

MIDDLE SCHOOL RELEASED TIME CURRICULUM

YEAR

2

JESUS ON MISSION

by Brian Cretney



school

MINISTRIES

STUDENT GUIDE

JOURNEYING WITH JESUS

YOUR HANDY REFERENCE MAP





OUR NEXT JOURNEY WITH JESUS...

— Unit One — JESUS ARRIVES



HOW TO SAVE... A SQUIRREL?

Imagine looking out your window and seeing a tall tree in an empty lot across the road. Comfortably nestled at the very top of that tree is a little family of squirrels.*

But you know something those squirrels do not know! Down below, pitched beside that tree, is a sign:

"CONSTRUCTION SITE".

And rumbling down the street is a truck. And on that truck? All the tools required to take down that tree!

At once, you think of the squirrels — they're in danger! But how can you warn squirrels? Shout out your window? They don't understand your language. Write posters in big, bold letters? Squirrels can't read. Negotiate with the tree-cutter? He's just doing his job.

Wait a minute! What if you could **become** a squirrel? You could bound up that tree and warn them, in true squirrel language, of the oncoming danger. You could urge them to flee for safety.

Would you do that? ... all for a few little squirrels?

Isn't that similar to what Jesus did for us — only on a much grander scale? Jesus, God's Son, wanted to warn us of the coming judgment for our sin. But even greater, He wanted to **save** us.



Yet how could He ever do that? He is holy GOD! We are sinful man. The sheer blaze of His glory and majesty would surely destroy us if He came down to us. **"You cannot see My face; for no man shall see Me, and live"** (Ex 33:20), God declared to Moses.

And so He **covered** (or "veiled") that glory to become one of us — a human — just like us, but without sin.

In this unit, we will travel back in time to that miraculous moment when God came to Earth as a babe in the Person of the Lord Jesus. His mission to save

us was evident in so many ways — from His very Name, to the gifts brought to Him by the wise men, to His own declaration as a 12-year-old boy in the temple: **"I must do My Father's business"** (Lk 2:49). What business was that? To win our salvation!

As you journey with Jesus through this unit, be amazed that God's Son came to us — so close that we could look into the eyes of a real man and, at the same time, the very face of eternal God: **"For God, who said, 'Let there be light in the darkness,' has made this light shine in our hearts so we could know the glory of God that is seen in the face of Jesus Christ"** (2 Cor 4:6).

* C. S. Lewis uses a similar example of a person willing to become a dog to save all dogs. There are many similar variations of this involving ants. Check them out!

MY NOTES FOR UNIT 1 LESSON 1

— DESTINATION: THE BIG IDEA —

— KEY MEMORY VERSE —

— NOTES ALONG THE JOURNEY —

This image shows a blank, aged, cream-colored page, likely an endpaper or flyleaf of a book. The paper has a slightly textured appearance with some faint smudges and discoloration, particularly along the right edge. There is no text or other markings on the page.

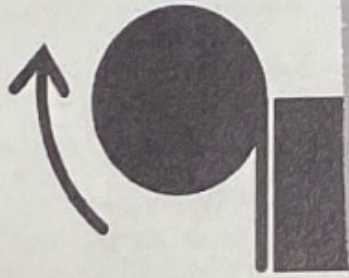
U1/L1



THE NEWBORN'S NAME

Name: _____

"And [Mary] will bring forth a Son, and you shall call His name Jesus, for He will _____." (Matthew 1:21)



"Falling _____ of God's standard of _____"

"_____ God's line."

"_____ - _____ sin, _____ God's will"

— THE THREE MAIN WORDS FOR "SIN" IN THE BIBLE —

I acknowledged my _____ to You, and my _____ I have not hidden.
I said, "I will confess my _____ to the Lord," And You forgave... (Psalm 32:5)

MY NOTES FOR UNIT 1 LESSON 2

— DESTINATION: THE BIG IDEA —

— KEY MEMORY VERSE —

— NOTES ALONG THE JOURNEY—

GOOD NEWS...AT LAST!

U1L2 Activity

NAME: _____

4000 BC

2500 BC

2100 BC

1600 BC

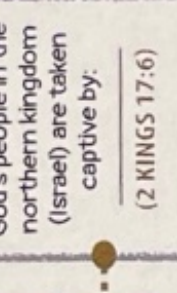
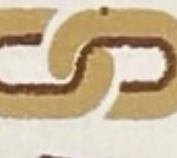
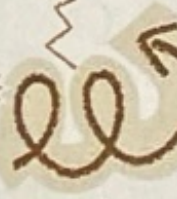
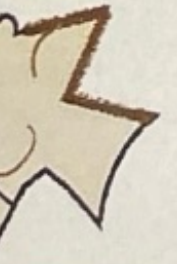
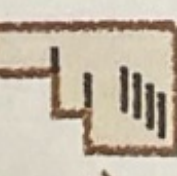
1446 BC

1043 BC

722 BC

597 BC

3 BC



GENESIS 3:6, 23

[Eve] took of its fruit and _____, and she also gave some to her husband [Adam]...therefore ate...therefore the Lord God sent him _____ from the garden of Eden...

Sin, iniquity, and transgression spread over time...

GENESIS 6:12, 14, 17

And God saw the earth, and behold, it was _____ make yourself an ark...I will bring a _____ of waters upon the earth to destroy all flesh.

As the world re-populates...

GENESIS 11:4, 8

Then they said, "Come, let us _____ ourselves a city and a _____ with its top in the heavens, and let us make a _____ for ourselves... So the Lord dispersed them..."

Abraham's descendants (through Joseph) settle in Egypt.

EXODUS 1:8, 11

Now there arose a new king [_____] who did not know Joseph...they set taskmasters over them to _____ them with heavy _____.

God delivers the people of Israel through Moses.

EXODUS 12:33; NUMBERS 14:2; JOSHUA 5:6

The Egyptians were urgent...to send [the people of Israel] out of [Egypt]...And all the people of Israel _____ [they] walked _____ years in the wilderness...

God's people finally arrive in the Promised Land. They want a king instead of God.

1 SAMUEL 8:4, 6-8

Then all the elders of Israel...said, "Give us a _____ to judge us." The Lord said... "From the day I brought them up out of Egypt even to this day, [they are] forsaking me and serving other _____.

The kingdom divides into two; God's people rebel (again!).

God's people in the northern kingdom (Israel) are taken captive by: _____ (2 KINGS 17:6)

God's people in the southern kingdom (Judah) are taken captive by: _____ (2 KINGS 24:1)

God eventually freed Judah. But after His message to the prophet Malachi (430 BC), God speaks no more for the rest of the OLD TESTAMENT!

Sin. Failure. Darkness. 400 years of silence. All hope appears lost. Until...

CHRIST IS BORN!

ANSWER BOX

grumbled • build • Babylon • afflict • corrupt • gods • burdens • flood • ate • Assyria • Pharaoh • out • name • king • tower • forty