13; * John 15:7; Phillipians 4:6;
- * James 1:22; James 4:4; 1 Peter 2:2

** Recommended for use with younger students.*



QUESTIONS/ANSWERS

- 1. Question: What is spiritual growth?
Answer: **Spiritual growth is growing to become a strong and faithful Christian.**
- 2. Question: What kind of food do Christians need for spiritual growth?
Answer: **Spiritual food. "... Man shall not live by bread alone; but man lives by every word that proceeds from the mouth of the Lord" (Deuteronomy 8:3).**

- 3. Question: What is our spiritual food?
Answer: **The Word of God, the Bible.** *"As newborn babes, desire the pure milk of the Word, that you may grow thereby" (1 Peter 2:2).*
- 4. Question: Why is it important to read the Bible daily?
Answer: **So that we may keep from sinning.** *"Your word I have hidden in my heart, that I might not sin against You" (Psalm 119:11).*
- 5. Question: What does it mean to "heed the Word of God"?
Answer: **To heed means to give attention to the Word of God. That means that we should listen when the Bible is taught to us, read the Bible daily, memorize it, and do what it says to do.**
- 6. Question: What does the word "prayer" mean?
Answer: **Prayer is talking to God.**
- 7. Question: What are some things we do when we pray?
Answer: **We praise God, we ask Him for things we need, we worship him by expressing our love to Him, and we thank Him for the things He does for us.**
- 8. Question: How should we come to God in prayer?
Answer: **We should pray in the name of Jesus.** *"... whatever you ask the Father in My name He will give you" (John 16:23).*
- 9. Question: How should we pray?
Answer: **We should pray with faith, trusting that God will answer our prayer.**
- 10. Question: Does God answer all prayers?
Answer: **God answers every prayer, not always as we desire, but in the way that is best for us.**
- 11. Question: What is the model prayer given by Jesus?
Answer: **The Lord's prayer found in Matthew 6:9-13.**
- 12. Question: What is a friend?
Answer: **A friend is someone you trust enough to believe what they say; a person who influences your life because you admire the way they are.**
- 13. Question: What kind of friends does God want us to choose?
Answer: **We are to choose friends that will not be a wrong influence on us. We need friends that make us a better person than we are.**
- 14. Question: What does it mean to be a wrong influence on someone?
Answer: **To try to get someone else to do wrong things.**
- 15. Question: What does friendship with people who are God's enemies make us?
Answer: **It makes us an enemy of God.** *"... whoever therefore wants to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God" (James 4:4).*

16. Question: What did Judas do that made him become an enemy of Jesus?
Answer: **He sold information about Jesus to the men who wanted to kill him. He could not be a friend of Jesus and the friend of enemies too. His love for the world and money made him an enemy of Jesus.**
17. Question: Who is a good example of someone who made the right choice of friends?
Answer: **Daniel chose to obey God and be his friend rather than obey the king who told him he could not pray or worship God. Because of his obedience to God, God protected him in the lion's den.**

Chapter 5

The Sacraments



AIM

To know the meaning and purpose of water baptism and holy communion as sacred observances appointed by Jesus.



KEY BIBLE VERSE

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

"For as often as you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death till He comes"
(1 Corinthians 11:26).



LESSON

THE SACRAMENTS

Christians are to observe two sacraments that are sometimes called, ordinances. A "sacrament" is a sacred observance or practice which Jesus told his followers to perform as an outward sign of an inward work. An "ordinance" is a ceremony, rule, or procedure which the Lord Jesus has commanded every church and follower to do. The two sacraments that Jesus gave us are: water baptism and holy communion.

WATER BAPTISM

Water baptism is an act or experience of putting the whole body under the water and then lifting it out again. It is an act that other people see happen and which tells them that you are a Christian and that you are following Christ's example, and teaching. His disciple, Peter, said, ". . . let every one of you be baptized . . ." (Acts 2:38). The word "baptize" means to immerse or cleanse. When we are immersed in the water, it is like we are being cleansed of all our sins and the sins are left buried in the water, never to be found again. Our sins are forgiven and forgotten by God.

Water baptism is a way of showing others that our old way of living, thinking, and doing things is no longer a part of us. Instead, we live a new life which is the Christian life. Water baptism is a symbol that we are taking our place with Jesus Christ in His death, burial and resurrection. *"Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life"* (Romans 6:4). When we are baptized it is like we have died to our old self, buried our sins, and have been resurrected with Jesus to live a new life.

Jesus is our example in water baptism. One day when John the Baptist was preaching and baptizing in the river Jordan, Jesus arrived and asked John to baptize Him. John thought that since Jesus had never sinned, He didn't need to be baptized. He thought that Jesus should baptize Him instead. But Jesus wanted to obey God's laws and be our example. John baptized Him in the river. When Jesus was baptized, the Holy Spirit, in the form of a dove, rested upon Him as He came up out of the water. *"Then Jesus, when He had been baptized, came up immediately from the water; and behold, the heavens were opened to Him and He saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting upon Him. And suddenly a voice came from heaven, saying, This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased"* (Matthew 3:16, 17).

"Baptize" means to "immerse or to cleanse."

We have been resurrected with Jesus to live a new life.

Holy Communion reminds us of the day Jesus died on the cross.

Jesus knew He was to be the last Passover lamb.

Just before the Lord Jesus went back to heaven, He commanded all of His workers to baptize those who would believe in Him. *"Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit"* (Matthew 28:19). Water baptism is important to every believer because it is one of the Lord's commands. It is important that we obey Him and follow His example. By obeying Him we will grow spiritually.

HOLY COMMUNION

Holy communion is a time when we remember the day that Jesus died on the cross for our sins. The word "holy" means the same as sacred, reverent, or godly and the word "communion" means observance, sacrament or Lord's Supper.

Holy communion originated from the Passover Feast, which was observed each year by the Jewish people to remember the day when the blood of the lamb saved them from the death of their oldest child. There was a time when the Israelites (Jewish people from Israel) were slaves in Egypt under Pharaoh. Pharaoh would not set the people free from slavery, so God began to work on him to make him willing to let the Israelites go free. God told Moses to warn the people about the Death Angel. This angel was to pass through the land of Egypt and kill the oldest child of every household. The only thing that could save the child from being killed was the blood of a pure, white lamb sprinkled on the doorposts of their houses to protect from the Death Angel. The angel passed over all the places where the blood was sprinkled. God's people obeyed, but many of Pharaoh's people did not. That night death came to the oldest child of the families who did not sprinkle the blood of the lamb on their doorpost. Even Pharaoh's oldest child died. Now Pharaoh wanted to let God's people go free. He was afraid worse things would happen. From that night on, the people of Israel, known as the Israelites, were commanded to celebrate and observe a feast each year. They were to remember the special day when the blood of the lamb saved them from the death of their oldest child. This feast is called the Passover. Just as the blood of the lamb saved the children of Israel, so the blood of Jesus saves us from our sins. The Passover Feast reminded the people of Israel that their families were saved from the Death Angel because they put blood on the doorposts of their houses. Holy communion reminds us of the day Jesus died on the cross for us.

Jesus' last Passover Feast with His disciples is our example of holy communion. When Jesus was living on earth He kept all the feasts of the Jews. It was during the Passover Feast that the Lord Jesus gathered His disciples together for the last time. Jesus knew that He was soon to die on the cross. He wanted His death to always be remembered. He knew He was to be the last Passover lamb. That means that He would be sacrificed and crucified to take the punishment for our sins. No one else would ever need to do this again. John 1:29 tells us that Jesus is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. As Jesus sat down with His disciples around the table, He took some bread and broke it and gave some to His disciples saying, *"Take, eat; this is My body which is broken for you; do this in remembrance of Me"* (1 Corinthians 11:24). Then He took the cup with the juice and said, *"This cup is the new covenant in My blood. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me"* (1 Corinthians 11:25). What He was saying was that the bread would remind them of His body that was hurt when He was crucified on the cross and the grape juice would remind them of the blood that poured from His body as He hung on the cross.

The purpose of holy communion is to show the Lord's death until He comes again. *"For as often as you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the*

Lord's death till He comes" (1 Corinthians 11:26). This also means that we are to partake of holy communion over and over again until Jesus comes again. He wants us to remember the day He died for the sins of the world. That is why our church observes Jesus' death at least once a month by taking holy communion. Both the bread and the juice are called the elements of holy communion and they are served to the people who are taking communion. As we take communion we can also express appreciation for what He did so we could have forgiveness for our wrong-doing.

Because this sacrament is so important, the Bible warns us to be careful how we partake of holy communion. "Therefore whoever eats this bread or drinks this cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of the body and blood of the Lord. But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of that bread and drink of that cup" (1 Corinthians 11:27, 28). This scripture tells us about one danger of taking holy communion in the wrong way. Many of the people allowed communion to lose its real meaning to them. It became a meaningless observance and just a time to eat and drink. Others took communion and did not understand what and why they were doing it. The purpose of communion is to remember Jesus death and to express thanks and praise for what He did. If we take holy communion just because someone else does, then we have not done what is best for us. Holy communion is an important time for all Christians. It should be a reverent time, a heart searching time when we eat of the bread and drink from the cup in the presence of the Holy Spirit.

Holy Communion is an important time for all Christians.



BIBLE VOCABULARY

MATCH THE WORD WITH ITS MEANING:

SACRAMENT

BAPTIZED

BREAD & JUICE

COMMUNION

LORD'S SUPPER

SACRED OBSERVANCE

IMMERSE OR CLEANSE

ELEMENTS OF COMMUNION



SCRIPTURAL FOUNDATIONS

LOOK UP EACH VERSE IN YOUR BIBLE.
COPY THEM ON A PIECE OF PAPER AND MEMORIZE THEM.

* Matthew 28:19; * Acts 2:38; Romans 6:4; 1 Corinthians 11:24, 25;

* 1 Corinthians 11:26; 1 Corinthians 11:27

** Recommended for use with younger students.*



QUESTIONS/ANSWERS

- 1. Question: What is a sacrament?
Answer: **A sacrament is a sacred observance that Jesus tells His followers to do. It is an outward sign of an inward work.**
- 2. Question: How many sacraments are there?
Answer: **There are two sacraments. Water baptism and holy communion.**
3. Question: What is the outward sign in water baptism?
Answer: **It is being put under water in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. "Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit" (Matthew 28:19).**
- 4. Question: By whom and where was Jesus baptized?
Answer: **Jesus was baptized by John the Baptist in the River Jordan.**
- 5. Question: Is it important to be baptized in water?
Answer: **Yes. When we are baptized in water our past life is buried and we live a new life because we are a child of God.**
6. Question: What is water baptism a symbol of?
Answer: **It is a symbol of our taking our place with Jesus Christ in His death, burial, and resurrection (Romans 6:4).**
7. Question: Who should be baptized in water?
Answer: **Those who have become Christians and belong to God's family.**
- 8. Question: What does the word "communion" mean?
Answer: **It means observance, sacrament, or Lord's Supper.**
- 9. Question: Why do we partake of holy communion?
Answer: **To remember the day that Jesus died on the cross for our sins.**
10. Question: What are the elements of holy communion?
Answer: **The elements are bread and juice.**
- 11. Question: What does the bread, served at communion represent?
Answer: **The bread represents Christ's body which was broken for us when he died on the cross.**
- 12. Question: What does the juice, served during communion, represent?
Answer: **The juice represents the blood of Jesus Christ which was shed when He died on the cross.**
13. Question: What is another name for communion?
Answer: **Communion is also known as the "Lord's Supper".**

14. Question: In what ways are we helped when we take communion?
Answer: **We become stronger Christians and we remember the Lord's death and thank him for what He has done for us.**
- 15. Question: How should we prepare before taking communion?
Answer: **We should ask for forgiveness. We should show reverence. We should thank and praise Him for dying on the cross for our sins.**
16. Question: Who should take communion?
Answer: **All who know Jesus Christ as their Savior and are living a life that is pleasing to him.**
- 17. Question: Should all Christians take communion?
Answer: **Yes, for Jesus has given us a command in Luke 22:19 — " . . . Do this in remembrance of Me."**

Tithes and Offerings



AIM

To teach the importance of giving tithes and offerings. To understand what it means to give cheerfully and to see that there is blessing in giving.



KEY BIBLE VERSE

"So let each one give as he purposes in his heart, not grudgingly or of necessity: for God loves a cheerful giver" (2 Corinthians 9:7).



LESSON

TITHES

The word "tithe" means one-tenth of something, including money. In the book of Leviticus in the Old Testament we read about people who were to bring one-tenth of their harvest, fruit and animals to God. *"And all the tithe of the land, whether of the seed of the land or of the fruit of the tree, is the Lord's. It is holy to the Lord. And concerning the tithe of the herd or the flock, of whatever passes under the rod, the tenth one shall be holy to the Lord"* (Leviticus 27:30, 32). Sometimes the people would sell the animals or crops and bring the money to the church. Today, most people who tithe pay their tithe in money.

Tithe money is what we owe. We are paying what is really not ours, but God's. Each time we have earned money or are given money as a gift, we have the opportunity to tithe one-tenth of it. As each person gives of his tithes the needs of the church are met. Can you think of what some of the needs of the church might be?

Sometimes we do not have money to give, but there are other kinds of offerings. All of us like to receive gifts at Christmastime or on our birthdays, but many of us have never learned how happy we can be by giving to others. Jesus said, *"It is more blessed to give than to receive"* (Acts 20:35). There are many things we can give besides money. Do you know someone who is elderly and needs some help with their yard or house work? You could help them out without charge. Or when you have extra food at your table you could take some to a neighbor who doesn't have a lot of money. These are many ways of giving of our offerings.

GIVING THE BIBLE WAY

Whenever we pay our tithe or give our offerings, we must do it in the Bible way. We are to be unselfish, give cheerfully and regularly. *"So let each give as he purposes in his heart, not grudgingly or of necessity; for God loves a cheerful giver"* (2 Corinthians 9:7). This verse tells us that God loves a cheerful giver. That means that we should be happy to give. Don't give just because you have to. We want to give with lots of love in our hearts and a desire to see our church grow so that other people can learn about Jesus.

We should give for the sake of giving rather than to get something in return. The Bible reminds us that God will give back to us in His way and in His time. He said, *"Give, and it will be given to you: good measure, pressed down,*

Out of every \$1.00, 10¢ belongs to God.

God loves a cheerful giver.

She gave unselfishly, trusting God to take care her needs.

As each person gives of his tithes the needs of the church are met.

shaken together, and running over will be put into your bosom . . ." (Luke 6:38). When we give though, we should do it because we want to, not because we know that if we give we will get something back.

We find a good example of giving in Luke 21:1-4 where the widow gave all that she had to God. Even though she gave a lesser amount of money than the others, in God's eyes she had given much more because she had given all that she had. She gave unselfishly, trusting God to take care of her needs.

ROBBING GOD

There are people who rob God by not bringing their tithes to the church where they get their spiritual food. Malachi 3:10 tells us, "*Bring all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be food in My house, and prove Me now in this, says the Lord of hosts, If I will not open for you the windows of heaven and pour out for you such blessing that there will not be room enough to receive it.*" The storehouse is the church or place where we receive our spiritual teaching and training. When you do this you are giving to God's work. However, when we don't obey this instruction we are robbing God. When we rob God we displease Him and we also cause the work of God to suffer because it needs the money to meet the expenses of the church.

RECEIVING BLESSINGS

If we pay our tithes and offerings regularly and cheerfully we are promised many blessings. Malachi 3:10 tells us that God will "*pour out for you such blessing that there will not be room enough to receive it.*" 2 Corinthians 9:6 says that if you give little, you will get little. But Luke 6:38 promises if you give you will get. When we tithe as God has asked us to we will have God's approval and blessing. God will always give back more than you could ever give to His work.



BIBLE VOCABULARY

MATCH THE WORD WITH ITS MEANING:

TITHE

OUR CHURCH

OFFERING

ONE-TENTH OF OUR MONEY

STOREHOUSE

MONEY GIVEN ABOVE OUR TITHES



SCRIPTURAL FOUNDATIONS

LOOK UP EACH VERSE IN YOUR BIBLE.
COPY THEM ON A PIECE OF PAPER AND MEMORIZE THEM.

Leviticus 27:30, 32; Malachi 3:10; * Luke 6:38; Acts 20:35b; * 2 Corinthians 9:7

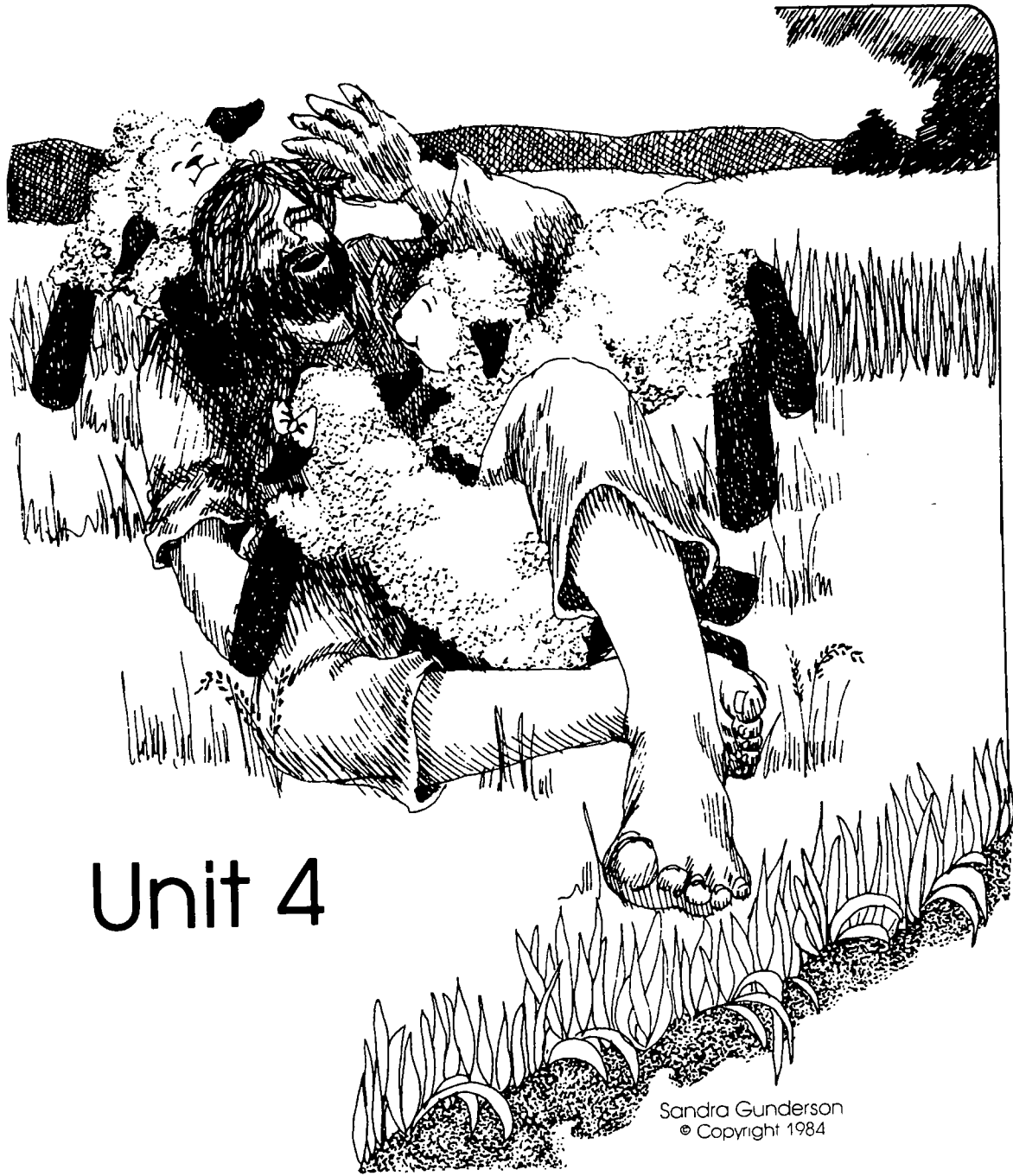
** Recommended for use with younger students.*



QUESTIONS/ANSWERS

- 1. Question: What is the meaning of tithes?
Answer: **He has promised to bless those who pay their tithe.**
2. Question: Where is the general law of the tithe found in the His work?
Answer: **in Leviticus 27:32b " . . . the tenth one shall be holy to the Lord."**
3. Question: What part of \$1.00 would be tithe?
Answer: **The tithe is one-tenth of \$1.00; so 10¢ belongs to God.**
- 4. Question: To whom does our tithe belong?
Answer: **It belongs to God and His work.**
5. Question: What are we to do with our tithe?
Answer: **We are to bring it to the storehouse (the church). "Bring all the tithes into the storehouse" (Malachi 3:10).**
6. Question: What is the meaning of the word "storehouse"?
Answer: **The storehouse is our church, the place where we are taught from the Bible and where we worship God.**
- 7. Question: How is the tithe to be used?
Answer: **It is used to take care of church needs and to support its ministry.**
- 8. Question: What has God promised to those who pay their tithe?
Answer: **He has promised to bless those who pay their tithe.**
9. Question: Should we give more than our tithe to God and His work?
Answer: **Yes, we should also give offerings to God and His work.**
- 10. Question: What does an offering mean?
Answer: **An offering means a gift or sacrifice. It is money given above our tithe.**
11. Question: What are some of the causes to which we can give offerings?
Answer: **To needy people; to special church building projects; to missions; to Sunday school; to evangelists and gospel radio programs.**
- 12. Question: What did Jesus say about "giving"?
Answer: **"It is more blessed to give than to receive" (Acts 20:35).**
13. Question: With what kind of attitude should we tithe?
Answer: **With an attitude of love, worship and cheerfulness. We should give for the sake of giving rather than for getting something in return. We should give unselfishly and regularly.**

- * 14. Question: What kind of a giver does God love?
Answer: **A cheerful giver. "... God loves a cheerful giver" (2 Corinthians 9:7).**
- * 15. Question: Are there kinds of offerings besides money?
Answer: **Yes, we can give of our time and our talents.**



Unit 4

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Chapter 1

Church Relationship



AIM

To understand what the church is and to know that it is God's plan for each Christian to have a part in the work of the church. To know the ways in which a local church helps people grow spiritually.



KEY BIBLE VERSE

"And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works, not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching" (Hebrews 10:24, 25).



LESSON

WHAT IS THE CHURCH?

People make the church what it is and what it will be. The real church is not the building, but the people. Everyone in the world who has accepted Jesus as Savior is a member of the church. The church is made up of individuals everywhere who have become one of God's children. Even those who have already died and have gone to be with Jesus are members of this Church.

The church was founded by Jesus Christ two thousand years ago on the Day of Pentecost. We read about the church's beginnings in Acts 2. On the Day of Pentecost, there were people from many different places who had gathered together. Many wonderful things happened. Acts 2:40-47 tells how Peter spoke to the people about Jesus. Many were baptized and they joined with other believers in regular attendance at the apostles' teaching sessions. *"So continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, they ate their food with gladness and simplicity of heart, praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily those who were being saved" (Acts 2:46, 47).* This was the beginning. Thousands of people made up the "body of believers".

Many times we hear the church called the "body of Christ." In the dictionary the word "body" can mean a group of people or things. The group of people that belong to your local church can be called a body of people. All types of people make up the body we call, "the Church". In Romans 12 and 1 Corinthians 12:12-22, we read about Christ's body, the church. Just as there are many parts to our bodies, so it is with Christ's body. We are all parts of it, and it takes every one of us to make it complete. We each have a different work to do. *"For as we have many members in one body, but all the members do not have the same function, so we, being many, are one body in Christ, and individually members of one another" (Romans 12:4, 5).* God has given each of us gifts and every one of us needs all the other members of the body to be complete. We are united to Jesus Christ. He is the head of the body of believers around the world and in the local church.

Jesus is the leader of the church. The Bible tells us in Ephesians 1:22 that God made Jesus head of the church. *"And He put all things under His feet, and gave Him to be head over all things to the church" We, as people, need to build our hopes, our desires and our lives on Jesus. He should be in all of our plans.*

Jesus is the foundation of the church. Matthew 16 tells about Jesus being the rock on which the church was built. Jesus is like a solid rock that can't be

The real church is people.

It takes all kinds of people to make up the body of believers.

Jesus is the head of the body of believers.

Jesus is the solid foundation.

moved. People, things, and ideas change, but Jesus never changes. He is always the same. Everything that is built needs to have a solid foundation so it won't fall down. When a house is built, it isn't placed right on top of the dirt because rain will wash the dirt away. It is built on a solid foundation of cement. In the same way Jesus is the solid foundation of the church. "For no other foundation can anyone lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ" (1 Corinthians 3:11).

WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THE CHURCH?

The purpose of the church is to continue the work that Jesus started here on earth. After Jesus went back to heaven, the disciples went everywhere preaching. They prayed for people and saw miracles take place. Followers of Jesus in Bible days and today can do very little without the help of God. As His followers, we have the power or the ability to do even greater things than Jesus did when He was on earth. "Most assuredly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do he will do also; and greater works than these he will do, because I go to My Father" (John 14:12). We are empowered or authorized by God to do His work here on earth. We have the Holy Spirit who gives us power, strength, ability and wisdom.

The purpose of the church gathering together regularly is to worship God, to be taught from the Word, to encourage each other to grow, and to fellowship. Our example is found in Acts 2:42 — "And they continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in prayers." Hebrews 10:24, 25 tells us to not neglect our church meetings — "And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works, not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching."

We are not to neglect our church meetings.

WHEN DO WE ATTEND CHURCH?

We are to attend church on the Lord's Day, which has been referred to as the first day of the week. It was on this day that Jesus Christ arose from the dead. Not only do we celebrate the resurrection of our Lord once each year at Easter, but we celebrate this greatest of all days, every Sunday. Sunday has been set aside as the first day of the week. "And on the first day of the week, when the disciples came together to break bread, Paul . . . spoke to them . . ." (Acts 20:7).

We celebrate the Lord's Day because we need to set time aside from our busy days and give time to attend God's house, minister to people in need, and witness about Jesus to others. It is a time for service and worship. Just like God rested after He created the world, we are to devote the Lord's Day to spending time with God after our busy week. We can worship God and attend church any day or evening of the week, but the Lord's Day, Sunday, is especially set aside for us to give full attention to the work of God without having to worry about getting ready for school or work.

When we meet together on Sunday, the first day of the week, we find that the rest of the week goes a little better. Perhaps we were helped by the sermon, the songs or the sharing of another person. It is good for us to set aside time to give full attention to God and everything that pertains to Him. We must be careful never to become so busy with other things that we forget to take time to worship God and His Son, Jesus. We have six days to ourselves and we want to keep at least one day set aside for the giving of our time to God and to be with our church family.

It is good for us to set aside time to give full attention to God.



BIBLE VOCABULARY

MATCH THE WORD WITH ITS MEANING:

CHURCH	FIRST DAY OF THE WEEK, SUNDAY
LORD'S DAY	JESUS CHRIST
CHURCH'S FOUNDATION	THE PEOPLE OF GOD
BODY OF CHRIST	GROUP OF CHRISTIANS



SCRIPTURAL FOUNDATIONS

LOOK UP EACH VERSE IN YOUR BIBLE.
COPY THEM ON A PIECE OF PAPER AND MEMORIZE THEM.

Acts 2:46, 47; Romans 12:4, 5; 1 Corinthians 3:11; * Ephesians 1:22;
* Hebrews 10:24, 25

** Recommended for use with younger students.*



QUESTIONS/ANSWERS

- 1. Question: What is meant by the "church"?

Answer: **The "church" represents God's family of born-again Christians.**
- 2. Question: Who founded the church?

Answer: **Jesus Christ.**
3. Question: When was the church established?

Answer: **On the Day of Pentecost, fifty days after the Crucifixion of Christ.**
4. Question: Where is the founding of the church recorded?

Answer: **In the second chapter of Acts.**
5. Question: What does the word "body" mean?

Answer: **Body means a group of people or things.**
6. Question: Why is the church sometimes called the "body of Christ"?

Answer: **Because the people who make up the church are like different parts of the body. Just as the hands and feet do certain things for our physical bodies, so each person has a different work to do in the body of believers according to the gifts God has given them. "For as we have many members in one body, but all the members do not have the same function, so we, being many, are one body in Christ, and individually members of one another" (Romans 12:4, 5).**

- 7. Question: Who is the head of the church?
Answer: Jesus is the head or the leader of the church. "And He put all things under His feet, and gave Him to be head over all things to the church" (Ephesians 1:22).
- 8. Question: Why is it important that Jesus be the foundation of the church?
Answer: Because Jesus is like a solid rock that can't be moved. Jesus never changes no matter what else may change. "For no other foundation can anyone lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ" (1 Corinthians 3:11).
- 9. Question: For what special reason did Jesus Christ want churches on this earth?
Answer: To continue the work that Jesus started here on earth. So people could hear about Jesus Christ and accept Him as their personal Savior.
- 10. Question: What help do we have to do this work?
Answer: We have the Holy Spirit who gives us power, strength, ability and wisdom.
- 11. Question: Why should Christians belong to a church and attend regularly?
Answer: To worship God, to be taught from the Word, to encourage each other to growth, and to fellowship.
- 12. Question: What scripture verse tells us not to neglect our church meetings?
Answer: "And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works, not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching" (Hebrews 10:24, 25).
- 13. Question: Why do we set aside one day in seven, for rest and worship?
Answer: Because God commands us to set aside one day in seven for rest and worship.
- 14. Question: Why have we chosen Sunday, the first day of the week, as the Lord's Day?
Answer: Because it was on the first day of the week that Jesus Christ rose from the dead. We celebrate His resurrection not only on Easter, but every time we gather together on Sunday.
- 15. Question: How should we observe the Lord's Day?
Answer: By spending the day in worship and service to Christ.

Civil Government



AIM

To know the Christian's responsibility to civil government. To learn how the Christian can be a good citizen.



KEY BIBLE VERSE

"Let every soul be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and the authorities that exist are appointed by God" (Romans 13:1).



LESSON

GOD PUT OUR GOVERNMENT IN POWER

God has given us our civil government to put laws into action for the interest and good of the people of our country and to help people obey them. Civil government is the carrying out of laws, regulations, and governing systems for the interest and good order of human society. *"Let every soul be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and the authorities that exist are appointed by God" (Romans 13:1).*

We know that the government and the people must work together to attain and hold a standard of biblical values in order for a nation to continue as a growing, progressive society.

OUR DUTY TO OUR COUNTRY

Our duty to our country is to love and pray for it, to obey its laws, to secure and sustain worthy officers, and to serve the common good. The Bible especially tells us to pray for the leaders of our civil government. *"Therefore I exhort first of all that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks be made for all men, for kings, and all who are in authority . . ." (1 Timothy 2:1-2a).*

OUR LAWS MUST BE OBEYED

In addition to prayer we must be obedient to the laws of our government. So long as the laws of our government agree with the laws of God we should obey them. *"Obey those who rule over you and be submissive . . ." (Hebrews 13:17a).*

There are many laws we must learn to obey, for example, the laws of bicycle riding. Did you know that such laws existed? They tell you where and how to ride, so you do not cause an accident to yourself or someone else.

There are also laws against the destruction of other people's property, like breaking windows in a vacant house or running over lawns or flowers. The government protects property and we must obey these laws.

Then there is the law that God wrote: *"Thou shalt not steal."* This is also a law of government. If we Christians break the laws of government, we break God's laws.

The greatest of all laws are the Ten Commandments, written by God and found in the 20th chapter of Exodus. Many governments have laid down equal laws for the good, the interest and the protection of their citizens. We

**The Bible tells us to
pray for our leaders.**

**If we break the laws of
government, we break
God's law.**

should determine to obey both the laws of our country and the laws of God. The only time we should consider disobeying the laws of our country is when they are against God's laws. ". . . We ought to obey God rather than men" (Acts 5:29).

EXAMPLES OF OBEDIENCE

God gives us examples in the Bible of what happens when we obey or disobey. In Genesis 12:1-5 God told Abraham that if he would leave the country he loved, all his relatives and friends, and go into another country, that He would do very special things for him. Abraham had the choice to either obey or disobey. Abraham loved God, so he chose to obey Him. God blessed him. To Abraham it wasn't hard to obey and God gave him all the wonderful things He promised. Abraham is a good example and we want to obey God just as he did. When we do, we will find that God will bless us too.

The second example we have is King Saul, who did not make the same choice as Abraham. God told King Saul when he went to fight a battle he must not keep anything that belonged to the enemy. God told him to get rid of and destroy everything. But King Saul said to himself, "It won't hurt to just keep a few of the very best of the cattle, sheep and other things." Because of Saul's disobedience God felt that He could not trust him. He was not blessed as Abraham was. We must remember that it is always for our own good to obey.

It is wrong to disobey God, and it is wrong to disobey or break the laws. Romans 13:1 tells us, "*Let every soul be subject to the governing authorities. . .*" This means that we are to obey the government for God is the One Who put it there. There is no government anywhere that God has not placed in power. We have rules in our home and in our school and when we obey them we are happier. Others are watching us and they expect that Christians will obey.

THE IMPORTANCE OF FAITH

The government of the United States is an example of a nation which considered the Bible in its beginning. Many of the forefathers (means "ancestors") of the U.S. had faith in God. They knew God long before we did and they learned to trust God and believe in Him. George Washington and Abraham Lincoln had faith in the ability of the American people to make their country free — free from any other country and free from slavery to any individual. Joshua, Daniel are biblical examples of men who had faith in God's ability to make people free from sin and free to live for God.

Faith caused these forefathers to be honest and courageous. Once when Abraham Lincoln was a teenager, he was working in a store. He shortchanged a lady one penny. After work, on his own time, he walked several miles round-trip to return her penny to her.

Faith, in his conviction that America should be a free country helped George Washington become a brave soldier and a bold leader of the Revolutionary War. He served his country as the first U.S. president.

Faith caused these forefathers to be faithful unto death. Faith in the future of America kept George Washington in the service of his country until his death, even though he would have preferred to retire to Mount Vernon. Faith in America's willingness to do right kept Lincoln in service for his country until he was killed. Faith in God helped Daniel when he was placed in the lion's den. He was willing to die for God if he had to.

We, too, must have faith in God. We need to believe that He can do all things. It is important that we are always honest, courageous and faithful. The forefathers were people that knew God to be One that could be trusted so they trusted Him. These men made contributions to their nation and it's

**Abraham loved God,
so he chose to obey Him.**

**It is important that we
are always honest, cour-
ageous, and faithful.**

people. Even though we have never met them personally, we can learn from their experiences. Just as God helped them, He can help us to be outstanding citizens of our country.



BIBLE VOCABULARY

MATCH THE WORD WITH ITS MEANING:

LAWS	ANCESTORS
CIVIL	GROUP OF PEOPLE WHO SUPERVISE A COUNTRY
FOREFATHERS	RULES
GOVERNMENT	HAS TO DO WITH CITIZENS OF A COUNTRY



SCRIPTURAL FOUNDATIONS

LOOK UP EACH VERSE IN YOUR BIBLE.
COPY THEM ON A PIECE OF PAPER AND MEMORIZE THEM.

Acts 5:29; * Romans 13:1; 1 Timothy 2:1,2; * Hebrews 13:17

** Recommended for use with younger students.*



QUESTIONS/ANSWERS

1. Question: What is meant by civil government?
Answer: **It is the carrying out of laws, regulations and governing systems for the interest and good order of human society.**
- * 2. Question: Is the principle of civil government according to God's plan?
Answer: **Yes. "... The authorities that exist are appointed by God" (Romans 13:1).**
- * 3. Question: Why has God and our government given us laws?
Answer: **To help protect us and to be fair to all people.**
4. Question: What is our duty to our country?
Answer: **Our duty to our country is to love it and pray for it, to obey its laws, to secure and sustain worthy officers, and to serve the common good.**
5. Question: What are we to do for those who have authority over us?
Answer: **We are to pray for them. "Therefore I exhort first of all that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks be made for all men, for kings and all who are in authority . . ." (1 Timothy 2:1-2a).**

- * 6. Question: Why should we obey the laws of our land?
Answer: **Because we are instructed in the Bible to do so. "Obey those who rule over you, and be submissive . . ." (Hebrews 13:17a).**
- * 7. Question: What are some examples of laws?
Answer: **We have laws about bicycle riding, about destroying other people's property, about stealing, and about harming others.**
- * 8. Question: What are the greatest of all laws?
Answer: **The Ten Commandments found in Exodus 20 are the greatest of all laws.**
- 9. Question: Are we to obey laws that are against the will of our Lord Jesus Christ?
Answer: **No, we are not. " . . . We ought to obey God rather than men" (Acts 5:29).**
- 10. Question: How did faith in God help our forefathers?
Answer: **Faith caused our forefathers to be honest, courageous and faithful unto death.**
- * 11. Question: How can we be outstanding citizens of our country?
Answer: **By having faith in God, by obeying the laws, by praying for those in authority, and by learning from the examples of our forefathers.**

Chapter 3

Evangelism



AIM

To know that we are commanded to witness. To understand the importance of evangelism. To see ways we can share the Good News of Jesus Christ.



KEY BIBLE VERSE

"And He said to them, Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature" (Mark 16:15).



LESSON

EVANGELISM IS A COMMANDMENT

Evangelism is telling others about Jesus. It is giving out the story of Jesus to everyone. We are commanded by God in Mark 16:15 to ". . . Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature". Sometimes people think that you have to be a missionary who goes to a faraway country or a pastor who preaches from the pulpit to obey this command. But no matter how old you are or where you live you can be a witness for Jesus. You can "preach the gospel" or tell the Good News of Jesus to everyone you meet. The "gospel" is the Good News of salvation through Jesus Christ.

THE IMPORTANCE OF EVANGELISM

The Bible tells us that a person cannot believe on Jesus as their Savior unless they have heard about Him. And the only way they will hear is if we tell them. *"How then shall they call on Him in whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe in Him of whom they have not heard? And how shall they hear without a preacher"* (Romans 10:14). This helps us to see how important it is that we tell others about Jesus and to support missionaries who go to foreign countries to tell people about God's love

What would happen if you and a friend were walking through some tall grass and you saw a snake right by your friend's foot, but didn't tell him about it? He would probably end up getting bit by the snake and he would be very disappointed in you as a friend. You're probably thinking, "I'd never let that happen to one of my friends. I'd tell him about the snake so he wouldn't be hurt." But are we forgetting to warn people about the punishment of sin, which is something much worse than a snake bite? Are we telling them the "good news" about Jesus who took our punishment for sin? Remember that the only way they'll find out is if we tell them.

In John 3:14, 15 we read, *"And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life."* We know that by looking to Jesus we can be forgiven and saved from the punishment of sin. But, are we telling our friends about Jesus? This is the "good news" that everyone must know if they are to enjoy a happy Christian life here and eternal life in heaven.

KNOW THE GOOD NEWS

Before we can tell someone good news, we must first know about it ourselves. Those of us who are already Christians know that Jesus died on the

No matter how young or how old you are, you can be a witness for Jesus.

Everyone needs to know the Good News if they are going to enjoy a happy Christian life and eternal life in heaven.

The "good news" is about Jesus who gives life now and eternally.

Our desire is to be more like Jesus.

We are wise if we win souls for Jesus.

cross to take our punishment for sin. Because He did this for us, we can have eternal life when we accept Him as our personal Savior. Just as Moses lifted up the serpent on the pole, so Jesus was lifted up on the cross. By looking to Jesus, our Savior, we can live the Christian life now and someday, live in heaven forever. This is the "good news" we want to share with others so they will escape the punishment of sin. That punishment is to live with the Devil forever in hell. The "good news" is about Jesus who gives life now and life eternally.

LIVE THE GOOD NEWS

The way we act, talk and live will show others that we are on the side of Jesus. We are determined to do right and to live the Christian life. It is important that we are happy Christians so others may see that we are glad that Jesus died and rose again for us. This same Jesus will someday come back to take us to heaven with Him where we will live forever. Are you living the Christian life? Remember, our desire is to be more like Jesus. Our actions speak much louder than our words, so let's live a good Christian life with God's help.

TELL THE GOOD NEWS

Living the Christian life is one way we can share the Good News, but there are many other ways that we can tell about Jesus. When someone is sad, we can tell them about God's love. Or if there is someone at school that no one else will play with, we can be a friend to them and share with them how much Jesus wants to be their friend, too. These are examples of taking advantage of the opportunities that we have to share Jesus.

Another way is to pass out tracts or leave them in places where people will find them. (A tract is a little booklet that contains the Good News). We could memorize important scriptures like John 3:16, that would help people to understand what Jesus did for them. If we carry our Bibles to school, someone may ask us about them. We could then tell them something we've been learning at church. We can also invite our friends and neighbors to come to church with us.

In Acts 1:8 we are promised that we can have the power of the Holy Spirit to help us be witnesses for Jesus. *"But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."* As we learn to be guided by the Holy Spirit, we will have the boldness to share the Good News with everyone.

The Bible tells us that we are wise if we win souls for Jesus. *"... And he who wins souls is wise"* (Proverbs 11:30b). This means if we tell others about Jesus and try to win them to God's family, He thinks we have done an intelligent thing.

God needs Christian soldiers who will enlist in His army and serve Him willingly and enthusiastically. Our duty in God's army is to tell others about Jesus and to encourage them to attend church where they can learn more about Him. We are to tell the story of Jesus to our friends, neighbors, and our family members. Wherever we are, we can live the Christian life before others and share the Good News of Jesus.



BIBLE VOCABULARY

MATCH THE WORD WITH ITS MEANING:

EVANGELISM

GOOD NEWS

GOSPEL

GIVES POWER TO WITNESS

LIVING THE GOOD NEWS

TELLING OTHERS ABOUT JESUS

HOLY SPIRIT

SHOWING OTHERS WE ARE ON
JESUS' SIDE



SCRIPTURAL FOUNDATIONS

LOOK UP EACH VERSE IN YOUR BIBLE.
COPY THEM ON A PIECE OF PAPER AND MEMORIZE THEM.

* Proverbs 11:30b; * Mark 16:15; John 3:14, 15; Acts 1:8; Romans 10:14

** Recommended for use with younger students.*



QUESTIONS/ANSWERS

- 1. Question: What does the word "evangelism" mean?
Answer: **Evangelism means to preach or to tell the "good news" about Jesus Christ.**
- 2. Question: What does the word "gospel" mean?
Answer: **Gospel means good news of salvation through Jesus Christ.**
- 3. Question: Do you have to be a missionary or pastor to "preach the gospel"?
Answer: **No. No matter how old you are or where you live you can be a witness for Jesus.**
- 4. Question: Where are we to evangelize (tell others about Jesus Christ)?
Answer: **We are to share and tell the story about Jesus everywhere throughout the whole world. Mark 16:15 tells us to go into the world and tell about Jesus.**
- 5. Question: Why is it necessary and important to evangelize?
Answer: **Because people cannot become Christians unless they know about Christ and how to belong to God's family. "How then shall they call on Him in whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe in Him of whom they have not heard? And how shall they hear without a preacher" (Romans 10:14).**
- 6. Question: What must we know before we can evangelize?
Answer: **Before we can tell someone good news, we must first know about it ourselves. We must know that Jesus died on the cross to take our punishment for sin. Because he did this, we can have eternal life.**

- * 7. Question: What do we mean by "live the Good News"?
Answer: **It means that the way we act, talk and live will show others that we are on the side of Jesus.**
8. Question: Can anyone help someone else to become a Christian?
Answer: **Yes, everyone who first has accepted Christ as His own Savior and lives for Him each day.**
9. Question: How do you lead someone to Jesus Christ?
Answer: **You lead a person to Christ by showing him in the Bible that Jesus loves him, by showing him why he needs Jesus as personal Savior and by telling him he must accept Christ as Savior to be free from the punishment of sin.**
10. Question: Where may we tell others about Jesus?
Answer: **Everywhere. We can tell others at home, school, play, work, church or any place where people don't know Jesus as their personal Savior.**
- * 11. Question: Did Jesus promise to help us evangelize?
Answer: **Yes. Jesus promised in Acts 1:8 that we can have the power of the Holy Spirit to be witnesses for Him.**
- * 12. Question: What does Proverbs 11:30 say about people who win people to Christ?
Answer: **"And he who wins souls is wise" (Proverbs 11:30b).**

Chapter 4

The Foursquare Gospel

Part 1



KEY BIBLE VERSE

To understand the meaning of the Foursquare Gospel and its doctrinal beliefs. To see that the Foursquare Gospel is scriptural and that its truths, which were taught by Jesus, are still important for us today.

"Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever"
(Hebrews 13:8).



THE FOURSQUARE GOSPEL ORIGINATED WITH GOD

The Foursquare Gospel is scriptural. That means it is based on the Word of God. The name foursquare originated with God as it is used ten times in the Bible — six times in Exodus, once in 1 Kings, twice in Ezekiel, and once in Revelation. The four main teachings of the Foursquare Gospel are taught in the entire Bible. The four major phases are:

1. Jesus Christ, the Savior (Romans 3:23)
2. Jesus Christ, the Baptizer with the Holy Spirit (Matthew 3:11)
3. Jesus Christ, the Great Physician or Healer (Matthew 8:17)
4. Jesus Christ, the soon Coming King (1 Thessalonians 4:16).

Both the Old and New Testament writers talked about salvation, healing, the baptism in the Holy Spirit, and the second coming of Jesus. The first four books of the New Testament are called the Gospels and each one presents Jesus differently. Luke presents the Lord Jesus as the Son of Man or Savior. Mark presents Christ as the Great Physician or Healer. John presents Christ as the "Lion of the tribe of Judah" or the Baptizer with the Holy Spirit. Matthew presents Christ as the King soon to come again.

The Foursquare doctrine is fundamental, which means it is basic and important. The word "doctrine" means a teaching or belief accepted by a group of believers. Jesus said, "I came to save", "I came to heal," "I came to give you the gift of the Holy Spirit" and "I am coming back again". The four major teachings of the Foursquare doctrine came from the mouth of Jesus.

If the doctrine of the Foursquare Gospel were not scriptural, it would not have lasted. It is not what some philosopher wrote, but it is based on what God wrote through men who were inspired by Him.

THE FOURSQUARE GOSPEL IS A COMPLETE AND BALANCED GOSPEL

The Foursquare Gospel is balanced and complete because it is a gospel that meets every need. The word "Foursquare" means perfection. When a carpenter or architect wants to describe something that is perfect, this is the word he uses. The Foursquare Gospel is a balanced gospel because it faces squarely in every direction, just like a square. As the four lines of a square are equal, so the Foursquare Gospel places equal emphasis on each of the four main doctrines. All four parts are important because they speak truths from the Bible. We do not omit healing and say we only believe in Jesus as the

It is based on the Word of God.

It is a gospel that meets all our needs.

The Foursquare Gospel meets the needs of people for body, soul and spirit.

"Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever.

The four major doctrines are: Jesus Christ, Savior, Baptizer in the Holy Spirit, Healer, and Coming King.

Savior, Baptizer with the Holy Spirit and coming King. We include all four. A square must have all four corners together if it is to be a "square". Every part of the Foursquare Gospel must be taught and preached if it is to be a perfect gospel. We must never cut corners. We must include the whole truth.

The Foursquare Gospel ministers to every area of our lives. Our physical body is that part of our lives which contacts the outside world. With our bodies we see, hear, taste, touch and smell. The Foursquare Gospel teaches that Jesus is able to heal our bodies when we are sick. He is also able to keep our bodies strong and healthy. Of course, we are to do our part in taking care of our bodies by eating properly and getting our rest. The soul is the real person inside of our bodies. It is the part of us that sometimes laughs, cries, jumps for joy, feels sad or glad. This shows on our face, in our actions, in our speech and in our attitudes. Jesus Christ the Savior is the One who saves our soul and gives us the reason for living! The spirit is the part of us that contacts God. We pray with our spirit. The Holy Spirit, who was given to us by Jesus, helps and guides us. The Foursquare Gospel meets the needs of people for body, soul and spirit.

THE FOURSQUARE GOSPEL IS PREACHED

During Bible times, before you and I were ever born, the doctrine of the Foursquare Gospel was preached to people. Jesus Himself taught in the Temple and the prophets talked about God and Jesus. And today, right now, this same doctrine is preached from the pulpits in our churches, over television and radio, through books, magazines, Sunday school literature, and through the use of tracts. In many of the Foursquare churches you will see a sign that says, "*Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever*" (Hebrews 13:8). It says that Jesus has not changed. The things He did when He lived on earth, He can do today because He will always be the same. You can depend on Him to be unchangeable. This message of Jesus as Savior, Baptizer with the Holy Spirit, Healer and soon Coming King is for everyone that is living today, regardless of their race or nationality.

This gospel must be preached all over the world until Jesus comes back. Missionaries are sent to foreign countries to share this gospel message about Jesus. As a result, many people come to know Jesus as their personal Savior, friend, as the Healer, and as One who fills them with the Holy Spirit. They, too, are looking forward to the day when Jesus returns to earth and takes all Christians home to heaven with Him.

In order to preach or share the Foursquare Gospel we must know the four major parts of the doctrine. Can you remember what they are? They are: Jesus Christ, the Savior; Jesus Christ, the Baptizer with the Holy Spirit; Jesus Christ, the Healer; and Jesus Christ, the soon Coming King. The Bible tells us to hold on to what we have as our doctrine. "*Take heed to yourself and to the doctrine. Continue in them, for in doing this you will save both yourself and those who hear you*" (1 Timothy 4:16). This verse reminds us how important it is to understand the doctrine in which we believe, for it will save both us and those with whom we are able to share the life of Christ.



BIBLE VOCABULARY

MATCH THE WORD WITH ITS MEANING:

DOCTRINE

PERFECTION

FUNDAMENTAL

BASED ON GOD'S WORD

FOURSQUARE

TEACHING OR BELIEF

SCRIPTURAL

BASIC AND ESSENTIAL



SCRIPTURAL FOUNDATIONS

LOOK UP EACH VERSE IN YOUR BIBLE.
COPY THEM ON A PIECE OF PAPER AND MEMORIZE THEM.

Matthew 3:11; Matthew 8:17; Romans 3:23; * 1 Timothy 4:16;
1 Thessalonians 4:16; * Hebrews 13:8

** Recommended for use with younger students.*



QUESTIONS/ANSWERS

- 1. Question: Is the name foursquare in the Bible?
Answer: **Yes. In the King James Version, it is used ten times; six times in Exodus, once in 1 Kings, twice in Ezekiel, and once in Revelation.**
- 2. Question: Is the Foursquare doctrine based on the Bible?
Answer: **Yes. If it were not scriptural, it would not have lasted.**
- 3. Question: What are the four major teachings of the Foursquare Gospel?
Answer: **Jesus Christ is the Savior, the Healer, the Baptizer with the Holy Spirit, and the soon Coming King.**
- 4. Question: How do each of the books of the Gospel present Jesus Christ?
Answer: **Luke presents the Lord Jesus as the Son of Man. Mark presents Christ as the Great Healer. John presents Christ as the Baptizer with the Holy Spirit. Matthew presents Christ as the Soon Coming King.**
- 5. Question: Why is the Foursquare doctrine called fundamental?
Answer: **Because it is basic and important.**
- 6. Question: Why is the Foursquare Gospel considered to be balanced?
Answer: **Because the word "foursquare" means perfection and the Foursquare Gospel faces squarely in every direction just like a square. As the four lines of a square are equal, so the Foursquare Gospel places equal emphasis on each of the four main doctrines.**

- 7. Question: Why is the Foursquare Gospel considered complete?
Answer: **Because it ministers to every area of our lives; body, soul and spirit.**
- 8. Question: What Bible verse can you see in most Foursquare churches?
Answer: **"Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever" (Hebrews 13:8).**
- 9. Question: What does this verse mean?
Answer: **It means that Jesus never changes. The things He did when He lived on earth, He can do today. He will always be the same.**
- 10. Question: What Bible verse reminds us how important it is to understand the doctrine in which we believe?
Answer: **"Take heed to yourself and to the doctrine. Continue in them, for in doing this you will save both yourself and those hear you" (1 Timothy 4:16).**

Chapter 5

The Foursquare Gospel

Part 2



AIM

To learn about the emblems, the symbols and the flag of the Foursquare Gospel and to understand how they relate to the four basic teachings.



KEY BIBLE VERSE

"As for the likeness of their faces, each had the face of a man, each of the four had the face of a lion on the right side, each of the four had the face of an ox on the left side, and each of the four had the face of an eagle" (Ezekiel 1:10).



LESSON

THE FOURSQUARE GOSPEL

In Bible days God talked to the prophets through visions. (A vision is a special picture which one sees in the mind). In the book of Joel 2:28 it tells us "... young men shall see visions." Not only did people have visions in the past, but they continue to have visions even today. One of the Old Testament men, named Ezekiel, had a very interesting vision. We read about it in Ezekiel 1:10: "As for the likeness of their faces, each had the face of a man, each of the four had the face of a lion on the right side, each of the four had the face of an ox on the left side, and each of the four had the face of an eagle." What a wonderful sight Ezekiel saw! In the clouds of heaven he saw "a whirlwind, a great cloud, and a fire unfolding itself and a brightness." Out of this came "the likeness of four living creatures," moving back and forth across the skies with "the appearance like the flash of lightning" (Ezekiel 1:14b).

Each of the four faces that Ezekiel saw have been made a part of the official Foursquare emblem. (An emblem is a sign or mark that stands for something). Each of the faces that were in the vision — the man, the lion, the ox and the eagle — have a meaning.

The face of man represent Jesus, the Savior. The Bible teaches that Jesus was a man of sorrows and that He was acquainted with grief (Isaiah 53:3). Jesus is the Savior, the Son of God who was born in Bethlehem's stable many years ago. Then He was nailed to the cross for the sins of the whole world. Luke refers to Jesus as the perfect man. Jesus never did any wrong. He never sinned. We can learn more about Jesus as we read our Bible.

The face of the lion represents, Jesus, the Baptizer. Whenever we see the face of a lion we usually think of strength and power. This is why the face of a lion is a fitting symbol for Jesus. He gives us the Holy Spirit, Who in turn gives us power and strength to live the Christian life and to tell others about Jesus. The Holy Spirit has been given to us to help us know God and His Son better. The more we know about Him, the easier it will be for us to tell others.

The face of the ox represent Jesus, the Great Physician. The ox is a strong animal and can carry a very heavy load on it's back. The ox does not refuse to carry the load and is a very patient animal. It is often referred to as a "great burden bearer". The ox is used as a symbol for Jesus Who made healing available to us by His patient suffering when He was crucified. When we feel sad or have problems that seem too big and hard for us to solve, we can talk

Official Foursquare emblems are the man, the lion, the ox and the eagle.

The man represents Jesus, the Savior.

The lion represents Jesus, the Baptizer.

The ox represents Jesus, the Great Physician.

**The eagle represents
Jesus, the Coming King.**

**The colors of the Four-
square flag are: red,
gold, blue, purple.**

**The four symbols are:
a cross, dove, cup and
crown.**

to Jesus. He will carry our load. He understands our feelings and our hurts. Jesus prays to God the Father for us. The ox was used as a sacrifice. Jesus was also sacrificed, given and offered by God to die on the cross so we could have healing for our bodies (1 Peter 2:24). When we see the face of an ox, we can be reminded that Jesus is our Great Physician and Healer. He still heals today just as He did in Bible days. We can give all our cares, worries and problems to Jesus and He will help us. 1 Peter 5:7 says, "Casting all your care upon Him, for He (Jesus) cares for you."

The face of the eagle represents Jesus, the Coming King. The eagle is known to be strong, large in size, and yet graceful. He has excellent eyesight and an unusual ability to fly. Jesus is also strong. He had the power to leave this earth after He arose from the dead and the Bible tells us that he is coming back someday to take us with Him to heaven forever. Jesus does not need wings, for He has power that eagles do not have. Jesus is our Coming King and He is coming back again.

Our founder, Aimee Semple McPherson, used Ezekiel 1:10 as the text of her sermon when she was preaching one night in Oakland, California. She was reading and preaching about Ezekiel's vision of the four faces when she suddenly realized that the gospel was a perfect gospel; a gospel that faces squarely in every direction. She burst out with these words, "Why, why it's the FOURSQUARE GOSPEL!" She realized that the vision represented the four-fold ministry of Jesus — Jesus is our Savior (face of a man), our Baptizer with the Holy Spirit (face of a lion), our Healer (face of an ox), and our soon Coming King (face of an eagle).

THE FOURSQUARE FLAG

The colors of the Foursquare flag also represent these four main teachings. The Red stripe is the color of Christ's blood which was poured out for our sins. It reminds us of the word "salvation", which also means "safety". When we become a Christian and a follower of the Lord Jesus, we are saved or safe from the eternal punishment of sin.

The Gold stripe reminds us of the power of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit is a person who lives within us. He is the member of the Godhead Who supplies the spiritual power we need to help us with witnessing and with other ministries.

The Blue stripe tells of the promise of divine healing. The Lord Jesus keeps His promises that we read in the Bible. He is faithful and true to all who trust in Him.

The Purple stripe reminds us of the royal ministry of Jesus. He is the King of all kings and He is coming back to earth someday to rule over His kingdom.

THE FOURSQUARE SYMBOLS OF FAITH

A symbol is something like an object, a picture, or a drawing which we can see, but it reminds us of something wonderful that we cannot see. The four symbols of our faith are a cross, dove, cup and crown. Each one represents a different part of Jesus' ministry.

The symbol of the cross represents Jesus, the Savior. The cross represents our "salvation" or safety in Jesus from the punishment of sin. Romans 6:23 tells us that the wages or (consequences) of sin is death. The real meaning of death is that a person is eternally separated from God, if he refuses to accept Jesus as his Savior. If it were not for Jesus dying on the cross, we could not be Christians now. Whenever we see a cross, we should remember that Jesus died for each one of us.

The symbol of the dove represents Jesus, the Baptizer with the Holy Spirit. We read about the dove in Mark 1:9, 11 when Jesus was baptized in water by John the Baptist. When Jesus came up out of the water the Holy Spirit, in the

form of a dove, came down on Him. A dove is gentle, pure and easily hurt. It is harmless and defenseless. It is not cruel or cunning. A dove loves to live where people are. When they are carried away, they will return many miles back to their home and owner. The dove will not eat food that is spoiled. He only eats pure seed and drinks pure, clean water. The Holy Spirit is much like a dove. The Holy Spirit is gentle, pure, and easily hurt. If you tell the Holy Spirit to go away, He will not be angry, just hurt. Instead of hurting Him, we should ask Him to come and fill us with Himself. The Holy Spirit also loves to live in and around the people of God. He is kind and loving. The Holy Spirit will never hurt anyone, but is ready to help people. The Holy Spirit wants to live in a heart that is clean, free from hatred, dishonesty and deceit.

The symbol of the cup represents Jesus, the Great Healer. When Jesus prayed in the garden of Gethsemane on the night He was betrayed, He said these words: "O My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from Me; nevertheless, not as I will, but as You will" (Matthew 26:39). Following this prayer, the suffering that Jesus experienced was very great. What did Jesus mean by the "cup"? He meant that He was to take our suffering, our sadness, our sin, our pain and sickness upon Himself. Even though He was Jesus, He suffered like a human being would if he were nailed to a cross. Jesus did not deserve to suffer, but because of His love for us, He took our punishment. It was a hard and painful experience; but He was willing to do this for you and for me.

The symbol of the crown represents Jesus, the Coming King. Kings and queens usually wear crowns. When Jesus was on earth He was crowned, but not with a crown of gold. It was a crown of thorns. But when He comes to earth again, he will come as the King of kings and the Lord of lords. Jesus is more important than any other king in the whole world. On the day when Jesus comes back to earth, everyone will know and will have to admit that Jesus is the King of kings (Philippians 2:9-11).

The Holy Spirit is kind and loving.

Jesus took our suffering and sadness.



BIBLE VOCABULARY

MATCH THE WORD WITH ITS MEANING:

VISION	SAVIOR
MAN	HEALER
LION	COMING KING
OX	DREAM
EAGLE	BAPTIZER



SCRIPTURAL FOUNDATIONS

LOOK UP EACH VERSE IN YOUR BIBLE.
COPY THEM ON A PIECE OF PAPER AND MEMORIZE THEM.

Isaiah 53:3; *Ezekiel 1:10; Matthew 26:39; Romans 6:23
* Philippians 2:9-11; * 1 Peter 5:7

** Recommended for use with younger students.*



QUESTIONS/ANSWERS

- 1. Question: Where in the Bible is the vision of the four faces, which make up the emblems of the Foursquare Gospel, found?
Answer: In Ezekiel 1:10.
- 2. Question: What are the four faces?
Answer: A face of a man, a lion, an ox, and an eagle.
- 3. Question: What does each face represent?
Answer: The face of a man represents Jesus, the Savior. The face of a lion represents Jesus, the Baptizer. The face of the ox represents Jesus, the Healer. The face of the eagle represents Jesus, the Coming King.
- 4. Question: What is an emblem?
Answer: It is a sign or mark that stands for something.
5. Question: In what ways is an ox like Jesus, the Great Physician?
Answer: An ox is often called a "great burden bearer" and is a very strong and patient animal. An ox was often used as a sacrifice. Jesus is our "great burden bearer" as he bore our sins and our sicknesses on the cross. Jesus is strong and very patient with us even when we lack faith in Him as our Healer. Jesus was the sacrifice God used on our behalf.
6. Question: How did this vision become the inspiration for the Foursquare emblem?
Answer: It happened when our founder, Aimee Semple McPherson, was preaching from Ezekiel 1:10 in Oakland, California. While reading Ezekiel's vision of the four faces, she realized that the gospel was a perfect gospel. She saw that the vision in Ezekiel represented the four-fold ministry of Jesus.
- 7. Question: Of what do each of the colors in the Foursquare flag remind us?
Answer: Red — The salvation that Jesus provided by His death. Gold — The power of the Holy Spirit. Blue — Divine healing. Purple — The royal ministry of King Jesus who is coming back for us.
8. Question: What is a symbol?
Answer: It is something like an object, a picture, or a drawing which we can see, but it reminds us of something wonderful that we cannot see.
- 9. Question: What are the four symbols of our faith?
Answer: A cross, a dove, a cup, and a crown.
- 10. Question: What does the symbol of the cross stand for?
Answer: It stands for our "salvation" or safety in Jesus from the punishment of sin.

11. Question: Why is the dove a symbol of the Holy Spirit?
Answer: **Both a dove and the Holy Spirit are gentle, pure and easily hurt. Neither would hurt anyone, but love to live where people are. A dove will not eat food that is spoiled and the Holy Spirit will only live in a heart that is clean.**
- 12. Question: What did Jesus mean by "the cup" in Matthew 26:39?
Answer: **He meant that He was to take our suffering, sadness, sin, pain, and sickness upon Himself.**
13. Question: What scripture tells us that someday Jesus will come back to earth and everyone will have to admit that Jesus is Lord?
Answer: **Philippians 2:9-11 — "Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father."**

Chapter 6

The Foursquare Gospel

Part 3



AIM

To see how the Foursquare organization was started and how it operates. To gain an understanding of the growth of the Foursquare movement since its beginning. To discover the story of its founder, Aimee Semple McPherson.



KEY BIBLE VERSE

"Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!" (Psalm 133:1).



LESSON

THE FOUNDER

The International Church of the Foursquare Gospel was founded by Aimee Semple McPherson, who was born on October 9, 1890 on a small farm near Ontario, Canada. She was the only child of James and Minnie Kennedy. Her mother had promised God that she would give her baby girl for His service. As a young girl, Aimee learned to play the tambourine, learned to pray, learned Bible stories and learned to know God more as she attended church and Sunday school.

As a teenager she became curious about the creation story. Her teacher said things that confused her and made her doubt whether or not God made all things from nothing. In her bedroom one night she talked to God and asked Him to make her know that He was real. She wanted to know for herself. Because God will never let us down, He answered her prayer and made Himself very real to her. It was at this time that she expressed a desire to become a Christian and a worker for God. She had many years to give to Christian service.

She married Robert James Semple, an evangelist, on August 12, 1908. In 1910 they went to China to preach the gospel. Three months after they arrived, Robert Semple died of malaria and one month later their daughter, Roberta Star Semple, was born. With her baby daughter, Aimee returned to the United States and became active in home mission work. Later she married Harold Stewart McPherson and to them was born Rolf Kennedy McPherson. Rolf became President of the International Church of the Foursquare Gospel after his mother passed away in 1944.

The time came for Aimee Semple McPherson to preach. God had been asking her, "Now will you go and preach the Word?" She said "yes" to that call. She prayed for the sick people, helped the poor, wrote songs and books, and produced Christian plays. Between 1918 and 1923 she crossed the United States eight times, holding over 38 tent revival meetings. Her ministry became international in 1922 when she ministered in Australia and later she carried the gospel message to many countries. During a revival in San Francisco in 1922 she became the first woman to broadcast a sermon over the radio.

In 1923, Aimee Semple McPherson and the people that were attending the services in Los Angeles, decided to build a church in the city, across from

Aimee Semple McPherson was born near Ontario, Canada.

God made Himself very real to her.

She said "yes" to go and preach the Word.

Angelus Temple was built.

She didn't give up.

One great big family of believers winning men and women to Jesus Christ.

The International Church continues to grow.

a beautiful park. It was not easy to build in those days when money was so scarce, but she believed God would help her and His people to do what He asked. It happened! They called the church Angelus Temple because the city of Los Angeles is known as the City of Angels. The building contains one of the largest unsupported domes in all of North America. Within four and one half months after Angelus Temple was dedicated, over 7,000 men and women had knelt at the altar there seeking salvation and 1,200 had been baptized in water. After Angelus Temple was built, a Bible college and a parsonage (a home where the pastor lives) were built right next door. From the Bible College, people were sent to countries around the world to preach the Foursquare Gospel. Today Angelus Temple is called, "the Headquarters Church" of the Foursquare organization.

God used Sister McPherson in a very special way. She is now in heaven with Jesus, but others like our pastors, missionaries, and teachers continue to teach the Foursquare Gospel. There were times when it was hard for Sister McPherson, but she didn't give up. She worked hard and did her very best. When she grew up and was old enough to serve God, she gave all she had for his service. He gave her wisdom and strength to do what some people thought was impossible. No matter how young or how old you are, God has a special plan for your life, too! He wants you to give Him your whole life right now and to continue to love and serve Him as long as you live. He promises that He will help us to do His will because "... *He who is in you is greater than he that is in the world*" (1 John 4:4).

THE FOURSQUARE ORGANIZATION

The word "organization" means to form a group of people who will work together for a common cause or purpose. Each individual Foursquare church is part of the International Church of the Foursquare Gospel. It is made up of thousands of Christians around the world. The people come from many nations and cultures; they may speak different languages. Yet they are all one great big family of believers who accept and believe the Foursquare Gospel. The Bible tells us, "*Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!*" (Psalm 133:1).

Winning men and women to Jesus Christ is the main reason for the existence of the International Church of the Foursquare Gospel. When Angelus Temple was dedicated in 1923, the purpose of the Foursquare Church was written on the cornerstone: "Dedicated Unto the Cause of Inter-denominational and World Wide Evangelism". This has been proven as the International Church of the Foursquare Gospel has grown over the years. By 1926, 50 Foursquare churches had been established and by 1927 Sister McPherson had placed the first Foursquare missionaries in Asia. In 1985 there were 11,396 Foursquare churches and meeting places located around the world. We have many missionaries and key national leaders serving in more than 50 countries on six continents. In only ten years time the number of Foursquare churches in North America alone has increased by fifty percent, making approximately 1,200 Foursquare churches in the United States and Canada in 1985.

The International Church of the Foursquare Gospel continues to grow and expand in many other areas, as well. We have numerous Christian Day Schools, Bible Schools and orphanages in North America and in other regions as well. The Foursquare Church owns eight camps across the United States and several radio and television stations. Most Foursquare ministers receive their Bible training at L.I.F.E. Bible College at Los Angeles, L.I.F.E. of Canada, B.C., and Mount Vernon Bible College in Ohio. In addition, there are many local church Schools of Ministry in America. The Foursquare

movement also includes a world-wide organization for women known as the U.F.W. (United Foursquare Women). There are men's groups, as well as, Chaplains in the Armed Services, the Civil Air Patrol and in local police and sheriff departments. The Foursquare World Advance Magazine, which is the official publication of the Foursquare organization, is sent to Foursquare people all over the world.

The International Church of the Foursquare Gospel was incorporated and registered in the State of California on December 30, 1927 by Aimee Semple McPherson. Since that time it has had an organizational form of government. This means that there is a Board of Directors that takes care of the business affairs of the Foursquare organization. There is also a Missionary Cabinet and Executive Council that advises the Board of Directors and the President. The Foursquare Headquarters offices are located in Los Angeles, California.

Any organization is made up of people like you and me, not buildings. In the Foursquare organization we have little people, big people, white people, black people, rich people, poor people, young people and old people. Each person makes the organization or church what it is — strong, spiritual, true, sincere, and genuine. Each person within the church must do his or her part to represent Jesus in every way, including you and me.

(For current statistics check with your local pastor for this information.)

It has an organizational form of government.



BIBLE VOCABULARY

MATCH THE WORD WITH ITS MEANING:

AIMEE SEMPLE MCPHERSON

A GROUP OF PEOPLE WHO WORK TOGETHER FOR A COMMON PURPOSE

ORGANIZATION

FOURSQUARE HEADQUARTER'S CHURCH

ANGELUS TEMPLE

FOUNDER OF THE INTERNATIONAL CHURCH OF THE FOURSQUARE GOSPEL



SCRIPTURAL FOUNDATIONS

LOOK UP EACH VERSE IN YOUR BIBLE.
COPY THEM ON A PIECE OF PAPER AND MEMORIZE THEM.

* Psalm 133:1; * 1 John 4:4

** Recommended for use with younger students.*



QUESTIONS/ANSWERS

- 1. Question: Who was the founder of the International Church of the Foursquare Gospel?
Answer: **Almee Semple McPherson**
2. Question: What kinds of things did she do for God?
Answer: **She prayed for the sick, preached the gospel message, helped the poor, wrote songs and books, produced Christian plays, and trained pastors and missionaries.**
- 3. Question: What happened in 1922-23 that was of important to the Foursquare organization?
Answer: **Angelus Temple, now the Headquarters Church, was built in Los Angeles, California.**
4. Question: What else did Sister McPherson have built at that location?
Answer: **A Bible college to train ministers and a home for her family.**
- 5. Question: Upon the death of Mrs. McPherson in 1944, who became President of the Foursquare organization?
Answer: **Her son, Dr. Rolf K. McPherson.**
- 6. Question: What does the word "organization" mean?
Answer: **It means to form a group of people who will work together for a common cause or purpose.**
7. Question: Who represents the Foursquare organization?
Answer: **Thousands of Christians around the world of many nations, cultures and languages, who accept and believe the Foursquare gospel.**
- 8. Question: What is the main reason for the existence of the International Church of the Foursquare Gospel?
Answer: **Winning men, women and children to Jesus Christ.**
9. Question: What is written on the cornerstone of Angelus Temple?
Answer: **"Dedicated unto the cause of Inter-denominational and World-wide Evangelism."**
- 10. Question: Does the Foursquare organization have a missionary program?
Answer: **Yes, it has many missionaries in more than 50 countries on 6 continents (1984 figures).**
11. Question: Where do many Foursquare ministers receive their Bible training?
Answer: **At one of the Foursquare colleges in the United States, in Canada or in another country.**
12. Question: What other ministries does the Foursquare organization provide?
Answer: **Christian Day Schools, orphanages, camps, radio and television stations, men's and women's ministries, chaplains, and a magazine.**

- 13. Question: When was the International Church of the Four-square Gospel incorporated?
Answer: On December 30, 1927.
14. Question: What form of government does the Foursquare organization have?
Answer: It has an organizational government.
15. Question: What is the name of the group that takes care of the business affairs of the Foursquare organization?
Answer: It is called the Board of Directors.
- 16. Question: What is our part in the Foursquare organization?
Answer: To represent Jesus in every way.