

The Life of Christ

part one



John 14:6
Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the
truth, and the life: no man cometh unto
the Father, but by me.

By Angela Wisdom

The Life of Christ

Part 1 Lesson 1

INTRODUCTION:

In the Old Testament, the prophet Amos prophesied that there would be a period of time when God would not speak to His people. (Amos 8: 11)

After the prophet Malachi spoke to God's people, this period of time began.

Other prophets prophesied earlier that earthly kingdoms (or empires) would rise to power and fall during this period of time. This happened. By the time the New Testament opens, God's people are ruled by the Roman Empire.

The prophets also prophesied that God would set up a new kingdom; a spiritual kingdom that would never be destroyed. All people and nations could be a part of this new kingdom. (Dan. 2 : 44)

This new kingdom would have a king and it was prophesied that he would be born in the city of Bethlehem (Mic. 5: 2) and he would save the people from their sins. This new king would be the SON OF GOD!

Since the days of Adam and Eve this king (or Messiah) had been prophesied to come. (Gen. 3 : 15) God told Abraham, many years before, that through him all nations would be blessed. (Gen. 12 : 1 - 3) That is, through Abraham's family, one would be born that would bless all nations and people — THE SON OF GOD!

The time is now right! God is ready to make all these promises come true through His son, Jesus Christ. God's people are still obeying the Old Law as we begin our study, and it had been 400 years since God had sent a message to His people.

It is now time in our study for one to come prepare the way for **the Saviour, the Christ, the Messiah, the Son of God!** It is time to tell **"The Greatest Story Ever Told!"** (Mal. 4 : 5 - 6)

LESSON TEXT: Luke 1: 1 - 56

Gabriel announces the birth of John

In the days that Herod was the king of Judea there lived a priest named Zacharias. Zacharias had a wife named Elisabeth.

Zacharias and Elisabeth were good people who obeyed God and kept God's commandments. They were getting old and they had no children.

Zacharias was a priest. One day, as he went to burn incense in the temple of the Lord, there appeared to him an angel of the Lord. The angel was standing on the right side of the altar of incense.

When Zacharias saw the angel he became afraid. But the angel said to Zacharias, " Don't be afraid. Your prayer has been heard and your wife Elisabeth will have a baby boy and his name will be John. This will give you much happiness and there will be rejoicing at his birth. He will be great in the sight of the Lord, and he is not to drink wine or strong drink. He will be filled with the Holy Ghost, even while he is still in his mother's womb. "

"He will turn many of the children of Israel to the Lord. He is to go before the people, in the power and

spirit of Elijah, to prepare the people for the Lord."

Zacharias said to the angel, " How can I know this? My wife and I are old."

Then the angel answered him, " I am Gabriel and I stand in the presence of God. I have been sent to speak to you and tell you this good news."

"Because you have not believed my words, you will not be able to speak until these things that I have told you about have happened."

Meanwhile, the people outside the temple were wondering why Zacharias was in the temple so long.

When Zacharias came out of the temple he could not speak to the people. They realized that he had seen a vision because he made signs to them, but he could not speak.

When Zacharias was finished with his duties at the temple, he went home.

Soon after this, Elisabeth learned that she would have a baby. She did not show herself to others for 5 months. She said, " The Lord has done this for me and has taken away my disgrace."

Gabriel announces the birth of Jesus to Mary

In the sixth month that Elisabeth was expecting her child, God sent the angel Gabriel to a city in Galilee called

Nazareth.

In Nazareth was a **virgin** woman named Mary. Mary was engaged to marry a man named Joseph.

Gabriel came in to Mary and said, "Be happy, for you are given a special honor of the Lord. You are **blessed** among women."

When Mary saw Gabriel she was very disturbed and wondered what Gabriel meant.

Gabriel said, "Do not be afraid, for you have found favor with God. You are going to have a child and will give birth to a son, and you will call his name JESUS."

"He shall be great and will be called the Son of the Most High and his kingdom will have no end."

Then Mary asked Gabriel, "How can this be, since I am a **virgin**?"

Gabriel said, "The Holy Ghost will come upon you and the Most High will overshadow you. And the child that will be born will be holy and called the Son of God."

"Behold, your cousin Elisabeth is going to have a son in her old age. She learned 6 months ago that she was carrying a child. Before that, she could not have one. But nothing is impossible with God."

Mary answered, "I will be the Lord's servant. Let things be done as your word has said."

Then the angel left Mary.

Mary goes to visit Elisabeth.

At that time, Mary got ready and hurried to a city of Judah. She went to the house of Zacharias and Elisabeth.

When she entered the house she greeted Elisabeth. When Elisabeth heard Mary's greeting, the baby leaped in her **womb** and Elisabeth was filled with the Holy Ghost.

Elisabeth spake to Mary in a loud voice saying, "**Blessed** are you among women and blessed is the baby that you are carrying in your **womb**. Why am I favored that the mother of my Lord should come to see me? For as soon as I heard your voice, the baby leaped up in my **womb** for joy! **Blessed** are you because you have believed, for the Lord will do the things that he has told you."

Mary said, "My soul glorifies God and my spirit rejoices in God. God has remembered me his servant, and from now on all generations will call me **blessed**."

"He has helped his servant Israel by remembering His promise to Abraham."

Mary stayed with Elisabeth for three months and then returned to her own house.

MEMORY WORK

Memorize the first 3 periods of Christ's life:

1. The years of Preparation
2. Beginning of Jesus' Ministry
3. The Great Galilean Ministry

Vocabulary Words:

Virgin - A woman who has never been in a marriage relationship with a man.

Womb - The special place in a mother's body where she carries a baby until it is born.

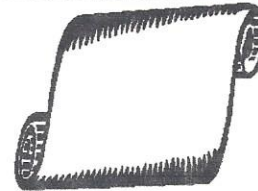
Blessed - To be happy or well off; to be spoken well of and have good things happen to.

Think About It:

The Jews had been looking for the Saviour for 400 years. Now what they had been looking for is going to happen. The baby that Zacharias and Elisabeth have will prepare the way for the Saviour, Jesus Christ. The baby that Mary has is the Saviour, Jesus Christ.

Elisabeth or Mary could not have had their babies without God working a miracle.

As we study the next lessons we will look at how God does what He has said He would do for hundreds of years. Why do we need to know these things? Because the Saviour in the Bible is our Saviour too!



True or False

1. ____ Zacharias and Elisabeth had many children.
2. ____ Zacharias was a king.
3. ____ An angel came to talk to Zacharias.
4. ____ Zacharias and Elisabeth were very young.
5. ____ The angel Gabriel came to talk to Mary.
6. ____ The angel told Mary that she would have a child like other children.
7. ____ Mary was a virgin.
8. ____ When Mary came to see Elizabeth, the baby leaped in Elisabeth's womb for joy.
9. ____ Elisabeth and Mary could have their babies because of the miracles God worked.
10. ____ The birth of Jesus would fulfill many prophecies.

The Life of Christ

Lesson 2

INTRODUCTION:

In Lesson 1 we studied about the angel Gabriel announcing to Zacharias and Elisabeth that they would have a son named John. John would prepare the way for Jesus Christ.

The angel also came to Mary. He told her that even though she was a virgin, she would have a son and she would call his name Jesus. Jesus would be the Saviour that the prophets had prophesied about hundreds of years before and he would also be the Son of God in the form of human man.

Our lesson today will tell us about the birth of John and the birth of Jesus Christ, the only begotten Son of God.

Vocabulary Words:

Engagement - In Bible times engagements between two people who wanted to marry were very serious. It was as serious as a marriage. When two people wanted to end an engagement to be married they had to get a divorce.

Inn - A place to stay the night. Similar to a motel.

Swaddling clothes - Strips of cloth that the baby was wrapped in.

Manger - The place in the stable where the animals ate their food.

the Lord has come and redeemed his people. He will save us and remember his holy covenant that he made with Abraham and the fathers before us."

"This child, John, shall be called prophet of the Most High, for he shall go before the Lord to prepare the way for him. He will give the knowledge of salvation to God's people through the forgiveness of their sins."

All the people that heard what Zacharias said thought to themselves, "What kind of child will this be?" For God was with him.

John grew and became strong in the spirit. He lived in the wilderness until he began his public work with the people of Israel.

LESSON TEXT: Luke 1: 57 -80 ; Matt. 1: 18 - 25; Luke 2: 1-21 ; Matt. 2: 1

John the Baptist is born.

When it was time for Elisabeth to have her baby, she gave birth to a son.

When her neighbors and relatives heard how the Lord had shown great mercy towards Elisabeth by giving her a son, they rejoiced with her.

On the eighth day after his birth they came together to circumcise the baby. They wanted to name the baby Zacharias so that he would be named after his father. But his mother Elisabeth said, "No. He shall be called John."

The neighbors and relatives said, "But there is no one in your family named John."

Then they beckoned to his father Zacharias to find out what he wanted to name the child.

Zacharias asked for a writing tablet and to everyone's astonishment he wrote, "His name is John."

Immediately Zacharias could talk and he spoke praising God. He said, "Praise be to the Lord God, for

An Angel tells Joseph about the birth of Jesus.

Mary was engaged to be married to a man named Joseph. But, before they could come together in marriage she knew she was going to have the baby that the angel Gabriel had told her about. This baby was given to her through the Holy Spirit.

Joseph was a good man, so when he found out that Mary was going to have a baby he decided that he would divorce her secretly. He did not want Mary to be disgraced, and he did not know how Mary came to be with child.

While Joseph thought about these things, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream. The angel said to Joseph, "Joseph, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because the baby she is going to have has been given to her by the Holy Spirit. All this is happening to fulfill the prophecy of the Lord through the prophet Isaiah. He prophesied that a virgin would give birth to a son and call his name Immanuel. Immanuel means, 'God with us'."

When Joseph woke up from the dream he did

what the angel of the Lord told him to do. He took Mary home to be his wife.

Jesus is born.

In those days Caesar Augustus was the ruler of the Roman Empire. He made a law that everyone in the Roman Empire should be taxed. Everyone was to go to his own home town to be taxed.

So Joseph had to leave Nazareth and go to the city of Bethlehem, because that is where his relatives were from.

His wife Mary was very big because of the child inside her. It was almost time for her baby to be born.

When Mary and Joseph got to Bethlehem they could not find a room in the **inn**. So they had to stay the night in a stable where the animals stayed.

It was time for Mary to have her baby, and she had her son in the stable. She wrapped him in **swaddling clothes** and laid him in a **manger**.

That same night there were shepherds out in the nearby fields watching their flocks of sheep. An angel of the Lord appeared to them and the glory of the Lord shone around them. The shepherds became very afraid. Then the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid, for I bring you good news of great joy for all people. Today in the city of David a Saviour has been born, which is Christ the Lord!"

"This shall be a sign to you: You will find the baby wrapped in **swaddling clothes** and lying in a **manger**."

Suddenly there was with the angel a great number of angels praising God and saying, "GLORY TO GOD IN THE HIGHEST, AND ON EARTH PEACE, GOOD WILL TOWARD MEN."

When the angels left the shepherds and went back into heaven, the shepherds said to each other, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about."

So, the shepherds hurried off and found Mary and Joseph and the baby lying in the **manger**.

After they had seen the child, they spread the word about what had been told to them about the child. All that heard what the shepherds said wondered about those things.

Mary kept all these things to herself and thought about them.

The shepherds returned, and they glorified and praised God for all the things that they had heard and seen.

Memory Work

Memorize and be able to say the first 3 periods of Christ's life:

1. The years of Preparation
2. Beginning of Jesus' Ministry
3. The Great Galilean Ministry

Think About It:

Jesus Christ is the Messiah or Saviour that the Jews have been looking for.

He is born in a stable (or barn) and his bed is the trough that the animals eat out of. He is born to parents that are not rich, but poor.

There were not great men or kings at His birth. His parents were there. Ordinary shepherds from the field came to see him.

It may be odd or strange to many that Jesus, who is Creator and ruler of the universe, would be born in such a way. But this was part of God's plan. Jesus came to serve others, not to be served.

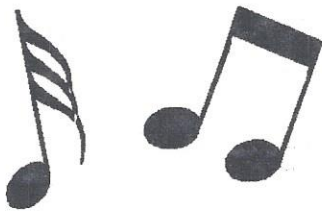
TRUE OR FALSE:

1. ____ Elisabeth had a baby girl.
2. ____ Elisabeth named her son Zacharias, after his father.
3. ____ John would go before the Lord to prepare the way for Him.
4. ____ Joseph and Mary went to Bethlehem to be taxed.
5. ____ Mary had her baby in the inn.
6. ____ Mary had a nice bed to lay her baby in.
7. ____ An angel appeared to some shepherds out in the field the night Jesus was born.
8. ____ The shepherds did not tell anyone what they had seen.

Fill in the Blanks:

Using the King James Version of the Bible, fill in the blanks below.

1. Luke 1 : 76 And thou, _____, shalt be called the _____ of the _____: for thou shalt go before the face of the Lord to _____ his ways;
2. Luke 2 : 4 And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of _____, into Judea, unto the city of _____, which is called _____; (because he was of the house and lineage of David:)
3. Luke 2 : 7 And she brought forth her firstborn _____, and wrapped him in _____ clothes, and laid him in a _____; because there was no room for them in the _____.
4. Luke 2 : 11 For unto you is _____ this day in the city of David a _____, which is _____ the Lord.



Singing and
making melody in
your heart to the
Lord.

Bible Stories

(Tune : "Leaning on the Everlasting Arms")

Tell of Bethlehem and Jerusalem;
Tell of places Jesus used to go!
Tell of Galilee and of Calvary;
Tell of Jesus, for He loved me so!

CHORUS:

Bible stories!
Good for summer, winter, spring or fall!
Bible stories!
Bible stories are the best of all!

The Life of Christ

Lesson 3

Introduction:

In lesson 2 we studied about the birth of John and the birth of Jesus. These babies were very special. John was special because God said that he would prepare the way for Jesus Christ. We will learn in other lessons how he did just that.

Jesus was special because he was the one the Jews had been looking for; their Messiah. He was the one the prophets prophesied about. He was, and is the Son of God.

The period of Jesus' life that we are studying now is called "the years of preparation". Jesus is still a baby in our lesson today, but we can see that he is a very special baby.

Vocabulary Words:

Circumcision - Boy babies had part of their skin cut off when they were 8 days old. God commanded this be done in the days of Abraham, to him and his sons. It was to be done to Abraham's descendants that lived after him and was part of Israel's covenant with God. All Jew's (or Israelites) did this to their boy babies.

Devout - Following God's law very carefully.

Christ - The anointed one or chosen one. In those days a man was anointed (or sprinkled or rubbed) with oil when he was made king. Jesus is our king, so he is called Christ, (the anointed or chosen one).

Frankincense and Myrrh - sweet smelling perfumes.

turtledoves.

Mary brought either two pigeons or two turtledoves to sacrifice to God.

Simeon and Anna see Jesus.

A man named Simeon was living in the city of Jerusalem. He was a righteous and **devout** man. He was waiting for the Messiah, and the Holy Ghost had told him that he would not die before he had seen the Lord's **Christ**.

Mary and Joseph went to the temple to sacrifice to God, and the same day the Holy Spirit let Simeon know that he should go to the temple.

When Simeon saw the baby he took baby Jesus up in his arms and praised God saying, "Lord, now you can let me die in peace for my eyes have seen your salvation that you have prepared in the sight of all people. He will be a light to the Gentiles and glory to your people Israel."

When Mary and Joseph heard the things that Simeon said they wondered about the things spoken about Jesus.

Then Simeon said to Mary, "This child is set for the rising and falling of many in Israel, and a sign that people will speak against."

That same day an old woman named Anna came to see the baby. She was a prophetess and a widow. She stayed at the temple and worshipped God night and day. When she saw baby Jesus she gave thanks to the Lord, and then told people that were looking for the Messiah about the child.

The wise men visit Jesus.

Jesus was born in the time of Herod the king.

Sometime after Jesus was born some wise men from the east traveled to Jerusalem. The wise men said, "Where is the one that has been born king of the Jews? We have seen his star in the east and we are come to worship

LESSON TEXT: Luke 2 : 21 - 38 ; Matt. 2 : 1 - 12

Jesus is named and circumcised.

When Mary's baby was eight days old he was **circumcised** and his name was called JESUS. Because the angel had called him Jesus before his mother carried him in her body.

A woman who had a baby back then had to wait a certain number of days before she was pure, and could go to the temple to sacrifice to God. This was called "the days of her purification" and was part of the law of Moses that God had given them to follow.

When Mary's days of purification were over, she and Joseph took baby Jesus to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord as their firstborn son. They also went to offer a sacrifice to the Lord.

The law of Moses said that a woman who had a baby should bring a lamb to be sacrificed, but if she could not, then she could bring two pigeons or two

him."

When Herod heard this he was very disturbed and so was all Jerusalem. He gathered together the chief priests and scribes of the city and asked them where the Christ was to be born.

The chief priests and scribes said to Herod, "It is written by a prophet that in Bethlehem of Judah would be born a ruler of God's people."

Then Herod called the wise men to him secretly and asked them what time the star appeared.

Herod told the wise men, "Go and search for the child. When you have found him, send word to me so that I can go worship him also."

After they talked to King Herod, the wise men left him to find Jesus. As they went, the star that they had seen in the east went before them till it stopped over the place where the child was.

When they saw the star they were very happy.

Mary, Joseph and Jesus were in a house. The wise men came into the house and when they saw the child with his mother they fell down and worshipped the child.

The wise men opened their treasures, that they had brought to Jesus, and gave him gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh.

When the wise men left Jesus they went back to their own country another way. For God warned them in a dream that they should not go back to King Herod.

MEMORY WORK

Memorize the 7 periods of Jesus' life, (you should know the first 3 already):

1. The Years of Preparation
2. The Beginning of Jesus' Ministry
3. The Great Galilean Ministry
4. The Periods of Withdrawal
5. The Close of Jesus' Ministry
6. The Last Week
7. The Resurrection Days

Think about it:

- Simeon and Anna were glad to see Jesus, because it was made known to them that Jesus was the Messiah they had been looking for.
- When the wise men realized that the Messiah (Jesus Christ) had been born, they wanted to find him and worship him.
- When they found Jesus with his mother in Bethlehem, they did worship the child. For this was no ordinary child. He was prophesied to come, hundreds of years before he came to earth, in a fleshly body. He was the Son of God! He was God in the flesh. He deserved their worship!

True or False:

1. ____ Mary and Joseph came to Jerusalem to offer sacrifice to God.
2. ____ Mary and Joseph offered a lamb to God.
3. ____ The Holy Ghost let Simeon know that he would not die before he had seen the Christ.
4. ____ Simeon was happy to see Jesus Christ.
5. ____ Anna did not serve God.
6. ____ Wise men came from the west to Jerusalem.
7. ____ A prophet prophesied that Jesus would be born in Jerusalem.
8. ____ The wise men had a lot of trouble finding Jesus.
9. ____ Mary, Jesus and Joseph were in a stable when the wise men came.
10. ____ There were 3 wise men. (read Matt. 2: 1 and 11 before you answer this. Do these verses tell you how many wise men there were?)
11. ____ The wise men brought gold, frankincense and myrrh.
12. ____ God warned the wise men in a dream to go back to Herod.
13. ____ The wise men went back to their own country another way.



Books of the New Testament

**Matthew, Mark, Luke and John
The Acts and the Letter to the Romans,
First and Second Corinthians,
Galatians and Ephesians.**

**Philippians, Colossians,
First and Second Thessalonians,
First and Second Timothy,
Titus and Philemon.**

**Hebrews, James,
First and Second Peter,
First and Second and Third John,
Jude and Revelation.**



The Life of Christ

Lesson 4

Introduction:

In our last lesson baby Jesus was circumcised according to the law of Moses, and he was named as the angel Gabriel told Mary and Joseph to name him.

Two people in Jerusalem wanted to see Jesus because the Holy Spirit made known to them that Jesus was the Christ (or the Messiah) they had been waiting for. These two people were Simeon and Anna. They told Mary and Joseph things that made them wonder about the baby and what kind of man he would turn out to be.

Wise men in the east knew the prophecies about the Messiah, so when they saw the star in east they wanted to find Jesus and worship him. They found Jesus with his parents living in a house in Bethlehem. They presented Jesus with gifts and they worshipped him.

As they left to go home, God warned them in dream not to go back the way they had come. We will learn why God told them this in our lesson today.

Vocabulary Words:

Flee - To run away, to escape.

Stature - To grow in height and body.

Favor - To be acceptable, to give joy and pleasure to one.

LESSON TEXT: Matt. 2 : 13 - 23 ; Luke 2 : 41 -51

Jesus, Mary and Joseph flee to Egypt.

After the wise men left Jesus and his parents, an angel appeared to Joseph in a dream.

The angel said, "Get up! Take Jesus and his mother and flee to Egypt. You are to stay in Egypt until I bring you word, for Herod is going to search for the young child because he wants to kill him."

So Joseph got up and took Jesus and Mary during the night, and left for Egypt.

They stayed in Egypt until the death of Herod.

Many hundreds of years before this, a prophet had prophesied that Jesus would be called out of Egypt. This prophecy came true.

Herod commands all the baby boys in and around Bethlehem be killed.

When King Herod realized that the wise men had tricked him, he gave an order to kill all the boy babies, two years old and under, in the city of Bethlehem and surrounding areas.

Herod did not find Jesus, and sometime later Herod died.

After Herod died, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream. The angel said, "Get up, leave Egypt and go back to Israel. For the one that wanted to kill the child is now dead."

So Joseph got up. He took Jesus and his mother and returned to the land of Israel.

When Joseph learned that Archelaus, the son of Herod, was ruling in the land of Judea, he was afraid to go there. God warned him in a dream, and so Joseph went to the area of Galilee. They lived in a town of Galilee called Nazareth.

Jesus grew up in the town of Nazareth. He grew strong in the spirit, he had much wisdom and the grace of God was upon him.

Jesus goes to the temple when he is 12 years old.

Every year Jesus' parents would go to Jerusalem for the Feast of the Passover. When Jesus was twelve years old they went to Jerusalem as they had always done.

When the Feast of the Passover was over, Mary and Joseph started their journey back home. They thought that Jesus was with the relatives and friends traveling with them, so they traveled for a whole day.

Mary and Joseph searched for Jesus among their friends and relatives, and when they realized that he was not with them they went back to Jerusalem to look for him.

After three days, Mary and Joseph found Jesus. He was in the temple, sitting in the middle of the teachers and listening to them and asking questions.

All that heard Jesus were astonished at his knowledge and his answers.

When Mary and Joseph saw Jesus they were amazed. Then Mary asked Jesus, "Son, why have you treated us like this? Your father and I have been searching for you anxiously."

Jesus said, "Why did you search for me? Didn't you know that I must be about my Father's business?"

Mary and Joseph did not understand what Jesus said to them.

Then Jesus went home with them to Nazareth and was obedient to them. But his mother kept all these things in her heart.

And Jesus grew in wisdom and **stature**, and in **favor** with God and man. This means that Jesus grew spiritually and physically as he should.

Think about it:

When Jesus came to earth, He came to do the Father's will.

We can see that Jesus is doing everything that the prophets in the Old Testament said he would do. Jesus *is* doing God's will.

The Old Testament prophet Micah said that Jesus would be born in Bethlehem. (Micah 5:2) He was! The prophet Isaiah said that Jesus would be born to a virgin. He was!

There are many more things for Jesus to do and to fulfill. So when Jesus told Mary and Joseph, "*Didn't you know that I must be about my Father's business.*" Jesus was talking about doing God the Father in heaven's business — not his earthly father's, Joseph.

Match:

- | | |
|----------------------|--|
| 1. Feast of Passover | 2 years old and under were killed. |
| 2. Jesus | Wanted to kill Jesus. |
| 3. Mary and Joseph | Jerusalem |
| 4. Nazareth | They search for Jesus. |
| 5. Herod | The city where Jesus grew up. |
| 6. Boy Babies | Increased in wisdom and stature and in favor with God and Man. |

Memory Work

Be able to say, from memory, the 7 periods of Jesus' life:

1. The Years of Preparation
2. The Beginning of Jesus' Ministry
3. The Great Galilean Ministry
4. The Periods of Withdrawal
5. The Close of Jesus' Ministry
6. The Last Week
7. The Resurrection Days



Multiple Choice:

underline the correct answer

1. (Herod , an angel) appeared to Joseph and told him to take Jesus and Mary to Egypt.
2. Herod wanted to (kiss , kill) the baby Jesus.
3. Herod gave an order to kill all the baby boys that were (10 , 4 , 2) years and under.
4. When Joseph learned that Archelaus was ruling in Judea, they went to (Egypt , Galilee) to live.
5. Every year Jesus' parents would go the the (Feast of Passover , The Feast of Trumpets).
6. The Feast of Passover was celebrated in the city of (Jerusalem , Bethlehem).
7. Jesus was (11 , 12) years old when they went to the Feast of Passover.
8. Mary and Joseph found Jesus at the (stable, temple).
9. Jesus was (hearing the teachers, hearing and asking the teachers questions) .
10. All that heard Jesus were (surprised , not surprised) at his understanding and answers.

The Life of Christ

Lesson 5

Introduction:

In our last lesson we studied about Joseph taking his family to Egypt to flee from Herod. Herod wanted to find Jesus so that he could kill him, but he did not find him.

After Herod died, Joseph brought Jesus and Mary to Galilee. They lived in the city of Nazareth and Jesus grew up there.

When Jesus was 12 years old his parents took him to Jerusalem for the Feast of the Passover. As they returned home from the Feast, Mary and Joseph realized that Jesus was not with them and returned back to Jerusalem to find him.

When they found him in the temple, they asked why he had done this and told him that they had been searching for him. Jesus told them that they should have known that he would be about his Father's business.

Our lesson today will be about who Jesus is.

LESSON TEXT: John 1 : 1 - 18 ; Matt. 3 : 1 - 17 ;
Luke 3: 1- 38

Who is Jesus?

In the last four lessons we have been studying about Jesus. He was born of a virgin, he fulfilled Old Testament scriptures, he was called the Messiah.

Before he was born, an angel announced his birth. After he was born, angels glorified God and shepherds came to worship him. Simeon and Anna said things about him that Mary and Joseph wonder about. Wise men find out about his birth and a star leads them to Jesus so that they may worship him. King Herod finds out about Jesus and he wants to kill him.

So, who is this Jesus that we are learning about? Why do we need to know about Him?

Read the following verses that John wrote, and then we will learn some things from them. Things that will tell us just who Jesus is:

John 1:1-5

- 1 *In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.*
- 2 *He was in the beginning with God.*
- 3 *All things came into being by Him, and apart from Him nothing came into being that has come into being.*
- 4 *In Him was life, and the life was the light of men.*
- 5 *And the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it.*

(NAS)

These verses tell us that the Word was in the beginning, the Word was with God and was God. These verses call Jesus the "Word". In Matthew 1 : 23, Jesus is called Immanuel which means "God with us".

Jesus is God, and He existed before the world began. He has always been — that is, He had no beginning and will have no end. This is hard for us to understand because everything we know about on earth has a beginning and an end. We believe this is so about Jesus because the Bible tells us it is so, and we have faith that the Bible is God's word.

Through Jesus (*or the Word*) all things in the world were created. Isn't it amazing to think about God, who created all things, coming to earth in the form of a little baby? John 1: 14 tells us that this is just what happened. Jesus came in the form of a human man and lived with other men on earth. He was and is the only begotten SON OF GOD!

As the Son of God, Jesus lived His life among men, declaring God to men. In other words, He showed men what God was like through the life He lived here on earth. He was, and is, our example of how we should live to please God.

Do you remember how many hundreds of years before Christ was born, God told King David that He would establish David's throne forever? (II Sam. 7: 16) Well, Jesus came to earth to do this. The books of Matthew and Luke tell us that Jesus was born to Mary and Joseph, who both descended from David. Jesus came to take His place on the throne of David. But, His kingdom is not an earthly kingdom, it is a spiritual kingdom.

Remember, these things about Jesus :

1. That He is God.
2. That He has a spiritual kingdom, not an earthly one.
3. That He came to give spiritual life to men.
4. That He is Lord (or ruler) over men.



Memory Work

Memorize John 1 : 1

John 1:1

**In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.
(KJV)**

Fill-in-the-Blanks

These verses tell us some things about Christ. Fill-in-the-blanks using the King James Version.

Gen 1:1

1. In the _____ God created the heavens and the earth.

John 1:1

2. In the _____ was the _____, and the _____ was with God, and the _____ was God.

John 1:14

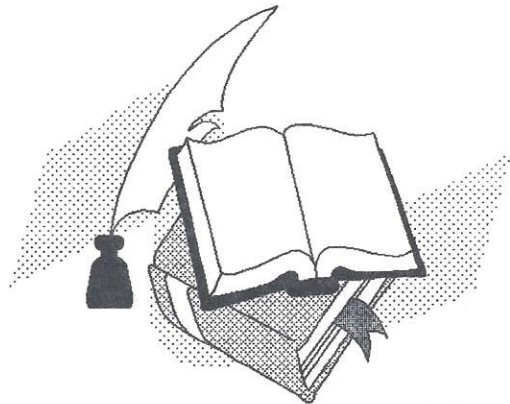
3. And the _____ was made _____, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth.

Heb 1:10

4. And, Thou, Lord, in the _____ hast laid the foundation of the earth; and the heavens are the works of thine hands:

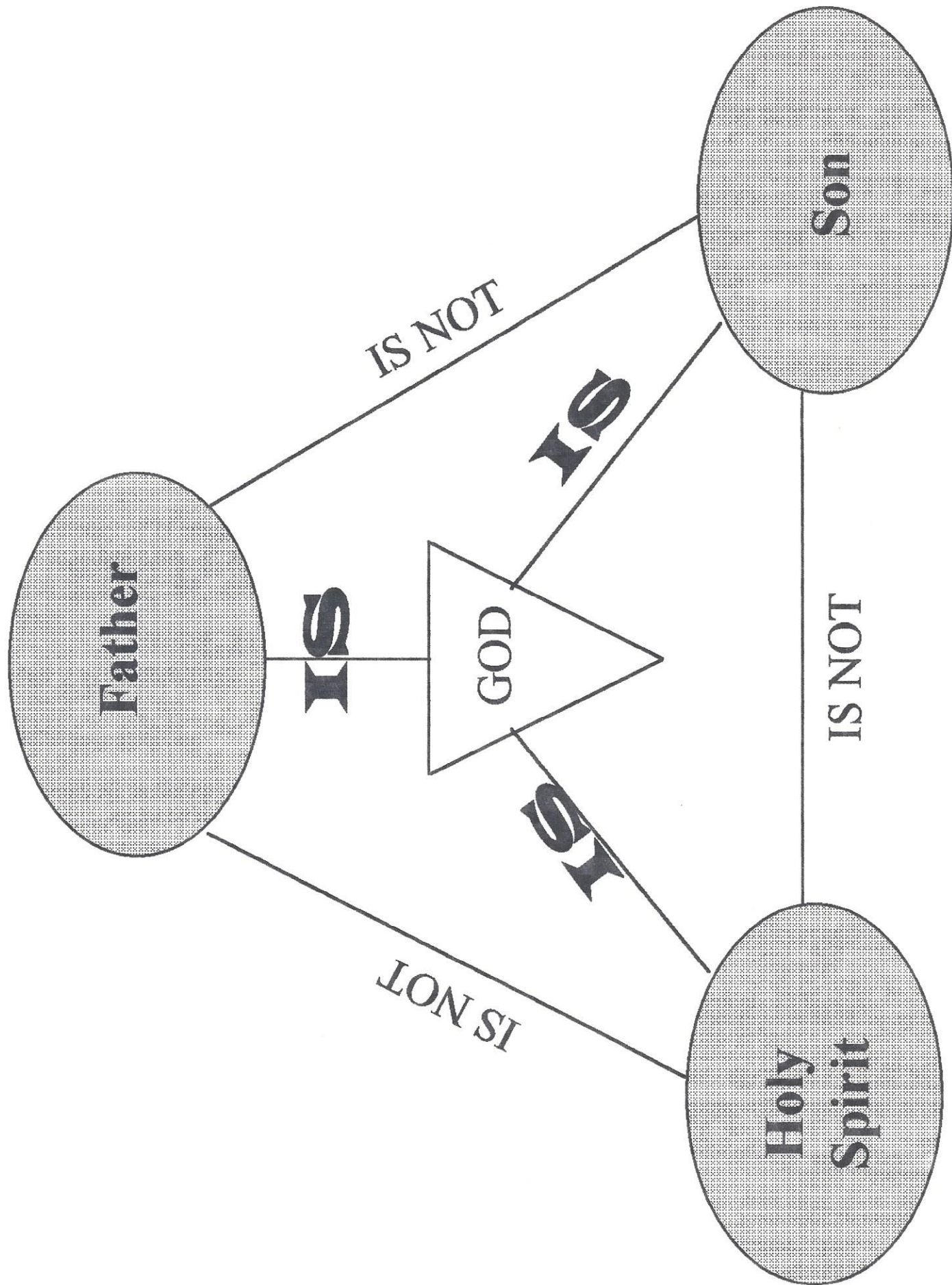
1 Tim 3:16

5. And without controversy great is the mystery godliness: _____ was manifest in the _____, justified in the Spirit, seen of angels, preached unto the Gentiles, believed on in the world, received up into glory.



TRUE OR FALSE

1. ___ Immanuel means, "God with us".
2. ___ Jesus is God.
3. ___ Someday, God will not exist.
4. ___ Jesus is our example of how we should live.
5. ___ Christ's kingdom is an earthly kingdom.
6. ___ In the beginning, Jesus Christ was called the "Word".



The Life of Christ

Lesson 6

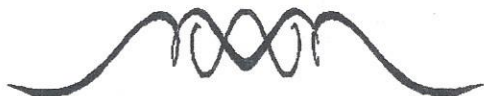
Introduction:

In lesson 5 we studied about Jesus and who He is. He is God, He has a spiritual kingdom, and he came to earth to set up his spiritual kingdom, and to give spiritual life to men. Jesus was no ordinary man. He was God in the flesh.

In our lesson today we will study about a man who God sent to prepare the way for His Son, Jesus Christ. This man's name is John. We have already learned about his birth to Elisabeth and Zacharias. Now we will learn about what his job was, as a man serving God.

Vocabulary Words:

- Ministry** - To serve others.
- Baptize** - To completely cover or bury in water.
- Repent, repentance** - A change of mind, followed by a change of behavior.
- Pharisees and Sadducees** - Two groups of Jews. (We will learn more about these 2 groups in later lessons.)
- Viper** - Snake
- Publican** - A tax collector.
- Chaff** - The stalks of grain after all the kernels have been beaten off.



LESSON TEXT: Matt. 3 : 1 - 12; Mark 1 : 2 - 8;
Luke 3 : 1 - 18; John 1: 6 - 18; Isaiah 40 : 3

The work of John the Baptist.

John was a man sent by God to prepare the way for Christ. He was to bear witness of Christ that all men might believe in Christ. This means that John told men what God told him.

The prophet Isaiah told about John, many hundreds of years before he lived. Isaiah said that John would be, *"the voice of one crying in the wilderness, prepare the way for the Lord"*.

John prepared the way for Christ to do His work.

John wore clothes of camel's hair and had a leather belt around his waist. He ate locusts and wild honey. He preached in the wilderness in all the land of Judea and Jerusalem.

John was a preacher. He preached to the Jews and told them to **repent** and turn back to God. He **baptized** those who repented in the Jordan River, and he **baptized**

them so that they could have remission of their sins.

John told the **Pharisees and Sadducees** that he **baptized** to, "bring forth fruits worthy of **repentance**". This meant that they must show God that they had **repented** by changing the way they lived, and by obeying God.

John told the people that they must make changes in their lives. He said that all men would see the salvation of God.

One day as a big group of people came to be baptized by him, John said, "You brood of **vipers**, who has warned you of the anger that is to come? You need to show, by the things that you do, that you have **repented**."

The people asked John what they needed to do. John said, "The man that has two coats should share with a man that does not have one. Those who have food should share with those who do not."

Some of the **Publicans** came to be baptized by John. They asked him, "Teacher, what shall we do?"

John said, "When you collect taxes from the people, do not collect any more than you are supposed to collect."

Some soldiers came to John and asked, "What should we do?"

He said, "Do not take money away from anyone by force, or accuse people falsely, and be content with the money that you earn."

After John was through talking to the people, the people waited and wondered to themselves if he might be the Christ.

John answered the people, "I **baptize** with water, but One is coming that is more powerful than I. I am not fit to untie His shoes. He will **baptize** you with the Holy Spirit and with fire. And He will separate the wheat from the chaff and burn the **chaff** with unquenchable fire."

Many of the people that heard John's message **repented** and were **baptized**.

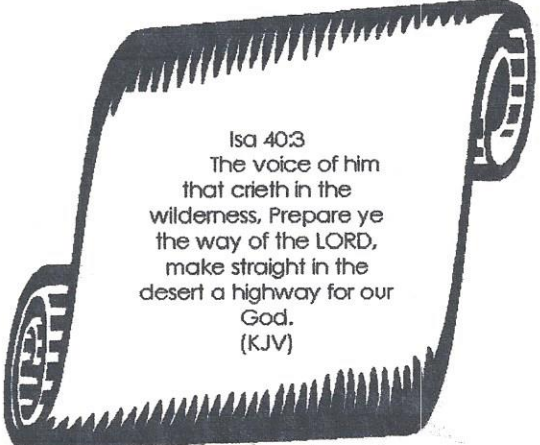
THINK ABOUT IT.....

- The purpose of John's preaching was to get God's people, the Jews, to repent of their sins and turn back to God. This how John prepared the way for Christ.
- If the Jews turned back to God and obeyed Him, then they would be ready to obey Jesus Christ when he came and preached to them. A people that would not obey God before Christ came, certainly would not obey Christ on earth.
- When John preached to the people, he did not want them to think highly of himself. He wanted the people to think highly of Jesus Christ.
- He preached that it was about time for Christ's kingdom.
- We will see later, that John will be the one to announce Christ to the Jewish people.

Memory Work

John 1:1-2

- 1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.**
- 2 The same was in the beginning with God.**
(KJV)



Isa 40:3
The voice of him
that crieth in the
wilderness, Prepare ye
the way of the LORD,
make straight in the
desert a highway for our
God.
(KJV)

Multiple Choice

(underline the correct answer)

1. John (sprinkled , baptized) people when they repented of their sins.
2. John baptized in the (Nile , Jordan) river.
3. John told the people that baptism was (enough, not enough) to show God that they had repented.
4. John was sent by (God , Isaiah) to prepare the way for Christ.
5. John ate (meat and potatoes , Locusts and wild honey).
6. When John preached to the Jews, he told them to (sing , repent).
7. John told the people that when they repented they (could continue to live as they always had, they had to change their lives).
8. John preached that one was coming that was (just as good as John , more powerful than John).
9. John came to prepare the way for (Jesus Christ , the Jews).
10. John wanted the people to turn back to (Moses , God).

The Life of Christ

Lesson 7

Introduction:

In lesson 6 we studied about John the Baptist, and how he prepared the way for Jesus Christ. He preached to the Jews and tried to get them to turn back to God, so that they would be ready for Christ's message. Many of the people that heard John, repented and were baptised for the remission of their sins. They turned back to God.

The "YEARS OF PREPARATION", are now over and we are ready for the "BEGINNING OF CHRIST'S MINISTRY".

Vocabulary Words:

- Descend, descending** - To come down.
- Wilderness** - A lonely deserted place where no one lives.
- Devil** - Devil is another name for Satan. The devil is the enemy of God and man. He is sinful and tries to get man to sin against God.

LESSON TEXT: Matt. 3: 13-17; Mark 1: 9-11; Luke 3: 21-22; John 1: 32-34; Matt. 4: 1-11; Mark 1: 12-13; Luke 4: 1-13

Jesus is baptized by John.

One day Jesus traveled from Nazareth of Galilee to the Jordan River. He asked John if he would baptize him.

But John did not want to baptize Jesus. He said to Jesus, "I need to be baptized by You, and You are coming to me?"

Jesus said to John, "Let it be done now, for it is right for us to fulfill all righteousness."

Then John baptized Him. And when Jesus had been baptized, He came up immediately out of the water and the heavens were opened to him. And he saw the Spirit of God **descending** like a dove and coming upon Him.

And suddenly a voice came from heaven, saying, "*This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.*"

The temptation of Jesus.

After Jesus was baptized, He was filled with the Holy Spirit and He left the Jordan River. The Holy Spirit led Jesus into the **wilderness**.

While Jesus was in the **wilderness**, the **devil** tempted Jesus for 40 days. During the 40 days, Jesus did not eat anything. He became very hungry.

After the 40 days, the **devil** came to Jesus and said, "

If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become bread."

Jesus answered the devil, "It is written, 'Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word of God.'"

Then the **devil** took Jesus to Jerusalem and put Him on the highest point of the temple. The **devil** said, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down off this temple. For it is written that God will command His angels to take care of you and lift you up so that you will not even hit your foot on a stone."

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

Then the **devil** took Jesus into a very high mountain and showed Him all the kingdoms of the world in a moment of time. He said to Jesus, "All this authority I will give You and these kingdoms' glory, for it has been given to me and I can give it to whoever I wish. All these things shall be given to You if You will just fall down and worship me."

Jesus said to him, "Get away from me Satan! For it is written, 'You shall worship the Lord your God and serve only Him'."

Then the **devil** left Jesus and angels came to Jesus to take care of Him.

Memory Work

John 1:1-2

- 1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.
- 2 The same was in the beginning with God.

Think About It:

Jesus was about 30 years old when he began His ministry. John had already been preaching to the Jews and telling them to turn back to God. John knew that one day the Christ would begin His work, for God had told him so.

When Jesus was baptized and the Holy Spirit descended upon Him, this was a sign to John that He was the Christ they had been waiting for.

Right after Jesus was baptized, the devil began to tempt Jesus. We can learn some important lessons from Jesus' temptation:

Jesus used Bible scripture to answer the devil's temptation. Every time the devil tempted him he said, "It is written..." When the devil tempts us, we need to remember God's word, just as Jesus did. Knowing what God wants in His word will help us when we are tempted.

The devil wanted Jesus to use His power to turn the stone into bread. Jesus did not do this because it was not God's will that He use His power in this way. Although Jesus was very hungry, it was more important that He do God's will. We need to remember that when the devil tempts us, nothing is more important than doing what God wants.

The devil wanted Jesus to throw himself off the top of the temple. Jesus told him, "Do not tempt the Lord your God." Jesus did not need to "tempt" or "try" God to see if God would take care of him. Jesus knew that God would take care of Him as He had promised. He trusted in God. We need to trust in God, for He will take care of us as He has promised us.

The devil wanted to give Jesus all the kingdoms of the world and their glory if He would just worship him. Jesus told him, "Get out of here Satan! You are to worship the Lord your God and Him only shall you serve." Jesus realized that ONLY God is to be worshipped. We are to realize the same thing.

If we do the same things that Jesus did, when we are tempted, the devil will leave us too! It may be only for a little while though, for the devil wants to tempt us to do wrong.

Another important thing to remember is that when Jesus was tempted, He did not sin! He is our perfect example!

Multiple Choice

1. John was baptizing in the (Nile , Jordan) river.
2. Jesus asked John if he would (pray for him , baptize him).
3. After Jesus was baptized, the Holy Spirit descended like a (raven , dove) upon Jesus.
4. (John , the Holy Spirit) led Jesus into the wilderness to be tempted.
5. The devil tempted Jesus for (40 , 10) days.
6. Jesus did not eat for (45 , 40) days.
7. Each time Jesus was tempted, He said, ("It is good", " It is written").
8. The devil (did , did not) tempt Jesus to sin.



FILL IN THE BLANKS:

Matt 4:10 Then saith Jesus unto him, Get thee hence, _____: for _____ is _____, Thou shalt worship the Lord thy _____, and him _____ shalt thou serve. (KJV)

Matt 3:17

17 And lo a voice from _____, saying, This is my beloved _____, in whom I am well pleased. (KJV)

The Life of Christ

Lesson 8

Introduction:

In lesson 7 we studied about Jesus' baptism. Now that He has been baptized by John, He is ready to begin His ministry. After His baptism, He is tempted by the devil. He is tempted, but He does not sin.

In today's lesson John tells the people who he is and he directs his disciples to Christ.

Vocabulary Words:

Testimony - Evidence that one has to prove that something is so.

Bare Witness - To tell the truth about something one has seen, heard or experienced.

Disciple - A pupil or student. One who follows another's teaching and imitates it.

Then John **bore witness** of Christ's baptism. He said, "I have seen the Holy Spirit descend from heaven like a dove and come upon Christ. I would not have known who He was, except that the One who sent me to baptize told me."

"I have seen this happen and I have **borne witness** that this is the SON OF GOD!"

John tells his disciples to follow Jesus.

LESSON TEXT: John 1 ; 19 - 51

The testimony of John about Christ.

The Jews in Jerusalem sent priests and Levites to John one day. They asked John who he was.

John told them, "I am not the Christ."

So they asked him, "Then who are you? Are you Elijah? Are you the prophet?"

John answered them, "No."

Finally they said, "Tell us who you are so that we can tell the ones that sent us."

John said, "The prophet Isaiah said that *'I am the voice of one crying in the wilderness: Make straight the way of the Lord.'*"

Then the people said to John, "Then why do you baptize if you are not Christ, or Elijah, or the Prophet?"

John answered them, "I baptize with water, but there is One standing among you that you do not know. He is coming after me and I am not worthy to untie His shoes."

The testimony of John about Christ's baptism.

The next day John saw Jesus coming to him. John said, "See! The Son of God who takes away the sin of the whole world. He is the one I was talking about when I said One would come after me. He existed before me."

"I myself did not know Him as the Christ. But I came forward baptizing so that he would be made known to Israel."

One day, John was standing with two of his **disciples**. When he saw Jesus passing by, he said, "Look, the Lamb of God!"

When the two disciples heard John say this, they began to follow Jesus.

Jesus turned around and saw them following Him. He asked them, "What do you want?"

They answered, "Rabbi, (or Teacher), Where are you staying?"

Jesus said, "Come and see."

So they followed Jesus and stayed with Him that day.

Now, one of the two men was named Andrew. Andrew went to his brother Simon and told him, "We have found the Messiah."

Andrew brought Simon to Jesus. Jesus looked at Simon and said, "You shall be called Cephas (or Peter)."

The next day, Jesus decided to leave and go to Galilee. He found Phillip and said to him, "Follow me."

Phillip, Peter and Andrew were from the town of Bethsaida.

Phillip found Nathaniel and told him, "We have found the one that Moses and the prophets wrote about. Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph."

Nathaniel said to Phillip, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?"

Phillip said to Nathaniel, "Come and see."

When Jesus saw Nathaniel coming toward him, he said, "Look, a true Israelite that has nothing false about him."

Nathaniel said to Jesus, "How do you know me?"
 Jesus said, "Before Phillip called you, you were under the fig tree and I saw you."

Then Nathaniel said, "Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the king of Israel!"

Jesus said, "Do you believe because I said that I saw you under the fig tree? You will see greater things than this."

"You will see heaven open, and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man."

Memory Work

John 1:1-3

1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

2 The same was in the beginning with God.

3 All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made.

(KJV)

Match:

- | | |
|-----------|---|
| Jesus | Said, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" |
| John | Called the "Lamb of God" and the "Son of Man" |
| Andrew | Had a friend named Nathaniel. |
| Simon | Said, "I am not the Christ." |
| Phillip | Went to see where Jesus was staying. |
| Nathaniel | Jesus called him Cephas or Peter. |



True or False

1. _____ John told the Jews that he was Elijah.
2. _____ Andrew told Simon, "We have found the Messiah".
3. _____ Jesus told Simon that he would be called Cephas (or Peter).
4. _____ Jesus told Phillip, "Follow me."
5. _____ Nathaniel was excited to learn that the Messiah was from Nazareth.

Think About It:

- John was a witness of Jesus Christ. This means he actually saw Christ. He saw the Holy Spirit descend on Christ like a dove.
- If John had not really seen these things, then his testimony, or the things he had to say about Jesus, could have been false. For a true witness is one that has actually seen what has happened.
- What John said about Jesus was true, and he convinced Andrew and another disciple that it was true. They wanted others to know that Jesus was the Christ, and so they told others about Him.
- These disciples decided to follow Jesus. As we study the next lessons in our book, we will see Jesus' disciples leave all and follow Him.
- Today we do not have to actually see (or witness) Christ to follow Him. We follow Him today by doing the things He has told us to do in His Word.

The Life of Christ

Lesson 9

Introduction:

In lesson 8 we studied about John giving testimony about Jesus Christ. John s told the Jews that he was not the Christ, and he told about Christs' baptism.

Already men are starting to follow Jesus, because they realize that he is not just a man — he is the Messiah they have been waiting for.

In todays' lesson we will learn about the first miracle that Jesus performed in Cana of Galilee, and of Jesus attending the first Passover of His ministry.

Vocabulary Words:

Miracle , sign - A supernatural event or happening that cannot be done by natural means. Jesus did miracles to prove that He was the Christ the Son of God. No man could do the things that He did.

Moneychangers - Men who would make change for the people with their money. The Jews were required to pay a temple tax, and these men had created a business at the temple taking people's money. This was not something that God wanted done in His temple (His Holy Place).

LESSON TEXT: John 2 : 1 - 25

Jesus' first miracle in Cana of Galilee.

On the third day that Jesus was in Galilee He went to a wedding in Cana. Jesus' mother, as well as His disciples were there at the wedding.

During the wedding feast they ran out of wine. Jesus' mother came to Him and said, "They have no wine."

Jesus said to her, "Woman, what does your concern have to do with me? My hour has not come yet."

Then Jesus' mother said to the servants and the wedding, "Do whatever He tells you to do."

Nearby were six stone water jars that would hold 20 or 30 gallons each. Jesus told the servants, "Fill the jars with water." So they filled them to the brim with water.

Then Jesus told them, "Now, take some out, and give it to the master of the wedding feast."

They did what Jesus said to do.

The master of the wedding feast tasted the water, that had been turned into wine. He did not know where the wine had come from, but the servants did. Then the master called the bridegroom aside to talk to him. He said to the bridegroom, "Most men serve the best wine first and save the wine that is not as good till last. But you have saved the best wine until now!"

This was the beginning of **miracles** that Jesus did in Cana of Galilee to show His glory. And His disciples believed in Him.

After this happened, Jesus, His mother, His brothers, and His disciples went to Capernaum, but they did not stay there many days.

Jesus goes to the Passover and cleanses the temple.

When it was almost time for the Feast of Passover, Jesus went to Jerusalem.

When Jesus went to the temple, He found men there selling oxen and sheep and doves. **Moneychangers** were doing business there also.

Jesus picked up some small ropes and made a whip. Then He drove all the people out of the temple area. He drove out the sheep and oxen, and He poured out the coins of the **moneychangers** and turned their tables over.

To the people that were selling doves, He said, "Take these things away! Do not make My Father's house a house of merchandise."

The Jews that were there asked Him, "What **sign** can you show us to prove that you have authority to do this?"

Jesus answered them, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up."

Then the Jews said, "It took forty-six years to build this temple, and you are going to raise it back up in three days?" (*The Jews did not know it, but Jesus was speaking about His body being raised, not the temple.*)

While Jesus was at the Passover feast, He did many **miracles** that caused men to believe on Him.



Think About It:

When Jesus threw the animals, people, and moneychangers out of the temple, it was because they had profaned God's house. To profane means to use something in a wrong way, and without respect.

The Jews were not showing the proper respect for the temple. The temple was the place where God's presence was, and it was to be treated in a holy manner. Many hundreds of years before this, King David said that the temple was not for man, but for the Lord God. (1 Chron. 29 : 1)

The Jews had forgotten that the temple was for the Lord, and they had made the temple a marketplace and a place of business. This was wrong.

Jesus was right when He threw the men out. He is Lord and they had not treated His Father with the proper respect by using His house in this manner.

Memory Work

John 1:1-3

1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

2 The same was in the beginning with God.

3 All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made.

Answer the Questions:

1. Where did Jesus go to a wedding feast? _____
2. Who was with Jesus at the wedding feast? _____

3. What did they run out of at the wedding feast? _____
4. What did Jesus do the the water in the stone jars? _____

5. Turning water to wine was Jesus' first _____ in Cana of Galilee.
6. What city did Jesus go to, to attend the Passover? _____
7. What were people selling at the temple? _____

8. Was it okay for the people to make the temple a marketplace? _____
9. Why or why not? _____

The Life of Christ

Lesson 10

Introduction:

In lesson 9 we learned about the first miracle that Jesus did in Cana of Galilee. As we study more about Jesus, we will learn many more miracles that He did.

We also learned about Jesus cleansing the temple of the moneychangers. The moneychangers had profaned God's house.

In lesson 10, we will learn about a man named Nicodemus who came to see Jesus. While Jesus is talking to Nicodemus, He brings up a story in Numbers 21 : 4 - 9. Read this story in your Bible, before you read your lesson. This will help you understand what Jesus means.

Vocabulary Words:

Pharisees - A group of Jews that were very strict about keeping the Old Law. They had problems though, because many times they thought that their customs and traditions were as important as God's law, and they expected the people to keep their customs and traditions.

Jew - A Jew was another name for an Israelite or Hebrew person. These were the people that descended from Abraham, and were God's chosen people under the Old Law. (*As we study about Jesus, God's people are still under the Old Law. They will be under the Old Law until Christ's death and resurrection.*)

Rabbi - Teacher or Master. A title of honor used by the Jews when they were talking of their teachers.

Eternal, everlasting - Without end.

of water and the spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God."

"Those who are born of a physical birth are flesh. Those born of the spirit, are spirit."

"Do not be surprised that I said to you, that you must be born again. The wind blows where it wants to, and you can hear the wind, but you cannot tell where it came from, or where it is going. The same is true of those who are born of the Spirit."

Nicodemus said, "How can these things be so?"

Jesus answered him, "You are a teacher in Israel, and you do not understand these things?"

"Truly I tell you, we have told you about things that we know, and things we have seen, but you do not believe what we have said."

"If you don't believe the earthly things I tell you, then how will you believe when I tell you about heavenly things?"

"No one has ever gone up into heaven, except the one that has come down from heaven — the SON OF MAN."

"Just as Moses lifted up a serpent in the wilderness(*Numbers 21 : 4 - 9*), the SON OF MAN must be lifted up too, so that everyone that believes in Him may have **eternal** life."

"This is God's plan — that God loved the world so much that he gave His only begotten Son. That whoever believes in Him should not perish, but have **everlasting** life."

"God didn't send His Son to condemn the world, but to save the world."

"All men are offered the chance to obey and be saved, if they do God's will. Those who do not do God's will are condemned, because they did not obey."

"Even though Light (*or Christ*) has come into the world, some will choose Darkness (*or sin*) instead of Light."

LESSON TEXT: John 3 : 1 - 21

Nicodemus visits Jesus at night.

Now there was a man named Nicodemus. Nicodemus was a **Pharisee**, and a ruler of the **Jews**.

Nicodemus came to Jesus one night and said to Him, "**Rabbi**, we know that you are a teacher come from God. For no one can do the miracles that you have done unless God is with him."

Jesus answered him, "Truly, truly, I tell you, unless one is born of the water and spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God."

Then Nicodemus said to Jesus, "How can a man be born when he is old? Can he go into his mother's body a second time and be born again?"

Jesus said, "I tell you the truth, unless a man is born

John testifies that Jesus is the Son of God.

After this, Jesus and His disciples went to Judea, into the countryside there. Jesus spent some time with them there, and they were baptizing people.

John was at a place called Aenon, near Salim. There was much water there, and people were coming to him to be baptized.

While they were there, John's disciples and the Jews had a discussion about purifying.

They came to John and said, "Rabbi, the man that was with you on the other side of the Jordan river—the one that you testified about—well, he is baptizing, and everyone is going to him."

John answered them, "A man can receive nothing, unless it is given to him from heaven."

"You can be a witness for me because you know that I have said that I am not Christ, but that I have been sent before Him."

"In a wedding, the one that has the bride is the bridegroom. The friend of the bridegroom helps the bridegroom, and that is how he gets his joy."

"I am like the friend of the bridegroom. My joy is complete. Christ must become greater, while I must become less important."

"The Father loves the Son, and has given everything into His hands. And those who believe in the Son shall have **everlasting** life, and those who do not, will not have life, but will have the wrath of God upon him."

THINK ABOUT IT:

Jesus is preparing the people for a spiritual kingdom. Up until this time, God's kingdom had been an earthly kingdom, that is, those in that kingdom were born into it by a physical birth. Nicodemus was confused when Jesus told him that he would have to be born again. But Jesus was talking about a spiritual birth, not a physical birth.

The Jews were born into an earthly kingdom by their physical birth, but in Christ's new kingdom one would have to be born by water and the spirit — or a spiritual birth — by baptism.

Jesus told Nicodemus that we choose to obey or disobey God, and that only those who obey Him can be in His spiritual kingdom.

The wonderful thing is — we can be in this spiritual kingdom today! The same Kingdom that Jesus told Nicodemus about! But we can only be in this Kingdom if we are obedient to God.

Memory Work

John 1:1-4

- 1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.
 - 2 The same was in the beginning with God.
 - 3 All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made.
 - 4 In him was life; and the life was the light of men.
- (KJV)

Fill-in-the-blanks:

1.
John 3:3 (KJV)
Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be _____ again, he cannot see the _____ of _____.
2.
John 3:16 (KJV)
For God so _____ the world, that he gave his only begotten _____, that whosoever _____ in him should not perish, but have _____ life.
3.
John 3:23 (KJV)
And John also was _____ in Aenon near to Salim, because there was _____ water there: and they came, and were baptized.
4.
John 3:36 (KJV)
He that _____ on the Son hath _____ life: and he that believeth _____ the Son shall _____ see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him.

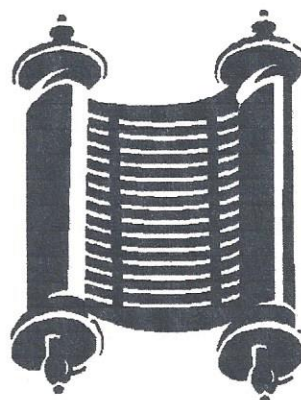
The Life of Christ

Lesson 11 - Review

Memory Work

John 1:1-4

- 1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.**
- 2 The same was in the beginning with God.**
- 3 All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made.**
- 4 In him was life; and the life was the light of men.**



MATCH

Match the following characters from our lessons to the correct answer.

- | | |
|----------------------------|---|
| 1. HEROD | A Pharisee that came to Jesus one night. |
| 2. ZACHARIAS AND ELISABETH | Saw baby Jesus at the temple and knew the prophecies about Him. |
| 3. JOHN | Immanuel, Messiah, Christ, Son of God, the Word |
| 4. GABRIEL | Tempted Jesus in the wilderness for 40 days. |
| 5. MARY AND JOSEPH | Disciples of Jesus that followed Him. |
| 6. JESUS | He said, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" |
| 7. SIMEON AND ANNA | Men that used the temple as a place of business. |
| 8. DEVIL | Wanted to find Jesus. He had all the baby boys killed. |
| 9. PHILLIP, SIMEON, ANDREW | He prepared the way for Jesus Christ. |
| 10. NATHANIEL | Announced the coming births of John and Jesus. |
| 11. MONEYCHANGERS | The parents of John. |
| 12. NICODEMUS | The earthly parents of Jesus. |

Thought Questions:

Think about the following questions and answer the best that you can.

1. Was it important that Jesus come to earth? _____
2. Why? _____

3. Was Jesus an ordinary man on earth? _____
4. Who was Jesus? _____

5. When Jesus was tempted by the devil, did He sin? _____
6. How is Jesus our example? _____



The Life of Christ

Lesson 12

Introduction:

In Lesson 11 we learned about a Pharisee that came to Jesus one night. His name was Nicodemus and he wanted to talk to Jesus about the things that he heard Jesus teach. Jesus taught Nicodemus about the kingdom that He came to earth to establish. Not an earthly kingdom, but a spiritual kingdom.

Later, John told his disciples that Jesus is the Son of God, and that Jesus is more important than he is. Jesus is more important than John because Jesus can give eternal life — He is the SON OF GOD!

In today's lesson we will learn about something that happens to John, and of Jesus as He continues His ministry.

Vocabulary Words:

Samaria or Samaritans - This was a group of people that the Jews hated. They were a group of people that married the Jews left in the city of Samaria. This happened many hundreds of years before, during the Assyrian captivity. (God had told the Jews not to marry people from other nations.) These people became a mixed race called Samaritans.

LESSON TEXT: Matt. 14 : 1 - 5; Luke 3: 19 -20 ;
Matt. 4: 12 - 17 ; Mark 1: 14 - 15 ; Luke 4: 14 - 15 ;
John 4 : 1 - 45

John the Baptist tells Herod that he is not living right.

Herod was a ruler at this time. He was living with his brother Phillip's wife, which was wrong.

John went to Herod and told him, "It is not right that you have your brother's wife."

When John told Herod this, he wanted to kill John. But he did not kill him because he was afraid of the people. For the people thought that John was a prophet. So Herod put John into prison.

Jesus leaves Judea and goes through Samaria.

The Pharisees knew that Jesus was making and baptizing more disciples than John. (Although, Jesus did not do the actual baptizing — His disciples did.)

When Jesus heard that John had been put into prison, He decided to leave Judea and go to Galilee. On his journey He decided to go through Samaria.

Jesus came to a city of Samaria called Sychar.

Sychar was near a place that Jacob had given to his son Joseph, many hundreds of years before.

Jacob's well of water was there, and since Jesus was tired from His journey, He sat down by the well.

While He was sitting there, His disciples went into the city to buy food.

When a Samaritan woman came to the well to draw water, Jesus said to her, "Will you give me a drink?"

The Samaritan woman said to Jesus, "You are a Jew and I am a Samaritan woman. How can you ask me for a drink?" (For the Jews did not associate with the Samaritans.)

Jesus said to her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that says to you, 'Give me a drink', you would have asked Him and He would have given you living water."

The Samaritan woman answered, "Sir, you have nothing to draw with, and the well is deep. Where can you get this living water?"

"Are you greater than our father Jacob? Jacob gave us the well and he drank from the well. So did his children and his cattle."

Jesus said, "Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again, but whoever drinks the water that I will give him will never be thirsty. But the water I give him will become a fountain of water springing up into eternal life."

The woman said, "Sir, give me this water so that I will not be thirsty, and so that I will not have to keep coming here to draw water."

Jesus said, "Go call your husband and come back."

She replied, "I have no husband."

Jesus said, "You are right when you say that you have no husband. For you have had five husbands, and the man that you have now is not your husband. What you have just said is quite true."

"Sir," the woman said, "I can see that you are a prophet. Our fathers worshipped on this mountain, but you Jews say that we must worship in Jerusalem."

Jesus said, "Woman, believe me. The time is coming when this mountain and Jerusalem will not be the only places to worship the Father. You Samaritans worship what you don't know. The Jews worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews."

"But a time is coming, and now is, when true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and in truth. This is the kind of worship that the Father wants. God is a Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship Him in spirit and in truth."

The woman said, "I know that the Messiah is coming. When He comes, He will explain everything to us."

Jesus said, "I, who speak to you, am He."

Just then, Jesus' disciples returned. They were surprised that Jesus was speaking to the woman, but they did not ask Him, "What do you want?" or "Why are you talking with her?"

The woman left her waterpot, and went back to the city. She said to the men in the city, "Come see a man that has told me everything that I have ever done. Could this man be the Christ?"

The men in the city left and went to find Jesus.

In the meantime, Jesus disciples tried to get Him to eat. But Jesus said to His disciples, "I have food to eat that you do not know about."

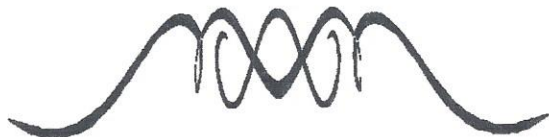
Then His disciples said to each other, "Has anyone brought Him something to eat?"

Jesus said to them, "My food is to do the will of Him that sent Me, and to finish His work. Do not say that there are four more months until harvest. Open your eyes and look at the fields, for they are ready to harvest."

Many of the **Samaritans** believed in Jesus because the woman told them, "He told me everything I ever did."

When the **Samaritans** came to Him, they wanted Him to stay with them. Jesus stayed two more days before He traveled on the Galilee. And because of the things He taught, many more became believers.

The **Samaritans** said to the woman, "Now we believe Him. Not just because of what He said to you, but because we have heard Him ourselves. We know that this is the Christ, the Saviour of the world."



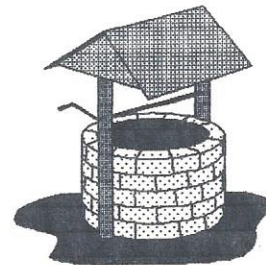
Think About It:

Jesus told the woman at the well that "*Those who worship God must worship Him in spirit and in truth*".

Under the Old Law, the Jews were to go to Jerusalem to worship God. This is where the temple was located.

Jesus told the woman at the well that under the New Law there will not be a specific place to worship God. We can worship Him anywhere, as long as we worship Him in spirit and in truth. This means - we must worship Him with the right kind of heart and in the right way, doing the right things. How we worship Him spiritually is what matters, not where we worship Him.

This is true today. We can worship God in a building, or outside under a tree. The place doesn't matter. But how we worship Him does matter. We must be sure that we do the things that He has told us to do in His Word, so that we may be pleasing to Him!



Memory Work

John 1:1-5

- 1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.
- 2 The same was in the beginning with God.
- 3 All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made.
- 4 In him was life; and the life was the light of men.
- 5 And the light shineth in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not.

(KJV)

True or False

1. ____ Herod was glad that John told him the truth.
2. ____ Jesus left Judea and went through Samaria.
3. ____ The Jews were great friends with the Samaritans.
4. ____ Jesus was tired from the journey and sat down by Jacob's well of water.
5. ____ The Samaritan woman asked Jesus for a drink.
6. ____ Jesus' disciples went into the city to buy food.
7. ____ Jesus told the woman that He could give her living water.
8. ____ Jesus told the woman that the man she was living with was not her husband.
9. ____ Jesus said that true worshippers worship God in spirit and in truth.
10. ____ The woman did not believe the things Jesus told her.
11. ____ Many of the Samaritans believed that Jesus was the Son of God.

Thought Questions

1. John made Herod angry when he told him that he was doing wrong by living with his brother's wife. Herod put him in prison. Did John do right by telling Herod this? _____
2. Was God pleased with Herod when he was living with his brother's wife? _____
3. Should we be willing to tell people that the things they are doing are wrong, even when we know that we might be persecuted for telling them? _____
4. Jesus told the Samaritan woman at the well that the man she was living with was not her husband. Jesus also told her that those who worship God must worship Him in spirit and in truth. Do you think Jesus would have wanted the woman to continue to live with that man? _____
Could she worship God in spirit and in truth if she continued to live with a man that was not her husband? _____
5. Can we worship God in spirit and in truth if we are not obeying God and living like we should? _____

The Life of Christ

Lesson 13

Introduction:

In lesson 12 we learned about John being put in prison by Herod. We also learned about Jesus teaching a Samaritan woman, and other Samaritans, the gospel. Jesus told the woman that we are to worship God in spirit and in truth. He told her that where we worship God is not as important as how we worship God.

Today we will begin our study of THE GREAT GALILEAN MINISTRY. We call it this because Jesus begins to teach in Galilee.

Vocabulary Words:

Nobleman - A royal official. One who was in service to the king.

Synagogue - A place where the Jews would gather together on the Sabbath day to pray, read, and listen to the scriptures.

Scroll - The people of that day did not have books like we have. They wrote on long pieces of paper or papyrus, and then it was rolled up. The scroll had to be unrolled to be read.

LESSON TEXT: John 4: 46-54 ; Luke 4 : 16-30 ; Matt. 4: 13-16

Jesus heals the nobleman's son.

Jesus came to Cana of Galilee. This is the same city where Jesus turned the water to wine.

A **nobleman** learned that Jesus had come to Galilee so he went to see Jesus. This **nobleman** had a son in Capernaum that was very sick.

The **nobleman** went to Jesus and begged him to come and heal his son, for his son was about to die.

Jesus said to the **nobleman**, "Unless you people see signs and wonders, you will not believe."

The **nobleman** said, "Sir, come down before my son dies."

Jesus replied, "Go on your way. Your son will live."

So the man believed what Jesus told him and he started back home.

Before he got home, his servants met him and told him that his son was living. The **nobleman** asked his servants, "What hour did my son get better?"

The servants said, "The fever left him yesterday at the seventh hour."

When the servants told the **nobleman** this, he knew that his son was healed at the same time that Jesus told him, "Your son lives." And the **nobleman** and his whole

household believed in Jesus after this.

This is the second miracle that Jesus did as he came out of Judea into Galilee.

The people in Nazareth reject Jesus.

Nazareth was a city in Galilee, and the city where Jesus grew up.

Jesus went to Nazareth. On the Sabbath day he went to the **synagogue** as he usually did. That day he stood up to read. A **scroll**, with the book of Isaiah written on it, was handed to Jesus.

Jesus unrolled the **scroll** and found the place where it was written:

"The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me, because He has anointed Me to preach the gospel to the poor; he has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed; To proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord."

Then Jesus rolled the scroll back up and handed it back to the attendant and sat down.

And the eyes of everyone were looking at Jesus.

So Jesus began to speak to them. He said, "Today the scripture that you heard me read has been fulfilled in your hearing."

All the people began to say good things about Him. They wondered about the gracious words that He spoke. And they said, "Isn't this Joseph's son?"

Jesus said to them, "Surely you will say this proverb to Me, 'Physician, heal yourself'. Do the same things in your hometown that we heard you did in Capernaum."

"I tell you the truth, that no prophet is accepted in his hometown."

"But I tell you the truth. In the days of Elijah there were many widows in Israel. There was no rain for three years and six months and there was a severe famine in the land. But Elijah was not sent to any of the widows in Israel. He was sent to a widow in Zarephath."

"In the days of Elisha the prophet there were many lepers in Israel. None of the lepers in Israel were made well. Only a leper in Syria, named Naaman, was made well."

When the people in the **synagogue** heard Jesus say these things, they were filled with anger. They did not want to hear Jesus tell of the widow in Zarephath and Naaman receiving blessings from God, for the widow and Naaman were Gentiles.

The people got up and they drove Jesus out of the town. They took him to a cliff and intended to throw Him off of it, but Jesus walked right through the crowd of people and went on His way.

Jesus goes to Capernaum.

When Jesus left Nazareth, He went to Capernaum. Capernaum is on the sea coast.

When Jesus went there, a prophecy in Isaiah was fulfilled.

From this time on Jesus began to preach and say, "Repent: for the kingdom of heaven is near."

THINK ABOUT IT:

Jesus grew up in the town of Nazareth. So it was not unusual for Him to go to the synagogue there. The Bible says it was His custom to go to the synagogue.

The people knew His earthly father, Joseph. They had seen Jesus grow up and knew Him as only a man. This is why the people were amazed when He said, "*Today the scripture you heard me read has been fulfilled in your hearing.*"

This scripture was a prophecy of the Messiah.

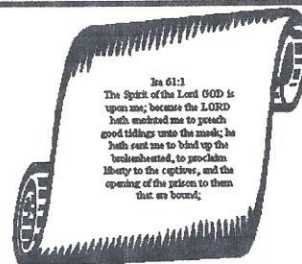
The people thought of Jesus as only a man, the son of Joseph. They did not think of Him as the Messiah, the Christ, the Son of God.

This is why they were angry. Jesus tried to tell them that just as God had Elijah and Elisha go to the Gentiles in the Old Testament, Jesus will go to the Gentiles also.

As we continue to study the life of Christ, we will see Him take the gospel to the Jews first. But many of them will not want to hear what Jesus has to say. Later, the gospel will be taught to the Gentiles.

TRUE OR FALSE

1. ____ The nobleman had a sick daughter.
2. ____ The nobleman's son was healed the same hour that Jesus told him, "Your son lives."
3. ____ Jesus usually did not go to the synagogue on the Sabbath.
4. ____ Jesus read from the book of Isaiah.
5. ____ The people in Nazareth knew Jesus as Joseph's son.
6. ____ The people liked to hear the things that Jesus said.
7. ____ The people threw Jesus off a cliff.
8. ____ Jesus began to preach to the people to repent for the kingdom of heaven is near.
9. ____ Jesus fulfilled the prophecies in the Old Testament.



Memory Work

John 1:1-5

1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

2 The same was in the beginning with God.

3 All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made.

4 In him was life; and the life was the light of men.

5 And the light shineth in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not.

The Life of Christ

Lesson 14

Introduction:

In lesson 13 we studied about Jesus healing the nobleman's son. We also learned about how the people in Nazareth rejected Jesus. They did not want to hear the things that Jesus said. They did not want to think of Him as their Messiah or the Son of God. They wanted to kill Jesus by throwing Him off a cliff, but Jesus escaped and was not hurt.

He went to Capernaum and continued to preach about the kingdom of heaven, and to fulfill prophecies about Himself.

In today's lesson, Jesus chooses some of the men that will become His disciples.

We'll also learn of some of the miracles that Jesus did while He was here on earth.

Vocabulary Words:

Authority - The right to rule or have power over others. Our authority is Jesus Christ. He has the right to rule over us.

Scribe - Men who would study the scriptures and teach it. They would also make copies of the scriptures, by writing it out on a scroll. The people of that time did not have printing presses, so books (or scrolls) would have to be carefully written by the scribes. The people thought very highly of the scribes.

Demon - The Bible does not tell us much about demons. They possessed the body of people on earth and were evil, so we know they were under Satan's control. The demons knew who Christ was, and Christ had the power to cast the demons out of people. We know, by the scriptures, that people are not possessed by demons today. We cannot know anything more about them than what the Bible tells us about them.

Gospel - The good news.

LESSON TEXT: Mark 1: 16 - 39; Matt. 4: 18 - 25; Luke 5: 1 - 11; Luke 4: 31 - 44; Matt. 8: 14 - 17

Jesus calls four disciples to follow Him.

One day Jesus was walking by the Sea of Galilee. There was a large crowd of people following Him, because they wanted to hear the word of God.

As Jesus walked along the shore of the sea, He noticed two boats at the water's edge. Two men, Simon Peter and Andrew, were nearby washing their nets that they used to fish with.

Jesus got into Simon Peter's boat and asked Simon to put the boat out a little way from the land. Then Jesus

sat down in the boat and taught the crowd of people from the boat.

When Jesus finished speaking, He said to Simon, "Go out into the deep water and let down your nets to catch fish."

Simon Peter said to Jesus, "Master, we have worked hard all night and have caught nothing. But because you say so I will let down the nets."

When they let the nets down, they caught such a large number of fish that their nets began to break. So they signaled that their partners in the other boat come and help them. They came and filled both of the boats so full that the boats began to sink.

When Simon Peter saw what had been done, he told Jesus, "Go away from me Lord, for I am a sinful man."

James and John, the sons of Zebedee, were Simon's partners. They and everyone with Simon were amazed at all the fish that they had caught.

Jesus told Simon, "Do not fear, for from now on you will be catching men."

Jesus also called Andrew, James and John to follow Him and He would make them fishers of men.

The men brought their boats to land. James and John left their father, Zebedee, to follow Jesus. Simon Peter, Andrew, James and John left everything to follow Jesus.

Jesus heals a man of a demon.

Jesus and his disciples went to Capernaum, a city of Galilee. On the Sabbath day Jesus went to the synagogue and taught the people there.

The people were amazed at what Jesus taught, for Jesus taught them with **authority**. Their **scribes** did not teach in this way.

In the synagogue was a man that was possessed

with an unclean **demon**.

The **demon** called out with a loud voice, "Let us alone! What have we to do with you, Jesus of Nazareth? Did You come to destroy us? I know who you are — the Holy One of God!"

Jesus rebuked the **demon** and said, "Be quiet, and come out of him."

Then the **demon** threw the man down among the people and cried out with a loud voice. And the **demon** came out of the man and did not hurt the man.

All the people in the synagogue were amazed. And they said among themselves, "What is this? A new teaching with **authority**! He even commands the unclean spirits and they obey Him."

Immediately, the news about Jesus spread into all the country around Galilee.

Jesus heals Peter's mother-in-law.

As soon as Jesus left the synagogue, He went to the house of Simon Peter and Andrew with James and John.

Simon's mother-in-law with very sick with a fever and they told Jesus about her at once.

So Jesus came and stood over her. He took her by the hand and lifted her up and immediately the fever left her.

Immediately she got up and began to serve those who were in the house.

That evening, when the sun was setting, people began to bring those who were sick to Jesus at the door of Simon Peter's house. And He laid His hands on them and healed them.

The people brought those who were possessed with **demons**. Jesus cast them out with a word. Many of the demons came out saying, "You are the Christ, the Son of God!" But Jesus would rebuke them and not allow them to speak because they knew He was the Christ.

Jesus traveled throughout Galilee preaching and teaching.

Very early the next morning, before it was daylight, Jesus went to a place where no one was and prayed.

Simon Peter, and those with him, searched for Jesus. When they found Him they said, "Everyone is looking for You." And the people tried to get Him to stay.

But Jesus said, "I must go to other cities also to preach the kingdom of God. For I was sent for this purpose."

And Jesus went about all Galilee teaching in the synagogues and preaching the **gospel** of the kingdom. He healed all kinds of sickness and disease and cast out **demons**. And the news of Him spread throughout all Syria. Many people from many cities began to follow Him.

Memory Work

**Be able to say John 1 : 1 - 5
from memory!**



THINK ABOUT IT:

Jesus told Simon Peter, Andrew, James and John that He would make them "*fishers of men*".

Jesus meant by this that He was going to teach them the things that they must know, and then they would go out and teach the things that they had learned.

Fishermen catch fish. Jesus' wanted his disciples to be like fishermen and "catch" men with the Word of God. As His disciples taught the Word of God, people would believe it and want to do it.

His disciples would be "*fishers of men*".



Fill in the Blanks

1. Luke 5:10

And so was also James, and John, the sons of Zebedee, which were partners with Simon. And Jesus said unto Simon, Fear not; from henceforth thou shalt _____. (KJV)

2. Mark 1:17

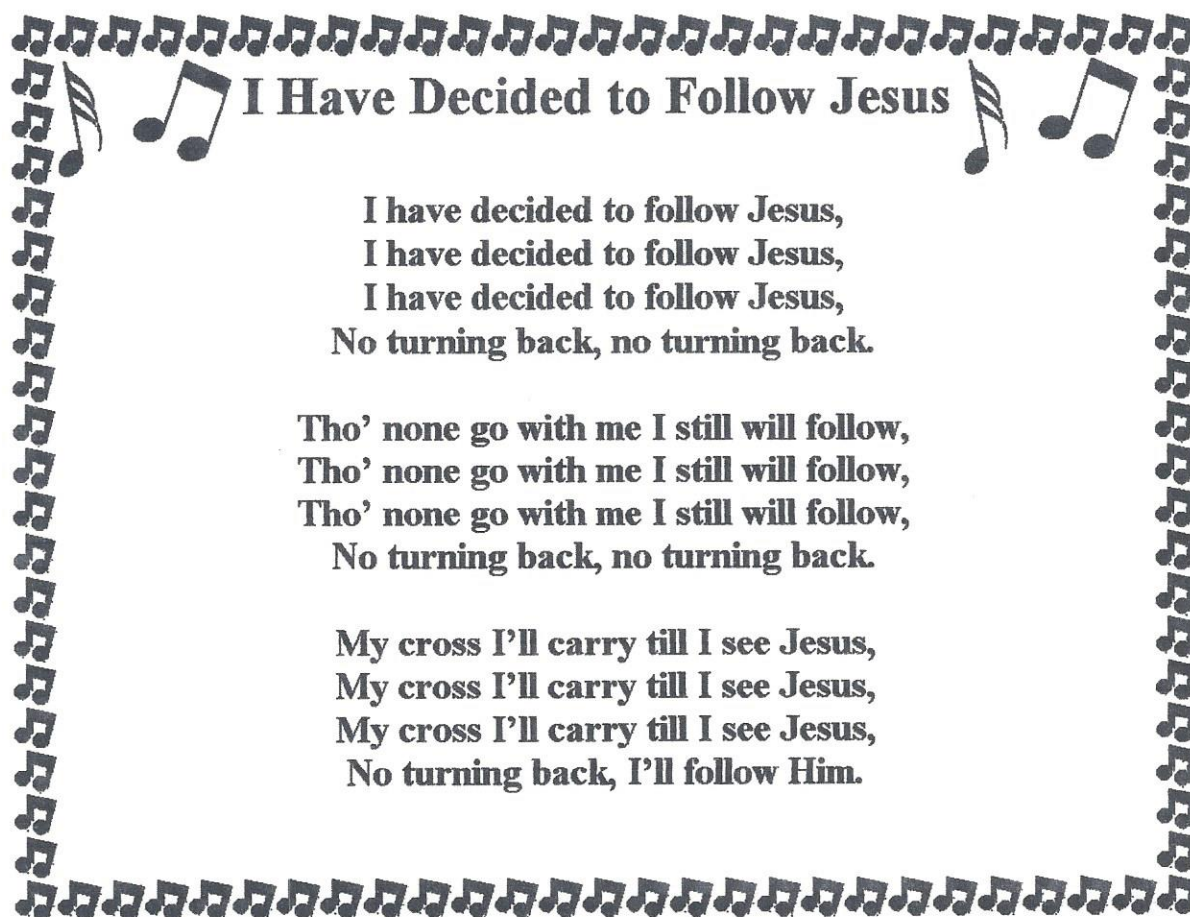
And Jesus said unto them, Come ye after me, and I will make you to become _____ of _____. (KJV)

3. Mark 1:18

And _____ they forsook their nets, and _____ him. (KJV)

4. Matt 4:24

And his _____ went throughout all Syria: and they brought unto him all _____ people that were taken with divers diseases and torments, and those which were possessed with devils, and those which were lunatick, and those that had the palsy; and he _____ them. (KJV)

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I Have Decided to Follow Jesus

I have decided to follow Jesus,
I have decided to follow Jesus,
I have decided to follow Jesus,
No turning back, no turning back.

Tho' none go with me I still will follow,
Tho' none go with me I still will follow,
Tho' none go with me I still will follow,
No turning back, no turning back.

My cross I'll carry till I see Jesus,
My cross I'll carry till I see Jesus,
My cross I'll carry till I see Jesus,
No turning back, I'll follow Him.

The Life of Christ

Lesson 15

Introduction:

In lesson 14 we learned about Jesus calling four of His disciples to follow Him and become “fishers of men”. Simon Peter, Andrew, James and John leave everything and follow Him. Jesus went on to Capernaum and cast a demon out of a man, he healed Simon Peter’s mother-in-law, and healed many other people of disease and cast out demons. Jesus is doing these miracles for a reason — to cause men to believe that He is the Son of God.

Remember this as we continue to study the miracles of Jesus in today’s lesson.

Vocabulary Words:

Leprosy - A skin disease. Leprosy was contagious and could be caught by touching those with the disease. Those with the disease had to live away from other people so that they would not infect others. A person with Leprosy was considered unclean under the law of Moses.

Leper - A person that had the disease **Leprosy**.

Compassion - To feel sympathy and pity for.

Paralytic - One who is paralyzed. Most certainly the man could not use his legs.

Blaspheme - To speak evil of God or sacred things.

Publican - A tax collector.

Repent , repentance - A change of mind, followed by a change of behavior.

still came to him from everywhere.

Jesus heals the paralytic.

A few days later, Jesus went to Capernaum. When people learned that Jesus was there, they went to the house where Jesus was.

That day, Jesus was preaching. There were Pharisees, and teachers of the law there. They had come from every town of Galilee, Judea, and Jerusalem.

There were so many people in the house that no one else could come into it.

Four men came to the house carrying a man that was a **paralytic**. Since the men could not get into the house, they went on top of the house and made a hole in the roof. Then they let the paralyzed man down through the roof on his bed, right in the center of the room, in front of Jesus.

When Jesus saw their faith, He said to the **paralytic**, “ Be of good cheer. Your sins are forgiven you.”

At once, the scribes and Pharisees that heard this began to think to themselves, “ This man **blasphemes!** Who can forgive sin, but God alone?”

Immediately, Jesus knew what they were thinking. He said, “ Why do you think evil in your hearts? Which is easier to say to the paralytic, ‘your sins are forgiven you’ or ‘get up and walk’?”

“But so you will know that the Son of Man has the authority on earth to forgive sins..... Then Jesus turned to the paralyzed man and said, “Rise, take up your bed, and go home.”

Immediately, the man got up, picked up his bed, and went home glorifying God. Everyone that saw this was amazed and glorified God. They were filled with fear and said, “ We have never seen anything like this.”

LESSON TEXT: Mark 1: 40 - 45; Matt. 8: 2 - 4; Matt. 9: 2 - 17; Luke 5: 12 - 39

Jesus heals a leper.

It happened that while Jesus was in a certain city that a man with **leprosy** saw Jesus. The **leper** fell on his face and worshipped Jesus and said, “Lord if you will, you can make me clean.”

Jesus felt **compassion** for the man so he put out His hand and touched him and said, “ I am willing. Be clean.”

Immediately the **leprosy** left the man and he was clean of the disease.

Jesus told him, “ Say nothing of this to anyone, but go show yourself to the priest and make the offerings that Moses commanded for you to be clean.”

The man left Jesus, but he did not do what Jesus said. He told others what Jesus had done for him and the word of it spread so that Jesus could no longer go openly into a city. So Jesus stayed outside the cities in lonely areas, but the people

Jesus calls Matthew.

After these things happened, Jesus went out walking by the seashore. A multitude of people were coming to Him, and He was teaching them.

As Jesus passed by, He saw Levi (or Matthew) the **publican** sitting in the tax office.

Jesus said to him, "Follow me!" And Matthew got up, left everything, and followed Jesus.

Matthew made Jesus a great feast in his house. Many **publicans** and sinners were there eating the feast with Jesus and His disciples.

When the scribes and Pharisees saw Jesus eating with the publicans and sinners, they said to Jesus' disciples, " Why does your Teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?"

Jesus heard them and said, " People that are well do not need a doctor, but sick people do. I did not come to call the righteous, but to call the sinners to **repentance**."

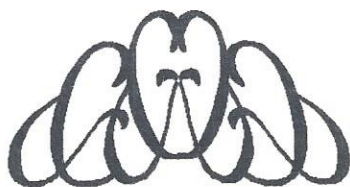
Then the disciples of John came to Jesus and said, "Why do we **fast**, and the Pharisees **fast**, but your disciples do not **fast**? Your disciples are eating and drinking."

Jesus said, " While a bridegroom is with his guests they are not sad. They enjoy the time they have with him. When the bridegroom leaves his guests are sad, and that is the time they **fast**."

"No one tears a piece of cloth from a new garment and then sews it to a hole in an old garment. If one did, the patch would not match the old garment, and would make the tear in the old garment worse."

"Neither do men put new wine into old wineskins. If they do, the wine will burst the old wineskin and will ruin it. No - new wine is put into new wineskins."

(Jesus is trying to tell them that doing some things is not wise. He used these illustrations to show them that some people would want to continue obeying the Old Law. They would not want to accept the New Law that Jesus was teaching them. But, even though some people would want to continue following the Old Law, it would not be wise, because the New Law was better. Following the New Law was what God wanted them do.)



THINK ABOUT IT:

Jesus used His miracles to prove that He was the Son of God.

Jesus told the paralytic that his sins were forgiven. One could not tell by looking at him that his sins were forgiven. But, when Jesus told the man to "Get up! Take up your bed and go home", and the man did so — that was proof that Jesus was who He claimed to be.

If Jesus had the power to heal the paralytic, then He most certainly had the power to forgive sin. Jesus showed them that He had the power to do BOTH!

Multiple Choice

underline the correct answer

1. The (Pharisee , leper) fell on his face and worshipped Jesus saying, " Lord, if you will, You can make me clean.
2. (The next week , Immediately) the leper was made clean.
3. Four men carrying a paralytic (could , could not) get into the house that Jesus was in.
4. The men went (up in a tree , on top of the roof) and let the man down in front of Jesus.
5. Jesus (does , does not) have the authority to forgive sin.
6. (Two days later , immediately) the paralytic got up, picked up his bed and went home.
7. Jesus said to Matthew, ("Go back home", " Follow Me") .
8. Matthew (did , did not) follow Jesus.

The Life of Christ

Lesson 16

Introduction:

In lesson 15 we learned that wherever Jesus went, people followed Him. They wanted to hear the things that He said, and see the miracles that He did.

We also learned that Jesus not only had the power to heal the sick, but he could also forgive sins. He was indeed who He claimed to be — THE SON OF GOD!

We also learned that Jesus had a message. This message would be a new law for His people to follow. Some people would not want to hear this new message — the GOSPEL OF JESUS CHRIST.

In our lesson today, Jesus heals a lame man. He also has to prove who He is, because the people do not believe Him.

Vocabulary Words:

Sabbath - Saturday. The day that the Lord told His people to worship him in the Law of Moses. The people were to rest on the Sabbath and remember that God had given them this day. When one did something that was not to be done on the Sabbath, they said that one had "broken the Sabbath".

Honor - To show respect for. To value.

Testify or give **Testimony** - To tell what one has seen, heard, or experienced. To give a true report about something that one has witnessed.

LESSON TEXT: John 5 : 1 - 47

Jesus heals a lame man on the Sabbath.

The Jews were celebrating one of their feast days, and so Jesus went to the city of Jerusalem to celebrate also.

In Jerusalem was a pool of water called the Pool of Bethesda. This pool had five covered porches, and on these porches laid many sick, blind, lame, and paralyzed people.

These people were waiting for the water in the pool to move. When that happened they believed that the first one to go into the pool would be healed of whatever his problem was.

A certain man was there that had been sick for thirty-eight years. Jesus saw the man lying there, and He knew that the man had been sick for many years. So Jesus said to him, "Do you want to be made well?"

The sick man said, "Sir, there is no one to put me into the pool when the water is moved. For while I am trying to get to the water, another person gets there

ahead of me."

Jesus said to him, "Rise! Take up your bed and walk!"

Immediately the man was made well. He picked up his bed and walked. Jesus had healed him on the **Sabbath** day.

The Jews that saw the man carrying his bed said to him, "It is against the law of Moses for you to carry your bed on the Sabbath."

The man said to them, "The man that made me well told me, 'pick up your bed and walk'."

So the Jews asked the man, "Who is the man that told you to pick up your bed and walk?"

The man who was healed had no idea who had healed him, for Jesus had slipped away into the crowd of people that was there.

Later on, Jesus found the man that He had healed and said to him, "See, you have been made well. Do not sin anymore so that nothing worse happens to you."

Then the man left Jesus and told the Jew that it was Jesus that had made him well.

Because Jesus had done these things on the **Sabbath** day, the Jews searched for Jesus. They persecuted Him and wanted to kill Him.

But Jesus answered the Jews, "My Father has been working until now, and I am working."

When Jesus said this, the Jews wanted to kill Jesus even more. For they thought that Jesus had not only broken the **Sabbath**, but Jesus had said that God was His Father and He had made himself equal with God.

Jesus said, "Truly, the Son can do nothing by himself. He can only do what the Father does. For what the Father does, the Son does too."

Jesus was telling the Jews that He and the Father are equal in the work that they do.

Jesus also told the Jews that He and the Father are

equal in their power over death. The Father can raise people from the dead and the Son can too.

Jesus and the Father are equal in **honor**. Those who did not **honor** Jesus did not **honor** the Father that sent Him.

Jesus and the Father are equal in their power to give life.

Jesus told the Jews that He did not seek to do His own will, but to do the will of the Father that sent Him.

Jesus said to the Jews, "If I am the only one to **testify** of Myself, then my **testimony** is not true. But, I am not the only one to **testify**."

"There is another one that can **testify** of Me, and what he says about Me is true. You sent to John the Baptist and asked him about Me, and what he has said is true."

"But I have a greater witness than John the Baptist. The works, that the Father has sent Me to do, **testify** that the Father in heaven has sent Me."

"You Jews do not have God's word dwelling in you because you don't believe that He sent me. You study the scriptures and think that they will save you. But the same scriptures that you study are the same ones that **testify** of Me."

"You do not have the love of God in you, for I have come in My Father's name and you don't accept Me. If you believed Moses, you would believe Me. For Moses wrote about Me."

"If you don't believe what Moses wrote, how will you believe My words?"

MEMORY WORK

Memorize the first 6 apostles

- | | |
|-----------|----------------|
| 1. Peter | 4. John |
| 2. Andrew | 5. Phillip |
| 3. James | 6. Bartholomew |

THINK ABOUT IT:

The Jews became angry with Jesus because He had healed a man on the Sabbath. They accused Jesus of breaking the Sabbath.

Jesus told the Jews that God works on the Sabbath and that He was doing the work that God the Father had given Him to do. God had given the Sabbath to man. Jesus was God the Son. If anyone knew how to keep the Sabbath, it would be God who gave it to man. Jesus knew what the law meant and how it should be kept. Therefore, Jesus did not break the Sabbath. He came to earth to do the Father's will.

Remember this as we study the next lesson.

Answer the following questions:

1. Jesus went to a feast in the city of _____
2. There were _____ porches by the pool of Bethesda.
3. Jesus saw a man at the pool of Bethesda that had been sick for _____ years.
4. What did Jesus ask the man? _____

5. What did Jesus tell the man to do? _____

6. What day did Jesus heal the man? _____

7. What did the Jews want to do to Jesus? _____

8. Name some ways that Jesus and the Father are equal. _____

9. Did Jesus break the Sabbath? _____

The Life of Christ

Lesson 17

Introduction:

In lesson 16 we studied about Jesus healing a lame man on the Sabbath. The Jews were upset with Jesus because He had done this. They accused Jesus of "breaking the Sabbath". Jesus had to explain to the people who He was.

Many of the Jews had traditions that they had practiced for many years. A tradition is something that one does over and over until it is done as a custom. The Jews began to think that their traditions were God's law. So, when Jesus broke one of their traditions, they accused Him of breaking God's law. This is what happens in our lesson today. We must remember, however, that Jesus kept the law of God perfectly. The things that the Jews accused Him of were not true.

We will also study about Jesus selecting 12 special men to be His apostles.

Vocabulary Words:

Son of Man - Another name for Jesus Christ.

Withered - Shrunken.

Accuse - To charge someone with doing something bad.

Lawful - Something that is right to do. It is according to law.

Apostles - One that is sent with a message.

LESSON TEXT: Matt. 12 : 1 - 14; Mark 2 : 23 - 28; Mark 3 : 1 - 19; Luke 6 : 1 - 16

Jesus and His disciples pick grain on the Sabbath.

One Sabbath day, Jesus and His disciples were going through a grainfield on the Sabbath day. They were hungry, so as they walked along they picked some of the grain and began to eat it.

When the Pharisees saw Jesus and His disciples doing this they said, "Why are you doing something that is against God's law on the Sabbath?"

Jesus said to the Pharisees, "Haven't you read what David and his companions did when they were hungry? He went into the house of God and ate the shewbread, which was not right for him to eat. For the shewbread was to be for the priests only."

"David ate the shewbread, and his companions did too."

"I tell you that there is One here that is greater than the temple. If you had known what these words mean: 'I desire mercy and not sacrifice', you would not condemn the innocent. The Sabbath was made for man, not man for the Sabbath. The **Son of Man** is Lord of the Sabbath."

Jesus heals a man with a withered hand on the Sabbath.

Another Sabbath, Jesus entered into the synagogue and a man with a **withered** right hand was there.

The scribes and the Pharisees watched Jesus closely that day to see if He would heal anyone on the Sabbath day. For they wanted to **accuse** Jesus.

Jesus knew what the scribes and Pharisees were thinking, so He said to the man with the **withered** hand, "Rise, and stand here."

The man rose and stood up.

Then Jesus said to the scribes and Pharisees, "Is it **lawful** on the Sabbath to do good or evil? To save life or destroy it? If any of you had one sheep and it fell into a pit on the Sabbath day — wouldn't you get the sheep out of the pit? Man is of much more value than a sheep. So it is **lawful** to do good on the Sabbath."

The scribes and the Pharisees kept silent. Jesus looked around at all of them with anger, for He was sorry that they had hardened their hearts against Him.

Jesus said to the man with the withered hand, "Stretch out your hand."

The man stretched out his hand and Jesus made his hand well.

This made the Pharisees angry, and they began to plan how they could destroy Jesus.

When Jesus learned of their plans, he left and went to the sea with His disciples. A great multitude of people from Judea, Jerusalem, Galilee and beyond the Jordan followed Jesus, and He healed those who were sick among them.

Because there were so many people, Jesus told His disciples to have a boat ready for Him. He went into the boat to teach, to keep the people from crowding so close to Him.

Jesus had healed many people. He also cast out many demons.

The things that Jesus did fulfilled many prophecies of the prophet Isaiah.

Jesus prays to God and chooses His twelve apostles.

One day Jesus went into a mountain to pray. He prayed all night to God.

The next day Jesus called His disciples to Him. He chose twelve of them that He named **apostles**. They were:

Peter
Andrew
James
John
Philip
Bartholomew
Thomas
Matthew
James
Thaddaeus
Simon
Judas

These twelve **apostles** would be with Jesus while He was on earth. Then He would send them forth to preach the gospel. God would give them the power to heal the sick and cast out demons.

Memory Work

Memorize the 12 apostles:

PETER
ANDREW
JAMES
JOHN
PHILIP
BARTHOLOMEW
THOMAS
MATTHEW
JAMES THE SON OF ALPHAEUS
SIMON
JUDAS ISCARIOT

Think about it:

Jesus proved over and over to men that He was the Son of God. Many of the Jews did not want to believe Him though. They planned ways to destroy Jesus.

The Pharisees tried to say that Jesus had done wrong. Over and over Jesus would answer them and prove that He was right. But they would not listen to Him. Even the miracles that Jesus did, did not convince them that He was the Son of God and that He had God's approval.

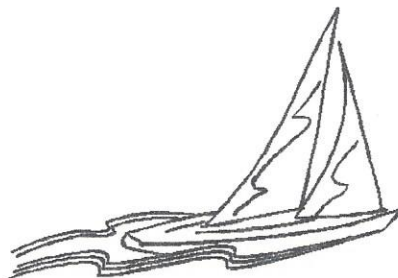
We can be like the Pharisees today. When we read God's word and we do not obey it, we are saying that we do not really believe what it says.

The things that are written in God's word are to cause us to believe that Jesus is the Son of God.

Look up John 20 : 31 and fill-in-the blanks:

But these are _____, that ye might
_____ that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of
God; and that believing ye might have life through his
name.

(KJV)



Fill-in-the-blanks:

1. Jesus and His disciples picked some grain to eat on the _____ day.
2. Jesus said that the _____ is Lord of the Sabbath.
3. A man with a _____ hand was in the synagogue on the Sabbath.
4. The scribes and Pharisees watched Jesus to see if He would heal the man. They wanted to _____ Him.
5. Jesus taught the people from a _____ on the sea .
6. Jesus _____ all night before He chose His apostles the next day.
7. Jesus chose _____ apostles.

The Life of Christ

Lesson 18

Introduction:

In lesson 17 we studied about Jesus and His disciples picking grain to eat on the Sabbath. He also healed a man with a withered hand on the Sabbath. These things made the Pharisees angry and they wanted to destroy Jesus. Jesus had not broken the Law of Moses, but He had broken their traditions.

Jesus also picked the 12 special men that would teach the world about Jesus. These men were called "APOSTLES".

Our lesson today is the sermon on the mount. A mount is another way to say mountain. Jesus taught many things in this sermon. It is very long, so we will use 2 lessons to study it.

Vocabulary Words:

Beatitude - Blessed or happy.

Bushel - A basket or container that would hold about a peck.

Adultery - When two people to live with each other like they are married - - only they are not married to each other. Only men and women that are married to each other have the right to live together as man and wife. Adultery is a terrible sin.

Lust - To desire, and want something.

something that we use to make our food taste good. Many things we eat do not taste good without salt. Salt is also used to preserve or save food — to keep it from ruining. Jesus said that when salt has lost it's saving power, then it is not good anymore and needs to be thrown out.

Christians who do not do God's will are like salt that has lost it's saving power. They are not doing good for Christ and will be judged by God.

Christians who do God's will are like salt that saves. They will have much influence for good on other people and cause them to do what is right.

LESSON TEXT: Matt. 5; Luke 6 : 17 - 36

The "Sermon on the Mount".

Many of Jesus' disciples were following him. People had come from Judea, Jerusalem, and from the seacoast of Tyre and Sidon.

They came to hear him and to be healed of their diseases. Jesus, seeing the great crowd of people, went up on a mountain and began to teach them.

The first thing that Jesus taught them is what we call the "Beatitudes".

The Beatitudes tell us how we are to live to be happy. These are the things that God has said will make us truly happy. Many times these are not the things that the world thinks will make us happy, but these things are what Jesus said will help us to get to heaven. We will be memorizing these things.

Jesus taught many other things in His sermon on the mount. There are so many lessons that He taught that we will not be able to tell all of them. But in the rest of this lesson, and in our next lesson, we will try to tell some of them.

A Christian is like salt.

Jesus told His disciples that they were like salt. Salt is

A Christian is like a light.

Jesus told His disciples, "You are the light of the world."

A lighted city on a hill cannot be hidden from people. They will be able to see it from afar off.

A small light can light up a whole house. When man lights a candle that he wants to see by, he doesn't put it under a **bushel**, but he puts it on a candlestick so that everyone can see by it.

Jesus said to let your light shine before men so that they will see your good works and glorify God in heaven. The good things we do to serve God are like a light to other people. It helps them to see what they need to do to serve God.

Jesus teaches about adultery.

Jesus told the disciples, "*You have heard those of old say that 'You shall not commit adultery'. But I am telling you that whoever looks at a woman to lust after her, has committed adultery with her in his heart.*"

Jesus is telling His disciples that the old law told them not to commit the sin of adultery. Jesus also says that thinking about doing this sin is as wrong as

actually doing it. This means that we are to control what we think about. Thinking wrong things is as wrong as doing wrong things.

Jesus said that if your right eye causes you to sin then to get rid of it. If your right hand causes you to sin to cut it off.

Jesus is not teaching that we cut off our eyes and hands, but what Jesus is teaching is that we are to make whatever sacrifice we can to keep from having sin in our lives. If our eyes or our hands are causing us to sin, then we would be better off without them, than to keep them and then cause us to go to hell. Jesus wants us to do whatever we need to do to serve him.

Jesus also said, "*You have heard it said that whoever divorces his wife must give her a certificate of divorce. But I tell you, whoever divorces his wife, except for the cause of fornication, causes her to commit adultery. And whoever marries her that is divorced, commits adultery.*"

Jesus is teaching that the only people who have a right to divorce each other are those who have a wife or husband that commits the sin of fornication. Fornication is the sin of two people living together as married people do, but they are not married to each other. This is very wrong and can cause people to lose their souls.

If people divorce, and they do not have the reason of fornication, then they can cause the person they divorce to sin the sin of **adultery**.

It is very important that husbands and wives obey God's law, because if they don't they can cause each other to sin.

If it is important that each of us decide to do what God wants when we get married, so that we will be pleasing to God, and so that we can help our wife or husband be pleasing to God! We need to determine that we will stay married and not divorce our mate.

Jesus said to love our enemies.

Jesus said to His disciples, "*You have heard it said that you shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.*"

"But I say to you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you."

Our enemies are those people that want to do bad things to us. They do not want good things for us. It is harder to love a person like that than it is to love someone who does good to us.

But Jesus said that we are to love our enemies. This means that we are to want only what is best for them. We do not have to love the bad things that they do, but we are to love their souls. We should want them to obey God.

Jesus wants us to pray for our enemies. If we

pray for those who do bad things to us, it will help us learn to love them as Jesus said we must do. If we pray for our enemies God will help us do good to them.

Jesus said that God makes the sun to rise on evil people just as it rises for those who do right. God sends rain to evil people just as he sends rain to his righteous people. If God does good for those who do evil and those who do right, shouldn't we also?

MEMORY WORK

Be able to say the 12 apostles.

Memorize the first Beatitude:

Matt 5:2-3

2 And he opened his mouth, and taught them, saying,

3 Blessed are the poor in spirit: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

(KJV)

true or false

1. ____ Jesus' Beatitudes tell us how to be happy.
2. ____ Christians are to be like salt.
3. ____ Jesus said that we are to be the light of the world.
4. ____ A person that wants to see a light will put it under a bushel.
5. ____ Jesus said that when a man looks at a woman and lusts after her he has committed adultery in his heart.
6. ____ Jesus said that people can divorce for any reason.
7. ____ We need to do everything we can to keep from sinning.
8. ____ It is okay to hate your enemies.
9. ____ We should not pray for our enemies.

THIS LITTLE LIGHT OF MINE

This little light of mine
I'm gonna let it shine
This little light of mine
I'm gonna let it shine, let it shine, all the time, let it shine.

Hide it under a bushel - NO!
I'm gonna let it shine
Hide it under a bushel - NO!
I'm gonna let it shine, let it shine, all the time, let it shine.

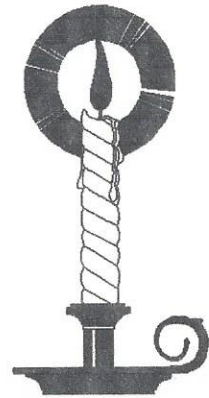
Don't let Satan pff - it out,
I'm gonna let it shine
Don't let Satan pff - it out,
I'm gonna let it shine, let it shine, all the time, let it shine.

All around the neighborhood
I'm gonna let it shine
All around the neighborhood
I'm gonna let it shine, let it shine, all the time, let it shine.

Let it shine 'til Jesus comes,
I'm gonna let it shine
Let it shine 'til Jesus comes,
I'm gonna let it shine, let it shine, all the time, let it shine.

Go to church and Bible study
That will make it shine
Go to church and Bible study
That will make it shine, make it shine, all the time, make it shine.

Read my Bible every day
That will make it shine
Read my Bible every day
That will make it shine, make it shine, all the time, make it shine.



The Life of Christ

Lesson 19

Introduction:

In our last lesson we started our study of Jesus' sermon on the mount. We learned that Jesus gave a list of things, called beatitudes, that will make Christians happy. We talked about how a Christian is to be like "salt" and "light". We learned what Jesus had to say about adultery and about loving our enemies.

There are many more lessons to be learned in Jesus' sermon. We do not have the time to study all of them, but if you are interested in learning more about what Jesus said, you can read Matthew 5 - 7. We will try to talk about as many lessons as we can in our lesson today.

Vocabulary Words:

Hypocrite - An actor or pretender.

Judge - To give an opinion concerning right or wrong about another.

*'And do not lead us into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
[For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever.
Amen.]'
(NAS)*

Jesus' prayer teaches us that we are to glorify the Father when we pray. We are to pray for His kingdom and pray that whatever God wants, is to be done. We are to pray for our food, and are to ask forgiveness for our sins. We are to ask for help from God so that we can live as we should.

LESSON TEXT: Matthew 6 - 7

Jesus said that worship is for God.

Jesus said that we are to be careful that when we worship we are not doing it to be seen of men, but that we are doing it for God.

Jesus said that the **hypocrites** do their acts of righteousness in the streets and synagogues. They sound trumpets before them so that everyone will know what they are doing. But, the attention they get from men is the only reward that they are going to receive.

If you are doing things for God just because you want men to see how good you are, then that is the only reward you will receive. God wants our worship to be for Him alone.

Jesus said that when we pray that we are not to be like the **hypocrites**. **Hypocrites** love to pray standing on the street corners and in the places of worship so that others will see them. But Jesus said that they have received their reward when they have this kind of an attitude.

Jesus said that we are to pray to the Father privately, and quietly. Then God will hear our prayers.

Jesus also taught His disciples how to pray. He gave them a model prayer.

This is Jesus' prayer:

Matt 6:9-13

"Pray, then, in this way: 'Our Father who art in heaven, Hallowed be Thy name.

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

'Give us this day our daily bread.

'And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors.

Jesus wants us to have treasure in heaven.

Jesus said that we are not to store up and collect treasures here on earth. The things of this earth will rust. Moths will eat them. Thieves can steal them.

Our treasures are to be in heaven. Rust, moths, and thieves cannot destroy the things that we have in heaven. If our treasure is in heaven, then our heart is there.

Jesus said that we cannot serve God and riches both. We choose either God, or the things of this world to serve. God wants us to choose Him.

If we serve God, then we do not have to worry about what we are going to eat, or drink, or wear.

We are to look at the birds. They don't sow seeds. They don't harvest the crop and put it into barns. Yet, the heavenly Father feeds the birds.

Aren't we more valuable to God than the birds? If he takes care of them, then He'll take care of us.

If we worry about how tall we are, worry will not make us taller.

Why worry about what we will wear? God takes care of the lilies of the field. They do not work or make their own clothes, but God takes care of them and they are beautiful.

We are not to worry about what will happen tomorrow. Tomorrow will take care of itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.

The thing that we are to do is to seek first the kingdom of God. This means, if we are trying to do

exactly what God wants us to do, He will take care of us. Then, we will not have to worry about what happens to us on this earth.

Jesus warns us about how we judge others.

Jesus said that we are to be careful how we judge others. For the way we judge others is the way we may be judged.

Jesus told a story to illustrate this:

There was a man with a big log hanging out of his eye. This man saw a little speck in another man's eye and said, "Let me get the speck out of your eye."

Jesus said, "How can you get the speck out of the other man's eye when there is a big log hanging out of yours? You are a hypocrite. First, take the log out of your eye, then you will see clearly to take the speck out of the other man's eye."

Jesus is teaching that we are to be merciful to others. It is real easy to see other's faults and to forget that we have faults that are just as bad or worse. Before we start telling other people what they need to do to correct their lives, we need to look at ourselves and correct our own lives first.

Jesus tells us how to be wise.

Jesus said, "Not everyone that says to me 'Lord, Lord', is going to enter the kingdom of heaven. Only those who do the will of My Father in Heaven, will enter heaven."

"Many will come to me and say that they prophesied in My name, and cast out demons and performed miracles in My name. But I will tell them plainly, 'I never knew you! Get away from me, you who do not do My law!'"

"Everyone that hears My words and does them is like a wise man that built his house on a rock."

"The rain came down, the floods came, the wind blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall, for it's foundation was a rock."

"Everyone that hears my words and does not do them is like a foolish man that built his house on the sand."

"The rain came down, the floods came, the wind blew and beat against that house; and it fell with a great fall."

When Jesus finished preaching His sermon on the mount, the multitude of people listening to Him were amazed at His words. For, Jesus taught them with authority.

Memory Work:

Matt 5:2-3

- 2 And he opened his mouth, and taught them, saying,
3 Blessed are the poor in spirit: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
(KJV)

Think About It:

When Jesus taught His disciples how to pray, He prayed, "Thy kingdom come."

Jesus came to earth to establish His kingdom. His kingdom had not been established when Jesus prayed this prayer, because He had not died on the cross yet. So, He could pray for the kingdom to come.

When we pray to God, we do not pray for His kingdom to come, because His kingdom has already been established; it has already come! It was established when Jesus died on the cross.

Today we pray for His kingdom in other ways. We pray that the kingdom will grow and that it will do God's will. There are other things we can pray about it also.

True or False:

1. ____ We worship to be seen of men.
2. ____ Hypocrites love to pray where they can be seen by others.
3. ____ We should glorify God when we pray.
4. ____ We ought to collect treasures here on earth.
5. ____ We need to worry about our food and clothes.
6. ____ We should seek first the kingdom of God.
7. ____ The way we judge others is the way we may be judged.
8. ____ Everyone that says, "Lord, Lord." is going to enter heaven.
9. ____ Those who hear and do God's law are like the wise man.
10. ____ Those who hear and do not do God's law are like the foolish man.
11. ____ Jesus taught the people with authority.

The Wise Man

The wise man built his house upon a rock
The wise man built his house upon a rock
The wise man built his house upon a rock
And the rains came tumbling down.

The rains came down and the floods came up
The rains came down and the floods came up
The rains came down and the floods came up
And the wise man's house stood firm.

The foolish man built his house upon the sand
The foolish man built his house upon the sand
The foolish man built his house upon the sand
And the rains came tumbling down.

The rains came down and the floods came up
The rains came down and the floods came up
The rains came down and the floods came up
And the foolish man's house fell flat.

So build your house on the Lord Jesus Christ
So build your house on the Lord Jesus Christ
So build your house on the Lord Jesus Christ
And it cannot pass away.

Your prayers go up and the blessings come down
Your prayers go up and the blessings come down
Your prayers go up and the blessings come down
So pray to God each day!



The Life of Christ

Lesson 20 & Review

Introduction:

In lesson 19 we finished our study about the Sermon on the Mount. We learned that our worship is for God, not men. We also learned that we are to have treasure in heaven. Jesus tells us how to have that treasure in heaven by telling us how to have wisdom and how to live.

Today we will study two miracles of Jesus and then we will review the lessons that we have studied since our last review in lesson 11.

Vocabulary Words:

Centurion - An officer in the Roman army, who was over 100 men.

Widow - A woman whose husband is dead.

Compassion - To feel sympathy and pity for.

LESSON TEXT : Matthew 8 : 5 - 13 ; Luke 7 : 1 - 17

Jesus heals a centurion's servant.

Jesus had just finished speaking to some people and then He went to the city of Capernaum.

In a Capernaum was a **centurion**. The **centurion** had a servant who was very sick and about to die. The servant was paralyzed and suffering great pain. The servant was very dear to him, so when he heard that Jesus was in Capernaum, he sent some of the Jewish elders to Jesus to ask Him if He would come heal his servant.

The elders came to Jesus and told him about the servant and the **centurion**. They pled and begged earnestly with Jesus to come and heal the **centurion's** servant. The elders said, "The **centurion** deserves to have you do this, because he loves our nation and has built us a synagogue."

So Jesus went with them. When Jesus was not far from the **centurion's** house, the **centurion** sent friends to Him to say, "Lord, do not trouble yourself, for I don't deserve to have you come under my roof. For this reason, I did not consider myself worthy to come to you. But say the word, and my servant will be healed."

"For I, too, am a man under authority, with soldiers under me. I tell this one 'Go' and he goes. I tell this one 'Come' and he comes. I say to my servant 'Do this' and he does it."

When Jesus heard this, He admired what the **centurion** said. Jesus said, "I tell you, I have not found such great a faith. Not even in Israel."

"I say to you that many shall come from the east and the west and sit down with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob in the kingdom of heaven. But the sons of the kingdom will be thrown into outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth."

Then Jesus said, "Go. It will be done just as you believed it would." And the **centurion's** servant was healed that very hour.

The men, who had been sent to Jesus, went back to the **centurion's** house and found out that the servant was well.

Jesus raises the widow's son.

Soon after, Jesus went to a town called Nain. Jesus' disciples and a large crowd of people went with Him.

As Jesus approached the gate of the city, a dead man was being carried out. This man was an only son of a **widow**. A large crowd of people was with the **widow**.

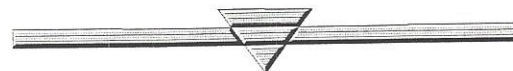
When the Lord saw the widow, He felt **compassion** for her and said, "Do not weep."

Then Jesus went up and touched the coffin. Those carrying the coffin stood still. And Jesus said, "Young man, I say to you, get up!"

The dead man sat up and began to talk. And Jesus presented the man to his mother.

Then fear came upon all the people, and they began to glorify God. They said, "A great prophet has risen up among us!" and "God has visited His people!"

This news about Jesus spread throughout Judea and the surrounding country.



MATCH

Draw a line from the name on the left to the answer on the right.
This is a review of lessons 12 - 20

Herod	The man who wanted Jesus to heal his servant.
Samaritan woman	The good news of Jesus Christ.
Nobleman	They wanted to accuse Jesus.
Peter, Andrew, James and John	Came to earth to do the Father's will, and made himself equal with God the Father.
Peter's mother-in-law	The publican that left all and followed Jesus.
Gospel	Fishermen in Galilee, who followed Jesus.
The paralytic	He put John in prison.
Matthew	Jesus raised her son from the dead.
The Jews	The man who was let down through the roof to see Jesus.
Jesus	Jesus healed his son, without seeing him.
The scribes and Pharisees	She asked Jesus for living water.
Apostles	Twelve special men, chosen by Jesus, that would teach the gospel.
The centurion	They wanted to kill Jesus because He healed on the Sabbath.
The widow at Nain	Jesus healed her of a fever.

Memory Work

Matt 5:2-4

- 2 And he opened his mouth, and taught them, saying,
 - 3 Blessed are the poor in spirit: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
 - 4 Blessed are they that mourn: for they shall be comforted.
- (KJV)



THINK ABOUT IT:

The centurion in our lesson is a Roman, and a Gentile. Jesus said that He had not seen such a great faith, even in Israel. In other words, He had not seen a Jewish person with as great a faith in Him as this Gentile centurion had. Jesus is bringing the word of God to the Jews first, but many do not believe on Him. Later, His word will be taken to the Gentile people. After Christ's death, we will see the apostles teach the Gentiles the gospel of Christ.

The Life of Christ

Lesson 21

Introduction:

In Lesson 20 we studied about Jesus healing the centurion's servant and raising the widow's son from the dead. More and more people are finding out about Jesus and the things that He does. As people find out about Him, they begin to follow Him.

In our lesson today, John the Baptist sends two of his disciples to Jesus to ask Him an important question. He also attends a feast given by Simon the Pharisee.

Vocabulary Words:

Reed - A plant with a hollow stalk.

Reject - To refuse or disregard.

Alabaster box - Alabaster was a white stone. People would carve boxes out of this stone and use them to hold precious ointments.

Woe - An exclamation of grief.

Ointment - Oil mixed with spices or perfume (such as myrrh). Perfumed oils were used on festive occasions and at burials. They were rubbed on the body, much like we use perfume today.

LESSON TEXT: Matt. 11 : 2 - 30; Luke 7: 18 - 50

John sends his disciples to Jesus.

Now John the Baptist was still in prison, where Herod had put him. While John was in prison, he heard about the works of Jesus Christ.

So John called two of his disciples to him and told them to go to Jesus and ask Him, "Are you the One who comes, or should we expect another?"

When the men came to Jesus, they said, "John the Baptist has sent us to You saying, 'Are you the one who comes, or do we expect someone else?'"

Now, Jesus was busy when John's disciples came to Him. He was curing people of diseases and evil spirits. And He was healing those who were blind.

Jesus answered the men and said, "Go and report to John what you hear and see. The blind have received their sight, the lame are walking, the lepers have been cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead have been raised, and the poor have had the gospel preached to them."

"Blessed is the man that is not offended in Me."

When John's disciples left, Jesus turned to the multitude of people and began to speak to them about John the Baptist. He said, "When you went out in the

wilderness, what did you expect to see? A reed shaken in the wind? But, what did you go out to see? A man clothed in fine garments? Those who wear fine clothing are in kings' houses and live in luxury."

"But what did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you that John is a prophet. But, he is more than a prophet. He is the one that the prophet wrote about. The prophet wrote that John would be My messenger to prepare the way before you."

"I tell you the truth, that of all the men who have been born, there has not been anyone greater than John the Baptist. But, the person that is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than John is."

When all the people, that had been baptized by John, heard what Jesus said, they said that they knew that God's way was right. Even the tax collectors.

But, the Pharisees and lawyers **rejected** God's plan because they did not accept John's baptism.

Jesus pronounces woe on cities of Galilee.

Many of the cities, where Jesus did His miracles, did not repent. This made Jesus sad, and He pronounced **woe** on those cities. He told them that things would be bad on the day of judgment for them.

But even though many of the cities did not repent, there were some people that did accept Jesus. Jesus remembered those who did accept Him and He gave an invitation to those who would come to Him.

The invitation that Jesus gave is very beautiful. Below is part of it:

Matt 11:28-30

Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.

Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls.

For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.

(KJV)

A woman anoints Jesus' feet with oil.

A man named Simon invited Jesus to his home to eat with him. Simon was a Pharisee.

Jesus went to Simon's house, and sat down to eat.

A sinful woman in the city learned that Jesus was eating at Simon's house, so she came with an **alabaster box of fragrant ointment**.

The woman stood at Jesus' feet, weeping. Then she began to wash Jesus' feet with her tears and wipe them with her hair, kissing His feet and anointing them with **ointment**.

When Simon the Pharisee saw the woman doing this he said to himself, "If this man were a prophet, he would know what kind of woman is touching him. She is a sinner."

Jesus knew what Simon was thinking, and He said to him, "Simon, I have something to say to you."

Simon said, "Tell me, teacher."

Then Jesus told Simon a story:

"Two men owed a certain man some money. One owed 500 pence and the other owed fifty."

"When both of the men were unable to pay their debts, the man canceled their debts. They no longer had to pay him."

"Now, which of these men will love him more?"

Simon said, "I suppose the one that had the bigger debt canceled."

Jesus said, "You have judged correctly."

Then Jesus turned toward the woman and said to Simon, "Do you see this woman? I came into your house and you gave me no water to wash My feet. But, this woman has wet My feet with her tears and wiped them with her hair."

"You gave Me no kiss of greeting, but this woman, from the time I entered, has not stopped kissing My feet."

"You did not anoint My head with oil, but this woman has anointed my feet with **ointment**."

"Now I tell you this — Her many sins have been forgiven because she has loved much. But, the person who has been forgiven of little, loves little."

Then Jesus said to the woman, "Your sins are forgiven."

When the guests at Simon's house heard Jesus say this, they said to themselves, "Who is this man that even forgives sin?"

Then Jesus said to the woman, "Your faith has saved you; go in peace."

THINK ABOUT IT!

Jesus said that the person that was least in the kingdom of God would be greater than John the Baptist.

John was an important man. He prepared the way for Christ. So, how could this be?

When Jesus talked about the kingdom of God, He was talking about His church that He came to earth to establish. His church would be living under a new and better covenant with God. (Heb. 7: 22) We call it the "New Testament".

God's people would live under this new and better covenant after Jesus died on the cross.

John the Baptist only lived under the Old Law (or Old Testament). He did not live under God's New Testament. He did not get to see the special promises of Jesus Christ fulfilled after Jesus died.

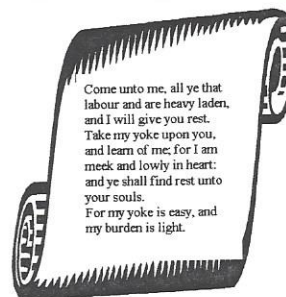
This is the reason that Jesus said that "the least in the kingdom will be greater than John."

Memory Work

Matt 5:2-5

- 2 And he opened his mouth, and taught them, saying,
- 3 Blessed are the poor in spirit: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
- 4 Blessed are they that mourn: for they shall be comforted.
- 5 Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth.

(KJV)



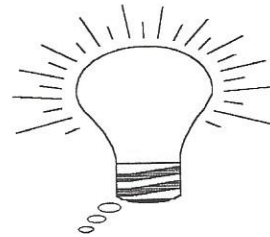
Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.

Multiple Choice:

1. John was (in prison , at his house) when he sent his two disciples to Jesus.
2. Jesus was (resting , healing the sick and preaching) when the two disciples came to him.
3. Jesus said that the person (who was least , who was greatest) in the kingdom of God would be greater than John the Baptist.
4. Many of the cities, where Jesus did His miracles (did , did not) repent and turn back to God.
5. Jesus pronounced (great things , woe) on those cities.
6. (Simon the Pharisee , The sinful woman) invited Jesus to eat with them.
7. (A woman , Simon) began to weep and wash Jesus' feet with tears.
8. The woman anointed Jesus' feet with (water , ointment) .
9. Jesus (forgave , did not forgive) the woman of her sins.

True or False:

1. ____ Jesus told John's disciples to report to John what they had seen.
2. ____ The Pharisees and lawyers rejected God's plan because they did not accept John's baptism.
3. ____ Many of the cities that Jesus did miracles in wanted to do God's will.
4. ____ The woman at Simon's house was a good woman.
5. ____ Simon was a Gentile.



*Remember
Your
Memory
Work!*

The Life of Christ

Lesson 22

Introduction:

In lesson 21 we studied about John sending his disciples to Jesus to ask Him a question. Jesus told them to go back to John and report about the miracles that they had seen Jesus do. After they left, Jesus told the people that the person that was least in the kingdom would be greater than John the Baptist.

Jesus also pronounced woe upon the cities in Galilee that did not repent of their sins.

When Jesus ate at Simon's house, a sinful woman anointed His feet with ointment. Jesus taught Simon that He had the power to forgive sin.

In today's lesson we will learn what kind of a person accepts God's Word and does it.

Vocabulary Words:

Sign - A miracle.

Parable - An earthly story with a heavenly meaning.

Sow - To scatter seed.

Sower - One who scatters seed.

Wayside - A road or path

LESSON TEXT: Matt. 12 : 38 - 50; Matt. 13 : 3 - 23; Mark 3 : 31 -35; Mark 4 : 3 - 25; Luke 8 : 5 - 21

The Scribes and Pharisees ask Jesus for a sign.

Jesus has done many miracles by now before the Jews. The people have ignored the miracles and His power.

One day, after Jesus had done miracles before the people, the scribes and Pharisees came to Jesus. They said, "Teacher, we want to see a miraculous sign from you."

Jesus said to them, "A wicked and unfaithful nation of people continue to ask for a sign. No sign will be given except the sign of the prophet Jonah."

"Jonah was in the belly of a huge fish for three days and nights. In the same manner, the Son of Man will be three days and nights in the heart of the earth."

"The men of Ninevah repented when Jonah preached to them, and now one that is greater than Jonah is here."

"The Queen of Sheba came to hear the wisdom of King Solomon, and now one that is wiser than Solomon is here."

Then Jesus told the people that if they did not obey God, when they had the opportunity to do so,

then they would become even more wicked.

While Jesus was still speaking to this large group of people, His mother and brothers were standing outside, waiting to speak with Jesus.

Someone came to Jesus and said, "Look! Your mother and brothers are outside. They want to speak to you."

Jesus answered saying, "Who is My Mother? Who are My brothers?"

Then Jesus looked around at the disciples sitting with Him and said, "Here are My mother and My brothers! For whoever does the will of My Father that is in heaven is My brother and sister and mother."

Jesus teaches the parable of the Sower.

One day Jesus sat down by the lake and began to teach. People were gathered to Jesus from many cities. The crowd of people became so large, that Jesus got into a boat and sat in the boat on the lake.

The people stood on the shore at the water's edge to hear Jesus. Jesus began to teach the people with parables.

Jesus said, "Listen! A sower went out to sow his seed. As he was sowing, some of his seed fell by the wayside. It became trampled under foot, and the birds of the air came and ate it up."

"Some of the seed fell on rocky ground. The seeds grew up quickly, but because the ground was shallow and there was not much moisture, the plants became scorched by the sun and withered away."

"Other seeds fell among thorns. The thorns grew up with the plants and choked them out."

"Still, other seed fell on good soil. The seeds grew up and produced a crop that was a hundred times more than the seed that was sown."

Then Jesus said to His disciples, "He who has ears to hear, let him hear."

When Jesus was alone, the twelve apostles and other disciples came to Jesus and asked Him, "Why do you speak to the people in **parables**? What does this **parable** mean?"

Jesus told them, "It is a privilege for you to know about the Kingdom of God. But there are those who do not want to hear the truth about the kingdom. To those people I speak in **parables** so that they will hear what I am saying, but they do not understand it. For this people's heart has become hard; they do not hear with their ears and they do not see, just as the prophet Isaiah prophesied about them."

"But, blessed are your eyes because they see, and your ears because they hear. Many prophets and righteous men desired to see what you see and hear what you hear, but did not."

"Listen then, to the meaning of the **parable** of the sower. The seed is the word of God."

"Some people are like the **wayside** soil. They hear the word of God, but as soon as they hear it, the devil comes and takes the word away from their hearts so that they will not believe and be saved."

"Some people are like the **rocky** soil. They hear the word of God and receive it at once with joy. But since they have no root, they last for only a short while. When trouble or persecution comes, they quickly fall away."

"Some people are like the **thorny** soil. They hear the word of God, but they are choked by the worries, riches, and pleasures of life, and they do not mature."

"Other people are like the **good** soil. They hear the word of God, understand it and accept it with a good and honest heart. Then they bear much more fruit than the seed that was sown."

Memory Work

Matt 5:2-6

- 2 And he opened his mouth, and taught them, saying,
 - 3 Blessed are the poor in spirit: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
 - 4 Blessed are they that mourn: for they shall be comforted.
 - 5 Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth.
 - 6 Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled.
- (KJV)

Think About It:

Jesus told His disciples that whoever did the Father in heaven's word was His brother, or sister, or mother in the kingdom of God.

Jesus wanted the people to know that the spiritual relationship that we have with God is more important than the physical relationship we have to our family here on earth.

We are to love our physical family, but we are to love God more. This means that we want to do God's will more than anything. If we do God's will, then we will have a special relationship with Him.

True or False:

1. ____ Jesus had not done many signs before the scribes and Pharisees.
2. ____ Jesus told the people that no sign would be given to them but the sign of Jonah.
3. ____ Jonah was in the belly of the fish for 4 days and nights.
4. ____ Jesus said that the Son of Man would be in the heart of the earth for 3 days and nights.
5. ____ Jesus taught the people using parables.
6. ____ Jesus compared those who hear God's word to a farmer sowing seed on different kinds of soil.
7. ____ The rocky soil is the good soil.

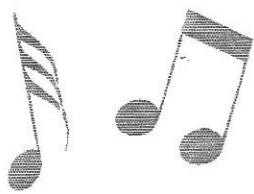
Fill in the Blanks:

Mark 4:15

15 And these are they by the _____, where the word is sown; but when they have heard, _____ cometh immediately, and taketh away the word that was sown in their _____. (KJV)

Mark 4:20

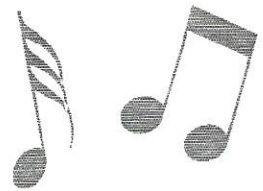
20 And these are they which are sown on _____ ground; such as hear the word, and _____ it, and bring forth _____, some thirtyfold, some sixty, and some an hundred. (KJV)



The Parable of the Sower

(To the tune of " Bingo")

by Johnny Felker



*There was a farmer who sowed some
seed upon the soil around him.
Some fell on the wayside ground,
Some fell on the wayside ground,
Some fell on the wayside ground,
and the birds came and ate it up!*

*There was a farmer who sowed some
seed upon the soil around him.
Some fell on rocky ground,
Some fell on rocky ground,
Some fell on rocky ground,
And it withered in the sun!*

*There was a farmer who sowed some
seed upon the soil around him.
Some fell on thorny ground,
Some fell on thorny ground,
Some fell on thorny ground,
It was choked out by the thorns!*

*There was a farmer who sowed some
seed upon the soil around him.
Some fell on good ground,
Some fell on good ground,
Some fell on good ground,
And it grew until the harvest.*

*The seed of the kingdom is God's word
and the soil is the hearts who hear it!
Will the devil take it away?
Will the devil take it away?
Will the devil take it away?
Or will we listen well?*

*The seed of the kingdom is God's word
and the soil is the hearts who hear it!
Will we soon forget what we learn?
Will we soon forget what we learn?
Will we soon forget what we learn?
Or, will we keep on growing?*

*The seed of the kingdom is God's word
and the soil is the hearts who hear it!
Will problems choke it out?
Will problems choke it out?
Will problems choke it out?
Or, will we overcome them?*

*The seed of the kingdom is God's word
and the soil is the hearts who hear it!
Will we trust and obey?
Will we trust and obey?
Will we trust and obey?
And bear fruit for the Lord?*

The Life of Christ

Lesson 23

Introduction:

In Lesson 22 we studied about the Scribes and Pharisees asking Jesus to show them a sign. Jesus had already shown them many signs, but they did not believe in Jesus.

Jesus began to teach in a way that some would not understand. He taught the people by telling them parables.

In our lesson today, we will study many of the parables that Jesus told.

Vocabulary Words:

Tares - A plant that looks like wheat when it comes up, but is not wheat.

Leaven - The ingredient used to make bread rise. It only takes a small amount to make the whole batch of bread dough rise.

Householder - The master of the house.

Perish - To die or be destroyed.

LESSON TEXT: Mark 4 : 26 -41; Matt. 13 : 24 - 53;
Matt. 8 : 18 - 34 ; Luke 8 : 22 - 39

The parable of the Seed.

Jesus said, "The kingdom of God is like a man that plants his seed in the soil. The man goes to bed at night and gets up during the day. All the while, the seed is growing. One day, the seed sprouts up out of the soil and grows until it becomes a mature plant with grain."

"After the plant is mature, the man harvests the grain."

Jesus is telling us that when we become Christians we begin to grow, just like the seed does. At first, it is not as easy to see a Christian's growth — just as it is not easy to see the growth of the seed in the soil. But one day, if a Christian matures like he should, the way that a Christian lives will show others that he is what God wants him to be.

The parable of the Tares.

Jesus told the multitude of people another parable:

"The Kingdom of heaven is like a man that sowed good wheat seed in his field. While he slept, someone came to his field and sowed tares in his field."

"The wheat came up and so did the tares. When the man's servants saw the tares they went to their landowner and said, 'Didn't you sow good seed in the ground? Where did the tares come from?'"

"The landowner replied, 'An enemy did this.' So the servants asked, 'Do you want us to pull up the tares?'"

"No", said the landowner, "Because, while you are pulling up the tares you might pull up the wheat."

"Let them both grow up together until the harvest. At harvest I will tell the reapers to gather and burn the tares, but to gather the wheat into my barn."

After Jesus told this parable, He sent the multitude of people away and went into the house he was staying in. His disciples came to Jesus and said to Him, "Explain the parable of the tares to us."

Jesus explained, "The one who sowed the good seed is the Son of Man. The field is the world. The good seed are sons in the kingdom of God. The tares are sons of the evil one."

"The enemy that sowed the tares is the devil. The harvest is the end of the world and the reapers are the angels."

"Just as the tares were gathered up and burned with fire, so will those who do evil at the end of the world."

"The Son of Man will send His angels to gather all those that do evil and cast them into a furnace of fire, where there will be wailing and gnashing of teeth."

"The righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of the Father. He who has ears, let him hear."

The parable of the mustard seed.

Jesus told the people another parable.

"The kingdom of God is like a mustard seed, which a man took and planted in his field."

"Though the mustard seed is the smallest of seed, when it grows, it becomes largest of garden plants. It becomes as big as a tree, and is large enough for the birds of the air to come and perch in its branches."

Jesus is telling the people that even though His kingdom would start in a small way, it will become very great and large.

The parable of the Hidden Treasure and the parable of the Pearl of Great Price.

Jesus told two parables to illustrate to us the great value of His kingdom.

"The kingdom of heaven is like a treasure hidden in a field which a man found. When he found the treasure, he put it back where he found it. Then because of his joy in finding it, he sold everything he had and bought the field."

"Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant who is looking for beautiful and fine pearls."

"When the merchant found one pearl of great value and price, he went and sold all that he had and bought the pearl of great price."

Jesus stills the storm.

On the same day that Jesus taught the parables, He went into a ship with His disciples. Jesus said to them, "Let us cross over to the other side of the lake." So they launched out.

Jesus went to the stern (or hind part) of the ship and went to sleep on a pillow.

While Jesus was asleep a great storm came on the sea. The ship was covered with waves, and the ship was filling with water. They were in great danger.

Jesus' disciples came to him saying, "Master! Master! Save us! Master, carest thou not that we perish?"

Then Jesus arose. He rebuked the wind and the sea, and said, "Peace, be still."

The wind stopped and everything was calm.

Jesus said to the men, "Why are you so afraid? Where is your faith?"

The men on the ship were amazed and afraid. They asked, "What kind of man is this? Even the wind and the waves obey Him."

Memory Work

Matt 5:2-6

- 2 And he opened his mouth, and taught them, saying,
- 3 Blessed are the poor in spirit: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
- 4 Blessed are they that mourn: for they shall be comforted.
- 5 Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth.
- 6 Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled.

Multiple Choice

1. The (tares , wheat) were the good seed.
2. Jesus taught the people by telling them (fairy stories, parables) .
3. Jesus (did , did not) explain the parables to His disciples.
4. Jesus said that the kingdom of heaven is like a (corn , mustard) seed.
5. Jesus' kingdom has (great , little) value.
6. Jesus (read , slept) during a great storm on the sea.
7. The disciples (were , were not) afraid during the storm.
8. Jesus asked the men, "Where is your (life jacket, faith)?" .

FILL - IN - THE - BLANKS

1.
Matt 13:38
38 The _____ is the world; the good seed are the children of the _____; but the _____ are the children of the wicked one; (KJV)
2.
Matt 13:44
44 Again, the kingdom of _____ is like unto _____ hid in a field; the which when a man hath found, he hideth, and for joy thereof goeth and selleth all that he hath, and buyeth that field. (KJV)
3.
Mark 4:33
33 And with many such _____ spake he the word unto them, as they were able to hear it. (KJV)

The Life of Christ

Lesson 24

Introduction:

In Lesson 23 we studied many of the parables that Jesus taught. Jesus wanted His disciples to learn a spiritual lesson from the parables.

Our lesson today takes up where lesson 23 left off. Jesus is in the boat and has stilled the storm. When they finally reach the other side of the sea, they are in the country of the Gergasenes. It is here that Jesus does a mighty miracle.

Vocabulary Words:

Tomb - A grave.

Torture - To cause one great pain.

Swine - Pigs.

Synagogue - A place where the Jews would gather to pray and listen to the scriptures being read.

LESSON TEXT: Mark 5 ; Matt. 8 : 28 34; Luke 8

Jesus heals a man of a demon in the country of the Gergasenes.

When the boat that Jesus was on got to the other side of the sea, they were in the country of the Gergasenes.

Two men, who had been living among the **tombs**, met Jesus. These men were possessed by demons and were very violent men. No one could pass by where they were.

One of these men came forward to meet Jesus. He had been possessed by a demon for a long time. He wore no clothes and he did not live in a house, only in the **tombs**.

Many times he had been chained hand and foot, but he would tear the chains apart and break the irons on his feet. No one was strong enough to subdue him.

Night and day this man would cry out and cut himself with stones.

When this man saw Jesus from a distance, he ran and fell on his knees in front of Him. Then he cried out with a loud voice, "What do I have to do with You, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I beg you, do not **torture** me!"

Jesus said to the man, "Come out of this man, you evil spirit!"

Then Jesus asked him, "What is your name?"

The devils said, "Legion"; for many demons had entered the man.

The demons began to beg Jesus earnestly not to send them into the abyss.

Nearby was a large herd of about 2,000 **swine**, feeding on the mountain. The demons began to beg Jesus, "If you drive us out, send us into the herd of **swine**."

Jesus said to them, "Go!"

So the demons came out of the man and entered the **swine**. The whole herd of **swine** then rushed down the mountain and went into the sea, where they all drowned.

When those tending the swine saw what had happened, they ran away and told what they had seen to the people in the city and the country.

Then the whole town came out to meet Jesus. They found Jesus with the man that had been possessed by the demons. The man was sitting with Jesus, clothed and in his right mind.

This made the people afraid, and they began to plead with Jesus to leave their country.

Jesus got into the boat to leave, but as he was leaving the man who had been possessed with the demons begged to go with Him. Jesus did not let him. He told him to go home and tell his family and the city how much the Lord had done for him.

The man did what Jesus told him to do.

Jesus heals Jarius' daughter and the woman with the issue of blood.

When Jesus got to the other side of the sea, many people welcomed Him, for they had all been waiting on Him.

A man named Jarius came to Jesus. Jarius was a ruler of the **synagogue**. He knelt before Jesus and begged Him to come to his house. Jarius had a daughter who was twelve years old.

Jarius pled with Jesus. He said, "My little daughter is dying. Come and lay your hands on her so that she may be healed and live."

Jesus went with Jarius. As they went, Jesus' disciples and many others followed Him closely.

In the group of people was a woman. This woman had an issue of blood for twelve years. She had been to many doctors and spent all of her money, but instead of getting better, she got worse.

When she heard of Jesus, she came into the crowd of people following Him. She said to herself, "If I can just touch His clothes, I will be made well."

When the woman touched Jesus' garment, she knew immediately that she had been made well.

Jesus, knowing at once that some of His power had gone out from Him, turned around and asked, "Who touched me?"

Jesus' disciples and Peter said, "You see all the people crowding against you. How can you say, 'Who touched Me?'"

But Jesus said, "Somebody touched Me, I know that power has gone out from Me."

Then the woman came trembling and fell at Jesus feet. In the presence of the people she told Jesus why she had touched Him and how she had been instantly healed.

Jesus said to her, "Daughter, your faith has healed you. Go in peace."

Now while Jesus was still speaking, someone came from Jarius' house and told him, "Your daughter is dead. Don't bother the teacher anymore."

When Jesus heard this, He said to Jarius, "Don't be afraid, only believe."

Jesus allowed only Peter, James and John to go with them.

When they came to Jarius' house, they saw the people there weeping and wailing and the flute players were there.

As Jesus entered He said, "Why do you make all this noise and weep? They child has not died, but is asleep."

The crowd of people began to laugh at Jesus. He made everyone leave the house except Peter, James, John and the little girls mother and father. He went into the room where the little girl was and took the child by the hand. Then He said, "Little girl, I say to you, arise!"

Immediately the girl got up and began to walk. Her parents were astonished. Jesus told them to give her something to eat. And He told them to tell no one what had happened. But news of this spread all over the region.

Jesus heals two blind men and a mute man with a demon.

As Jesus left and went on His way, two blind men followed him. They cried out to Jesus, "Have mercy on us, Son of David."

When Jesus went into the house, the two blind men came to Him. Jesus asked them, "Do you believe that I

am able to do this?"

They answered, "Yes, Lord."

Then Jesus touched their eyes and said, "Let it be done according to your faith."

The blind men could see. But Jesus warned them, "See that no one knows about this."

But they went out and spread the news about Jesus all over the region.

As the men were leaving, a mute man, possessed with a demon was brought to Jesus.

After Jesus cast out the demon the mute man could speak. The crowd of people were amazed and said, "Nothing like this has ever been seen in Israel."

But the Pharisees said that Jesus cast out the demons by the ruler of the demons.

Jesus went everywhere teaching in the synagogues and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every kind of disease and sickness.

Memory Work

Matt 5:2-7

- 2 And he opened his mouth, and taught them, saying,**
- 3 Blessed are the poor in spirit: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.**
- 4 Blessed are they that mourn: for they shall be comforted.**
- 5 Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth.**
- 6 Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled.**
- 7 Blessed are the merciful: for they shall obtain mercy.**

Think About It:

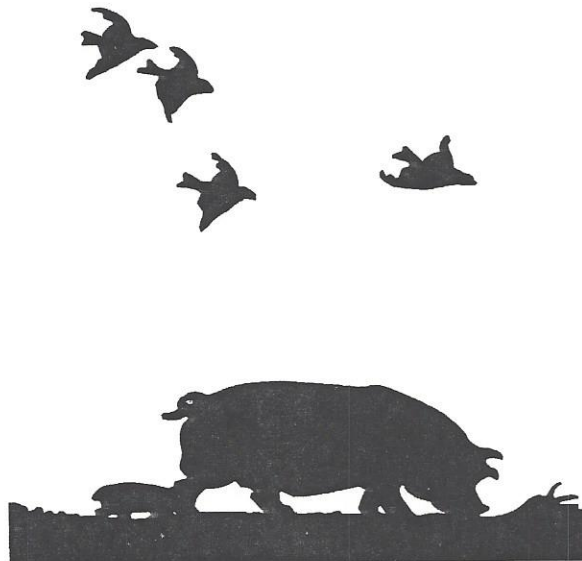
The Pharisees said that Jesus was doing His miracles by the prince of the demons. They did not want to believe that Jesus was the Messiah, the one that they had been waiting for. Jesus was not their idea of what the Messiah would be, and so they did not believe in Him.

As we continue to study about Jesus, notice the attitude of the Pharisees. This group of people will play a large part in Jesus' death.

Multiple Choice

(underline the correct answer)

1. Two (nice , violent) men, possessed with devils, met Jesus at Gergasene.
2. The demons begged Jesus to send them into a herd of (cows , swine).
3. The people in Gergasene wanted Jesus to (stay , leave).
4. (Joshua , Jarius) had a twelve year old daughter.
5. Jarius wanted Jesus to come (eat with his daughter , make his daughter well) .
6. The woman with the issue of blood wanted to touch Jesus' (foot , garment) .
7. When the woman with the issue of blood touched Jesus, she knew that she had been healed (in five minutes , immediately) .
8. When Jesus healed the daughter of Jarius, she got up (after a week of bed rest , immediately) .
9. Jesus healed the blind men because of their (money , faith) .
10. The Pharisees said that Jesus healed by the power of (God , the prince of demons) .



The Life of Christ

Lesson 25

Introduction:

In Lesson 24 we studied about Jesus healing a man of a demon, healing a 12 year old girl, healing a woman with an issue of blood, and healing 2 blind and a mute man. All these miracles were to serve a purpose : to prove that Jesus was who He said He was. The Son of God!

In today's lesson we will learn how the people in Jesus' hometown accept Him. We will also learn about Jesus' apostles being sent to do His will. And we will finally learn what has happened to John the Baptist since he was put into prison by Herod.

Vocabulary Words:

Offended - To distrust and desert one that one ought to obey. To judge one unjustly.

Staff - A walking stick.

Confess - To declare or admit something in the presence of others.

Deny - To refuse something, or to declare something untrue.

LESSON TEXT: Mark 6: 1 - 29; Matt. 13 : 54 - 58; Matt. 9 : 35 - 11 : 1; Luke 9 : 1 - 9; Matt. 14: 1 - 12

Jesus' last visit to Nazareth.

When Jesus finished His teaching in Galilee, he went to His own city of Nazareth. The city where He grew up as a child.

When the Sabbath day came, Jesus went to the synagogue and taught the people there. The people that heard him were astonished at His teaching. They said, "Where did this man get this wisdom and miraculous powers? Isn't this man the carpenter? Isn't this man the son of Mary, and the brother of James, Joseph, Judas, and Simon? Aren't all his sisters here with us?"

And the people were **offended** at Jesus.

Jesus said to the people, "Only in his hometown, among his relatives and in his own house, is a prophet without honor."

So Jesus did not do many miracles in Nazareth, except to heal a few sick people. And He was amazed at the people's unbelief.

Jesus send the twelve apostles on the limited commission.

Jesus called His twelve apostles to Him, and sent them out two by two. He gave them power over demons

and power to heal the sick. He sent them to preach the kingdom of God.

Before His apostles left, He gave them instructions. He said, "Do not take anything on your journey except a **staff**. Take no bread or bag or money. Wear sandals, but do not take two coats with you."

"If you stay in a place where the people do not listen to you, shake the dust off your feet when you leave there. Do not go to the Gentiles or to any city of the Samaritans. Instead, go to the lost sheep of the house of Israel (*or the Jews*)."

"Beware, for some men will bring you before their councils and persecute you. You will be brought before governors and kings. When this happens, don't worry about what you will say. The Spirit of your Father speaks in you."

"You will be hated and persecuted. But don't fear the ones that can kill your body. Rather, you should fear God, who can destroy your body and soul in hell."

"God knows when a sparrow falls to the ground. He knows how many hairs are on your head. So, don't be afraid, because you are more valuable to God than many sparrows."

"Everyone that **confesses** My name before men, I will **confess** him before My Father in heaven."

"But, anyone that **denies** Me before men, I will **deny** him before My Father in heaven."

"My will must come first with people. Whoever loves his father or mother more than Me is not worthy of Me."

So, the disciples left Jesus and went to the cities and villages preaching the gospel and healing the sick.

Herod hears about Jesus and Jesus' disciples learn how John was killed.

Jesus' name was becoming well known, and Herod heard the news about Him. People were saying, "John the Baptist is risen from the dead, and that is

why these miraculous powers are at work in this man."

Other people were saying, "He is Elijah!" Some thought that one of the prophets of old had risen from the dead.

When Herod heard of Jesus, he kept saying, "John, who I beheaded, has risen from the dead. Who is this man I am hearing about?" And he kept trying to see Jesus.

This is how Herod killed John the Baptist:

John had been saying to Herod, "It is not lawful for you to have your brother's wife, Herodias." So Herod arrested John and had him put into prison.

Herodias wanted Herod to kill John the Baptist, but Herod did not because he was afraid of the people. For the people thought that John was a prophet.

Herod was afraid of John, and knowing that he was a righteous and holy man, he kept him safe. When Herod would hear John speak, he was very puzzled at what John would say. But he enjoyed listening to him.

On Herod's birthday, Herod gave a banquet for all the high officials and important men in Galilee.

The daughter of Herodias came in to the banquet and danced before all the men. This pleased Herod and his guests very much, and so Herod said to the young girl, "Ask me for whatever you want, and I will give it to you." Then he promised her, "Whatever you ask I will give you, up to half of my kingdom."

The young girl went to her mother and told her of the promise Herod made. She said, "What shall I ask for?"

Herodias said, "The head of John the Baptist."

The young girl hurried back to king Herod with her request. She said, "Give me at once, the head of John the Baptist on a platter."

This made Herod very sad. But because of the promise he had made to the girl, and because of the guests who were at his banquet, he did not want to refuse her request. So, Herod sent an executioner to behead John and to bring his head.

The executioner did what Herod ordered, and brought back John's head on a platter and gave it to the girl. The girl took the head and gave it to her mother.

When the disciples heard what had happened to John, they took his body and laid it in a tomb.

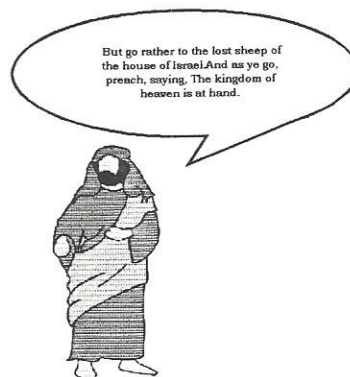
Then the apostles came to Jesus and told Him what had happened.

When Jesus heard what had happened, He got on a boat and went to a lonely place by Himself.

memory work

Matt 5:2-8

- 2 And he opened his mouth, and taught them, saying,
 - 3 Blessed are the poor in spirit: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
 - 4 Blessed are they that mourn: for they shall be comforted.
 - 5 Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth.
 - 6 Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled.
 - 7 Blessed are the merciful: for they shall obtain mercy.
 - 8 Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God.
- (KJV)



Think About It:

Jesus sent the apostles on the limited commission. It was called a "limited commission" because the apostles were "limited" to teaching the gospel only to the Jews.

When Jesus came to earth, He wanted His gospel taught to the Jews first. The Jews were God's chosen people under the Old Law of Moses.

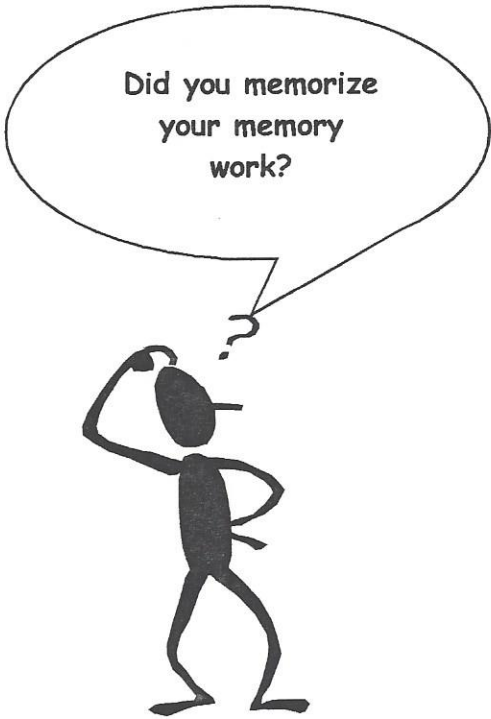
Later, Jesus would give his apostles an "unlimited commission". It would be "unlimited" because it was for all people — Jews and Gentiles.

It is because of this commission that you and I can know the gospel today!



TRUE OR FALSE

1. ____ All the people in Nazareth believed in Jesus.
2. ____ Jesus told His apostles to pack plenty of clothes when they left to preach the gospel.
3. ____ Jesus told the apostles to teach the gospel to the Gentiles first.
4. ____ Jesus told the apostles that they would be hated and persecuted.
5. ____ Jesus said that His will must come before anything or anyone else.
6. ____ Many thought that Jesus was John the Baptist risen from the dead.
7. ____ Herodias' son danced at Herod's banquet.
8. ____ Herod told Herodias' daughter that she could have whatever she wanted, up to half of his kingdom.
9. ____ The young girl asked for the head of Jesus.
10. ____ Jesus' disciples took John's body and laid it in a tomb.



Did you memorize
your memory
work?

The 8 Writers

Matthew, Mark, Luke and John,
Peter, Paul, — James and Jude.

Just eight men wrote the
New Testament.

Matthew, Mark, Luke and John,
Peter, Paul, — James and Jude.

The Life of Christ

Lesson 26

Introduction:

In lesson 25 we studied about Jesus' last visit to Nazareth and how the people did not believe him there. We also learned about Jesus sending his apostles on the limited commission to teach the gospel to the Jews, and about the death of John the Baptist.

In our lesson today, we will begin a new period in Jesus' life. THE PERIODS OF RETIREMENT. The periods of retirement were periods that Jesus withdrew from the crowds to more lonely places so that He could teach His apostles special lessons.

Vocabulary Words:

Desolate - A deserted, lonely place where no one lives.

Denarii - A Roman silver coin.

LESSON TEXT: Mark 6: 30 - 52; Matt. 14: 13 - 33; Luke 9: 10 - 17; John 6: 1 - 21

THE FIRST RETIREMENT

Jesus feeds the 5,000.

When the apostles were through with their preaching tour, they came to Jesus to tell Him the things they had done and taught. There were so many people crowding Jesus and His apostles, that they could not even eat. So Jesus said to the apostles, "Come with me to a lonely place and get some rest."

Jesus and His disciples got on a boat and went across the Sea of Galilee to a place called Bethsaida.

When the people saw them going, they recognized them and ran on foot there, and got there ahead of Jesus and His apostles.

When the boat landed, Jesus saw the large crowd of people waiting there for Him. And He felt compassion on them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd. So, He went up into a mountain and began teaching them many things about the kingdom of God, and healing those that needed to be healed.

When it was quite late in the evening, Jesus' disciples came to Him. They told Him, "This place is quite desolate and it is getting late. Send these people away to the surrounding villages where they can buy themselves something to eat, and a place to stay the night."

Jesus said to Phillip, "The people do not need

to leave. Where can we buy bread to feed them?" (*He said this to test Phillip, for He already knew what He was going to do.*)

Phillip said, "Two hundred denarii worth of bread is not enough for all these people to have even a little bread."

Jesus said, "How many loaves of bread do you have? Go look!"

Andrew said to Jesus, "There is a boy here with five barley loaves and two fish; but this is not much food to be divided between so many people."

Jesus said, "Bring the food to Me." Then He told His disciples, "Tell the people to sit down on the ground in groups of fifty."

The people sat down on the green grass, and there were 5,000 men there, not counting the women and children.

Then Jesus took the five loaves and two fish and looking up to heaven, He blessed them and brake them. And he kept breaking them and giving them to the disciples to give to the people.

All the people ate until they were satisfied. Then they picked up the leftovers that remained. There were twelve baskets of food left over.

After the people saw this miracle that Jesus did, they said, "Surely this is the Prophet who is come into the world."

Jesus knew that the people wanted to take Him by force and make Him king. So He told His disciples to get into a boat and go on ahead of Him to the other side of the sea, while He sent the multitude of people away.

Jesus sent the multitude away. Then He went into the mountain by Himself to pray.

Jesus walks on the water.

Jesus had not joined His disciples yet, and it was dark outside.

A storm came up on the sea of Galilee. The wind

was blowing and the waters grew rough. Jesus could see the disciples straining to row the boat, because the wind was against them.

In the fourth watch of the night, (*between 3 and 6 in the morning*), Jesus went out to them, walking on the sea.

When the disciples had rowed about 3 or 4 miles they saw Jesus walking on the sea, and coming near to the boat. They were terrified when they saw Him and thought that He was a ghost. They cried out in fear, saying, "It is a spirit!"

Immediately Jesus spake to them saying, "Take courage! Do not be afraid, for it is I!"

Peter answered Jesus and said, "Lord, if it is You, command me to come to You on the water!"

Jesus said, "Come".

Peter got out of the boat and came to Jesus, walking on the water. But when he looked around and saw the waves of water that the wind was blowing, he became afraid. He began to sink and he cried out, "Lord, save me!"

Immediately Jesus took hold of Peter and said to him, "Oh you of little faith, why did you doubt?"

Then Jesus climbed into the boat with the disciples and the wind stopped. Those in the boat worshipped Jesus, saying, "Truly, You are the Son of God."

And immediately, the boat was at the land where they were going. At Gennesaret.

When Jesus and His disciples got out of the boat at Gennesaret, the people knew who Jesus was. They spread the word throughout the country for people to bring those who were sick to Him. Wherever Jesus went, people had brought their sick. They wanted to only touch the hem of His garment so that they might be healed. And those who touched His garment were healed.

Memory Work

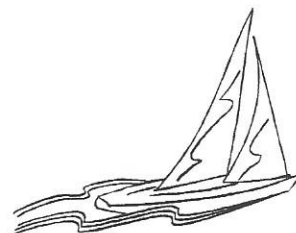
Matt 5:1-9

- 1 And seeing the multitudes, he went up into a mountain: and when he was set, his disciples came unto him:
- 2 And he opened his mouth, and taught them, saying,
- 3 Blessed are the poor in spirit: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
- 4 Blessed are they that mourn: for they shall be comforted.
- 5 Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth.
- 6 Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled.
- 7 Blessed are the merciful: for they shall obtain mercy.
- 8 Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God.
- 9 Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God.

Think About It:

Did you notice that when Jesus' disciples saw the miracles He did, they worshipped Him saying, "Truly, You are the Son of God."

The purpose of Jesus' miracles was to prove that He was the Son of God. (John 20: 30 -31) These miracles certainly proved this to His disciples. These miracles are what caused the people to have faith in Him, and as we read about them, they should cause us to have faith in Him too!



True or False:

1. ____ Jesus and His disciples got into a boat and went across the river Jordan.
2. ____ The disciples sent the multitude of people to a restaurant to eat.
3. ____ A boy had 2 loaves and 5 fishes.
4. ____ All the people sat down on the grass to eat.
5. ____ Jesus blessed and brake the bread before they ate it.
6. ____ There were 12 baskets of food left over.
7. ____ Jesus went into the mountain to pray after he told the multitude to leave.
8. ____ The sea of Galilee was very calm that night.
9. ____ The disciples were happy to see Jesus walking on the water.
10. ____ Andrew wanted to walk to Jesus on the water.
11. ____ The people in the boat said that Jesus was truly the Son of God.
12. ____ Many people were healed at Gennesaret by touching the hem of Jesus' garment.

The Life of Christ

Lesson 27

Introduction:

In lesson 26 we began a new period of Jesus' life - THE PERIODS OF RETIREMENT. We learned about His miracle of feeding the 5,000 with only five loaves and two fish. Then we studied about His walk on the water. Only the Son of God could do these things, and Jesus proved over and over that He was the Son of God.

In our lesson today we will see some His disciple leave Him. They do not have faith in Him and will follow Him no longer. But, in Tyre and Sidon He will cause a Gentile woman to believe in Him.

As He goes back to the area around the Sea of Galilee, He does more mighty miracles to cause men to believe in who He is.

Vocabulary Words:

Murmur - To mutter and grumble in a low tone of voice.

Compassion - To feel sympathy and pity for.

Gentile - A person who is not a Jew.

LESSON TEXT: John 6: 22 - 71; 7:1 ; Mark 7: 24 - 8:9 ; Matt 15: 21 - 39

Many leave Jesus, and follow Him no more.

After Jesus walked on the water, the crowds of people that had been following Him, hunted for Him. When the people found Jesus, He told them, " You searched for Me, not because of the miracles you saw, but because of the food you ate that filled your stomachs."

Jesus told the people that if they wanted to do God's will that they should follow Him, because God had sent him. He also told them that He had come down from heaven to do the Father's will, not His own will.

The Jews did not like the things that Jesus said, and they began to **murmur**. They said, "Isn't this Jesus, the son of Mary and Joseph? How can he say that he came down from heaven?"

Jesus told them to quit **murmuring**. He told them that because of the Father, if they would believe on Him, they would live. He told them that the words He spoke to them would cause them to live spiritually.

Many of Jesus' disciples did not like the things that He said to them. Many of them left Jesus and did not follow Him anymore.

When this happened, Jesus said to His twelve apostles, "Do you also want to go away?"

Peter answered Jesus, " Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. We have believed You, and know that You are the Holy One of God."

After these things happened, Jesus went to Galilee, because the Jews in Judea wanted to kill Him.

THE SECOND RETIREMENT

Jesus goes to Tyre and Sidon and heals a Gentile girl.

Jesus and His apostles went to the area of Tyre and Sidon. When He arrived there, He went to a certain house. He did not want anyone to know where He was, but He could not keep His presence hidden from others.

A **Gentile** woman heard about Jesus, and she came to where Jesus was. She came to Him and fell at His feet crying, "Lord, Son of David, have mercy on me! My daughter is possessed with an evil spirit." Then she kept begging Jesus to cast the evil spirit out of her daughter.

At first, Jesus did not answer the woman. But His disciples were coming to Him saying, " Send this woman away, for she is shouting after us."

Jesus answered, " I am not sent except to the lost sheep of Israel."

Then the woman came to Jesus and bowed down before Him saying, " Lord, help me!"

Jesus replied to her, " It is not right to take the children's bread and toss it to their dogs."

The woman said, " Yes, Lord, but even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from the master's table"

Jesus said, " Woman, great is your faith! It will be done as you wish. Go on your way, for the evil spirit has left your daughter.

And her daughter was healed at once.

When the woman went home, she found her daughter lying on a bed, and the evil spirit was gone.

THE THIRD RETIREMENT.

Jesus feeds the 4,000.

Jesus left the coasts of Tyre and Sidon and went to the sea of Galilee through the coasts of Decapolis.

Great multitudes brought the lame, crippled, blind and dumb to Him to be healed.

The people were amazed when they saw the miracles that Jesus did, and they glorified God.

Jesus called His disciples to Him and said, "I have **compassion** for this multitude of people, because they have remained with Me for three days and have nothing to eat."

"If I send them away hungry, they will faint on the way, for some of them have come a long distance."

Jesus' disciples answered Him, "Where, in such a desolate place, will anyone be able to find enough bread to feed all these people?"

Jesus said, "How many loaves of bread do you have?"

They replied, "Seven, and a few small fish."

Then Jesus told the multitude to sit down on the ground. He took the bread and fish and gave thanks for them. And He broke them, giving them to the disciples so that they could give them to the people.

All of the people ate the bread and fish until they were satisfied. Afterward, the disciples picked up seven basketfuls of food that were left over.

And there were 4,000 men, besides women and children.

Then Jesus sent the people away and got into a boat going to Magadan.

THINK ABOUT IT:

When Jesus was talking to the Gentile woman He said, "*I am not sent except to the lost sheep of Israel.*"

Jesus meant that He was sent here to teach the Jews. The Jews were God's chosen people under the Old Law.

Jesus compared the Jews to God's children sitting at His table eating bread; and the Gentiles to little dogs under the table at the Master's feet.

The woman told Jesus that the little dogs would eat the crumbs that fell from the Master's table.

This was her way of telling Jesus that she would be satisfied with just a favor from Him, even though it would be like crumbs compared to the loaves of blessings that His disciples received from Him every day.

She believed that Jesus had the ability to help her, and so she kept asking Him for help. Jesus saw her faith in Him and rewarded her for it!

MEMORY WORK

Matt 5:1-10

1 And seeing the multitudes, he went up into a mountain: and when he was set, his disciples came unto him:

2 And he opened his mouth, and taught them, saying,

3 Blessed are the poor in spirit: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

4 Blessed are they that mourn: for they shall be comforted.

5 Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth.

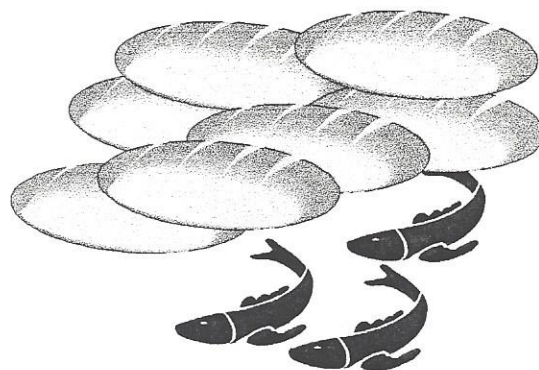
6 Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled.

7 Blessed are the merciful: for they shall obtain mercy.

8 Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God.

9 Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God.

10 Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness' sake: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.



Multiple Choice

1. Jesus told those who followed Him that they did so because of the (miracles He did , food they ate that filled their stomachs) .
2. The Jews did not like the things that Jesus told them, and they began to (shout , murmur) .
3. Many of the Jews left Jesus and (came back later , did not follow Him anymore) .
4. Peter told Jesus, " You have the words of (a great , eternal) life.
5. A (Jewish , Gentile) woman came to see Jesus when he was in Tyre and Sidon.
6. The woman wanted Jesus to cast an evil spirit out of her (son , daughter) .
7. Jesus told the woman, " I am not sent except to the lost sheep of (Tyre , Israel)."
8. Jesus told the woman, " (Little , Great) is your faith."
9. Jesus (did , did not) heal the woman's daughter.
10. Great multitudes of people brought lame, crippled, blind and dumb to Jesus so that He could (heal , pray for) them.
11. The miracles that Jesus did caused the people to glorify (the apostles , God) .
12. Jesus had (hate , compassion) for the people because they had been with Him for (10 , 3) days and had nothing to eat.
13. The disciples had (5 , 7) loaves of bread and a few fishes.
14. The people (did , did not) eat until they were satisfied.
15. There were (4,000 , 5,000) men, not counting women and children.

Answer the questions:

(Please do them on your own, without asking for help.)

1. What was the purpose of Jesus' miracles? _____

2. Who was Jesus talking about when he referred to : " the lost sheep of Israel" ? _____

3. Whose will did Jesus come to earth to do? _____
4. What have you learned about Jesus that you did not know before? _____

The Life of Christ

Lesson 28

Introduction:

In lesson 27 we studied about many of Jesus' disciples leaving Him, to follow Him no more. The Jews in Judea wanted to kill Him, so He traveled to Tyre and Sidon. There, a Gentile woman had faith in Him and wanted Him to heal her daughter of a demon. Jesus did.

When He traveled back to the Sea of Galilee, over 4,000 people began to follow Him, bringing Him their sick, blind and lame to Him. He healed them, and since they had been with Him for three days with no food, He performed another miracle to feed all of them.

Our lesson today begins with the fourth retirement of Jesus.

Vocabulary Words:

Leaven - The ingredient in bread that causes it to rise.

Peter - A small stone

rock - A large stone, such as a ledge or cliff.

Deny (or deny oneself) - To forget your own interests and wants, and do what someone else wants.

Soul - The spiritual part of us that lives on after our physical body dies.

LESSON TEXT: Mark 8 : 13 - 38; Matt. 16: 5 -28; Luke 9: 18 -27

THE FOURTH RETIREMENT

The Pharisees and Sadducees want a sign from Jesus.

When Jesus arrived on the boat at Magadan, Pharisees and Sadducees came to Him. They wanted to test Him, and they asked Jesus for a sign from heaven.

Jesus sighed deeply before He answered them, and said, "Why does this generation look for a sign? You are able to read the sky for the weather, but you cannot read the signs of the times. It is an evil and adulterous generation that keep looking for a sign. The only sign that will be given is the sign of Jonah." (*Jesus was referring to his death, burial and resurrection.*)

Then Jesus left the Pharisees and Sadducees and got on a boat to go to the other side of the sea.

The disciples were with Jesus in the boat. As they came to the other side of the sea, they realized that they had forgotten to bring bread with them. They did not have more than one loaf in the boat with them.

Jesus began to talk to His disciples and He said, "Watch out! Beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and Sadducees!"

The disciples then began to discuss with each

other the fact that they had no bread. They said among themselves, "Jesus has said this because we have taken no bread."

(*The disciples did not understand that Jesus was not talking about bread, but about the influence of the Pharisees and Sadducees upon them.*)

Jesus, aware that they were still thinking about the bread, said, "You of little faith. Why are you talking among yourselves about having no bread? Don't you see or understand?"

"Do you remember the 5 loaves that I divided among the 5,000? How many of baskets of leftover bread did you take up?"

"Twelve", they replied.

"And when I broke the 7 loaves for the 4,000, how many baskets of leftover bread did you take up?"

"Seven", they replied.

"Then why don't you understand that I was not talking to you about the leaven of the bread, but about the teaching of the Pharisees and the Sadducees?"

After Jesus said this, the disciples understood what Jesus was telling them.

Peter confesses Christ at Ceasarea Philippi.

Jesus went out with His disciples to the villages of Ceasarea Philippi. While He was traveling along the way, He asked His disciples, "Who do men say that I am?"

The disciples answered, "Some people say that you are John the Baptist, some say Elijah, some Jeremiah, or one of the prophets."

Jesus said to them, "But who do *you* say that I am?"

Simon Peter answered Him and said, "You are the Christ, the Son of the Living God."

Jesus answered him and said, "Blessed are you Simon, son of Jonah; for flesh and blood has not revealed this unto you, but My Father which is in

heaven.”

“ And I say to you that you are **Peter**, and upon this **rock** I will build My church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it.”

“ And I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven. Whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.”

Then Jesus told His disciples to tell no one that He was the Christ.

From that time on, Jesus began to tell His disciples how He must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things. He told them how the elders, chief priests, and scribes would persecute Him. And He told them how He would be killed and raised from the dead on the third day.

Peter was upset by the things Jesus told them, and he began to rebuke Jesus. He said, “ Don’t say this Lord! This will not happen to You!”

But Jesus turned to Peter and said, “ Get behind me Satan! You are not thinking about what God wants, but what man wants.”

Then Jesus called His disciples to Him. He said, “ If any man will follow Me, let him **deny** himself and take up his cross and follow Me.”

“ What good is it to a man if he gain the whole world and lose his own **soul**? What can a man give in exchange for his **soul**?”

“The Son of Man will come in the glory of His Father with His angels and will reward every man according to what things he has done.”

“Truly, there are some people standing here that will not die until they see the Son of Man coming in His kingdom.”

Memory Work

Matt 5:1-11

- 1 And seeing the multitudes, he went up into a mountain: and when he was set, his disciples came unto him:
- 2 And he opened his mouth, and taught them, saying,
- 3 Blessed are the poor in spirit: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
- 4 Blessed are they that mourn: for they shall be comforted.
- 5 Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth.
- 6 Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled.
- 7 Blessed are the merciful: for they shall obtain mercy.
- 8 Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God.
- 9 Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God.
- 10 Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness' sake: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
- 11 Blessed are ye, when men shall revile you, and persecute you, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake.

Think About It:

When Jesus was talking to Peter He said:

Matt 16:18

And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.

Right before Jesus said this to Peter, Peter had confessed that Jesus was the Christ, the Son of the living God. When Jesus told Peter that he would build His church on a “rock”, the “rock” He was talking about was the confession that Peter had made — “That Jesus was the Christ, the Son of the living God.”

The “rock” or foundation of the church that Christ built was Himself! He is the foundation of the church!

Notice, too, that Jesus said He would build “My church”. He did not say that He would build many churches. Only one!

Jesus also told Peter:

Matt 16:19a

And I will give unto thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven:

Jesus said this to Peter, because Peter would preach the first gospel sermon . (Acts 2) The “keys of the kingdom” refers to the preaching of the gospel.

As we can see, Jesus is starting to prepare His disciples for the period of time after His death. The time when His kingdom (or church) would begin.



Answer the following questions:

1. What did the Pharisees and Sadducees ask Jesus for? _____
2. When Jesus began to talk about the leaven of the Pharisees and Saducees, was He talking about bread? _____
3. What was Jesus talking about? _____
4. What did Peter tell Jesus when He asked, "*But who do you say that I am?*"? _____
5. How many churches did Jesus say He would build? (read Matt. 16:18) _____
6. What things did Jesus tell His disciples were going to happen to Him? _____
7. Jesus said, "*What good is it to a man if he gain the whole world and lose his own* _____."
8. How will Jesus reward every man when He comes again? (read Matt. 16:27) _____

The Life of Christ

Lesson 29

Introduction:

In lesson 28 we studied about the Pharisees and Sadducees wanting Jesus to give them a sign. Jesus had already done many signs (or miracles) before them, so He told them that the only sign they would see would be His death and resurrection from the dead.

Jesus warned His disciples about the Pharisee's and Sadducee's influence, but His disciples did not know what He was speaking about at first.

Jesus also begins to tell His disciples about the beginning of His church.

In our lesson today, Jesus convinces His disciples that He is their authority.

Vocabulary Words:

Transfigured - To be changed into another form.

Tabernacle - A tent.

Mute - One who is not able to speak.

Temple tax - Under the Old Law, every man 20 years old or older was to pay a temple tax to support the temple service. (Ex. 30: 13 - 16)

faces because they were very afraid. Jesus came to them and touched them and said, "Get up. Don't be afraid."

When they looked up, they saw no one but Jesus.

As they came down from the mountain, Jesus told them to tell no one what they had seen until He had been risen from the dead. So the disciples told no one, but they discussed among themselves what Jesus meant about rising from the dead.

LESSON TEXT: Mark 9; Matt. 17; Luke 9: 28 - 45

The transfiguration.

Six days after Jesus told His disciples about His kingdom and resurrection, He took Peter, James and John upon a high mountain to pray.

As Jesus prayed, He was **transfigured** before them. His face shone like the sun, and His clothes became white and glistening as snow. His clothes were whiter than anyone could ever whiten clothes.

Then, two men appeared before them and they were talking to Jesus. They were Moses and Elijah and they were speaking to Jesus about His death in Jerusalem.

Peter, James and John had been asleep, but when they were fully awake they saw Jesus' glory and the two men with Him.

As Moses and Elijah were leaving Jesus, Peter said, "Master, it is good for us to be here. Let us make three **tabernacles**: one for You, one for Moses and one for Elijah." Peter and the disciples were very afraid. Peter said this to Jesus because he did not know what to say.

While Peter was still speaking, a bright cloud overshadowed them. And a voice came out of the cloud and said, "*This is My Beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased; hear ye Him!*"

When the disciples heard the voice, they fell on their

Jesus heals a boy of a demon, whom His disciples could not heal.

The next day, Jesus, Peter, James, and John came down from the mountain. Many people were waiting for them.

Jesus saw the rest of His disciples, and many people and scribes around them, questioning them. When the crowd saw Jesus, they ran to Him and greeted Him.

Jesus asked the scribes, "What are you discussing with My disciples?"

Then a man approached Jesus and knelt before Him. He said, "Lord, have mercy on my only son. He is possessed with a spirit that makes him **mute**. Whenever the spirit possesses him it throws him to the ground and he foams at the mouth and grinds his teeth, and his body stiffens. I brought him to your disciples and begged them to cast out the demon, but they could not."

Jesus said, "Oh you unbelieving generation of people! How long shall I be with you? How long will I put up with you? Bring your boy to me."

They brought the boy to Jesus, but as soon as the boy saw Him the demon threw the boy down on the ground where he rolled about foaming at the mouth.

Jesus said to the father of the boy, "How long has this been happening to him?"

The father said, "From childhood. Often it has

thrown him into the water and fire to destroy him. If you can do anything, please have compassion on him and help us!"

Jesus said, "If you can! All things are possible to him who believes."

The father of the child cried out, "Lord, I believe; help my unbelief."

Then Jesus rebuked the demon saying, "Deaf and dumb spirit, I command you come out of him, and do not enter him again!"

The demon came out of the boy and left him so still, that many thought he was dead, and said that he was dead. But Jesus took the boy by the hand and raised him up.

When Jesus' disciples were in private with Him, they asked Him, "Why couldn't we cast out the demon?"

Jesus said, "Because of your unbelief. If you have faith as a grain of mustard seed, you will be able to say to this mountain, 'Move over there,' and it will move. Nothing will be impossible for you. This kind of demon comes out only by prayer and fasting."

While Jesus and His disciples continued their stay in Galilee, Jesus told them of His death. He told them how He would be betrayed and how men would kill Him. He told them how he would be in the grave three days and be raised.

Jesus' disciples did not understand the things He told them and were afraid to ask Him questions about it.

Jesus pays the temple tax.

Jesus and His disciples went to Capernaum. While they were there, those who collected the **temple tax** came to Peter. They said, "Doesn't your Master pay the **temple tax**?"

Peter said, "Yes."

As soon as Peter came into the house, Jesus said to him, "What do you think Simon? From whom do the kings of the earth collect taxes, from their own sons or from strangers?"

Peter said, "From strangers". (For Peter knew that the kings did not tax their own sons.)

Jesus said, "Then the sons are free. But, we do not want to offend them. So go to the sea, cast in a hook and take up the fish that comes up first. When you have opened it's mouth, you will find a piece of money. Take the money and pay the **temple tax** for you and for Me."



Think About It:

God the Father spoke to the disciples saying, "*This is My Beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased; hear ye Him!*"

God wanted His disciples to know that Jesus, the Son of God, had authority over Moses and the prophets. God gave Jesus this authority, and He wanted His disciples to "*hear Him*".

This means that the disciples of Jesus would look to Him for the things they must do to please God; not to Moses and the prophets. They were to take their instructions from Jesus because God was "*well pleased*" with Him!

Memory Work

Matt 5:2-12

- 2 And he opened his mouth, and taught them, saying,
- 3 Blessed are the poor in spirit: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
- 4 Blessed are they that mourn: for they shall be comforted.
- 5 Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth.
- 6 Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled.
- 7 Blessed are the merciful: for they shall obtain mercy.
- 8 Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God.
- 9 Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God.
- 10 Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness' sake: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
- 11 Blessed are ye, when men shall revile you, and persecute you, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake.
- 12 Rejoice, and be exceeding glad: for great is your reward in heaven: for so persecuted they the prophets which were before you.

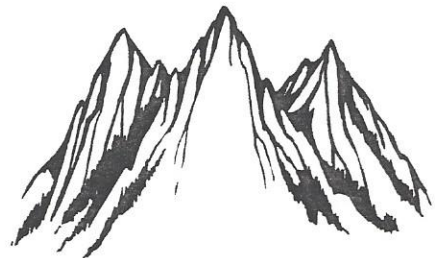
(KJV)

Fill in the blanks:

1. Jesus took _____, _____, and _____ with Him on a mountain to pray.
2. As Jesus prayed He was _____ before them.
3. Two men appeared and they were talking to Jesus. They were _____ and _____.
4. Peter said, "Let us make three _____. One for _____, one for _____, and one for _____."
5. A voice came out of the cloud and said, "*This is my beloved _____, in whom I am well pleased; hear ye _____.*"
6. A man who had a son possessed with a _____ came to Jesus.
7. Jesus told his disciples that they could not cast the demon out of the boy because of their _____.
8. Jesus told His disciples that He would be in the grave _____ days and then be raised.

Use your Bible and fill-in-the-blanks

1. Matt 17:24
And when they were come to _____, they that received tribute money came to _____, and said, Doth not your _____ pay tribute?
(KJV)
2. Matt 17:27
Notwithstanding, lest we should offend them, go thou to the _____, and cast an hook, and take up the _____ that first cometh up; and when thou hast opened his _____, thou shalt find a piece of _____: that take, and give unto them for me and thee.
(KJV)



The Life of Christ

Lesson 30

Introduction:

In lesson 29 we studied about the transfiguration of Jesus. We learned that the Father wanted His disciples to follow Jesus and His authority.

Jesus healed a boy with a demon and taught His disciples a lesson in faith. He also tells His disciples about His death and resurrection. Later He works a miracle so that Peter can pay the temple tax for them.

In our lesson today, we will study the last lesson in "THE PERIODS OF RETIREMENT". The majority of Christ's work is over in Galilee and Jesus tries to get His disciples to understand the importance of His kingdom and of following Him.

Vocabulary Words:

Brother - A fellow believer. When we talk about *brothers* in this lesson we are talking about people who believe the same thing and are following Jesus. "*Brothers in Christ*" are people who are fellow believers in Christ.

Heathen - One who does not worship the true God.

Publican - A tax collector. The Jews detested publicans because of their greed and because they deceived people.

Talent - A certain amount of money.

lost, doesn't he leave the ninety-nine and search for his lost sheep? And if he finds the lost sheep, he rejoices more for it than for the ninety-nine that were not lost. It is not the will of the Father that one of these little ones perish."

(When Jesus talks about "little ones" or "little children" He is talking about those who follow Him.)

Jesus tells His disciples what to do about a brother who has sinned against another brother.

LESSON TEXT: Matt. 18: 1 - 22; Mark 9: 33-37; Luke 9: 46 -62; John 7: 2 - 10

The twelve apostles argue over who will be greatest in the kingdom of heaven.

Jesus' apostles were traveling on their way to Capernaum. On the way they began argue among themselves about who would be the greatest in the kingdom of heaven.

When they came to the house they were staying at in Capernaum, Jesus asked the disciples, "What were you discussing on the way?"

When Jesus asked this question, the disciples became silent. Jesus knew what they were thinking. He sat down and called the twelve apostles to Him. He said, "If anyone wants to be first, he must be the very last and the servant of all."

Then He called a little child to Himself and set him before them. Taking the child in His arms He said, "Truly I tell you that unless you change and become as little children, you will not enter the kingdom of heaven. Whoever receives one of these little children in My name receives Me; and he also receives the One who sent Me."

"The Son of Man came to save the lost. What do you think? If a man has one hundred sheep and one of them is

Jesus said, "If your **brother** sins, go and tell him what he has done in private. If he listens to you, you have gained your brother."

"But if he will not listen to you, take two or three people with you to talk to him. They will be witnesses to what you say."

"If he still refuses to listen to you, tell it to the church. If he refuses to hear the church, let him be to you as a **heathen or publican**."

Then Peter came to Jesus and said, "Lord, how many times should I forgive my brother when he sins against me? Up to seven times?"

Jesus answered, "I tell you, not seven times, but seventy times seven."

"The kingdom of God is like a certain king who wanted to settle accounts with his slaves. One slave was brought to him that owed him ten thousand **talents** that he could not pay. Since he could not pay the **talents**, the king ordered him and his wife and children to be sold to pay the debt.

The slave fell down before the king and said, "Have patience with me and I will repay you everything."

The king felt compassion for the man and forgave him the debt.

But the slave then went out and found a fellow slave who owed him some money. A much smaller

amount that what he owed the king. He began to choke the fellow slave and said, "Pay back what you owe me!"

The fellow slave fell down begging him, "Have patience with me and I will repay you."

The slave was unwilling to forgive him the debt and threw him in prison until he could pay what he owed him.

When his fellow slaves saw what happened they went to the king and told him about it. The king had the slave brought to him and said, "You wicked slave! I forgave you the debt because you begged me to. Shouldn't you have mercy on your fellow slave just as I have had for you?"

The king became angry and turned the slave over to the jailers to be tortured until he could pay all he owed.

Then Jesus said to his disciples, "This is what My Heavenly Father will do to you if you do not forgive your brother from your hearts."

Jesus wanted His disciples to give up everything and follow Him.

As Jesus and His disciples were traveling on the road a certain man came to Him and said, "I will follow You wherever You go."

Jesus replied, "Foxes have holes and birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man does not have a place to lay His head."

Then Jesus said to another man, "Follow me."

The man replied, "Lord, first let me go bury my father."

Jesus said to him, "Let the dead bury their own dead, but you go and preach the kingdom of God."

Another man said to Jesus, "I will follow you Lord, but first let me go say good-bye to my family."

Jesus said, "No one who puts his hand to the plough and looks back is fit for the kingdom of God."

Memory Work

Review Matthew 5 : 1 - 12
See if you can say the whole
passage
from memory!

Think About It:

As we have studied about Jesus' life we have learned over and over that He came to earth to do the Father's will. He came to establish His church (or kingdom). And that He wants His disciples to put Him and His kingdom before anything else.

Jesus still feels the same way today. The lessons that we have been learning are for us too! He wants us to put Him first!

This means that we must think about what Jesus would want us to do in everything we do in our lives. Obedience to His Word is how we accomplish this. If we always do what God's Word tells us to do, then we are putting Him first!

TRUE OR FALSE:

1. ____ Jesus' disciples argued over who would be least in the kingdom of heaven.
2. ____ Jesus told His disciples that they would have to become as little children to enter the kingdom of heaven.
3. ____ Jesus does not want anyone to perish.
4. ____ Jesus said that we are to forgive our brother only seven times.
5. ____ Jesus said that He did not have a place of His own to lay His head.



The Life of Christ

Teacher's Notes

NOTICE THE LOCATION OF EACH LESSON AND HAVE THE STUDENTS MARK THEIR MAPS.

Lesson 1: Familiarize yourself with the previous Bible period and the prophecies about Christ. Gen. 3:15, Gen. 12: 1 - 3; II Sam. 7 : 11 - 14; Micah 5:2; Is. 49:6; Mal. 4: 5 - 6
Remind the children that there has been 400 years since God has spoken to His people, when the New Testament opens.

Lesson 2: Explain the importance of engagements or betrothals under the Old Law. Make sure the children know who the verses are about on page 5.

Lesson 3: Genesis 17 deals with circumcision under the Old Law. Leviticus 12:8 deals with the sacrifice a woman should make after having a child. We understand that Jesus' parents were poor because of the sacrifice she made after His birth.

When Simeon told Mary that Jesus would be a "sign that people will speak against", he was speaking about Jesus' death on the cross.

Make sure the children realize that the star in the east was a miraculous sign. Point out that we do not know how many wise men there were because God did not reveal this to us.

Micah 5: 2 is the prophecy of Jesus being born in Bethlehem.

Lesson 4: Hos. 11:1 prophecies that Jesus would be called out of Egypt.

Exodus 12 tells us of the Passover. Give a brief explanation to the children of what the Passover was. Explain the statement that Jesus made "Didn't you know that I must be about My Father's business."

Lesson 5: Be sure you understand the Godhead before teaching this lesson. That there are three different personalities in the Godhead (The Father, Son, and Holy Ghost). That all three of these personalities are One. (Gen. 1:1 God refers to all three persons. *Elohim* is the Hebrew word for God in this verse, and is plural.)

They are ONE because they are united in all they do. In John 5 Jesus claims equality with the Father. They are one in purpose, but each one has a different role: the Father planned the scheme of Redemption, the Son came to earth to carry it out, and the Holy Ghost revealed it to man through the Word of God. Understand that Jesus is God in the flesh (John 1:14 ; I Tim. 3 : 16 ; Heb. 10 : 5)

Explain to the children how there are three persons in the Godhead, but only One God. (Example: only one humanity, but many humans)

Lesson 6: Let the children understand that the use of "vipers" in this lesson refers to vile, poisonous characters.

Explain why John is not as important as Christ. Prophecies of John are in Mal. 3: 1; 4: 5-6; Is. 40:3

Lesson 7: Point out to the children that all three persons in the Godhead were at Jesus' baptism.

Jesus used Old Testament scripture to resist the temptation of the devil (Deut. 8:3 ; Deut. 6:16, 13) Jesus was tempted in all points like we are (Heb. 4:15) Also explain that Jesus did not sin (II Cor. 5:21; I Pet. 2:22; I John 3: 5)

Lesson 8: Be sure the children understand what a witness is.

Lesson 9: Be sure the children understand what the temple and Passover is. Talk to the children about whether we can profane God's house today.

Lesson 10: Make sure the children understand the story in Numbers 21: 4-9 and that Israel was saved by their obedience. The song "*Ye Must Be Born Again*" can be used with this lesson since it is about Nicodemus. Explain the difference between a physical and a spiritual birth.

Lesson 11: In the Review make sure the children understand about: the virgin birth, the deity of Christ, and the temptation of Jesus without sin.

Lesson 12: Be sure and explain how we worship God in "spirit and in truth".

Lesson 13: I Kings 17 is the story of the widow of Zarephath, I Kings 5 is the story of Naaman.

Lesson 14: Explain to the children how the fishing was done then. Be sure they understand what "authority" is.

Lesson 15: Make sure the children understand that Jesus could heal the sick and forgive sin.

Lesson 16: Point out that the Jews were not interested in the fact that the man had been healed, instead they were concerned that he had broken the Sabbath.

As Jesus compares Himself equal with the Father, notice that no one could accuse God of breaking the Sabbath.

Lesson 17: Remind the children that Jesus did not sin (I Pet. 2: 21 - 22). Discuss what Reaping and Threshing is. The Jews were allowed to pick grain to eat, but not to reap it on the Sabbath (Deut. 23:25)

Lesson 18: As you study Jesus' teaching on adultery, tell them the responsibility of each man to keep his thoughts pure and of each woman to dress and act in such a way that she does not cause lust.

Lesson 19: Explain the statement " Thy kingdom come" in the Lord's prayer.

Lesson 20: In your review make sure the children understand: what the gospel is, what the kingdom is, how Jesus is equal with the Father, the purpose of Jesus' miracles.

Lesson 21: Review with the children who John the Baptist is, and what his purpose was. Also explain how the "least in the kingdom is greater than John the Baptist".

Lesson 22: Explain what "sowing" is.

Lesson 23: In the parable of the tares, be sure the students understand Jesus' explanation comparing the tares to those who go to hell. In the parable of the pearl of great price and the hidden treasure, be sure they understand that God wants us to put His kingdom before anything else and that it is worth whatever we have to do to obtain it.

Lesson 24: Point out that the people of Gergasene were upset over the loss of their animals. Their loss is what made them want Jesus to leave.

The woman with the issue of blood was healed because of her faith.

Lesson 25: Point out to the children that Jesus wanted the apostles to depend on God for what they needed.

Lesson 26: Note that the leftovers they picked up were much more than the food they had started out with.

Lesson 27: Remind the children that God has never been pleased when his people murmured.(Ex. 16:7-8; Num. 17:5; John 6:43; I Cor. 10 : 10)

Lesson 28: Point out that just as Jesus wanted his disciples to be concerned about the leaven (or influence) of the Pharisees and Sadducees, we should also be concerned about the influence of others on us.

Be sure to point out that Jesus came to establish ONE church, not a multiplicity of them.

Lesson 29: Be sure the children understand that God wanted the apostles to understand that Jesus was their authority and that He is to be heard.

Lesson 30: Explain the importance of one soul to Jesus, and the importance of putting Him first.