

CONTENTS

Lesson 1	Deity of Jesus	Pg 3
Lesson 2	Humanity of Jesus	Pg 11
Lesson 3	Jesus Said 'I Am'	Pg 20
Lesson 4	Character of Jesus	Pg 29
Lesson 5	Spiritual Hypocrisy	Pg 38
Lesson 6	Beatitudes	Pg 44
Lesson 7	Kingdom of God	Pg 54

New Testament

Deity of Jesus



LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- To show that Jesus openly accepted worship as God.
- To study the scripture references that prove Jesus is equal to God.



SCRIPTURE PORTION

Deuteronomy 6:5; Joshua 5:13-15; Mark 10:37, 13:32; Luke 4:8; John 9:38, 5:17, 21:17, Acts 14:8-20, Philippians 2:7



MEMORY VERSE

John 8:58: “I tell you the truth,’ Jesus answered, ‘before Abraham was born, I am!’”



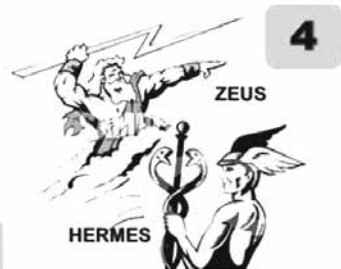
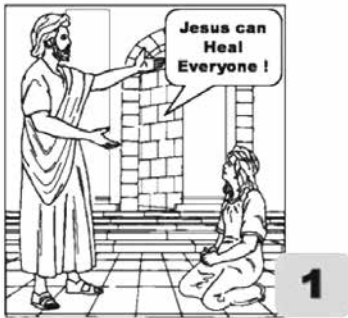
INTRODUCTION

The New Testament Gospels describe Jesus and His teachings in great detail. They help us gain an accurate picture of the Lord. This is important for us because Jesus said, “... Anyone

who has seen me has seen the Father ..." (John 14:9). Nobody has ever seen God with their human eyes. So the only way we can understand God is by learning more about Jesus. Over the following weeks, we will do a brief study of the different aspects of Jesus' life and teachings.

Worship of Paul And Barnabas!

(Based on Acts 14)



Three Reasons Why We Believe Jesus is Equal to God

Reason 1: Jesus Accepted Worship

Luke 4:8: “Jesus answered, ‘It is written: Worship the Lord your God and serve him only.’”

Revelation 19:10: “At this I fell at his feet to worship him. But he said to me, ‘Do not do it! I am a fellow servant with you and with your brothers who hold to the testimony of Jesus. Worship God! For the testimony to Jesus is the Spirit of prophecy.’”

John 9:38: “Then the man said, ‘Lord, I believe,’ and he worshiped him.”

Reason 2: Jesus Claimed Equality by Calling Himself Son of God

John 5:17: In his defense Jesus said to them, “My Father is always at his work to this very day, and I too am working.”

Reason 3: Attributes of Jesus Prove He is Equal to God

(Taken from www.middletonbiblechurch.org)

Below are listed some of the attributes of God. MATCH the verses which show that Jesus possessed these divine attributes:

- | | |
|--|---------------------|
| 1. _____ Omniscient (knowing all things) | A. 1 John 2:1 |
| 2. _____ Omnipresent (always present and everywhere present) | B. John 6:64 |
| 3. _____ Omnipotent (almighty and all-powerful) | C. Micah 5:2 |
| 4. _____ Eternal | D. Luke 1:35 |
| 5. _____ Unchangeable | E. Matthew 28:20 |
| 6. _____ Holy | F. Revelation 19:11 |
| 7. _____ Righteous | G. Hebrews 13:8 |
| 8. _____ Faithful | H. Revelation 1:8 |



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

We studied that God's people and his angels never accepted worship for themselves, but always directed it towards God. This being the case, how do we understand the following verse?

Joshua 5:13-15: “Now when Joshua was near Jericho, he looked up and saw a man standing in front of him with a drawn sword in his hand. Joshua went up to him and asked, ‘Are you for us or for our enemies?’ ‘Neither,’ he replied, ‘but as commander of the army of the Lord I have now come.’ Then Joshua fell face-down to the ground in reverence, and asked him, ‘What message does my Lord have for his servant?’ The commander of the LORD’s army replied, ‘Take off your sandals, for the place where you are standing is holy.’ And Joshua did so.”

Take off your sandals,
for the place where
you are standing is
holy.



Why do you think the Jewish leaders were so upset when Jesus called Himself the Son of God? Don't we all call ourselves sons and daughters of God?

John 21:17: Peter said, "... Lord, you know all things; you know that I love you."

Mark 13:32: "No one knows about that day or hour, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father."

Based on these verses should we believe that Jesus is all-knowing or should we conclude that He is limited in His power?

Lord, You know all things.
You know that I love you.





APPLICATION

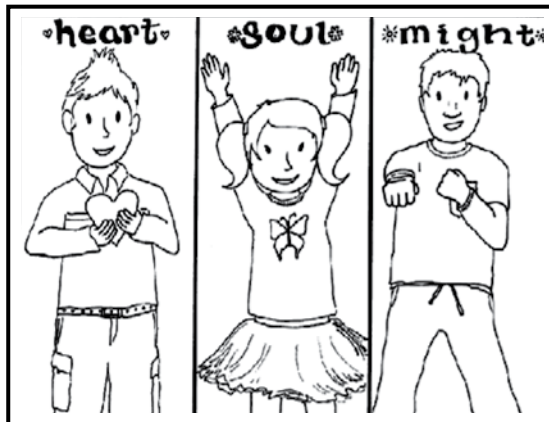
As we can see, Jesus has the same abilities and powers that the Father does. He is equal to the Father in status.

In spite of having such a high status, Jesus chose to empty Himself, and become as weak and helpless as us. Therefore, He deserves our Supreme Love.

According to Matthew 10:37, we are to love the Lord Jesus ... (Circle the correct answer).

- a. less than
 - b. as much as
 - c. more than
- ... those in our family who are closest to us.

According to Deuteronomy 6:5 what is Supreme Love?



This is the kind of love—the level of love—that we are expected to show the Lord Jesus!

Some practical ways that I can express Supreme Love to the Lord this week:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____



FOLLOW UP

(To be filled up before the next class.)

How I practiced the Scripture Lesson during this week:

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

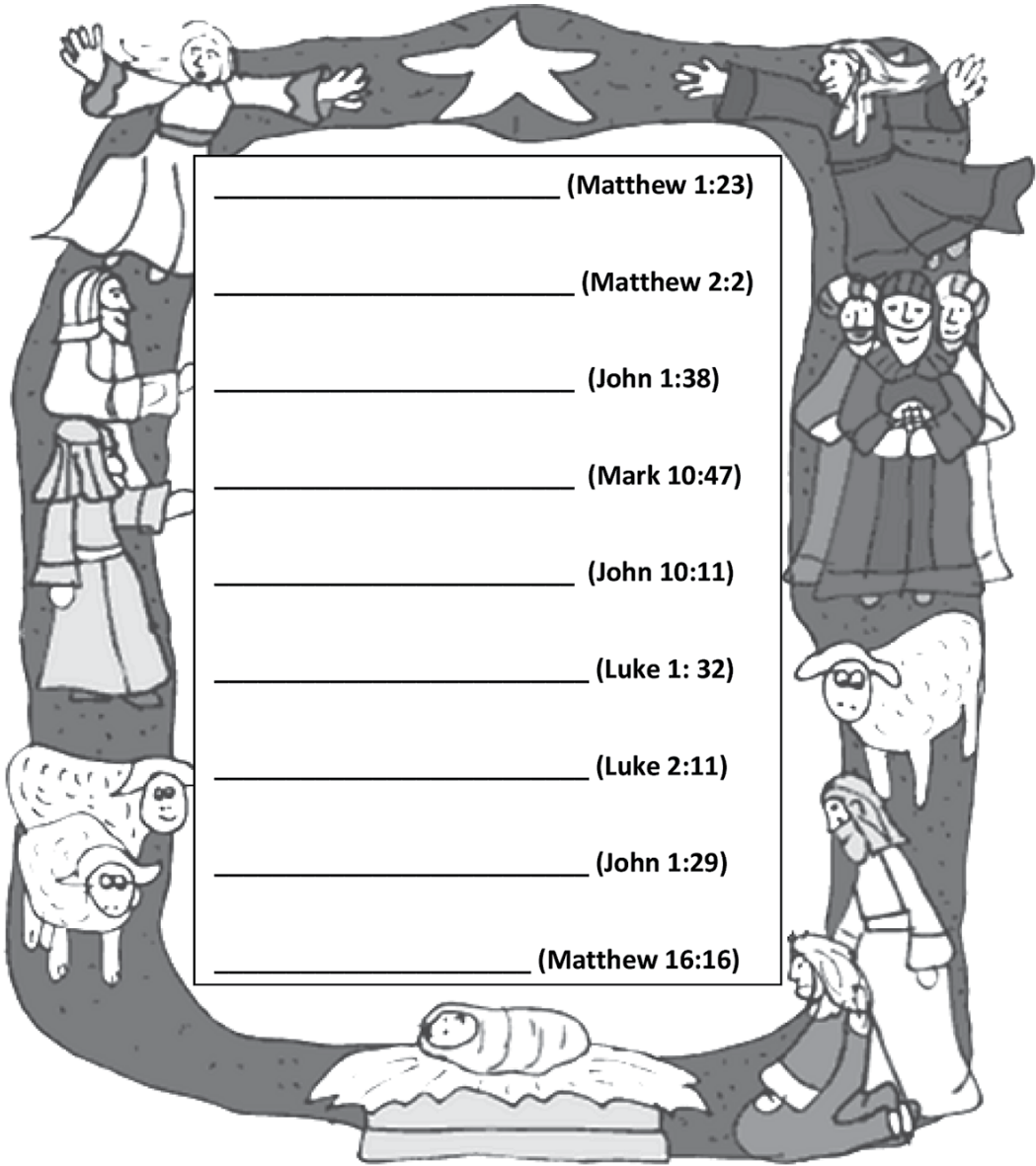


TAKE HOME ACTIVITY

Jesus—Fully God

(Taken from Kids Korner)

Use the Bible verses to discover the many names of Jesus.



New Testament

Humanity of Jesus



LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- To teach that Jesus chose to become fully human for our sake.
- To explain why Jesus can help us in every circumstance and situation.



SCRIPTURE PORTIONS

Hebrews 2:9, 14, 4:15-16; 1 Timothy 1:15; Matthew 26:31-40, 27:41-46; Mark 6:3; John 1:11-12 (Son of Man)



MEMORY VERSE


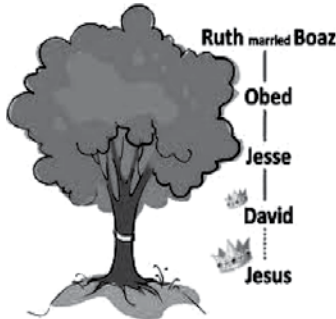

Hebrews 2:14: “Since the children have flesh and blood, he too shared in their humanity so that by his death he might destroy him who holds the power of death—that is, the devil.”




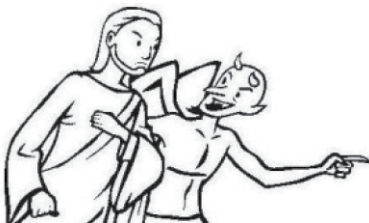


INTRODUCTION

The New Testament Gospels describe Jesus and His teachings in great detail. They help us gain an accurate picture of the Lord. This is important for us because Jesus said, "... Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father ..." (John 14:9). Nobody has ever seen God with their human eyes. So the only way we can understand God is by studying Jesus. Over the following weeks, we will do a brief study of the different aspects of Jesus' life and teaching.

THE MAN CHRIST JESUS

	<p>Jesus had a real physical B _____</p> <p>(Luke 2:7; Galatians 4:4)</p>
<p>Jesus had real A _____</p> <p>(Matthew 1; Luke 3)</p>	
	<p>Jesus G _____ up</p> <p>(Luke 2:52)</p>

<p>Jesus had a real physical B _ _ _ _ _ (John 1:14)</p>	
	<p>Jesus was part of a real F _ _ _ _ _ _ _ (Luke 2:48)</p>
<p>Jesus had a J _ _ _ (Mark 6:3)</p>	
	<p>Jesus was T _ _ _ _ _ _ _ (Hebrews 4:15), yet He was totally “without sin.”</p>

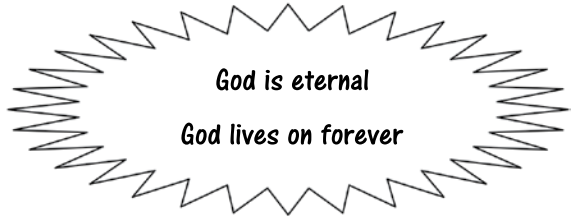
Key Words: Ancestors Birth Body Family
Grew Tempted Job

Why Did God Come in the Flesh?

(Taken from www.middletonbiblechurch.org)

The Bible clearly reveals why Jesus Christ came into the world: “Christ Jesus came into the world to S_____ S_____” (1 Timothy 1:15). To save sinners, Christ had to die for sinners!

But GOD CANNOT DIE! God is eternal. God lives forever! God is not subject to death (He is immortal - 1 Timothy 1:17). Therefore, in order to die, God had to become a man.



Hebrews 2:9: “But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels, now crowned with glory and honour because he suffered death, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone.”

Hebrews 2:14: “Since the children have flesh and blood, he too shared in their humanity so that by his death he might destroy him who holds the power of death—that is, the devil.”

God Knows and Cares

Because Christ became a man, No one can ever look up into heaven and say:



“God, You do not know what it is like to be a man. You do not know what I am going through and the problems that I am facing right now. You do not know what it is like to be in my shoes. You do not know, and You do not care.”

This is something that can never be said! The God who is in heaven has walked on

this earth as a man. He knows what we go through because He has been here on earth. He faced almost every situation that we may face in life.

Hebrews 4:15: “For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathise with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are—yet was without sin.”

How God Knows and Cares

Our hearts cry out for a God who can feel what we feel and experience what we experience! For God to do this, He had to become as helplessly human as all of us ... and He was willing to do it!

Example

God never goes to sleep! (Psalms 121:4) He is eternally awake and alert and “on the job twenty-four hours a day!” And yet, even though God cannot sleep, God never gets tired, worn out or weary. God never needs to stop and rest. In Isaiah 40:28 we are told that the Creator-God fainteth not, neither is weary.”

- So God had to become human, so that He could experience tiredness fully.

When God became a man, what did He do (Matthew 8:24)?



When God became a man, what are we told about Him (John 4:6)?



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Christ knows just what we go through. To show you this truth, please do the following MATCHING problem:

1.	_____	Jesus knows what it is like to suffer.	A.	Matthew 26:31,37,38,40
2.	_____	Jesus knows what it is like to be unnoticed and rejected.	B.	Matthew 27:41-43
3.	_____	Jesus knows what it is like to be called names.	C.	Matthew 27:46
4.	_____	Jesus knows what it is like to be mocked and made fun of.	D.	Mark 6:3
5.	_____	Jesus knows what it is like to have loved ones who do not believe.	E.	John 1:11-12
6.	_____	Jesus knows what it is like to stand at the grave side of a loved one.	F.	John 7:5
7.	_____	Jesus knows what it is like to toil and work hard with His hands.	G.	John 8:48
8.	_____	Jesus knows what it is like to be disappointed by close friends.	H.	John chapter 11
9.	_____	Jesus knows what it is like to be alone, deserted even by his dearest companions.	I.	John 13:18 (Psalm 41:9)
10.	_____	Jesus knows the awful separation that sin brings. Even though He Himself never sinned, He did experience this separation.	J.	1 Peter 3:18

Jesus was never overloaded with studies. Do you think He really understands how you feel? Can He help? How?

Hebrews 4:15-16 says, “For we do not have an high priest who is unable to sympathise with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are—yet was without sin. Let us then approach the throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.”



APPLICATION

Here’s a question to think about:

- Was there once a time when Jesus Christ was the very same age you are right now?
- Suppose you are twelve years old. Does He know what it is like to be a twelve year old?

Jesus knows and He WILL help! So go to Him confidently with your needs this week.

I need God’s help for the following things:

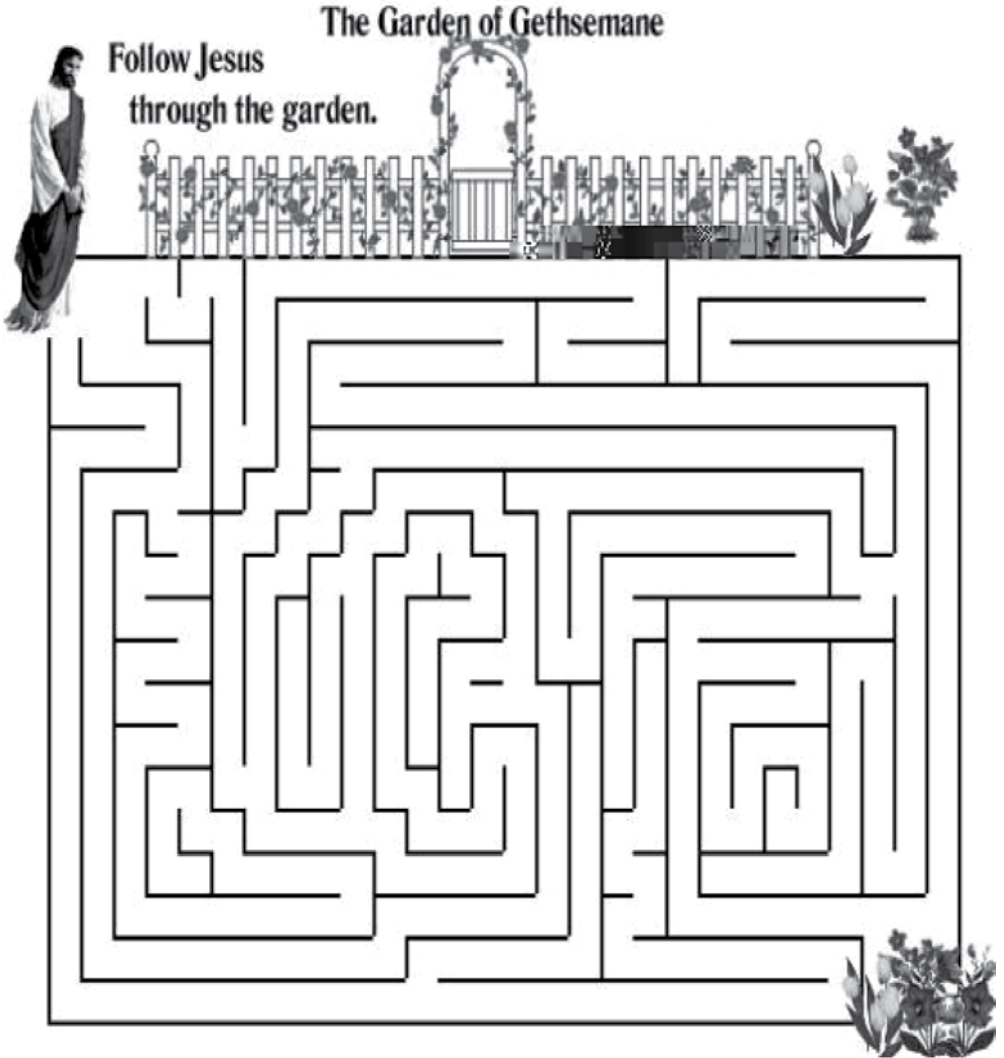
1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____



TAKE HOME ACTIVITY

Jesus in Gethsemane

(Taken from Calvary Kids Pages)





FOLLOW UP

(To be filled up before the next class.)

How I practiced the Scripture Lesson during this week:

- 1. _____

- 2. _____

- 3. _____



New Testament



Jesus Said 'I Am'



LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- To stress the importance of hearing the Good Shepherd's Voice.
- To show how the Light of the World can improve our lives.
- To teach in what way Jesus is the Resurrection and the Life.



SCRIPTURE PORTIONS

John 8:12, 10:27-28, 11:25-26; Luke 12:13-21 (I AM Sayings of Jesus)



MEMORY VERSE

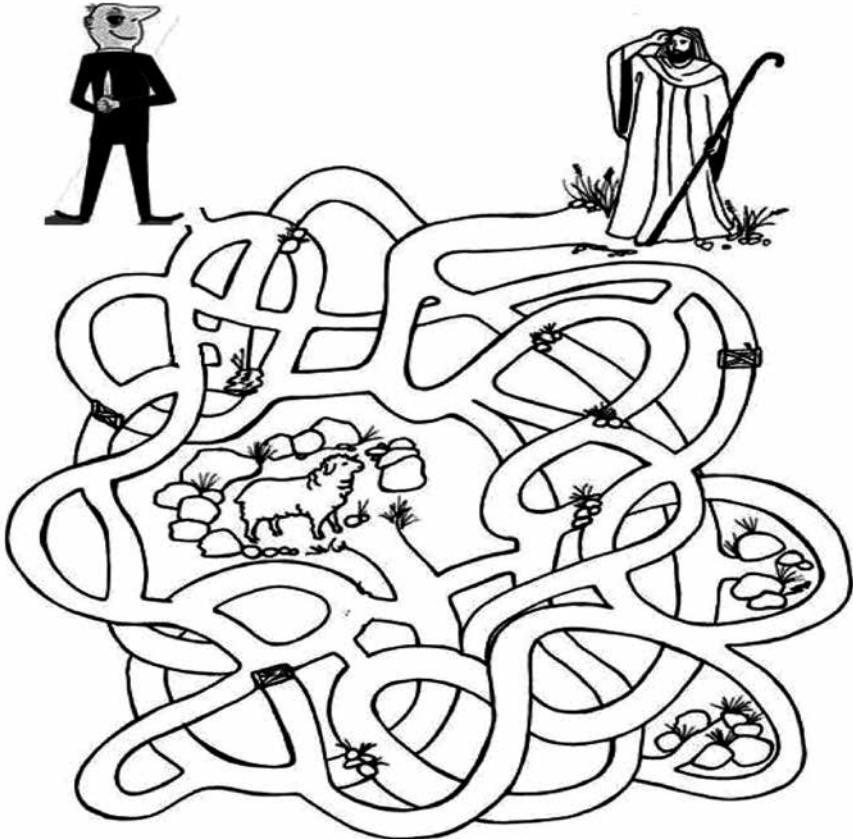
John 8:12: Jesus said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."



INTRODUCTION

The New Testament Gospels describe Jesus and His teachings in great detail. They help us gain an accurate picture of the Lord. This is important for us because Jesus said, "... Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father ..." (John 14:9). Nobody has ever seen God with their human eyes. So the only way we can understand God is by studying Jesus. Today, we will take a look at what Jesus said about Himself.

VOICE of the GOOD SHEPHERD



Just like the Good Shepherd in the Maze, Jesus too is calling to us. He wants us to follow Him all the days of our lives, so that He can meet our needs and help us experience an abundant life.

John 10:27-28: “My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; no one will snatch them out of my hand.”



But sometimes, just like the sheep in the Maze, we hear other voices ... voices which misguide us and cause us harm.

Jesus—The Light of the World

Jesus called Himself not only the Good Shepherd, but also the Light of the World.

- **John 8:12:** “When Jesus spoke again to the people, he said, ‘I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.’”



Without light, we feel ‘blinded’:

- We can’t see the dangers (I may trip over something and injure myself badly).
- We can’t see our mistakes and rectify them (I may not be able to see the baby putting his finger into a live socket).
- We can’t enjoy many of the things that we were created to enjoy (I may be unable to enjoy the beautiful flowers on the table because it’s too dark to see).



People without Jesus live this way. They live 'blinded' lives:

- With no Shepherd to guide them, they end up taking harmful decisions and hurt themselves in a hundred ways.
- Without the Holy Spirit's correction, they fail to rectify their defects, and fail to enjoy an abundant life.
- Their darkened minds are unable to see the world through God's eyes; and so their minds are filled with negative things that kill their joy.

How Jesus lights up our Lives

- When we invite Jesus into our lives, He begins to throw light on all the hidden dangers. (For instance we may have spoken lies our whole lives. But after the Light of the World enters our hearts, He begins to show us how our lying exposes us to Satan, leading to all kinds of danger).
- When we invite Jesus into our lives, He throws light on our many defects. (For instance I may have always accepted my short-temperedness as a part of my personality. But now I see it as a 'defect', and even as he helps me overcome this defect, I begin to enjoy the sweet fruit of improved relationships).
- When we invite Jesus into our lives, we begin to see things differently—challenges look smaller when we look through God's eyes, and suddenly we begin to walk in much greater victory.

The Light of the World brings light into our lives, wiping away all the darkness of fear, failure, pain and selfishness.



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Luke 12:13-21: "Someone in the crowd said to him, 'Teacher, tell my brother to divide the inheritance with me.' Jesus replied, 'Man, who appointed me a judge or an arbiter between you?' Then he said to them, 'Watch out! Be on your

guard against all kinds of greed; life does not consist in an abundance of possessions.’ And he told them this parable: The ground of a certain rich man produced a good crop. He thought to himself, ‘What shall I do? I have no place to store my crops.’ Then he said, ‘This is what I’ll do. I will tear down my barns and build bigger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods.’ And I’ll say to myself, ‘You have plenty of good things laid up for many years. Take life easy; eat, drink and be merry.’ But God said to him, ‘You fool! This very night your life will be demanded from you. Then who will get what you have prepared for yourself?’ This is how it will be with whoever stores up things for themselves but is not rich toward God.”

“You fool! Tonight you will die. Then who will get what you have stored up?”



What is the main learning that we gain from this Bible passage?

John 11:25-26: Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; and whoever lives by believing in me will never die. Do you believe this?”

If the rich fool had “believed in Jesus” how would it have changed his life?

Jesus narrated the Parable of the Rich Fool when a man asked Jesus' help in dividing property. Do you think it was 'wrong' for the man to seek Jesus' help in this property-matter? Why or Why not?



APPLICATION

How familiar are you with the Good Shepherd's Voice? When you are filled with doubt or fear, do you hear His reassuring voice guiding you?

The more time you spend meditating on God's Word, the greater the chances of becoming acquainted with His still small voice! So make a commitment to spend enough time mediating on the Scriptures daily.

This week I will spend _____ minutes on Bible Study, every day.



This week I will spend _____ minutes on Prayer, every day.



The Holy Spirit is throwing light upon these defects in my life:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Even as He exposes your defects with His holy light, humble yourself and admit that you have sinned. Choose to repent and change yourself in those areas.

These attractions / distractions are taking me away from God

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

*Give up your right to these attractions (even if they are good, wonderful things).
Or else you may drift completely away from the Lord!*



TAKE HOME ACTIVITY

O Death, Where is Thy Victory?

(Taken from Sunday School Resources)

Each of these people had a unique experience with death. Can you name them?



- I was taken into the sky in a chariot made of fire.
- I delivered many messages to the people of Israel.
- I performed many mighty miracles in God's name.
- My student, Elisha, watched as I departed.
- -----
- I lived in Bethany.
- I had two sisters.
- Jesus was a close friend of mine.
- Many people watched as I came out of a tomb.
- -----
- My son, Methuselah, was the longest lived man on earth.
- I lived to be 365 years old.
- I walked with God.
- I was no more, because God took me.
- -----
- I lived on earth 33 years.
- I had no home and no income.
- I was killed by jealous, religious leaders.

- I rose again three days after my death, to die no more.
- -----



FOLLOW UP

(To be filled up before the next class.)

How I practiced the Scripture Lesson during the week:

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____



New Testament

Character of Jesus



LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- To teach on the compassion of Christ.
- To show how fearlessness and time spent with God are connected.
- To emphasise the importance of discipline in our walk with God.



SCRIPTURE PORTIONS

Matthew 14; Matthew 8:24, 17:27; John 15:7-8; Ephesians 3:17-19



MEMORY VERSE

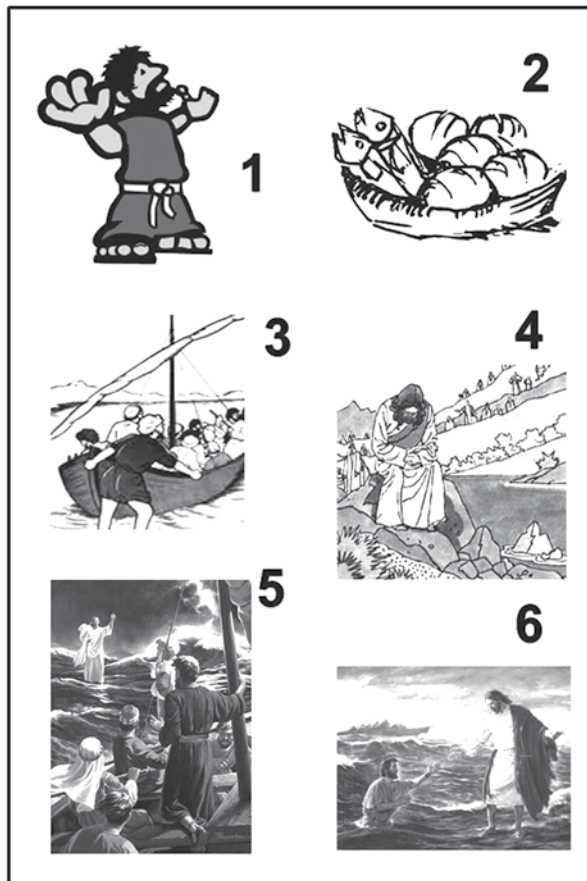
Matthew 14:14: “When Jesus landed and saw a large crowd, he had compassion on them and healed their sick.”



INTRODUCTION

The New Testament Gospels describe Jesus and His teachings in great detail. They help us gain an accurate picture of the Lord. This is important for us because Jesus said, "... Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father ..." (John 14:9). Nobody has ever seen God with their human eyes. So the only way we can understand God is by studying Jesus. Today we will take a brief look at some key aspects of Christ's character, and see how we can emulate Him in our own lives.

MATTHEW CHAPTER 14





DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

After hearing about the murder of His cousin, John the Baptist, Jesus withdrew to a deserted place. Why do you think He did that?

If Jesus wanted to be alone for a little while, why do you think He didn't ask the crowds to leave?

Why do you think Jesus spent the entire night praying, after having such a tiring day? Is it compulsory to spend time with God every single day?



John 15:7-8 (CEV) : “Stay joined to me and let my teachings become part of you. Then you can pray for whatever you want, and your prayer will be answered. When you become fruitful disciples of mine, my Father will be honored.”

The disciples were so afraid to ‘sail’ in the storm that Jesus had to force them. On the other hand, Jesus’ response to the storm was to calmly ‘walk’ on the water! Why do you think the disciples were so scared, while Jesus wasn’t scared at all?



Ephesians 3:17-19: “... And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the saints, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge—that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God.”

Why do you think Peter began to drown in the water after walking a bit? Why couldn't he continue walking just like before?



Why was Jesus upset with Peter when he got scared? Isn't it natural to feel afraid of drowning?



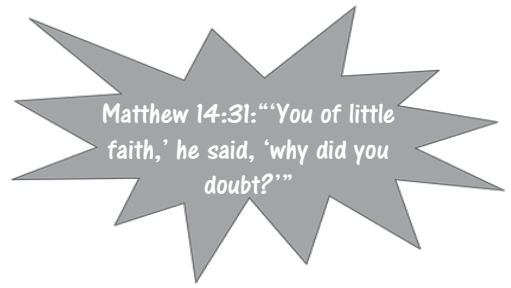
APPLICATION

Let us summarise what we have learnt today:

Jesus is Compassionate

When Jesus sees you hurting or suffering from some problem, He feels “moved with compassion.” He feels an ‘action love’—the kind that makes Him want to do miracles to help you. In the Bible, every time Jesus was moved with compassion, He did a miracle to help the person in need.

However, miracles cannot happen for you, if fear or doubts block God’s power from working in your life. And the fear and doubts will leave only if you have spent enough time with God, receiving a divine revelation of His love.



Jesus Was Fearless While On the Earth

Nothing scared Jesus when He was on the earth.

- When a storm was raging on one occasion, Jesus slept peacefully in the boat because He knew His Father would take care of Him (Matthew 8:24).
- When He didn’t have money to pay taxes, He didn’t feel scared because He knew His Father would miraculously provide the money (Matthew 17:27).
- He didn’t feel scared when powerful and influential people turned against Him, because He knew His Father would protect Him.

Jesus Was Disciplined in Spending Time With God

Jesus felt no fear because He knew God very intimately. He had spent so much time in God’s presence that He knew the length and breadth of God’s love for Him. The revelation of this love gave Him the confidence to face everything without fear.

If you want to be as fearless as Jesus, you must discipline yourself and spend as much time in God's presence. If you do that, you will receive a deeper and deeper revelation of God's love and compassion for you. This revelation will make you trust God to an extent where His power will flow unblocked through your life.

I have given up hope of seeing these Personal / Family Needs met:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

*Did you know that Jesus is "moved with Compassion"
when he sees you in need?
Trust His love once again! Hope once again!
"You of little faith," he said, "why did you doubt?"
(Matthew 14:31)*

Remember this:

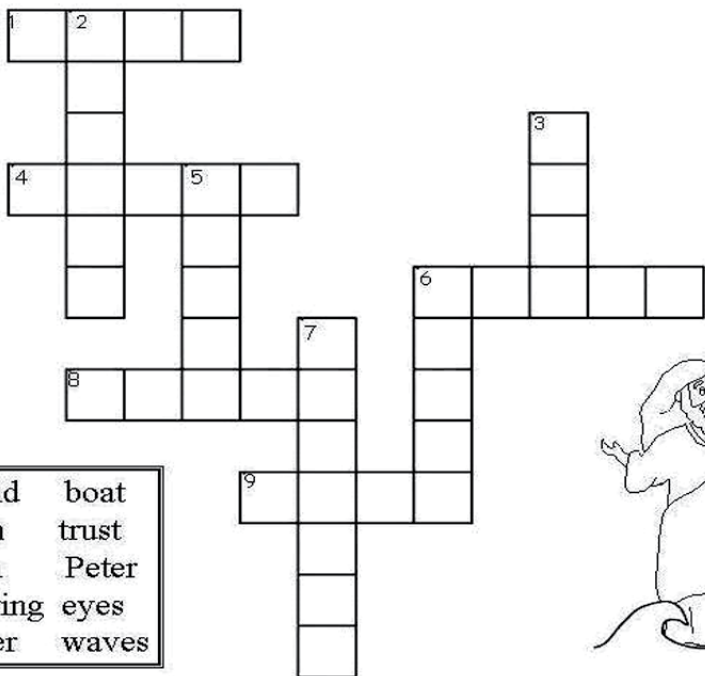
- Fear blocks the Miracles and Power of God.
- Fear and doubt can be removed only through a divine revelation of God's Love.
- Revelation of God's love increases only when we spend enough time with Him.



TAKE HOME ACTIVITY

Jesus Walks on Water

(Taken from DLTk - Growing Together)



afraid	boat
calm	trust
faith	Peter
praying	eyes
water	waves



Across

- As soon as Jesus got into the boat the water became ____.
- When Peter first started to walk on water he had lots of this.
- Jesus (and Peter for a bit) are the only people to ever walk on this.
- The name of the disciple that wanted to go out on the water.
- Peter started to sink when he took these off of Jesus.

Down

- When the disciples first saw Jesus they were ____.
- The disciples were in this when they saw Jesus on the water.
- We can always ____ God to be here for us!
- There were many ____ in the water because it was so windy.
- Jesus wasn't on the boat because he was ____ by himself.



FOLLOW UP

(To be filled up before the next class.)

How I practiced the Scripture Lesson during the week:

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____



New Testament



Spiritual Hypocrisy



LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- To explain why Jesus cursed the fig tree.
- To teach how we can bear fruit.
- To emphasise the importance of remaining in Jesus daily.



SCRIPTURE PORTIONS

Mark 11:12-14, 19-21; John 15:1-17



MEMORY VERSE

1 John 2:4: “The man who says, ‘I know him,’ but does not do what he commands is a liar, and the truth is not in him.”



INTRODUCTION

Over the last four weeks, we studied different aspects of who Jesus is. We saw His deity and His humanity. We studied the different symbols He used to describe Himself (His I Am

Sayings). And we looked at His character. Over the remaining weeks, we will look at some important teachings of Jesus on key themes. This week we will cover New Testament teaching on Fruit Bearing.

THE FIG TREE

Read aloud Mark 11:12-14, 19-21, and discuss:

Why did Jesus curse the fig tree?



According to verse 13, why were there no figs on the tree?

If it wasn't fig season, was it right on Jesus' part to curse the fig tree for not bearing figs?

1 John 2:4-6 (CEV): “But if we claim to know him and don’t obey him, we are lying and the truth isn’t in our hearts. We truly love God only when we obey him as we should, and then we know that we belong to him. If we say we are his, we must follow the example of Christ.”



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

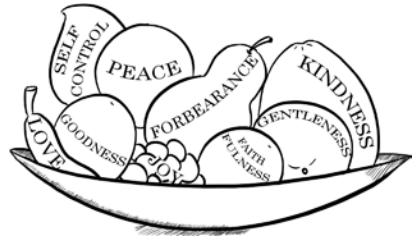
What must we do to bear fruit—so that we don’t get labeled as hypocrites?

John 15:4 (CEV): “Stay joined to me, and I will stay joined to you. Just as a branch cannot produce fruit unless it stays joined to the vine, you cannot produce fruit unless you stay joined to me.”

John 15:10 (CEV): “If you keep my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father’s commands and remain in his love.”

John 15:17 (CEV): “So I command you to love each other.”

What must we do to bear the nine fruit of the Spirit?



Galatians 5:16:
"Walk by the Spirit,
and you will not gratify
the desires of the flesh."

What will happen if I don't 'remain' in Jesus daily?



APPLICATION

This week I will do the following, to show Jesus I want to stay joined to Him:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____



TAKE HOME ACTIVITY

Jesus Cursed the Fig Tree

Can you reach the top of this tree?





FOLLOW UP

(To be filled up before the next class.)

How I practiced the Scripture Lesson during the week:

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____



New Testament



Beatitudes



LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- To teach on the importance of exercising meekness and self-restraint.
- To explain that the Lord is a God of justice.
- To show the significance of being merciful.



SCRIPTURE PORTIONS

Matthew 5:3-12, 6:14-15, 7:9-11, 9:36-38, 18:21-35; Luke 6:20-26, 11:11-13, 18:1-8; Romans 12:19-21



MEMORY VERSE

Matthew 5:5-7: “Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth. Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled. Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy.”



INTRODUCTION

Over the last four weeks, we studied different aspects of who Jesus is. We saw His deity and His humanity. We studied the different symbols He used to describe Himself (His I Am Sayings). And we looked at His character. Over the remaining weeks, we will look at some important teachings of Jesus on key themes. This week we will take a closer look at the Beatitudes that Jesus taught during His Sermon on the Mount.



THE BEATITUDES

Matthew 9:36-38 (CEV): “When he saw the crowds, he felt sorry for them. They were confused and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. He said to his disciples, ‘A large crop is in the fields, but there are only a few workers. Ask the Lord in charge of the harvest to send out workers to bring it in.’”

What is the good news in the Beatitudes?

The good news that Jesus was offering can be described in simple English this way:

“Up to now you have been harassed and helpless. But now that I have arrived, you are blessed!”

The word ‘blessed’ which Jesus used in the beatitudes, means “divinely happy and fortunate.”

In the Beatitudes, Jesus spoke to eight different categories of people and explained to them why they were now “divinely happy and fortunate.”

Beatitudes 3-5:

Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth. Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled. Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy (Matthew 5:5-7).

In these Beatitudes, Jesus seems to be specifically addressing those who have been wronged. He urges them to face the injustice done to them, with the right attitude.

The Meek—An Attitude of Love

In the original Greek Bible, Matthew 5:5 says “Blessed are the praeis.” This Greek word ‘praeis’ was used to describe wild horses that had been tamed. So a meek person is somebody who is incredibly strong. He is strong enough to exercise control over his mind, his tongue and his body!

Jesus seemed to be saying to His audience, “Don’t get tired of being meek! If you’re meek you’re ‘blessed’. Why? Because I own this earth, and as my children, you can inherit all of it! I’ll meet all your needs.”

Those Hungering for Justice—An Attitude of Unflinching Faith in God’s Justice

In the original Greek Bible, Matthew 5:6 speaks of people who hunger for ‘dikaiousune’ Almost every Bible Dictionary that’s currently available, explains this word as ‘justice’.

In Jesus’ times, Jewish religious leaders served as judges. These leaders manipulated the Scriptures to pass judgments that exploited the helpless (Mark 12:40). The common people were too weak and helpless to fight against them. Jesus promised these helpless people that if they were hungry for justice, He would satisfy their deep hunger.

The Merciful—An Attitude of Undeserved Mercy

Mercy is the love and kindness that we show people, when they don't deserve it. Jesus says in this beatitude that it's good to be merciful.

He seems to be saying, "Continue to be merciful even if people don't deserve your kindness, because then you'll be 'divinely happy and fortunate.' Why? Because the next time you don't deserve my mercy, I'll remember what you have done for another, and I'll show you mercy—even though you don't deserve it."

To sum up, this is the good news that Jesus preached to the people:

- We don't have to be rough, rude or violent to get what we need. If we choose to be meek, our Heavenly Father who owns this earth, will provide us with everything we could possibly need!
- We don't have to put up with injustice. If we choose to place our faith in God (and refuse to believe that he would deny us justice), then in His perfect time, the Lord will avenge the wrongs done to us.
- We don't have to worry that if we show people kindness, they'll take advantage of us and 'use' us. If we choose to continue being merciful, we'll experience God's great mercy in our own lives.



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

If the class-bully picks on me, should I be meek and silent? Won't this lead to greater harassment? And won't it make people see me as a weakling?



Romans 12:19-20 (CEV): “Dear friends, don’t try to get even. Let God take revenge. In the Scriptures the Lord says, ‘I am the one to take revenge and pay them back.’ The Scriptures also say, ‘If your enemies are hungry, give them something to eat ...’”

Luke 18:7-8(CEV): “Won’t God protect his chosen ones who pray to him day and night? Won’t he be concerned for them? He will surely hurry and help them. But when the Son of Man comes, will he find on this earth anyone with faith?”

In Luke 6:21,25 Jesus said, “Blessed are you who hunger now, for you will be satisfied ... Woe to you who are well fed now, for you will go hungry.” Does this mean Jesus doesn’t want me to be well-fed?





Jesus once narrated a parable which beautifully brings out the truth contained in the fifth beatitude – “Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy” (Matthew 5:7).

- **Can you guess which parable this is?**
- **How does this parable explain the truths in the beatitude?**

Matthew 6:14-15 (CEV): “If you forgive others for the wrongs they do to you, your Father in heaven will forgive you. But if you don’t forgive others, your Father will not forgive your sins.”



APPLICATION

Have you been hurt or harmed by somebody? Is someone treating you unjustly?

Write down any one incident that comes to mind:

Based on today's lesson, what is the right way to respond to this specific person?

Six things to keep in mind when responding to someone who wrongs us:

1. Do not retaliate or take _____.
2. Show _____ in practical ways to the person who has hurt you.
3. If your life is in danger, then _____

4. If there's no immediate danger, then _____

5. Wait for the Lord to grant _____,
instead of taking the matter into your own hands.
6. Fully expect the Lord to grant you justice. Don't have any
_____ that He will do so.



FOLLOW UP

(To be filled up before the next class.)

How I practiced the Scripture Lesson during the week:

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____



TAKE HOME ACTIVITY

The Beatitudes

(Taken from Biblewise.com)

Find the following words in the grid below.

Children of God

Mourners

Meek

Be filled

Kingdom of heaven

Merciful

Happy

See God

Be comforted

Jesus

Thirsty

Obtain Mercy

Peacemakers

Beatitudes

Persecuted

Righteous

Inherit the earth

Disciples

Hungry

Pure in heart

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



New Testament



Kingdom of God



LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- To show that God is king over even the most powerful people of the earth.
- To teach that the Kingdom of God offers protection against Satan.
- To motivate students to exercise their authority as citizens of God's Kingdom.



SCRIPTURE PORTIONS

Daniel 4; Psalms 37:12-13; John 12:31, 14:30, 16:33; Genesis 1:28; 1 John 5:18-19; James 5:16; Mark 11:23-24

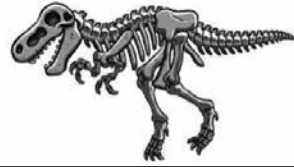


MEMORY VERSE

Daniel 4:17: "... the Most High is sovereign over the kingdoms of men and gives them to anyone he wishes and sets over them the lowliest of men."

Proof They Existed

200 years ago, people said that dinosaurs were imaginary creatures.



100 years ago, people said giant snails don't exist.

150 years ago, people said Jonah's visit to Nineveh was an imaginary story.



70 years ago, people said King David was a fictional character in the Bible.

70 years ago, scholars said the Bible story of Nebuchadnezzar's mental illness was fiction.





DISCUSSION QUESTIONS


Psalms 37:12-13 says, “The wicked plot against the righteous and gnash their teeth at them; but the Lord laughs at the wicked, for he knows their day is coming.” In what way are these verses similar to what happened to Nebuchadnezzar?



In India a lot of very powerful persons are planning and scheming to bring down Christians. What do you think God’s response is towards them?




Who is the ruler of the world today? God or Satan? Are we safe?



John 12:31 (CEV): “This world’s people are now being judged, and the ruler of this world is already being thrown out!”

John 14:30 (CEV): “I cannot speak with you much longer, because the ruler of this world is coming. But he has no power over me.”

If I carefully avoid sin and live for God, will I be perfectly shielded from all harm?



John 16:33 (CEV): “I have told you this, so that you might have peace in your hearts because of me. While you are in the world, you will have to suffer. But cheer up! I have defeated the world.”



APPLICATION

We belong to the Kingdom of God if we have accepted Jesus as Lord and Saviour. Satan has no hold over us.

1 John 5:18-19: “We are sure that God’s children do not keep on sinning. God’s own Son protects them, and the devil cannot harm them. We are certain that we come from God and that the rest of the world is under the power of the devil.”

Open doors that I need to close, to keep Satan out:

(Sinful thoughts, attitudes, speech, actions)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

When we are not living in sin, (or when we repent and return to God), we have the right to exercise our authority in Christ:

- Pray to the Lord for help, as the prayers of a righteous person are very effective (James 5:16).
- Then boldly speak to the mountain (your problem) and command it to be moved (Mark 11:23-24).

If you belong to the Kingdom of God you have the authority to live in victory because your Lord and King has “overcome the world” on your behalf.

People I want to bring into God’s Kingdom through my witness:

(Write down at least one name.)

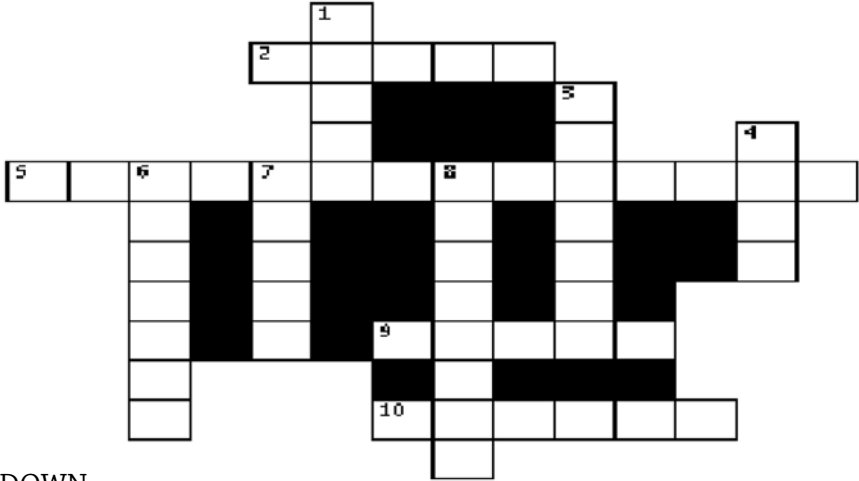
1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

**Ask the Lord to
show you creative
ways to share the
Gospel with these
people.**



TAKE HOME ACTIVITY

Nebuchadnezzar Humbled (Daniel 4:28-37)



6 DOWN

“The king spoke saying ‘Is this not the great _____ that I have built for a royal dwelling by my mighty power and for the honor of my majesty?’” Daniel 4:30.

8 DOWN

The voice said, “King Nebuchadnezzar, to you it is spoken: the kingdom has _____ from you!” Daniel 4:31.

2 ACROSS

“He was driven from men and ate _____ like oxen” Daniel 4:33.

4 DOWN

“His body was wet with the dew of heaven till his _____ had grown like eagles’ feathers” Daniel 4:33.

7 DOWN

“His nails were like birds’ _____” Daniel 4:33.

5 ACROSS

The king declared, “At the end of the time I, _____, lifted my eyes to heaven, and my understanding returned to me” Daniel 4:34.

3 DOWN

“I _____ the Most High and praised and honored Him who lives forever”
Daniel 4:34.

10 ACROSS

“At the same time my _____ was returned to me, and for the glory of my
kingdom, my honor and splendor returned to me” Daniel 4:36.

1 DOWN

He then declared, “Now I, Nebuchadnezzar, praise and extol and honor the
King of heaven, all of whose works are _____, and His ways justice” Daniel
4:37.

9 ACROSS

“Those who walk in _____ He is able to abase” Daniel 4:37.



FOLLOW UP

(To be filled up before the next class.)

How I practiced the Scripture Lesson during the week:

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

