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The Cross Of *Christ*

Cross in the Old Testament



LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- To show how Jesus and the Cross are reflected in the Passover of the Old Testament.
- To motivate children to get rid of the ‘yeast’ in their lives.



SCRIPTURE PORTIONS

Exodus 12; John 6:54-58; 1 Corinthians 5:7



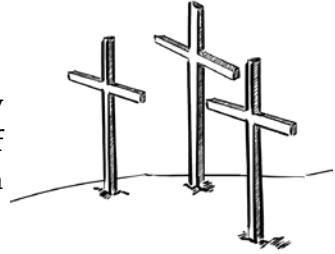
MEMORY VERSE

1 Corinthians 5:7: “Get rid of the old yeast, so that you may be a new batch without yeast—as you really are. For Christ, our Passover lamb, has been sacrificed.”



INTRODUCTION

Many people think that Jesus accidentally died on the Cross when things got out of control and the religious leaders had Him killed. But this is wrong thinking!



God planned to sacrifice Jesus so that He could save us; and He prepared this plan even before the world was created! In fact God launched this salvation plan into action, in the Garden of Eden itself. (You would have studied this in detail at the Primary and Junior Levels.) After launching His plan, the Lord began to place many ‘shadows’ along the way, all of them pointing towards Jesus who would come one appointed day.

The Shadow of an Object helps us understand what the Real Object looks like.

The First Passover, which took place in Egypt, was like a shadow. This incident pointed towards Jesus, who would Himself become the Passover Lamb one day.

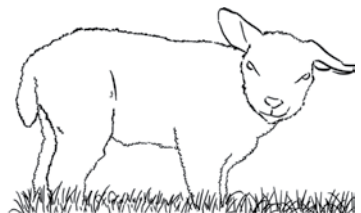
We will study this event in greater detail today.

Final Night in Egypt—the Passover Lamb

In Exodus Chapter 12, the Lord explained to the Israelites what they were to do on the final night in Egypt.

A lamb was chosen.

Exodus 12:3: “Tell the people of Israel that on the tenth day of this month the head of each family must **choose a lamb or a young goat** for his family to eat.”



The lamb was slaughtered.

Exodus 12:6: “Each family must take care of its animal until the evening of the fourteenth day of the month, **when the animals are to be killed.**”

Blood was applied on door frames.

Exodus 12:7: “Some of **the blood must be put on the two doorposts** and above the door of each house where the animals are to be eaten.”

The slaughtered lamb was eaten with Bread without Yeast.

Exodus 12:8: “That night **the animals are to be roasted and eaten, together with** bitter herbs and thin bread made without yeast.”

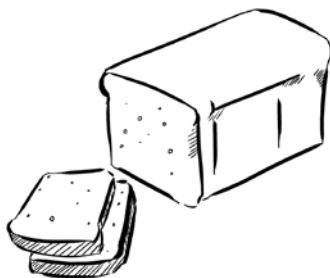


Angel of Death “Passed Over” after the meal.

Exodus 12:12: “That same night **I will pass through Egypt and kill the first-born son** in every family and the first-born male of all animals.”

Bread without Yeast eaten for the next Seven Days.

Exodus 12:15: “For **seven days** you must eat bread made without yeast.”



Festival of Unleavened Bread to be celebrated every year.

Exodus 12:17 (NIV): “Celebrate the Festival of Unleavened Bread, because it was on this very day that I brought your divisions out of Egypt. **Celebrate this day as a lasting ordinance** for the generations to come.”

Because of the Lord's command, the Festival of Unleavened Bread was sincerely celebrated every year, right up to the time of Jesus. It's even celebrated today, by Jews all over the world.

The First Passover was a SHADOW

The Shadow of an Object helps us understand what the Real Object looks like.

The First Passover, which took place in Egypt, was like a shadow. This incident pointed towards Jesus, who would Himself become the Passover Lamb one day.

1 Corinthians 5:7 says, "Get rid of the old yeast! Then you will be like fresh bread made without yeast, and that is what you are. Our Passover lamb is Christ, who has already been sacrificed."

This verse connects the Passover Meal and the Festival of Unleavened Bread directly to Jesus Christ.



The REAL OBJECT—Jesus the Passover Lamb

The Festival of Unleavened Bread was celebrated by the Israelites every year, **in the first month of Abib**, also called Month of Nisan.

We see many similarities between the Original Passover Story and the events that took place 1470 years later, at the time of Jesus' Death:

One important fact you should know:

Jewish days start and end at sunset.

Day	Passover (lasts seven days)	How Jesus celebrated the Passover
Saturday, Abib 9 (dusk Friday-dusk Saturday)		Jesus arrived in Bethany.
Sunday, Abib 10 (dusk Saturday-dusk Sunday)	The Passover Lamb is selected.	Jesus rode into Jerusalem.
Monday, Abib 11 (dusk Sunday-dusk Monday)	The Passover Lamb is kept until the day of sacrifice.	
Tuesday, Abib 12 (dusk Monday-dusk Tuesday)		
Wednesday, Abib 13 (dusk Tuesday-dusk Wednesday)		Jesus had His last meal with His disciples.
Thursday, Abib 14 (dusk Wednesday-dusk Thursday)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jesus was betrayed by Judas. • Jesus was taken prisoner. • Peter denied Jesus 3 times. <p>(all before dawn)</p>
	Preparation Day for the Passover Festival.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Christ examined by chief priests. • Christ handed to Pilate / Herod
	Faultless lambs were killed. Passover meal eaten at dusk.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Christ was crucified (9 am) • Christ died (3 pm) • Christ was buried before sunset. • Women went home to prepare spices and ointments.

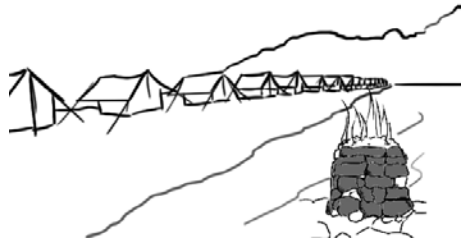
Friday, Abib 15 (dusk Thursday-dusk Friday)	Passover meal completed. (1st Day of the Feast of Unleavened Bread.)	
Saturday, Abib 16 (dusk Friday-dusk Saturday)	Weekly Sabbath (2 nd Day of the Feast of Unleavened Bread.)	The women stayed at home, to observe the Sabbath.
Sunday, Abib 17 (dusk Saturday-dusk Sunday)	3 rd Day of the Feast of Unleavened Bread. (Day of First fruits.)	Christ is resurrected (before dawn) The women arrive at the empty tomb. Jesus appears on Emmaus road (late afternoon).



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Hebrews 13:11 says, “After the high priest offers the blood of animals as a sin offering, the bodies of those animals are burned outside the camp.”

Why do you think the Passover Lamb was burnt ‘outside’ the city, after the sacrifice?



Video Presentation

Video Link: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iUrgYoSJ-Kc>

Duration: 6 minutes and 42 seconds

The Passover Festival is one of the most important festivals of the Jews today. Yet many of them don't even know the meaning of the ceremony!

Why do you think the Passover bread is broken? What is your answer?

What do you think is the connection between Jesus' broken body and us? How did the breaking of His body help us?



Psalms 38:3-4: "My body hurts all over because of your anger. Even my bones are in pain, and my sins are so heavy that I am crushed."

Deuteronomy 28:65-67: "You will be restless—always longing for home, but never able to return. You will live in constant fear of death. Each morning you will wake up to such terrible sights that you will say, 'I wish it were night!' But at night you will be terrified and say, 'I wish it were day!'"

Isaiah 53:3-4: "He was hated and rejected; his life was filled with sorrow and terrible suffering. No one wanted to look at him. We despised him and said, 'He is a nobody!' He suffered and endured great pain for us, but we thought his suffering was punishment from God."



APPLICATION

The Jewish people eat a Passover Lamb each year, even today, not realising that it is just a ‘Shadow’ of Jesus.

However, 1 Corinthians 5:7 orders us to celebrate the Passover in a different way today:

“Get rid of the old yeast, so that you may be a new batch without yeast—as you really are. For Christ, our Passover lamb, has been sacrificed.”

The ‘yeast’ represents ‘sinfulness.’ The Bible urges us to get rid of all our sinfulness, and follow the Passover Lamb with holiness.

Traces of ‘Yeast’ that I see in my life:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

**Honour the Passover Lamb
by getting rid of all the
‘Yeast’ in your life.**



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

The Cross of Christ

(Taken from Calvary Kids Pages)

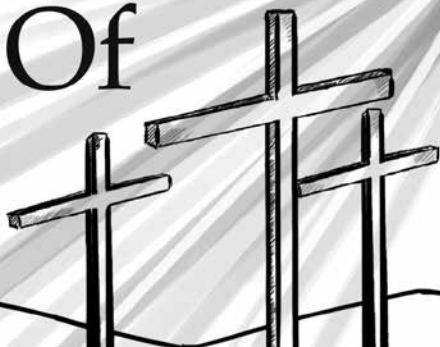
Start

JOHN 14:6

JESUS SAID: I AM THE WAY, THE TRUTH, AND THE LIFE.
NO ONE COMES TO THE FATHER EXCEPT THROUGH ME.



The Cross Of *Christ*



Jesus Talked About the Cross



LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- To teach that Jesus compared His crucifixion to the “lifting up” of the bronze snake.
- To explain why Jesus was willing to compare Himself to a snake.
- To motivate a response of faith in, and obedience towards, Jesus Christ.



SCRIPTURE PORTIONS

Numbers 21:4-9; John 3:1-20; Galatians 3:13 (The Bronze Serpent)



MEMORY VERSE

John 3:14-15: “Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the desert, so the Son of Man must be lifted up, that everyone who believes in him may have eternal life.”

What Jesus Said About the Cross

Jesus compared His crucifixion to the “lifting up” of the bronze serpent in the desert:

- Why did Jesus compare Himself to a snake? Why not a more pleasant animal?
- When did Jesus talk about this comparison?
- What was He trying to teach when He made this comparison?

We will discover the answers to these questions in today’s session.

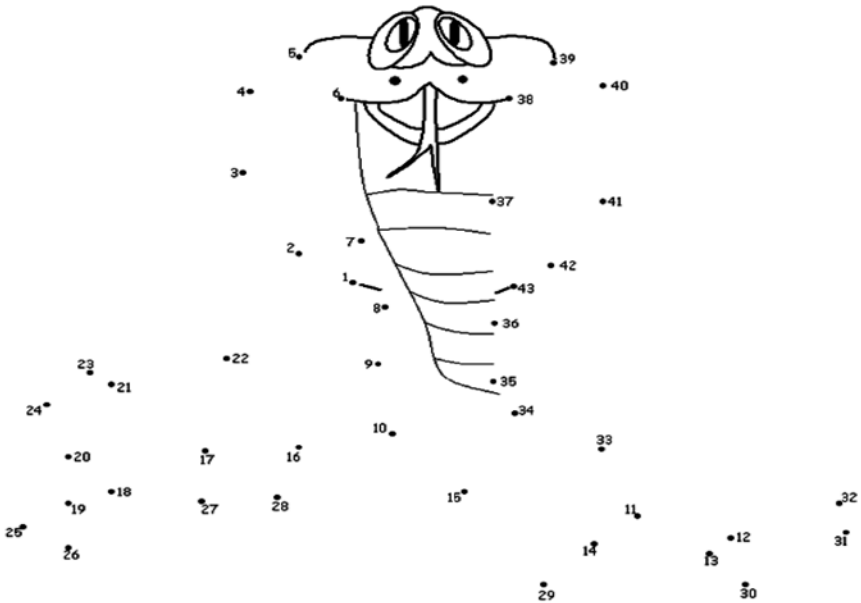
SSNAKE RIDDDLES

(Taken from Kid Zone)

Match the right answer to the right question:

1.	What subject are snakes good at, in school?	A mega-bite	
2.	What kind of snake is good at math?	A pie-thon	
3.	What did the snake give to his wife?	Hiss and make up	
4.	What do you get if you cross a snake with a pie?	An Adder	
5.	What do snakes do after they fight?	A goodnight hiss	
6.	What do snakes write at the bottom of their letters?	Hiss-tory	
7.	What is another word for a python?	With Love and Hisses	

Complete the Ssssnake



Reflection Questions

- Are snakes evil?
- If snakes are not evil, then why do Christians have such a bad impression about them?



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Video Presentation

Video Link: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rL-wsfE10gE>

Duration: 1 minute and 29 seconds

Based on the video, can you make a wild guess as to why Jesus compared Himself to a snake?

For instance, why couldn't God order Moses to make a "bronze lamb," instead of a bronze snake?

(Encourage the children to make guesses.)



Why did Jesus compare Himself to a snake?

Galatians 3:13 "But Christ rescued us from the Law's curse, when he became a curse in our place ..."

Following the same line of thought, can you guess why Jesus cried out on the cross, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?"

First, guess why God forsook Him.

Second, guess why He addressed His Father as 'God.' (On all previous occasions, He had addressed Him as 'Father.')

My God, my God,
why have you
forsaken me



According to the video, does salvation come by doing good works?

I must keep giving money to the poor so that I can go to heaven



1 Corinthians 1:18 says, "The message about the cross doesn't make any sense to lost people. But for those of us who are being saved, it is God's power at work."

Why do you think people regard the message of the cross as foolishness?

If believing in Jesus is enough to gain salvation, should we give up doing good works? What does the video say about this?

Our good works don't take us to heaven. We can only go there when we believe Jesus died on the cross for us.



APPLICATION

The Egyptians worshipped snakes, regarding them as symbols of fertility and power. However, the Israelites saw snakes very differently; they thought of them as the creatures that God had ‘cursed.’

So you can imagine their surprise when Moses commanded, “If you look at the bronze snake, your life will be saved.” They must have wondered why Moses wanted them to put their trust in a ‘cursed’ snake!

Today, however, we know why Jesus compared Himself to something so ‘cursed’ and ‘rejected!’

What is our response to what He has done?

- Jesus took the curse for our sins upon Himself, giving us His righteousness instead.
- However, this righteousness becomes ours only if we believe in Him much the same way the Israelites looked at the bronze serpent and were saved.

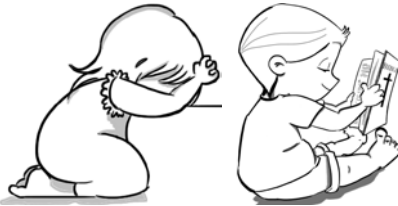
My Response

Do I think that believing in Jesus is enough to get saved?

Or do I feel that good works must be added to Jesus' work on the cross?

The "good works" I'll do this week to show my gratitude!!

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



FOLLOW UP

(To be filled up before the next class.)

How I practiced the Scripture Lesson during this week:

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

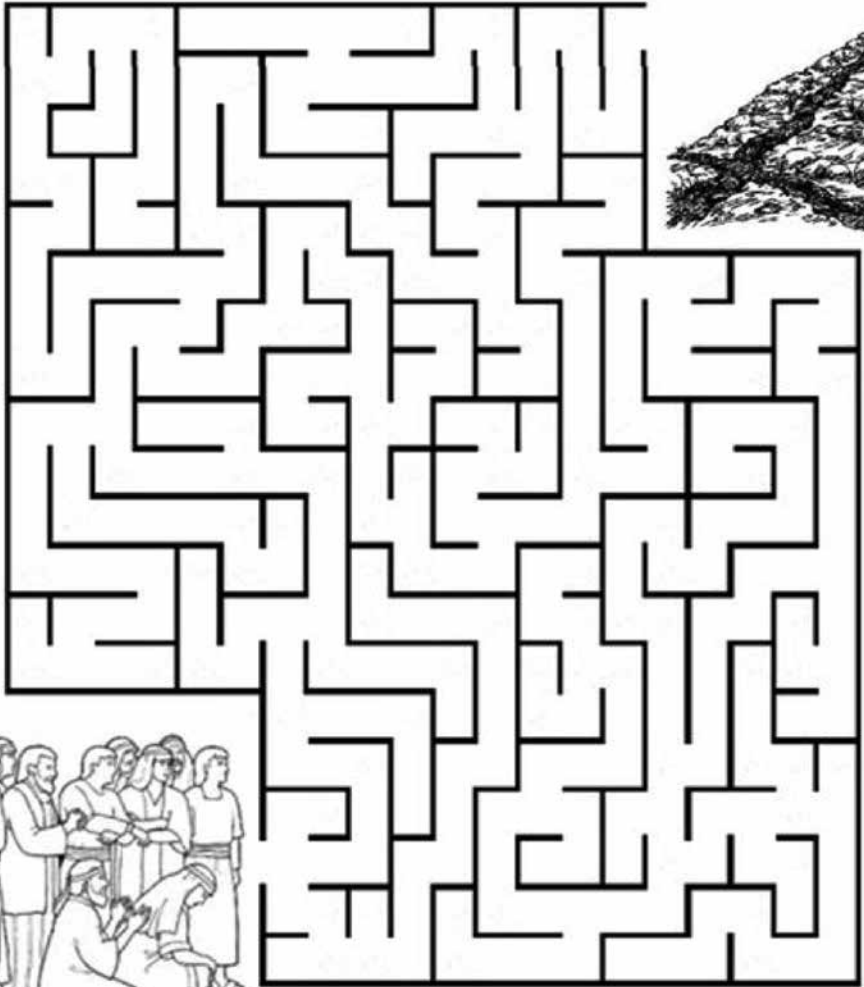
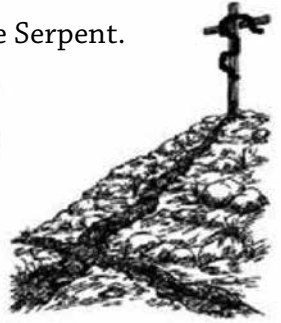


TAKE HOME ACTIVITY

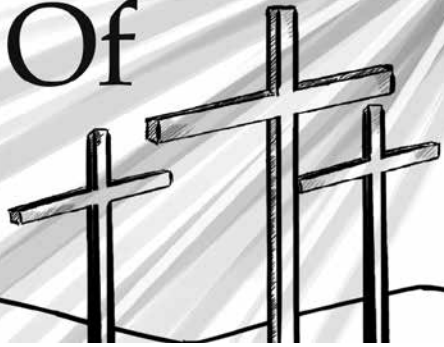
The Bronze Serpent

(Taken from Gods Acres)

Help the Children of Israel find the Bronze Serpent.



The Cross Of *Christ*



Wisdom of the Cross—Redemption



LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- To show how Jesus took our place, and freed us from the control of sin.
- To teach why Jesus chose to become the Second Adam.
- To motivate children to feed their spirit rather than their flesh.



SCRIPTURE PORTIONS

Romans 5:12, 19; 7:25–8:6; 1 John 3:5-6; Titus 2:13-14
(Jesus—Second Adam)



MEMORY VERSE

Romans 5:19: “For just as through the disobedience of the one man the many were made sinners, so also through the obedience of the one man the many will be made righteous.”

How God’s Wisdom was Displayed

First Adam

Adam and Eve’s sin in the Garden of Eden had far-reaching consequences. Not only did their disobedience harm their own lives, but it messed up things for the rest of their descendants as well. Adam brought sin into this world, causing the entire human race **to sin and suffer death**.

Romans 5:12: “Adam sinned, and that sin brought death into the world. Now everyone has sinned, and so everyone must die.”



Second Adam

Jesus Christ chose to become the Second Adam, so that He could set right the damage caused by the First Adam. On the cross, Jesus **defeated the power of sin and death**, thereby launching a great restoration process.

In this way, God displayed His great wisdom—using the Cross to undo all the damage caused by the First Adam. We will now study this in greater detail.

First Adam vs Second Adam

What the First Adam did TO US

When Adam sinned, “sin entered the world” (Romans 5:12). As a result, we all became infected with a sinful nature.

The Bible clearly teaches that we are born with a sinful nature.



David says in Psalms 51:5, “I have sinned and done wrong since the day I was born.”

Because of our sinful nature, the only future available to us is a life of sin followed by punishment in hell. We are unable to live righteous lives because of our sinful nature. And we are unable to earn entry into heaven by being completely holy.

Ecclesiastes 7:20: “No one in this world always does right.”

James 2:10: “If you obey every law except one, you are still guilty of breaking them all.”

So the First Adam ‘gifted’ us with:

- A sinful nature that makes us sin.
- And all our sins make us end up in hell, separated from God forever.

What the Second Adam did FOR US

Jesus became what we are, by taking our place. We call this ‘Substitution.’

On the Cross, Jesus substituted for us in two ways:

- **First**, He took all our sins upon Himself, and suffered the punishment for them.
- **Second**, He defeated the power of sin and death over our lives.

*Defeated the power
of sin and death*



Power of Sin and Death Broken

When we accept Jesus as Lord and Saviour, He gives us a new nature that desires to obey Him.

2 Corinthians 5:17: “Anyone who belongs to Christ is a new person. The past is forgotten, and everything is new.”

Philippians 2:13: “God is working in you to make you willing and able to obey him.”

So, the Bible explains that while the First Adam made all of us sinners, the Second Adam is making all of us righteous, by becoming our substitute and taking our place.

Romans 5:19: “Adam disobeyed God and caused many others to be sinners. But Jesus obeyed him and will make many people acceptable to God.”



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1 John 3:5-6: “But you know that he appeared so that he might take away our sins. And in him is no sin. No one who lives in him keeps on sinning. No one who continues to sin has either seen him or known him.”

According to these verses, believers DO NOT continue to sin. But we know of Christians who live in habitual sin, unable to give up their sinful habits.

Does this mean such Christians never truly became believers? If they are true believers, then why are they unable to break out of their habits?

Video Presentation

Video Link: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nfYozOjI30Q&feature=related>

Duration: 4 minute and 38 seconds

According to the video, was Paul living in habitual sin? How can we explain his words in Romans 7:19?

Romans 7:19: For I do not do the good I want to do, but the evil I do not want to do—this I keep on doing.

***Romans 7:25 – 8:2:** “Thank God! Jesus Christ will rescue me. So with my mind I serve the Law of God, although my selfish desires make me serve the law of sin. If you belong to Christ Jesus, you won’t be punished. The Holy Spirit will give you life that comes from Christ Jesus and will set you free from sin and death.”*

***Romans 8:5-6:** “People who are ruled by their desires think only of themselves. Everyone who is ruled by the Holy Spirit thinks about spiritual things. If our minds are ruled by our desires, we will die. But if our minds are ruled by the Spirit, we will have life and peace.”*

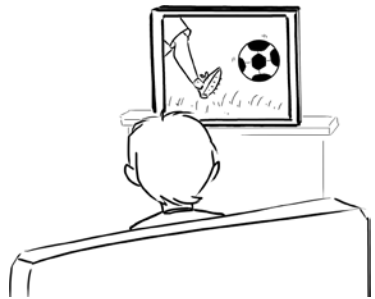
The video talks about Christians who “feed the flesh.” What does this term mean?

How do Christians usually feed the flesh? Can you think of some common examples?

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____



How does the Cross help us to grow spiritually strong? What is the connection between the Cross and our spirits?

1 Peter 2:24: "Christ carried the burden of our sins. He was nailed to the cross, so that we would stop sinning and start living right."

Coming back to the first question, why do some Christians live in habitual sin, unable to give up their sinful habits? How can they break out of their sinful cycle?

How weak Christians can strengthen their spirits:

1. They must pray to the Lord, asking Him to give them His power to resist sin.
2. They must give up contact with worldly things and worldly people that are tempting them to sin.
3. They must start responding obediently every time the Holy Spirit whispers in their hearts to do/not do certain things.



4. They must start strengthening their spirit through regular Bible study and prayer.



5. They must fellowship with believers who can help them grow in God.



APPLICATION

The First Adam made all of us sinful.

- But Jesus became the Second Adam so that He could make all of us holy.

When we feed our sinful desires, we continue to be like the First Adam.

- But when we feed our spirit we start becoming more and more like the Second Adam.

Some things/people in my life that are feeding my ‘flesh’:

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

Some practical things I will do this week to strengthen my spirit:

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



TAKE HOME ACTIVITY

First Adam vs Last Adam: A Comparison

1. The First Adam was created (Genesis 1:27).

The Last Adam is the _____

Colossians 1:16: “Everything was created by him, everything in heaven and on earth ... All things were created by God’s Son, and everything was made for him.”

2. The First Adam wanted to become like God (Genesis 3:4-5).

The Last Adam became a _____

John 1:14: “The Word became a human being and lived here with us ...”

3. The First Adam believed a lie (John 8:44).

The Last Adam is the _____

John 14:6: “I am the way, the truth, and the life!” Jesus answered ...”

4. The First Adam disobeyed (Genesis 3:17).

The Last Adam _____

Philippians 2:8: “Christ was humble. He obeyed God and even died on a cross.”

5. The First Adam brought death to the living (Romans 5:12).

The Last Adam brought _____ to the dying.

John 5:24: “I tell you for certain that everyone who hears my message and has faith in the one who sent me has eternal life and will never be condemned. They have already gone from death to life.”



FOLLOW UP

(To be filled up before the next class.)

How I practiced the Scripture Lesson during this week:

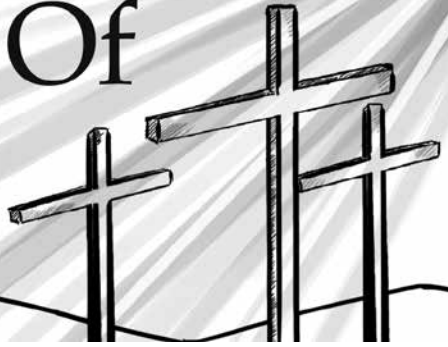
1. _____

2. _____

3. _____



The Cross Of *Christ*



Power of the Cross



LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- To teach that Christ annulled Satan's power over our lives.
- To explain what kind of authority we possess over Satan.
- To instruct on what we must do to grow in Spiritual Authority.



SCRIPTURE PORTIONS

Hebrews 2:14-15; Colossians 2:14-15; 1 John 3:8; John 14:12 (Spiritual Authority)



MEMORY VERSE

Words scramble on Page contains the Memory Verse.

Our Spiritual Authority

Video Presentation

Video Link: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=94DWOKr-laE>

Duration: 4 minutes 04 seconds

As explained in the video, why did Satan lose the spiritual authority given to him?

When man was originally created, who had more authority? Man or Satan?

Why did man lose his authority?

Why did man's lost authority get shifted to Satan?

Why couldn't Satan gain control over Jesus?



Why did Jesus allow Himself to be killed?

According to the video, who has the spiritual authority now? Satan or humans?

Do ALL humans enjoy spiritual authority over Satan, now?

According to the video, what is the position of people who have not entered the Kingdom of Light? Do they have any authority?

What the Scriptures say

Hebrews 2:14-15: “We are people of flesh and blood. That is why Jesus became one of us. He died to destroy the devil, who had power over death. But he also died to rescue all of us who live each day in fear of dying.”

According to these verses, why did Jesus become a human being?

Colossians 2:14-15: “God wiped out the charges that were against us for disobeying the Law of Moses. He took them away and nailed them to the cross. There Christ defeated all powers and forces. He let the whole world see them being led away as prisoners when he celebrated his victory.”

According to these verses, what was standing against us and condemning us?



The Scriptures specifically teach that we have Spiritual Authority in the following areas:

1. We have Authority over _____

1 John 3:8: “Anyone who keeps on sinning belongs to the devil. He has sinned from the beginning, but the Son of God came to destroy all that he has done.”

Sometimes sickness and disease **is brought directly by the demons.**

We have authority to destroy such satanic works, in the Name of Jesus.

2. We have Authority over _____

2 Corinthians 4:4: “The god who rules this world has blinded the minds of unbelievers. They cannot see the light, which is the good news about our glorious Christ, who shows what God is like.”

Sometimes **even after sharing the Gospel, we may fail to see any change.**

That person is unable to joyfully accept the Gospel because satan has blinded them.

You can exercise your spiritual authority to bind the demons that are ‘blinding’ the person.

3. We have Authority over _____ and _____

Mark 4:39: “Jesus got up and ordered the wind and the waves to be quiet. The wind stopped, and everything was calm.”

John 14:12: “I tell you for certain that if you have faith in me, you will do the same things that I am doing. You will do even greater things, now that I am going back to the Father.”



It was not **God’s will for those in the boat to die yet.**

So Jesus took charge of the situation and commanded the wind and waves to calm down.

Today, if something is obstructing God's will in your life, you have the authority to cancel it in Jesus' Name.



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Authority over Demonic Works

If we have the spiritual authority to cancel demonic works like sickness and disease, why are so many Christians sick?

Authority over Demonic Influences

If I have the spiritual authority to pray that "spiritual blindness" (which is a demonic work) is removed, why do some people continue resisting the Gospel in spite of my prayers?



Authority over Circumstances and Situations

Can we control all situations and circumstances through our spiritual authority? For instance, if a teacher at school has been treating me badly, can I use spiritual authority to transform the situation?





APPLICATION

We need Four Essentials to effectively exercise Spiritual Authority. They include:

- Intimacy with God
- Obedience
- Faith
- Fasting Prayer

These four things draw us closer to God, helping us grow spiritually.

When we grow in God, we are able to exercise greater authority.

What I am willing to do this week, to grow closer to God:

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

Areas of my life, where I need to be more obedient:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

What I am willing to do this week, to grow closer to God:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Areas of my life, where I need to be more obedient:

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. _____

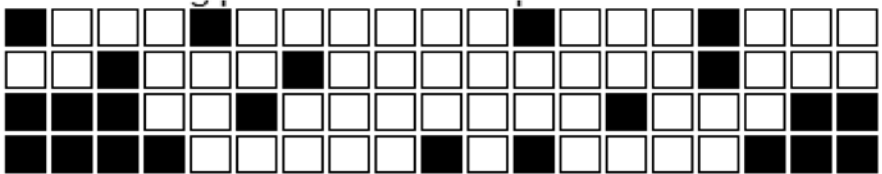
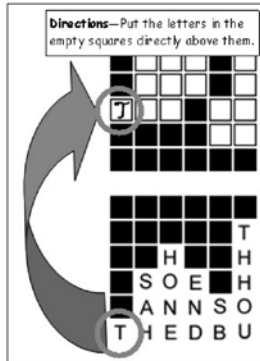


TAKE HOME ACTIVITY

Memory Verse

(Created online at GospelHall.org)

The following puzzle is a “Dropped Verse.” All of the letters in the white squares have fallen to the ground. Raise them back up into their places to see what the Memory Verse says.



Write down the Memory Verse:

1 John 3:8 _____

DON'T FORGET TO MEMORISE THE MEMORY VERSE!



The Cross Of *Christ*

From the Cross to the Throne



LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- To teach that Jesus is now our Mediator and Intercessor.
- To explain why and how Jesus intercedes for us.



SCRIPTURE PORTIONS

Job 9:32-35; 2 Corinthians 5:21, 8:9; 1 Peter 2:24; Galatians 3:13-14; Revelation 12:10; Romans 2:3-11; Isaiah 59:1-2; Psalms 66:18; 1 Peter 3:7, 12 (Jesus Our Mediator and Intercessor)



MEMORY VERSE

Romans 8:34: Who then is the one who condemns? No one. Christ Jesus who died—more than that, who was raised to life—is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us.



INTRODUCTION

After sacrificing Himself on the cross for us and returning to heaven, Jesus did not forget us. He continues to work on our behalf even today. We will now study in what way Jesus is ministering to us at present.

Video Presentation

Video Link: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bSUyi4PYt7s&feature=related>

Duration: Play from 3:26 to 5:15 (The rest of the video is not very relevant to our discussion).

As seen in the video, what did Job's friends accuse him of?

Do you think Job's friends were correct in their accusations? Was Job really harboring any unconfessed sins?



In the video, what does Job wish that God would do?

The Mediator

- The false accusations made Job wish he could stand before God face to face and prove his innocence.
- However, at the same time, he also felt scared at the thought of standing in front of an all-powerful, utterly holy God.

Job realised, “God isn’t a mere human like me. I can’t put him on trial” (Job 9:32).

This made him wish he had someone who could help ... someone he could send to God to discuss his case—because he lacked the courage to face God by himself.

Job said, “If only there were someone to arbitrate (mediate) between us, to lay his hand upon us both, someone to remove God’s rod from me, so that his terror would frighten me no more. Then I would speak up without fear of him, but as it now stands with me, I cannot” (Job 9:33-35).

*Such a person is called a ‘mediator.’
The mediator assists the weak, helpless person
by speaking on his behalf.*

Jesus Our Mediator

In New Testament times, Jesus came to the earth to serve as our mediator. He is a Perfect Mediator because He is equal with humans and equal with God.

Jesus is Equal with Humans

Because Jesus became completely human in every way, He is able to understand our difficulties and problems very well.

- On earth Jesus ‘experienced’ first-hand the deep pain of watching a loved one die.
- His stomach rumbled when there wasn’t enough food at home.
- His own brothers used to make fun of Him and call Him a crazy fool.
- And on one occasion, He struggled so hard to overcome temptation that He sweated drops of blood!

Jesus is Equal with God

Jesus is also a perfect mediator for us because He is equal with God! He doesn't need to feel scared about facing God (the way Job did), because He is equal with God!

Jesus Our Intercessor

Jesus is now sitting at the right hand of the Father interceding for us. He wants to give us everything He has, all the riches of glory, through His death.

- He was made sin—so we could be righteous and receive forgiveness (2 Corinthians 5:21).
- He took our sickness—by His stripes we are healed (1 Peter 2:24).
- He became Poor—so that we can be rich (2 Corinthians 8:9).
- He took the curse—so we could receive all His blessings (Galatians 3:13-14).

So Jesus is now both a perfect mediator and a perfect intercessor for us!



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Video Presentation

Video Link: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yJNr4zLVRz4>

Duration: 2 minutes 5 seconds

According to the video, why do we need an intercessor?

He said he would stop swearing but he hasn't!



He is my child



Revelation 12:10: "... Satan accused our people in the presence of God day and night ...".

Does this mean we can get away with any sinful deed? Will the Father simply forgive us—irrespective of what we do?

I allowed my Son to be sacrificed on the Cross so that I can forgive you



Romans 2:4: "... Don't you know that the reason God is good to you is because he wants you to turn to him?"

Romans 2:3-11: “Do you really think God won’t punish you, when you behave exactly like the people you accuse? You surely don’t think much of God’s wonderful goodness or of his patience and willingness to put up with you. Don’t you know that the reason God is good to you is because he wants you to turn to him? But you are stubborn and refuse to turn to God. So you are making things even worse for yourselves on that day when he will show how angry he is and will judge the world with fairness.

God will reward each of us for what we have done. He will give eternal life to everyone who has patiently done what is good in the hope of receiving glory, honor, and life that lasts forever. But he will show how angry and furious he can be with every selfish person who rejects the truth and wants to do evil. All who are wicked will be punished with trouble and suffering. It doesn’t matter if they are Jews or Gentiles. But all who do right will be rewarded with glory, honor, and peace, whether they are Jews or Gentiles. God doesn’t have any favorites!”

In the video, Satan whispers to the preacher after he has sinned, “You hypocrite, do you think God will hear your prayers?” Does God hear our prayers when we are living in sin?

You hypocrite, do you think God will hear your prayers?!

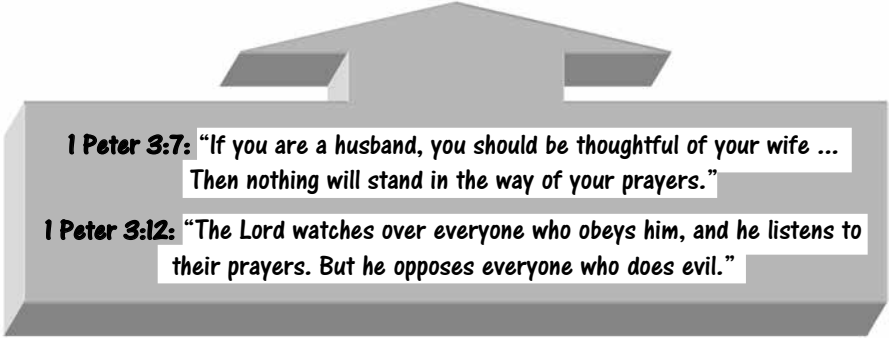


What the Old Testament says:

Isaiah 59:1-2: “The LORD hasn’t lost his powerful strength; he can still hear and answer prayers. Your sins are the roadblock between you and your God. That’s why he doesn’t answer your prayers or let you see his face.”

Psalms 66:18: “If my thoughts had been sinful, he would have refused to hear me.”

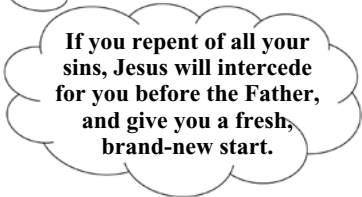
What the New Testament Says:



God is more than willing to forgive us of even the worst sins. All that He wants us to do is admit we have sinned, and promise Him not to repeat it again. If we simply do this, God will forgive and forget all that we have done.

Some sins that I need to repent of:

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

Story of Job

(Taken from Kids Korner)

1		2		3			4		
5									
						6	7		
8		9							
					10				

Across

- Job was known for this quality
- Job's Hometown (Job 1:1)
- Another friend of Job's; the Shuhite (Job 8:1)
- Walked to and fro in the earth (Job 1:7)

Down

- The number of Job's children (Job 1:2)
- One of Job's friends known as the Temanite (Job 4:1)
- He was angry with Job and his three friends (Job 32:2-3)
- He was known as a perfect and upright man who feared God (Job 1:1)
- A friend of Job the Naamathite
- He spoke to Job out of the whirlwind (Job 38:1)



The Cross Of *Christ*

Blessings of the Cross



LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- To show the children what amazing blessings God has for them.
- To make them aware of the Blessing-stealers that could rob their blessings.
- To stress the importance of believing in, and claiming, God's Promises for us.



SCRIPTURE PORTIONS

Deuteronomy 28:1-14; Hebrews 8:6; Isaiah 26:3-4, 53:5
(God's Covenant Blessings)



MEMORY VERSE

Hebrews 8:6: "But the ministry Jesus has received is as superior to theirs as the covenant of which he is mediator is superior to the old one, and it is founded on better promises."



INTRODUCTION

The four Gospels of the New Testament describe various benefits that are ours because of Christ's sacrificial death. Each Gospel highlights some blessing that the atonement brings, and together they give us a complete picture of what Christ accomplished for us. Today, we will look at one of these blessings in greater detail.

Video Presentation

Video Link: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=K3Vqzk7nxKk>

Duration: 39 seconds

The Offer of a Lifetime

foodpanda ALL RESTAURANTS MY ORDERS

Hungry?

ORDER ONLINE / FROM
PHONE-ORDERING
FREE HOME DELIVERY

BOOK MY SHOW

Pay Just Rs 49/- Only

Get Food Worth Rs 500/-
Get Bookmyshow Voucher Worth Rs 300/-

₹1

15% OFF

Get breakfast for only ₹1

Plus 15% off in Accor India hotels

Search for DIWALI OFFERS

BUY 3 GET 4 FREE!

FREE T-SHIRT

ALSO SEE @ MCDIA

MEGA MART

Love brands. Love value.

A lifetime's experience with disappointing ads like these, makes many Christians believe that the Bible too is a hyped-up ad! They think the Bible makes Promises and Offers that are exaggerated and not real.

New Covenant with Better Promises

Deuteronomy 28:1-14 lists the blessings that the Lord wishes to grant a person walking in obedience. Read through the list of blessings, and choose any three which you'd like to claim for yourself during the following week.

Blessings I am claiming for myself this week:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Hebrews 8:6 (NIV): "But the ministry Jesus has received is as superior to theirs as the covenant of which he is mediator is superior to the old one, and is founded on better promises."

The lavish promises mentioned in Deuteronomy belong to the Old Covenant.

Under the New Covenant the Bible guarantees to provide us with even better promises!

Shalom

Isaiah 53:5 (NIV): “But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was on him, and by his wounds we are healed.”

The Hebrew word used for peace is ‘shalom’. Shalom signifies wholeness and completeness; it indicates a person who is ‘flourishing’ in every area of life—physically, emotionally, mentally, financially, socially, etc.

So Jesus didn’t take our punishment on the cross, just to earn us a free ticket to heaven. He did so for much more! He died so that we can “flourish abundantly” in every area of our lives.



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Video Presentation

Video Link: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u10sQsdnxaQ>

Duration: 1 minutes 50 seconds

According to this video, when won’t God’s promises be fulfilled in our lives?

Isaiah 59:1-2: “The LORD hasn’t lost his powerful strength; he can still hear and answer prayers. Your sins are the roadblock between you and your God. That’s why he doesn’t answer your prayers or let you see his face.”

What could be some other reasons why we don't see God's promises fulfilled in our lives?

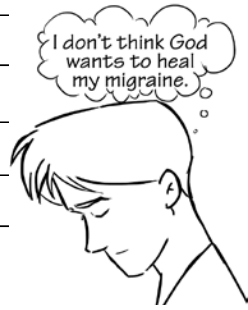


Blessing-Stealers:

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____



John 10:10: "A thief comes only to rob, kill, and destroy.

I came so that everyone would have life, and have it in its fullest."

Romans 8:28: "... in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose."

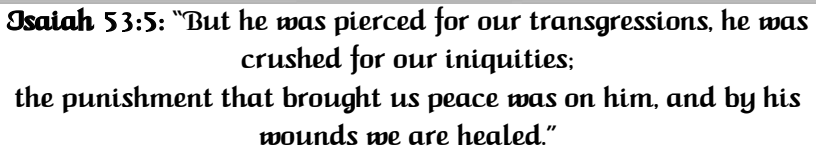
How can we begin to enjoy the Shalom that Jesus won for us on the cross?

We begin to experience this Shalom in our personal lives when we sincerely do this:

1. Isaiah 26:3-4: _____

2. Proverbs 3:5-6: _____

3. Romans 12:18: _____



Isaiah 53:5: "But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was on him, and by his wounds we are healed."



APPLICATION

Blessing Stealers that have stolen God's promises from my Life:

Any Conditional Promises whose 'conditions' I have failed to fulfill:

(If God brings any specific verse to your mind, whose conditions you failed to obey, write it down.)

Blessings of the Cross

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

Meet the corresponding condition, and see the Bible Promise come true in your life.

Any Bible Promises that I have given up hope on:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Make a commitment to continue waiting trustingly until you see these Bible Promises fulfilled in your life.

Bible Promises that sound unbelievable/fake to my ears:

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

**God is no liar!
Choose to start believing these promises of His!**

What I must do to experience Shalom in my Life:

1. **Isaiah 26:3-4:** “The LORD gives perfect peace to those whose faith is firm. So always trust the LORD because he is forever our mighty rock.”

Worries/Doubts that are filling my mind:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Choose to believe God's Word rather than these Doubts/Worries.

2. **Proverbs 3:5-6:** “With all your heart you must trust the LORD and not your own judgment. Always let him lead you, and he will clear the road for you to follow.”

My mind says that it would be foolish/harmful to obey God in these things:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Submit to God and Obey even if it feels like Foolishness.

3. **Romans 12:18:** “And do your best to live at peace with everyone.”

I still remember and resent what the people did to me:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

You have to forgive, forget and show love 'in action' to these persons. This is true forgiveness



TAKE HOME ACTIVITY

1 - M S I R S O P E

□ □ □ □ ○ ○ ○ ○

2 - S I E U O P R R

□ □ □ ○ □ □ □ □

3 - R D O I A T E M

□ □ ○ □ ○ ○ □ □

4 - E E B T T R

○ □ □ □ □ □

5 - S I E T R H

□ ○ □ □ □ □

6 - O D L

□ ○ □

Copy the circled letters into the blanks below and unsort the final word.

○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○

Hebrews 8:6: But in fact the ministry Jesus has received is as _____ (Clue 2) to _____ (Clue 5) as the covenant of which he is _____ (Clue 3) is superior to the _____ (Clue 6) one, since the new covenant is _____ (Clue 7) on _____ (Clue 4) _____ (Clue 1).

DON'T FORGET TO MEMORISE THE MEMORY VERSE!



FOLLOW UP

(To be filled up before the next class.)

How I practiced the Scripture Lesson during this week:

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____



The Cross Of *Christ*

The Way of the Cross



LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- To teach about the Offense of the Cross.
- To explain that Christ expects us to suffer on behalf of others.



SCRIPTURE PORTIONS

Galatians 5:11; Colossians 1:24-26; Philippians 3:10
(Sharing in Christ's Sufferings)



MEMORY VERSE

Philippians 3:10: "I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of sharing in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death."



INTRODUCTION

Over the last few weeks we have been studying the Cross of Christ in great detail. On the cross, Jesus became our Passover Lamb; His body was broken for us. He became a curse for us so that we can enjoy His blessings. He delivered us from the power of sin, and is interceding for us even today. These are some of the benefits we enjoy because of the Cross.

Today, we will look at what our response and responsibility should be towards this Cross. When the Lord has done so much for us, what can we do for Him in return?

WHAT is the OFFENSE of the CROSS???

Galatians 5:11: “Brothers and sisters, if I am still preaching circumcision, why am I still being persecuted?”

In that case the **offense of the cross** has been abolished.”



1



2



3



TEACHING CONTENT

Every month, Christians in different parts of India bear the “Offense of the Cross.” You and I may not be beaten up as they are, but in our own way, we too are called to bear the “Offense of the Cross.”

Suffering for What we Believe

What do we generally believe about the Cross?

- We believe that Jesus is the only way to enter heaven.
- We believe that the love demonstrated on the cross should compel us to share this Good News with everyone.
- We believe that God has not called us to a life of comfort but a life of service, even if it involves suffering.
- We believe that only those who take up their cross and follow Jesus are true disciples—the rest of the Christians are fake.

These are some of the basic beliefs that emerge out of the cross. And if we try to sincerely practice these beliefs, we will definitely end up offending many people—including even many Christians.

Are we willing to bear this “Offense of the Cross” willingly and gladly? If we truly believe in the Cross, then we must be willing to do so.

What we Believe about the Cross may Upset People and cause them to Persecute Us.

Fellowship of His Sufferings

Colossians 1:24-26: “Now I rejoice in what was suffered for you, and I fill up in my flesh **what is still lacking in regard to Christ’s**

afflictions, for the sake of his body, which is the church. I have become its servant by the commission God gave me to present to you the word of God in its fullness—the mystery that has been kept hidden for ages and generations, but is now disclosed to the saints.”

Paul says there’s something LACKING in Christ’s sufferings. He is going to make up for this lack by suffering for Christ!

This is a shocking statement! What could possibly be lacking in Christ’s sufferings for us?

The explanation is simple. Jesus did everything that was needed to redeem us from sin and death; He suffered to the point of death to accomplish this for us.

Now it’s our turn to bear the suffering. He expects us to go out and share the Gospel with non-Christians. He expects us to warn people of the dangers of hell. And He expects us to serve the believers in Christ’s family with a servant-heart.

**Doing these things will involve suffering.
Are willing to suffer for Christ in reaching the lost and
serving the believers?**



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

In Philippians 3:10 Paul says that he wants to know Christ “and the power of His resurrection, and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death.”

What do you think Paul means when he says that he wants to have a “fellowship of His sufferings.”

Video Presentation

Video Link: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BjupdIvz3hg>

Duration: 2 minute 20 seconds

Based on the video, what do you think having a “fellowship of His sufferings” means?

Name some specific things that you and I can do to share in the sufferings of Christ?

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

We are expected to not only minister to non-Christians but also serve the Body of Christ. Name some specific things that you and I can do to serve other believers.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

What kind of suffering do you think you may face while serving Christ in these two ways?

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____



We must be willing to suffer some of these things if we truly wish to share in the fellowship of Christ's sufferings.



APPLICATION

Friends/Neighbors with whom I am going to share the Gospel.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____



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

(Created by Crossword Puzzle Maker at www.GospelHall.org)

MEMORY VERSE

Find the **underlined words** in the puzzle given below:

Philippians 3:10

That I may know Him and the **power** of His **resurrection**, and the **fellowship** of His **sufferings**, being **conformed** to His **death**.

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

