

**2024
Middle Kids Lessons Scedule**

Date	Volume	Lesson Name	Unit
11 Feb	Volume 6 From Captivity to Restoration	God Delivered His people	Unit 17: The People Return Session 1
18 Feb		Zechariah Gave Hope	Unit 17: The People Return Session 2
25 Feb		The People Rebuilt the Temple	Unit 17: The People Return Session 3
3 Mar	Communion Sunday - No Kids Church		
10 March	Volume 6 From Captivity to Restoration	Compassion Sunday	
17 March		God can Always be Trusted	Unit 17: The People Return Session 4
24 March		Esther Saved Her People	Unit 18: The People Prepare Session 1
31 March		Special Easter Lesson	
7 April	Communion Sunday - No Kids Church		
14 April	Volume 6 From Captivity to Restoration	Nehemiah Rebuilt the Walls	Unit 18: The People Prepare Session 2
21 April		Ezra Read the Law	Unit 18: The People Prepare Session 3
28 April		The People Promised to be Faithful	Unit 18: The People Prepare Session 4
5 May	Communion Sunday - No Kids Church		
12 May	Volume 6	We Should be Sorry for Sin	Unit 18: The People Prepare Session 5
19 May	Volume 7 From Heaven to Earth	Jesus was Born	Unit 19: Peparing for Ministry Session 1
26 May		Jesus was Dedicated	Unit 19: Peparing for Ministry Session 2
2 June	Communion Sunday - No Kids Church		
9 June	Volume 7 From Heaven to Earth	Jesus was Baptised	Unit 19: Peparing for Ministry Session 3
16 June		Jesus was Tempted	Unit 19: Peparing for Ministry Session 4
23 June		Jesus Calls His Disciples	Unit 19: Peparing for Ministry Session 5
30 June		Jesus Came to Be the Sacrifice for Sin	Unit 19: Peparing for Ministry Session 6
7 July	Communion Sunday - No Kids Church		
14 July	Volume 7 From Heaven to Earth	Jesus Told Nicodemus About Eternal Life	Unit 20: Encounters with Jesus Session 1
21 July		Jesus Told a Woman About Living Water	Unit 20: Encounters with Jesus Session 2
28 July		God Loves All People	Unit 20: Encounters with Jesus Session 3
4 August	Communion Sunday - No Kids Church		
11 August	Volume 7 From Heaven to Earth	People Rejected Jesus	Unit 21: Early Responses to Jesus Session 1
18 August		Potjiekos Sunday - No Kids Church	
25 August		People were Amazed by Jesus	Unit 21: Early Responses to Jesus Session 2
1 September	Communion Sunday - No Kids Church		

8 September	Volume 7 From Heaven to Earth	Peter Worshipped Jesus	Unit 21: Early Responses to Jesus Session 3
15 September		We are Saved by Faith in Jesus	Unit 21: Early Responses to Jesus Session 4
22 September	Volume 8 From Wonder to Rejection	Jesus Calmed a Storm	Unit 22: The Miracles of Jesus Session 1
29 September		Jesus Healed and Forgave	Unit 22: The Miracles of Jesus Session 2
6 October	Communion Sunday - No Kids Church		
13 October	Volume 8 From Wonder to Rejection	Jesus Healed Sickness	Unit 22: The Miracles of Jesus Session 3
20 October		Jesus Fed Many People	Unit 22: The Miracles of Jesus Session 4
27 October		Jesus' Miracles Prove He is God	Unit 22: The Miracles of Jesus Session 5
3 November	Communion Sunday - No Kids Church		
10 November	Volume 8 From Wonder to Rejection	Jesus Taught About Character	Unit 23: The Teachings of Jesus Session 1
17 November		Jesus Taught About Behaviour	Unit 23: The Teachings of Jesus Session 2
24 November	Class Parties - No lesson		
1 December	Spitbraai Sunday - No Kids Church		

Please find the lesson summaries and midweek resources for each lesson below. Just check the date and find the correlating lesson using the volume and unit number as well as specific lesson name.

Lesson Summaries
&
At Home Resources



Unit 16 | Session 1

JEREMIAH ENCOURAGED GOD'S PEOPLE

Jeremiah 29-30

The Northern Kingdom of Israel had turned from God and been destroyed by their enemies. The Southern Kingdom of Judah was also in trouble. God was angry with the people of Judah. They sinned and were unfaithful to God.

God sent prophets like Jeremiah to warn the kings and people to stop sinning and to turn back to God, but they didn't listen. So God sent His judgment by bringing the king of Babylon to Judah.

King Nebuchadnezzar invaded Judah and took some of God's people to Babylon. He left Jehoiakim in Judah as king. Nebuchadnezzar invaded again and took more people captive. The prophet Jeremiah sent a message to Babylon to encourage God's people.

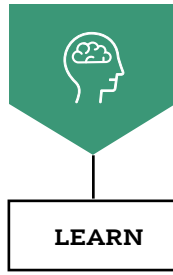
Jeremiah's letter said: "This message is from God to the people He sent from Jerusalem to Babylon. While you are in Babylon, build houses and live in them.

Plant gardens and grow your families. Work and pray for the good of your city. The exile will last 70 years, and then I will come. I promised to bring you back to the land of Judah, and I will keep My promise.

"I know My plans for you. My plans are for your good. You have hope and a future. You will seek Me and find Me when you search for Me with all your heart."

Jeremiah told the people that they would experience more troubles. God said, "I will set you free and raise up a king for you. Do not be afraid or discouraged. I will save you and be with you. I will bring you back to your land, and you will rejoice. You will be My people, and I will be your God."

Christ Connection: God did not abandon His people. The prophet Jeremiah encouraged God's people. He said God was going to save His people from captivity and raise up a new King—a forever King—from David's family.



THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

The Bible tells us what is true about God and about ourselves. All of the stories in the Bible fit together to tell us the big story of how God rescues sinners through His Son, Jesus.

» Circle the statements that are true about today's Bible story.

God's people always obeyed Him.

God told His people not to build house in Babylon.

Jehoiakim was always faithful to God.

Jeremiah warned the people to stop sinning.

God judged Judah's sin by sending them to Babylon.

God promised to one day bring His people back home.

The exile would last 100 years.

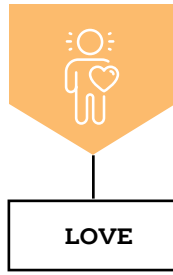
God promised a future king that would save His people.

» What does this story teach us about God?

» How does Jeremiah's message to God's people also give us hope?

CHRIST CONNECTION

God did not abandon His people. The prophet Jeremiah encouraged God's people. He said God was going to save His people from captivity and raise up a new King—a forever King—from David's family.



THE GOD OF THE GOSPEL

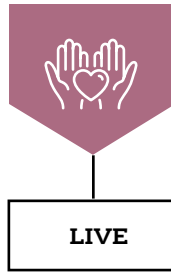
» What did Jeremiah say to God's people that was an encouragement?

» How do we search for God with all of our heart?

» What hope do we have when we face hard times?

CHRIST CONNECTION

God did not abandon His people. The prophet Jeremiah encouraged God's people. He said God was going to save His people from captivity and raise up a new King—a forever King—from David's family.



THE MISSION OF THE GOSPEL

» Find Zephaniah 3:17 in your Bible and write the words below.

» Write a prayer to God, thanking God for His promises and His gift of salvation.

READ THE WORD

Read one of the following passages each day this week:

Jeremiah 29:10-11

1 Thessalonians 5:11

Jeremiah 29:12-14

Hebrews 6:17-18

2 Corinthians 1:10

Psalm 33:21-22



Unit 16 | Session 2

DANIEL WAS FAITHFUL

Daniel 1

King Nebuchadnezzar's leaders gathered a group of young men from among the Israelites and brought them to Babylon. King Nebuchadnezzar gave the young men special meals. They would be trained for three years. Then they would be ready to serve the king.

Four of the young men from Judah worshiped the Lord, the one true God. Their names were Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah. The man in charge of the group gave them new Babylonian names. Daniel's new name was Belteshazzar. Hananiah's new name was Shadrach. Mishael's new name was Meshach, and Azariah's new name was Abednego.

Daniel wanted to be faithful to God. God's laws told Daniel what he could and could not eat. Daniel was not allowed to eat some of the food that the king gave the young men. Daniel asked the man in charge for permission to eat other foods.

Daniel said, "For 10 days, let us eat only vegetables and drink only water. Then see if we are healthier than the other young men."

At the end of 10 days, Daniel and his friends looked healthier than the young men who had eaten the king's food. God was happy that Daniel obeyed Him. God blessed Daniel and his friends. God gave Daniel the ability to understand visions and dreams.

Daniel and his friends stood before the king. The king saw that they were smarter and stronger than all the other young men. Daniel served the king for many years.

Christ Connection: Daniel was faithful to God, and God blessed him. In an even greater way, Jesus was always faithful to God. He came to earth and followed God's plan to save sinners. Those who trust in Jesus receive God's forgiveness and blessing.



LEARN

THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

The Bible tells us what is true about God and about ourselves. All of the stories in the Bible fit together to tell us the big story of how God rescues sinners through His Son, Jesus.

» We can honor God through obedience wherever we are. Unscramble the words to learn where you can continue to obey God and honor Him.

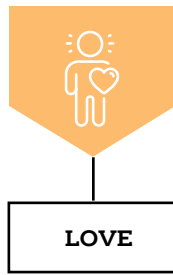
lochos	_____
moeh	_____
barirly	_____
postsr mega	_____
crhuhc	_____
diensfr osuhe	_____
neolien	_____
lenao	_____

» What does this story teach us about God?

» How did the faithfulness of Daniel and his friends show they loved God?

CHRIST CONNECTION

Daniel was faithful to God, and God blessed him. In an even greater way, Jesus was always faithful to God. He came to earth and followed God's plan to save sinners. Those who trust in Jesus receive God's forgiveness and blessing.



THE GOD OF THE GOSPEL

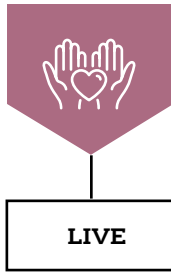
» When were you faced with the choice to obey God or follow the ways of the world?

» What was God's response to Daniel's faithfulness and obedience?

» How was Jesus faithful to God?

CHRIST CONNECTION

Daniel was faithful to God, and God blessed him. In an even greater way, Jesus was always faithful to God. He came to earth and followed God's plan to save sinners. Those who trust in Jesus receive God's forgiveness and blessing.



THE MISSION OF THE GOSPEL

» Find Zephaniah 3:17 in your Bible and write the words below.

» Write a prayer to God, thanking God for being faithful to bring salvation through Jesus.

READ THE WORD

Read one of the following passages each day this week:

Psalm 119:30-32

Psalm 25:10

Psalm 101:6

Proverbs 3:3-4

Philippians 2:8

Romans 3:3-4

MENE, MENE, TEKEL, PARSIN



Unit 16 | Session 3

DANIEL SERVED GOD

Daniel 5

King Belshazzar of Babylon had a big feast. While the king and his guests drank, they worshiped their false gods—gods made of gold, silver, bronze, iron, wood, and stone.

Suddenly, a hand appeared at the wall, and its fingers began writing a message. The king watched the hand, and he was very afraid! The king stared at the message on the wall, but he didn't understand what it meant.

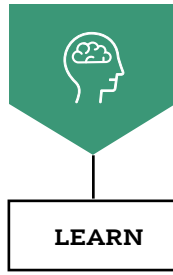
The king called for the wise men in his kingdom. The wise men came, but none of them knew what the message meant. Then the queen remembered Daniel. Daniel was wise, so Daniel was called to the palace. Daniel saw the message and understood what it meant. The message was from God.

Daniel reminded the king about what happened to his relative, King Nebuchadnezzar. “God made King

Nebuchadnezzar great, but King Nebuchadnezzar thought too much of himself, so God punished him.” King Belshazzar did not love God; he loved himself the most and he worshiped false gods.

Then Daniel told the king what the words meant. God had counted the days of the kingdom. The king wasn't going to be king anymore. Babylon would be split up and taken over by its enemies. That night, God's message came true. King Belshazzar was killed, and a new king named Darius took over Babylon.

Christ Connection: God humbled the proud king of Babylon by taking away his kingdom. King Jesus willingly humbled Himself by dying on the cross for our sin. God raised up Jesus and gave Him honor forever. When we humble ourselves and trust in Jesus, God will raise us up to enjoy Jesus in His kingdom forever.



THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

The Bible tells us what is true about God and about ourselves. All of the stories in the Bible fit together to tell us the big story of how God rescues sinners through His Son, Jesus.

» Use your Bible to determine if each statement is true or false. Write a T if it is true or a F if it is false.

___ The king of Babylon was a humble man. (Daniel 5:22)

___ A hand appeared during the king's feast and wrote a message. (Daniel 5:22)

___ The king immediately understood the message. (Daniel 5:6-7)

___ Only Daniel was able to interpret the message from God. (Daniel 5:17)

___ King Belshazzar loved himself more than he loved God. (Daniel 5:23)

___ God was going to give the king more land. (Daniel 5:28)

___ God was going to take away King Belshazzar's kingdom. (Daniel 5:28)

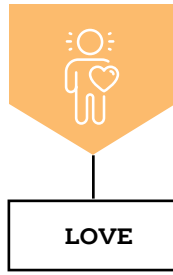
___ God made Darius the new king of Babylon. (Daniel 5:31)

» What does this story teach us about God?

» How is Jesus a better King than the king of Babylon?

CHRIST CONNECTION

God humbled the proud king of Babylon by taking away his kingdom. King Jesus willingly humbled Himself by dying on the cross for our sin. God raised up Jesus and gave Him honor forever. When we humble ourselves and trust in Jesus, God will raise us up to enjoy Jesus in His kingdom forever.



THE GOD OF THE GOSPEL

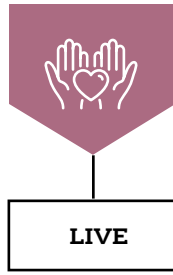
» How did Daniel have the wisdom to interpret the writing on the wall?

» Like Daniel, what are some ways that we can serve God?

» How can we humble ourselves?

CHRIST CONNECTION

God humbled the proud king of Babylon by taking away his kingdom. King Jesus willingly humbled Himself by dying on the cross for our sin. God raised up Jesus and gave Him honor forever. When we humble ourselves and trust in Jesus, God will raise us up to enjoy Jesus in His kingdom forever.



THE MISSION OF THE GOSPEL

» Find Zephaniah 3:17 in your Bible and write the words below.

» Write a prayer to God, praising Him for Jesus' humble death on the cross for your sin.

READ THE WORD

Read one of the following passages each day this week:

Ecclesiastes 2:26

Proverbs 18:12

John 12:26

Acts 20:18-19

James 4:6,10

Colossians 3:12-14



Unit 16 | Session 4

GOD IS PRESENT WITH US

Isaiah 7

Ahaz was not a good king. Ahaz made sacrifices and offerings to idols. Idols are people and things that are worshiped but are not the one true God. During Ahaz's time as king, two other kings—the king of Israel and the king of Aram—agreed to protect each other in battles.

One day, Ahaz heard that the kings of Israel and Aram were coming to Judah. Their armies were going to attack Jerusalem! Ahaz was afraid!

But Ahaz didn't need to be afraid. He should have trusted God. God had promised that He would be with His people. God sent the prophet Isaiah to talk to Ahaz. Isaiah said, "Pay attention and be quiet. Trust God. Be confident that God will take care of you."

God had good news for Ahaz. "The kings of Israel and Syria are planning to attack Jerusalem and make someone else king. But this won't happen," God said. "If you

do not trust Me, you will not last."

Isaiah said to Ahaz, "Listen! God is going to give you a sign to prove He is telling the truth: A virgin will have a baby. She will name the baby Immanuel."

Isaiah told Ahaz that very soon, the kings of Israel and Syria would not be a threat to Judah. "But," Isaiah continued, "God's judgment is coming. He is going to judge you and the people of Judah. The king of Assyria and his strong army is coming to attack! On that day, God will send enemy armies to Judah. The Assyrians will come from the north, and the Egyptians will come from the south. "You won't be able to escape!"

Christ Connection: God is present with us. He sent prophets to His people, even in captivity, and promised to send Immanuel, which means "God with us." Jesus fulfilled this promise when He came to earth and was born of a virgin. Jesus is our Immanuel, God with us.



LEARN

THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

The Bible tells us what is true about God and about ourselves. All of the stories in the Bible fit together to tell us the big story of how God rescues sinners through His Son, Jesus.

» Look up and read each Bible verse. Then write the names of the people God promised to be with.

Genesis 6:13,18

Genesis 28:10,15

Exodus 3:11-12

Joshua 1:1,9

Isaiah 41:8-10

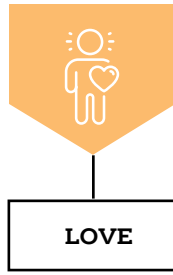
Matthew 28:16-20

» What does this story teach us about God?

» How can we be with God forever?

CHRIST CONNECTION

God is present with us. He sent prophets to His people, even in captivity, and promised to send Immanuel, which means “God with us.” Jesus fulfilled this promise when He came to earth and was born of a virgin. Jesus is our Immanuel, God with us.



THE GOD OF THE GOSPEL

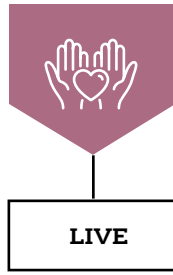
» How did God show His people that He was still with them during exile?

» When others are afraid, what can we tell them?

» Who can you tell about God's promise to be with us?

CHRIST CONNECTION

God is present with us. He sent prophets to His people, even in captivity, and promised to send Immanuel, which means “God with us.” Jesus fulfilled this promise when He came to earth and was born of a virgin. Jesus is our Immanuel, God with us.



THE MISSION OF THE GOSPEL

» Find Zephaniah 3:17 in your Bible and write the words below.

» Write a prayer to God, thanking Him that through Jesus He promises to be with you always.

READ THE WORD

Read one of the following passages each day this week:

Jeremiah 30:1-3

Joshua 1:9

Psalm 56:3-4

John 1:14

Mark 5:19

Psalm 23:4



Unit 17 | Session 1

GOD DELIVERED HIS PEOPLE

Ezra 1

King Nebuchadnezzar had completely destroyed Jerusalem. Many of God's people had died. Others lived in Babylon. Some of their children and grandchildren were born in Babylon and grew up there. But Babylon was not their home.

God promised through the prophet Jeremiah that the exile would last 70 years. At last, the time had come for God's people to go home.

Cyrus, king of Persia, had taken over Babylon. Cyrus made an announcement: "God wants me to build Him a temple in Jerusalem, so let all of God's people go back to Jerusalem so they can rebuild the Lord's temple. Anyone who stays behind should give the travelers anything they need—gold and silver, animals, and gifts for God's temple."

The exile was over! God's promise was coming true. So the people got ready to go to Judah. All their neighbors helped

them by giving them gifts.

King Cyrus even brought out the dishes that King Nebuchadnezzar had taken from the temple in Jerusalem before he destroyed it.

The leader of God's people—a man named Sheshbazzar—brought all these things along when the captives returned from Babylon to Jerusalem.

Christ Connection: God always keeps His promises. God chose to use King Cyrus in His plan to graciously deliver His people from exile. King Cyrus' action to free the people reminds us of Jesus, whom God chose to rescue sinners and bring us to our true home in His kingdom of grace.



THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

The Bible tells us what is true about God and about ourselves. All of the stories in the Bible fit together to tell us the big story of how God rescues sinners through His Son, Jesus.

» Complete the word puzzle using the hints. Then use the letters with parentheses to find the missing word in the sentence below.

- | | |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|
| 1. J _ _ D A (_) | The Southern Kingdom of Israel |
| 2. _ _ A _ _ Y L (_) N | The place God's people were exiled to for 70 years |
| 3. J _ _ R U _ _ A _ _ E (_) | The city where God's temple was located |
| 4. (_) Z R _ _ | The book of the Bible before Nehemiah |

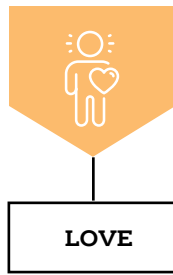
God's people were free to go back _ _ _ _ _ .

» What does this story teach us about God?

» How does God rescue us through Jesus?

CHRIST CONNECTION

God always keeps His promises. God chose to use King Cyrus in His plan to graciously deliver His people from exile. King Cyrus' action to free the people reminds us of Jesus, whom God chose to rescue sinners and bring us to our true home in His kingdom of grace.



THE GOD OF THE GOSPEL

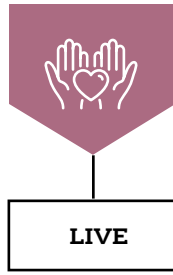
» Why did God remove His people from the land and let them go back 70 years later?

» Why do difficult situations often help us turn back or grow closer to God?

» How should we respond when God proves His faithfulness?

CHRIST CONNECTION

God always keeps His promises. God chose to use King Cyrus in His plan to graciously deliver His people from exile. King Cyrus' action to free the people reminds us of Jesus, whom God chose to rescue sinners and bring us to our true home in His kingdom of grace.



THE MISSION OF THE GOSPEL

» Find Jeremiah 17:7 in your Bible and write the words below.

» Write a prayer to God, praising Him for keeping His promise to rescue sinners and sending Jesus to save you from your sin.

READ THE WORD

Read one of the following passages each day this week:

Jeremiah 30:11

Psalm 11:7-8

Matthew 6:25

1 Corinthians 1:9

Psalm 100:4-5

Psalm 33:4



Unit 17 | Session 2

ZECHARIAH GAVE HOPE

Zechariah 13-14

The exile was over. God’s people were home! A group had returned to Jerusalem to rebuild God’s temple. They started the work, but their neighbors didn’t want them to rebuild the temple, so they stopped.

God sent prophets to encourage His people to finish the temple and give them a message. One of those prophets was named Zechariah. God told Zechariah what would happen in the future, and then Zechariah told the people what God said.

Zechariah gave a message of hope. Zechariah said: “A day is coming when the Lord will remove every idol from this land. No one will remember them or worship them.” God was going to set up a new kingdom over the nations.

Zechariah said God would give His people a new king—like a shepherd caring for a flock of sheep. There will be troubles,

but God will be doing something good,” Zechariah explained.

In this new kingdom, God will judge and punish all evil. Zechariah said, “The people will call out to God, and He will answer them. He will say, ‘You are My people,’ and they will answer, ‘The LORD is our God.’”

The new kingdom will have a new city—a New Jerusalem—that brings all the nations together and heals all of creation.

Christ Connection: Zechariah spoke a message of hope to God’s people. God would one day set up a new and better kingdom with a new and better King. God kept His promise by sending Jesus. Because of Jesus, we can have hope and forgiveness of sins by trusting in Him.



LEARN

THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

The Bible tells us what is true about God and about ourselves. All of the stories in the Bible fit together to tell us the big story of how God rescues sinners through His Son, Jesus.

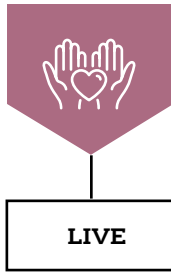
» Look up each of the following Bible verses: Isaiah 65:17-19,25; Hebrews 12:22; 2 Peter 3:13; Revelation 21:1-4; Revelation 22:1-5. Then use the Bible verses to draw or write how God's Word describes the new Jerusalem.

» What does this story teach us about God?

» How did Zechariah's message give God's people hope?

CHRIST CONNECTION

Zechariah spoke a message of hope to God's people. God would one day set up a new and better kingdom with a new and better King. God kept His promise by sending Jesus. Because of Jesus, we can have hope and forgiveness of sins by trusting in Him.



THE MISSION OF THE GOSPEL

» Find Jeremiah 17:7 in your Bible and write the words below.

» Write a prayer to God, thanking God for the hope you have of a new and better kingdom ruled by King Jesus.

READ THE WORD

Read one of the following passages each day this week:

Revelation 21:1-4

Proverbs 23:17-18

Matthew 26:31

Romans 15:4

1 Peter 4:12

Hebrews 6:17-18



Unit 17 | Session 3

THE PEOPLE REBUILT THE TEMPLE

Ezra 2-6

Zerubbabel and the high priest led a group of God's people back to Judah to rebuild the Lord's temple in Jerusalem. The priests rebuilt the altar. They gave burnt offerings to God and celebrated. They laid the foundation of the temple. The priests put on special clothes and the people praised God.

Not everyone was happy though. Some of the older people remembered what the temple had looked like before it had been destroyed. Other people interrupted the rebuilding of the temple by making the people of Judah discouraged or afraid. The building of the temple stopped for a while. God sent prophets to encourage the people.

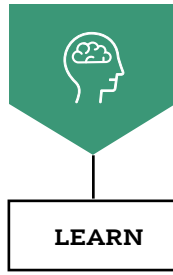
Darius, the king of Persia, ruled over the land of Judah. He put governors in charge of some of the land. A governor named Tattenai noticed what God's people were doing. Tattenai asked, "Do you have permission to rebuild this temple?" The workers said, "We do."

King Darius's officials searched the royal records for Cyrus's order. They found it. This is what was written on the scroll: "Let God's temple be rebuilt. Let its foundation be rebuilt." King Cyrus had also ordered for the cost of building the temple to be paid for out of the royal treasury.

So King Darius sent a letter back to Tattenai. He gave this order: "Stay away from the workers in Jerusalem. Give them whatever they need."

Tattenai obeyed the king's order. The Jewish leaders finally finished the temple of God! The people celebrated and made offerings to God.

Christ Connection: God's people rebuilt the temple so they would have a place to worship God. Years later, God sent His Son, Jesus, to be with His people. Now, God does not dwell with His people through the temple. Instead, God dwells directly with His people through His Spirit. Jesus provided something better than the temple; He gives us Himself.



THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

The Bible tells us what is true about God and about ourselves. All of the stories in the Bible fit together to tell us the big story of how God rescues sinners through His Son, Jesus.

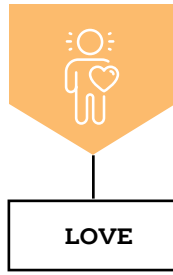
» Use your Bible to look up and read Ephesians 1:13-14. Write down five truths taught in these verses.

» What does this story teach us about God?

» How are our bodies like a temple? (Hint: See 1 Corinthians 3:16-17.)

CHRIST CONNECTION

God's people rebuilt the temple so they would have a place to worship God. Years later, God sent His Son, Jesus, to be with His people. Now, God does not dwell with His people through the temple. Instead, God dwells directly with His people through His Spirit. Jesus provided something better than the temple; He gives us Himself.



THE GOD OF THE GOSPEL

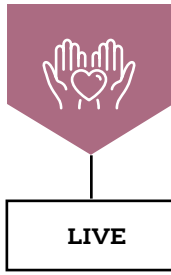
» How can we show others that we trust God?

» Why is Jesus a better gift than a temple?

» How should we respond when others might tempt us to disobey God?

CHRIST CONNECTION

God's people rebuilt the temple so they would have a place to worship God. Years later, God sent His Son, Jesus, to be with His people. Now, God does not dwell with His people through the temple. Instead, God dwells directly with His people through His Spirit. Jesus provided something better than the temple; He gives us Himself.



THE MISSION OF THE GOSPEL

» Find Jeremiah 17:7 in your Bible and write the words below.

» Write a prayer to God, thanking God you have the gift of His presence through the indwelling of the Holy Spirit.

READ THE WORD

Read one of the following passages each day this week:

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

John 4:23

Matthew 12:6

Romans 12:1

Acts 5:29

Titus 3:5-6



Unit 17 | Session 4

GOD CAN ALWAYS BE TRUSTED

Jeremiah 31

Jeremiah was a prophet to the people of Judah. He warned the people of God's judgment because of their sin. But even though the people disobeyed, God had not abandoned them. His love never stopped, and God had a good plan for His people.

God spoke through Jeremiah: "On the day when I restore My people to their land, I will be the God of all the families of Israel. They will be My people."

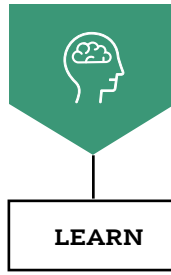
The people suffered in exile, but God said, "You will make music again. You will dance with joy!" God was going to bring His people back home. He would gather them again. He would watch over them like a shepherd guards his flock.

God said, "I will turn their mourning into joy, comfort them, and bring happiness out of grief. My people will be satisfied with My goodness. There is hope for your future!"

Jeremiah told the people of Judah that God promised a new and better covenant so they could be saved from their sins.

In the old covenant, the people had God's commands in writing. They disobeyed His commands and had to make sacrifices every year for their sin. In the new covenant, God was going to write His law on their hearts. He would give His people the power to obey His commands. God said, "I will forgive their wrongdoing and never again remember their sin."

Christ Connection: God's words brought hope to God's people because His words were true. God can always be trusted. Jeremiah told about a day when God would forgive sin and change people's hearts. Jesus' death and resurrection provides forgiveness of sins. Through Jesus, we have new hearts and life with God forever.



THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

The Bible tells us what is true about God and about ourselves. All of the stories in the Bible fit together to tell us the big story of how God rescues sinners through His Son, Jesus.

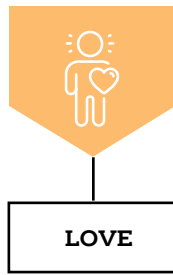
» Look up Jeremiah 31:33 and write the verse in your own words.

» What does this story teach us about God?

» How did God fulfill His promise to give us a new covenant?

CHRIST CONNECTION

God's words brought hope to God's people because His words were true. God can always be trusted. Jeremiah told about a day when God would forgive sin and change people's hearts. Jesus' death and resurrection provides forgiveness of sins. Through Jesus, we have new hearts and life with God forever.



THE GOD OF THE GOSPEL

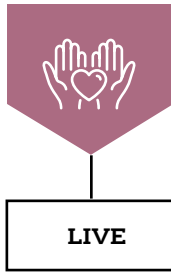
» Why is the new covenant better than the old covenant?

» How have you experienced God's promises in your life?

» What might you tell a friend who isn't sure if she should trust God?

CHRIST CONNECTION

God's words brought hope to God's people because His words were true. God can always be trusted. Jeremiah told about a day when God would forgive sin and change people's hearts. Jesus' death and resurrection provides forgiveness of sins. Through Jesus, we have new hearts and life with God forever.



THE MISSION OF THE GOSPEL

» Find Jeremiah 17:7 in your Bible and write the words below.

» Write a prayer to God, thanking God for His Word and that you can always trust Him.

READ THE WORD

Read one of the following passages each day this week:

Hebrews 8:6

Psalm 18:30

2 Peter 1:3-4

2 Samuel 7:28

Luke 12:11-12

Deuteronomy 32:4



Unit 18 | Session 1

ESTHER SAVED HER PEOPLE

Esther

King Ahasuerus was the king of Persia. When Cyrus was king, he sent some of God’s people back to Judah to rebuild the temple in Jerusalem. Another group of God’s people stayed in Persia. The king of Persia chose Esther to be his queen. One day, Mordecai heard that Haman was planning to kill all the Jews. Mordecai was upset! He was a Jew; he didn’t want all the people he loved to be killed. Mordecai told Esther about Haman’s evil plan. “You have to do something!” Mordecai said.

Esther asked Mordecai and the Jews to fast for three days. Then Esther would go to the king. On the third day, Esther went to the king. He saw Esther and held out his golden scepter. “What is it, Queen Esther?” the king asked. “I’ll give you anything—up to half of my kingdom.”

Esther said, “Would you and Haman come to a feast today?”

So Haman and the king went to Esther’s feast. “What do you want, Queen Esther?

I’ll give you anything—up to half of my kingdom.”

“Come to my feast tomorrow,” Esther said.

The next day, Haman and the king went to Esther’s feast. The king said, “What do you want, Queen Esther? I’ll give you up to half of my kingdom.”

Esther spoke up, “Haman has a plan to kill me and my people.”

The king was angry! He punished Haman and made a law to keep the Jewish people safe from their enemies.

Christ Connection: God was in control over Haman’s evil plan to destroy the Jews. Like Haman, Satan wants to ruin God’s plan and destroy believers. Satan thought he had won when Jesus died on the cross, but God raised Jesus from the dead and defeated Satan once and for all. All who believe in Jesus are rescued from sin and death.



LEARN

THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

The Bible tells us what is true about God and about ourselves. All of the stories in the Bible fit together to tell us the big story of how God rescues sinners through His Son, Jesus.

» Match each statement to the person it best describes. (Hint: Some people may have more than one correct answer.)

King of Persia

ESTHER

Important leader who worked for the king

Queen of Persia

AHASUERUS

Made an evil plan to kill the Jewish people

Esther's cousin

MORDECAI

Told the king about the evil plan to kill the Jews

Sent a message to Esther about the plan to kill the Jews

HAMAN

Made a law to keep the Jewish people safe

Saves anyone who believes in Him from sin and death.

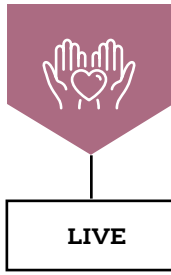
JESUS

» What does this story teach us about God?

» How does God continue to protect His people now?

CHRIST CONNECTION

God was in control over Haman's evil plan to destroy the Jews. Like Haman, Satan wants to ruin God's plan and destroy believers. Satan thought he had won when Jesus died on the cross, but God raised Jesus from the dead and defeated Satan once and for all. All who believe in Jesus are rescued from sin and death.



THE MISSION OF THE GOSPEL

» Find 2 Corinthians 7:10 in your Bible and write the words below.

» Write a prayer to God, thanking God that He is always in control and that you have hope in every hard situation because of Jesus.

READ THE WORD

Read one of the following passages each day this week:

Psalm 47:2-3

2 Chronicles 20:17

1 John 5:4-5

Isaiah 25:1

Colossians 3:17

Psalm 33:10



Unit 18 | Session 2

NEHEMIAH REBUILT THE WALLS

Nehemiah 1-7

God's people had lived in Babylon for 70 years. Some of God's people went home to Judah, but some stayed in Babylon. Nehemiah stayed and worked for the king of Persia. One day, some men came from Judah. The men had bad news: "The people in Jerusalem are in trouble. The walls around Jerusalem are broken, and the gates are burned down."

Nehemiah sat down and cried. Then he spent time praying and fasting. The king asked, "What's wrong?" Nehemiah said, "The city where my ancestors are from is in ruins." The king sent Nehemiah to Jerusalem. Nehemiah led the people to start rebuilding the walls and gates. People worked side by side. Soon the wall was half as tall as it had once been!

But not everyone was happy that Jerusalem's walls were being rebuilt. Some men who lived nearby made a plan to attack them and stop their work. God's people prayed and chose men to guard

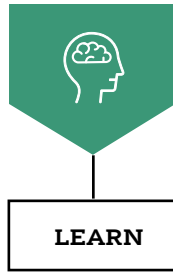
the walls all day and all night.

Nehemiah reminded the people that God was with them. Enemies could threaten God's people, but they could not make God's people stop building.

God's people went back to work. Some stood guard with weapons, and others worked on the wall. They were always ready to fight, just in case.

In just 52 days, the wall was complete! The city was ready for more of God's people to come home. When Jerusalem's enemies heard that the wall was rebuilt, they were afraid because they knew God was with His people.

Christ Connection: Nehemiah led the people to rebuild the walls around Jerusalem to protect them from their enemies. Jesus came to protect us from our greatest enemies, sin and death. He died on the cross and rose from the dead to rescue everyone who trusts in Him.



THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

The Bible tells us what is true about God and about ourselves. All of the stories in the Bible fit together to tell us the big story of how God rescues sinners through His Son, Jesus.

» Number the events from 1 to 10 in the correct order of the Bible story.

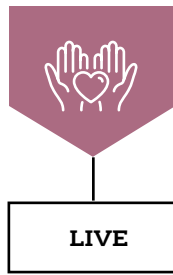
- ___ Some Jewish people went home.
- ___ The people guarded the walls.
- ___ The king sent Nehemiah to Jerusalem.
- ___ Nehemiah prayed and fasted.
- ___ Nehemiah and the people started to rebuild the walls.
- ___ Nehemiah worked for the king of Persia.
- ___ Nehemiah cried about the state of Jerusalem.
- ___ The men attacked the people building the walls.
- ___ The people were in exile.
- ___ The wall was completed.

» What does this story teach us about God?

» How did God complete the work of salvation for us?

CHRIST CONNECTION

Nehemiah led the people to rebuild the walls around Jerusalem to protect them from their enemies. Jesus came to protect us from our greatest enemies, sin and death. He died on the cross and rose from the dead to rescue everyone who trusts in Him.



THE MISSION OF THE GOSPEL

» Find 2 Corinthians 7:10 in your Bible and write the words below.

» Write a prayer to God, thanking God for Jesus' death and resurrection, knowing you can have forgiveness and life through Him.

READ THE WORD

Read one of the following passages each day this week:

Matthew 6:9-13

Nehemiah 9:29-31

Matthew 7:24

2 Chronicles 7:14

Romans 5:1

James 4:8-9



Unit 18 | Session 3

EZRA READ THE LAW

Ezra 7-10; Nehemiah 8

The walls around Jerusalem were finished. Ezra, a priest and scribe, wanted to study God's law, obey it, and teach it to God's people. He learned that some of the people and their leaders had disobeyed God, ignoring His Word. Ezra got on his knees and prayed to God, confessing the people's sin. God's people began to gather around him. They cried too and offered sacrifices, promising to be faithful to God.

Several years later, the people in Jerusalem gathered together early in the morning at one of Jerusalem's gates. Men, women, and children came to listen to the reading of God's Word. Ezra brought out the book of the law of Moses that God had given to His people. Ezra stood on a high wooden platform and began to read.

Ezra read the law for hours, and all the people listened carefully. They had respect for God's Word. Ezra praised God. The people in the crowd bowed down, and they worshiped God.

The Levites explained the law to the people and helped them understand the words Ezra read. As the people heard the words of the law, they began to cry. They realized they had sinned. Ezra, the Levites, and Nehemiah the governor said, "This day is holy to the LORD your God. Do not be sad or cry."

Ezra said to them, "Go home and prepare a feast!"

The people obeyed Ezra. They were glad because they understood the words of the law that were explained to them.

Christ Connection: God's Word is powerful. When Ezra read God's Word, the people loved God more and changed their ways. The Bible says that Jesus is "the Word." Jesus is God who came to live with people on earth. Jesus has the power to change our hearts.



LEARN

THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

The Bible tells us what is true about God and about ourselves. All of the stories in the Bible fit together to tell us the big story of how God rescues sinners through His Son, Jesus.

» Unscramble the words on the left side of the page by using the opposite words on the right side of the page as clues.

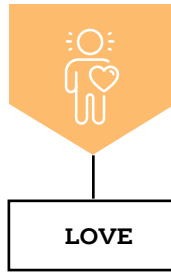
death	efil	_____
sadness	oyj	_____
anxiety	epace	_____
despair	peoh	_____
chaos	roedr	_____

» What does this story teach us about God?

» How are we freed from the punishment of sin?

CHRIST CONNECTION

God's Word is powerful. When Ezra read God's Word, the people loved God more and changed their ways. The Bible says that Jesus is "the Word." Jesus is God who came to live with people on earth. Jesus has the power to change our hearts.



THE GOD OF THE GOSPEL

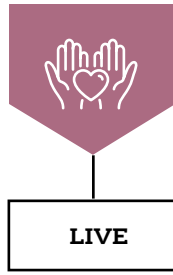
» How does God “speak” to us through His Word?

» What does it mean that God’s Word is powerful?

» Why did God give His people the law?

CHRIST CONNECTION

God’s Word is powerful. When Ezra read God’s Word, the people loved God more and changed their ways. The Bible says that Jesus is “the Word.” Jesus is God who came to live with people on earth. Jesus has the power to change our hearts.



THE MISSION OF THE GOSPEL

» Find 2 Corinthians 7:10 in your Bible and write the words below.

» Write a prayer to God, praising God for the gift of His Word and asking Him to help you love Him more as you read His Word.

READ THE WORD

Read one of the following passages each day this week:

2 Timothy 3:16-17

Psalm 119:81

Hebrews 4:12

Matthew 4:4

Romans 3:20,31

John 1:1



Unit 18 | Session 4

THE PEOPLE PROMISED TO BE FAITHFUL

Nehemiah 9-10

God's people had returned to Judah from exile in Babylon. Nehemiah led God's people in Jerusalem to repent and confess their sin. They spent time reading and listening to God's Word, confessing their sin, and worshiping the Lord.

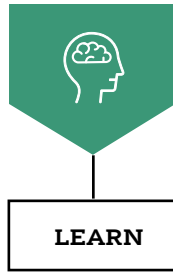
Leaders stood and led God's people in prayer: "Blessed be the Lord your God forever and ever," they prayed. They remembered everything God had done in Israel's past, praying, "You chose Abram and changed his name to Abraham. You kept Your promise, for You are righteous."

They also remembered how God had seen the Israelites' suffering in Egypt and delivered them, dividing the Red Sea for them to cross. He gave them His law on Mount Sinai. He gave them bread and water in the wilderness. But the people had turned away from God. Yet God was forgiving, gracious, and compassionate. He did not abandon them.

They also remembered how God gave His people kingdoms and multiplied them. But the people turned away from God. The people thought back to when God sent prophets to warn them, but they did not listen. God let their enemies take over, but He did not destroy or abandon them because God is gracious and compassionate.

The leaders prayed, "We need help! So we promise to be faithful and worship only You." Then the leaders and some of the people stayed in Jerusalem, and everyone else went to live in the cities nearby.

Christ Connection: God's people remembered all He had done and promised to be faithful. God is gracious and compassionate. All along, God has been faithful to people who are unfaithful. We experience God's grace and compassion in Jesus, who gave His life so we can receive mercy and life forever.



THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

The Bible tells us what is true about God and about ourselves. All of the stories in the Bible fit together to tell us the big story of how God rescues sinners through His Son, Jesus.

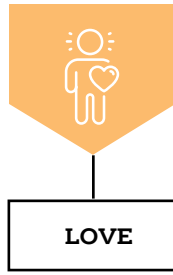
» Write a prayer of thankfulness to God for the ways He has been faithful to you.

» What does this story teach us about God?

» How can we experience God's grace and compassion?

CHRIST CONNECTION

God's people remembered all He had done and promised to be faithful. God is gracious and compassionate. All along, God has been faithful to people who are unfaithful. We experience God's grace and compassion in Jesus, who gave His life so we can receive mercy and life forever.



THE GOD OF THE GOSPEL

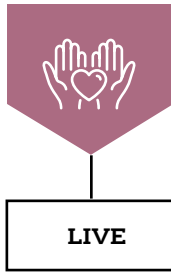
» How does remembering God's faithfulness help us when we sin?

» Why is it important to confess our sins?

» How have you experienced God's faithfulness in your own life?

CHRIST CONNECTION

God's people remembered all He had done and promised to be faithful. God is gracious and compassionate. All along, God has been faithful to people who are unfaithful. We experience God's grace and compassion in Jesus, who gave His life so we can receive mercy and life forever.



THE MISSION OF THE GOSPEL

» Find 2 Corinthians 7:10 in your Bible and write the words below.

» Write a prayer to God, thanking God for His faithfulness and asking Him to help you to be faithful to love Him.

READ THE WORD

Read one of the following passages each day this week:

1 John 1:9

Exodus 34:6-7

1 John 1:8

1 Corinthians 1:9

2 Timothy 2:13

1 Corinthians 10:13



Unit 18 | Session 5

WE SHOULD BE SORRY FOR SIN

Romans 8

Over and over in the Old Testament, God's people promised to be faithful. God gave His law to show what He requires, but the people failed to obey perfectly. Even when they wanted to obey God, they could never be good enough. Their sin made them guilty before God. They needed a Savior.

God kept His promise to send a Savior. Jesus came to rescue sinners. A believer named Paul wrote about sin in a letter to Christians in Rome. Paul said that Jesus was the Savior the people had been waiting for.

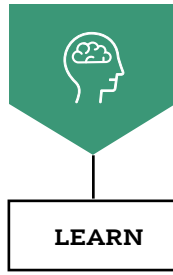
Paul said: "Now there is no condemnation—no judgment or punishment—for those who have been saved by faith in Jesus. Why? Because the new law—the law of the Spirit—has set you free from the old law. The old law was written down, and it helped you understand that you are a sinner. God sent Jesus to defeat sin and death so that

we could be made righteous by faith in Him and live through the Spirit. God has put the new law in our hearts. The new law brings life and peace."

So Paul talked about two ways of living: by doing what our sinful self wants or by doing what God wants. God gives us His Spirit and power to live in a way that honors God.

God's Spirit in us gives us power to turn away from sin and obey God. God gives us a new heart—new desires and a new way of thinking. We still struggle with sin, but now what is most true about us is not that we are sinners but that we belong to Jesus.

Christ Connection: God sent Jesus to take the punishment our sin deserves. Because of Jesus, we have forgiveness of sins and eternal life. Through God's Spirit, we have the power to turn away from sin and live to bring glory to God.



THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

The Bible tells us what is true about God and about ourselves. All of the stories in the Bible fit together to tell us the big story of how God rescues sinners through His Son, Jesus.

» Match each Bible verse to the correct description.

Romans 3:23

Works of the law cannot save us.

Isaiah 59:2

We cannot save ourselves.

Ephesians 2:1-2

We were dead in our sins before.

Galatians 2:16

Only Jesus can save people from sin and death.

Ephesians 2:8

Everyone has sinned.

Acts 4:11-12

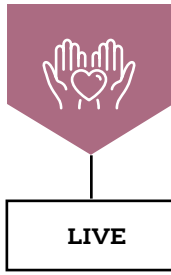
Sin separates us from God.

» What does this story teach us about God?

» What are the two ways of living Paul wrote about?

CHRIST CONNECTION

God sent Jesus to take the punishment our sin deserves. Because of Jesus, we have forgiveness of sins and eternal life. Through God's Spirit, we have the power to turn away from sin and live to bring glory to God.



THE MISSION OF THE GOSPEL

» Find 2 Corinthians 7:10 in your Bible and write the words below.

» Write a prayer to God, thanking God for the gift of His Spirit dwelling in believers.

READ THE WORD

Read one of the following passages each day this week:

Ephesians 2:8-9

1 Thessalonians 1:4-6

Romans 6:11-14

John 14:26

Galatians 5:16-18

Acts 8:14-17



Unit 19 | Session 1

JESUS WAS BORN

Matthew 1; Luke 2; John 1

One day, an angel told Mary she was going to have a very special baby. The angel explained, “This baby will be God’s Son.” Then an angel appeared to Joseph in a dream. The angel said, “Don’t be afraid. Her baby was put there by the Holy Spirit. Name Him Jesus because He will save His people from their sins!”

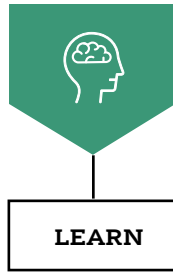
Mary and Joseph lived in the town of Nazareth. The Roman emperor, Caesar Augustus, announced that everyone needed to return to their own towns and be registered for a census. Since Joseph was a descendant of King David, he and Mary traveled to Bethlehem, the city of David.

The time came for Mary to have her baby. Mary and Joseph looked for a safe place to stay, but every place was full. So Mary and Joseph found a place where animals were kept, and that is where Mary had her baby. Joseph named Him Jesus.

That night, some shepherds were watching over their sheep in the fields near Bethlehem. Suddenly, an angel stood before them and the glory of the Lord shone around them. The angel said, “I have very good news for you and for all the people: Today a Savior, who is the Messiah and the Lord, was born for you in the city of David.”

The shepherds hurried to Bethlehem and found Mary and Joseph and the baby. Then the shepherds went and told others about the baby Jesus.

Christ Connection: The birth of Jesus was good news! Jesus was not an ordinary baby. He is God’s Son, sent to earth from heaven. Jesus, the promised Savior, came into the world to show us what God is like and to deliver us from sin and death.



THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

The Bible tells us what is true about God and about ourselves. All of the stories in the Bible fit together to tell us the big story of how God rescues sinners through His Son, Jesus.

» Use your Bible to look up and read the following verses. Then match the Old Testament reference to its New Testament fulfillment.

•2 Samuel 7:16

•Matthew 1:22-23

•Isaiah 7:14

•Matthew 2:1

•Micah 5:2

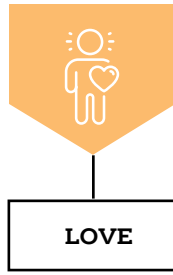
•Luke 1:32-33

» What does this story teach us about God?

» Who was the good news of Jesus' birth for?

CHRIST CONNECTION

The birth of Jesus was good news! Jesus was not an ordinary baby. He is God's Son, sent to earth from heaven. Jesus, the promised Savior, came into the world to show us what God is like and to deliver us from sin and death.



THE GOD OF THE GOSPEL

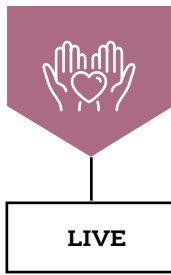
» Why is Jesus' birth good news?

» The shepherds praised God because of the good news they heard and saw. How have you heard or seen the good news of Jesus at work in the hearts of others? What was your response?

» How does Jesus show us what God is like?

CHRIST CONNECTION

The birth of Jesus was good news! Jesus was not an ordinary baby. He is God's Son, sent to earth from heaven. Jesus, the promised Savior, came into the world to show us what God is like and to deliver us from sin and death.



THE MISSION OF THE GOSPEL

» Find John 1:29 in your Bible and write the words below.

» Write a prayer to God, thanking Him for the birth of Jesus and His plan to rescue sinners.

READ THE WORD

Read one of the following passages each day this week:

Romans 6:23

Matthew 1:21

Romans 1:8

Isaiah 7:14

John 1:18

Matthew 1:22-23



Unit 19 | Session 2

JESUS WAS DEDICATED

Matthew 2; Luke 2

Mary and Joseph's baby—God's own Son—was a few days old when Mary and Joseph named Him Jesus. When Jesus was a few weeks old, Mary and Joseph took Jesus to the temple in Jerusalem.

Mary and Joseph wanted to obey God and His law. At the temple, Mary and Joseph presented Jesus to the Lord and offered two birds as a sacrifice.

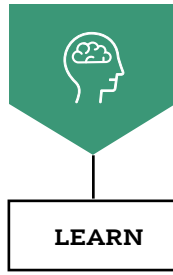
Another man was at the temple. His name was Simeon. Simeon loved God, and He trusted in God's promise to send a Messiah to save people from sin. God's Spirit was with Simeon. That day, God's Spirit had led Simeon to the temple. God's Spirit showed Simeon that Jesus was the promised Messiah. Simeon was so happy. He praised God and said, "Lord, You kept Your promise, and I have seen the One who will save people from sin."

A woman named Anna was at the temple too. She stayed at the temple and

worshiped and served God all the time. Anna talked about Jesus to people who were waiting for God to keep His promise to send a Savior. She told them the good news: the Savior was here!

Jesus grew up and was strong and healthy. He was wise, and God was happy with Him.

Christ Connection: Throughout the Old Testament, God promised the arrival of a King who would redeem people. When Jesus arrived, Simeon and Anna knew He was the promised Messiah, God's own Son. We can trust Jesus for our salvation, and like Simeon and Anna, we should share the good news.



THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

The Bible tells us what is true about God and about ourselves. All of the stories in the Bible fit together to tell us the big story of how God rescues sinners through His Son, Jesus.

» Use your Bible to look up and read Luke 2:22-38. Then write five facts about Simeon and five facts about Anna.

Five facts about Simeon:

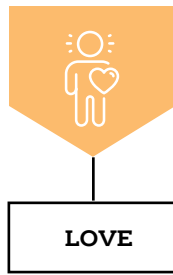
Five facts about Anna:

» What does this story teach us about God?

» Why did Mary and Joseph dedicate Jesus?

CHRIST CONNECTION

Throughout the Old Testament, God promised the arrival of a King who would redeem people. When Jesus arrived, Simeon and Anna knew He was the promised Messiah, God's own Son. We can trust Jesus for our salvation, and like Simeon and Anna, we should share the good news.



THE GOD OF THE GOSPEL

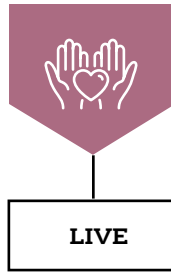
- » Simeon trusted in God's promise to send Jesus into the world. How have you trusted in God's promises?

- » Simeon told Mary that Jesus would suffer. How did Jesus suffer?

- » Who can you share the good news of Jesus with, like Anna did?

CHRIST CONNECTION

Throughout the Old Testament, God promised the arrival of a King who would redeem people. When Jesus arrived, Simeon and Anna knew He was the promised Messiah, God's own Son. We can trust Jesus for our salvation, and like Simeon and Anna, we should share the good news.



THE MISSION OF THE GOSPEL

» Find John 1:29 in your Bible and write the words below.

» Write a prayer to God, thanking Him that Jesus came to save us and ask Him to help us tell others the good news about Jesus.

READ THE WORD

Read one of the following passages each day this week:

Psalm 71:22

Exodus 13:2

Luke 24:46-47

Isaiah 42:6-7

Mark 16:15-16

Isaiah 52:10



Unit 19 | Session 3

JESUS WAS BAPTIZED

Matthew 3; Mark 1

John the Baptist lived in the wilderness. John began telling people, “Repent and be baptized because God’s kingdom is almost here.”

Long before John was born, the prophet Isaiah said, “Prepare the way for the Lord; make His paths straight!” Isaiah was talking about John. John had a very important job. He was supposed to get people ready for Jesus—God’s promised Messiah.

People started to repent; they turned away from their sins and turned to God for forgiveness. Then John baptized them in the Jordan River.

John preached, “Someone greater than me is coming. I baptize you with water, but He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.” John was talking about Jesus.

When John saw Jesus, he said, “Here is the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin

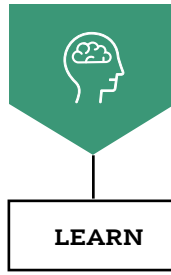
of the world!”

Jesus told John that He wanted to be baptized. But John didn’t think he should baptize Jesus. John was confused. He baptized people who confessed their sins; Jesus never sinned!

Jesus said, “Allow Me to be baptized. God says this is right.” So John agreed, and he baptized Jesus.

God’s voice came from heaven. “This is My Son,” the voice said. “I love Him, and I am very pleased with Him!”

Christ Connection: Jesus never sinned, but He obeyed God and was baptized like sinners are baptized. Baptism reminds us of Jesus’ death and resurrection. It reminds us that when we trust in Jesus, we turn from sin and start a new life—a life lived for Jesus.



THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

The Bible tells us what is true about God and about ourselves. All of the stories in the Bible fit together to tell us the big story of how God rescues sinners through His Son, Jesus.

» Fill in the missing words to complete the Bible story review.

The prophet _____ foretold about John the Baptist before he was born. John wore clothes made of _____ hair. John told the people to _____ and be baptized. John's baptism symbolized _____ being washed away. John said that someone _____ than him was coming. John called Jesus the _____ of God. Jesus came to see John at the _____ River. Jesus wanted John to _____ Him. The Holy Spirit came on Jesus like a _____. God said He was very _____ with Jesus.

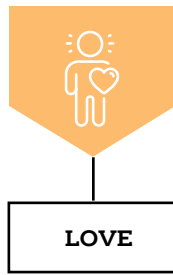
Word Bank: baptize, dove, sin, greater, Jordan, Isaiah, repent, camel, Lamb, pleased

» What does this story teach us about God?

» Why did Jesus want to be baptized?

CHRIST CONNECTION

Jesus never sinned, but He obeyed God and was baptized like sinners are baptized. Baptism reminds us of Jesus' death and resurrection. It reminds us that when we trust in Jesus, we turn from sin and start a new life—a life lived for Jesus.



THE GOD OF THE GOSPEL

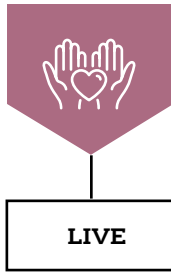
» John called people to repent. Why is repentance needed before we can be baptized?

» Why is it good news that Jesus obeyed God and was baptized?

» How can we grow in obeying God?

CHRIST CONNECTION

Jesus never sinned, but He obeyed God and was baptized like sinners are baptized. Baptism reminds us of Jesus' death and resurrection. It reminds us that when we trust in Jesus, we turn from sin and start a new life—a life lived for Jesus.



THE MISSION OF THE GOSPEL

» Find John 1:29 in your Bible and write the words below.

» Write a prayer to God, thanking Him for Jesus' perfect obedience and the new life we have in Him.

READ THE WORD

Read one of the following passages each day this week:

Acts 8:12

Acts 13:23-25

Philippians 3:9

Romans 6:4

Romans 1:4-5

Colossians 2:12-14



Unit 19 | Session 4

JESUS WAS TEMPTED

Matthew 4; Luke 4

After Jesus was baptized, the Holy Spirit led Him into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil.

Then the devil, who tempts people to sin, came up to Jesus. He said, “If You are really God’s Son, prove it. Tell these stones to become bread.”

Jesus chose to trust God to meet His needs. Jesus said, “God’s Word says that man must not live on bread alone but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.”

The devil tempted Jesus again. He took Jesus to the top of the temple in Jerusalem and said, “If You are really God’s Son, prove it. Jump off this temple and trust God to protect You.”

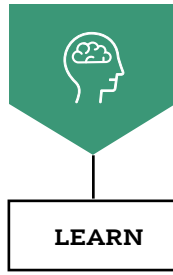
Jesus knew the devil’s command was foolish. Jesus reminded him, “God’s Word also says, do not test the Lord your God.”

Finally, the devil said to Jesus, “I will give You all the riches and power of these kingdoms. If You want them, all You have to do is fall down and worship me.”

Jesus resisted temptation again. He replied, “Go away, Satan! God’s Word says: Worship the Lord your God and serve Him only.”

Throughout all these temptations, Jesus never sinned.

Christ Connection: Jesus was tempted, but He trusted God and never sinned. Jesus is perfect and righteous. A perfect sacrifice was required to take away sin. Jesus was that perfect sacrifice. He died on the cross to free us from sin and to give us the power to say no to temptation.



THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

The Bible tells us what is true about God and about ourselves. All of the stories in the Bible fit together to tell us the big story of how God rescues sinners through His Son, Jesus.

» Jesus used the Word of God to fight temptation. Use your Bible to match the Scripture reference to the temptation it was used against.

- A. Deuteronomy 6:16
- B. Deuteronomy 6:13
- C. Deuteronomy 8:3

___ Satan tempted Jesus to not trust that God would meet His needs.

___ Satan tempted Jesus to test God's protection of Him.

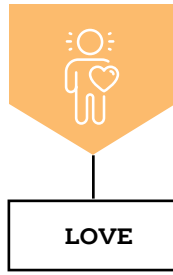
___ Satan tempted Jesus to worship him.

» What does this story teach us about God?

» How did Jesus defeat the devil once and for all?

CHRIST CONNECTION

Jesus was tempted, but He trusted God and never sinned. Jesus is perfect and righteous. A perfect sacrifice was required to take away sin. Jesus was that perfect sacrifice. He died on the cross to free us from sin and to give us the power to say no to temptation.



THE GOD OF THE GOSPEL

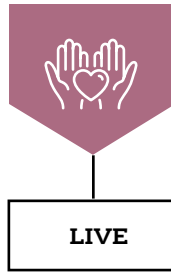
» How do Jesus' temptations comfort us in our own struggles with temptations?

» Are there times in your life when you feel like temptation is harder to resist? Explain.

» How would you encourage someone who falls into temptation and sins?

CHRIST CONNECTION

Jesus was tempted, but He trusted God and never sinned. Jesus is perfect and righteous. A perfect sacrifice was required to take away sin. Jesus was that perfect sacrifice. He died on the cross to free us from sin and to give us the power to say no to temptation.



THE MISSION OF THE GOSPEL

» Find John 1:29 in your Bible and write the words below.

» Write a prayer to God, praising Him for Jesus' sinless life and being the perfect sacrifice for our sin.

READ THE WORD

Read one of the following passages each day this week:

Hebrews 4:15

1 Corinthians 10:13-14

Hebrews 4:16

Mark 14:38

Romans 13:14

1 Timothy 6:9-12



Unit 19 | Session 5

JESUS CALLED HIS DISCIPLES

John 1

John saw Jesus coming toward him and he said, “Look, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!” “This is the Son of God!” John said.

John’s disciples heard this and followed Jesus. They said, “Teacher, where are you staying?”

“Come and see,” Jesus replied. So they went and saw where Jesus was staying, and they stayed with him that day.

One of the two who followed Jesus was named Andrew. Andrew found his brother Simon and said, “We have found the Messiah!” Andrew brought Simon to Jesus. When Jesus saw him, He said, “You are Simon, son of John. You will be called Cephas” (which is translated “Peter”).

Jesus decided to go to Galilee. Jesus found Philip and told him, “Follow Me.” Philip went to Nathanael and said, “We have found the Messiah. He is Jesus.”

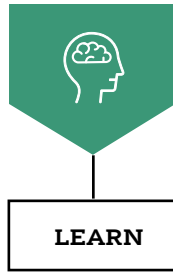
When Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward Him, He said, “Here is an Israelite who can be trusted.”

“How do You know me?” Nathanael asked.

Jesus said, “I saw you, before Philip told you about Me.”

Then Nathanael said, “Teacher, You are the Son of God. You are the King of Israel!”

Christ Connection: Jesus, the Son of God and true King of Israel, came to earth to show what God is like and to save people from their sins. He called disciples to follow Him. We are Jesus’ disciples when we trust in Him. We can invite everyone to come and see the good news about Jesus.



THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

The Bible tells us what is true about God and about ourselves. All of the stories in the Bible fit together to tell us the big story of how God rescues sinners through His Son, Jesus.

» Circle the statements that are true from the Bible story. Use the Bible references to help you.

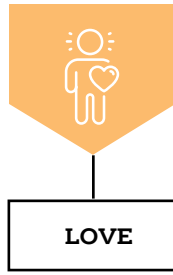
- 1) Simon and Andrew were brothers. (John 1:40)
- 2) Andrew was one of John the Baptist's disciples before coming a disciple of Jesus. (John 1:37;40)
- 3) Jesus gave Simon the new name Luke. (John 1:42)
- 4) Jesus called Philip in Galilee. (John 1:43)
- 5) Nathanael heard about Jesus from Andrew. (John 1:45)
- 6) Philip said that Jesus was the One the prophets wrote about. (John 1:45)
- 7) Jesus saw Matthew sitting under a fig tree. (John 1:48)
- 8) Jesus told Nathanael that he would see great things. (John 1:50-51)

» What does this story teach us about God?

» Who is invited to become a follower of Jesus?

CHRIST CONNECTION

Jesus, the Son of God and true King of Israel, came to earth to show what God is like and to save people from their sins. He called disciples to follow Him. We are Jesus' disciples when we trust in Him. We can invite everyone to come and see the good news about Jesus.



THE GOD OF THE GOSPEL

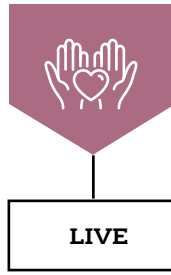
» In today's story, how did Jesus show us what God is like?

» How can we follow Jesus as His disciples today?

» What are some ways you can introduce others to Jesus like Andrew and Philip did?

CHRIST CONNECTION

Jesus, the Son of God and true King of Israel, came to earth to show what God is like and to save people from their sins. He called disciples to follow Him. We are Jesus' disciples when we trust in Him. We can invite everyone to come and see the good news about Jesus.



THE MISSION OF THE GOSPEL

» Find John 1:29 in your Bible and write the words below.

» Write a prayer to God, thanking Him that Jesus welcomes sinners and invites us to follow Him.

READ THE WORD

Read one of the following passages each day this week:

John 1:14

Mark 8:34-35

John 8:31

John 10:27-28

Romans 1:16

John 6:12



Unit 19 | Session 6

JESUS CAME TO BE THE SACRIFICE FOR SIN

Hebrews 10

God first gave the Israelites His law through Moses so that they could understand that God is holy. The law showed that people are sinners. The law could not save the people. The people offered sacrifices for their sins. But they were still guilty.

Jesus came to be the ultimate sacrifice for sin. He came to do God's plan, ending the old way of sacrifices by offering Himself as the perfect sacrifice—once and for all.

The priests stood day after day, offering the same sacrifices. But those sacrifices never took away sins. But Jesus came to offer Himself one time. Then He sat down at the right hand of God. With one sacrifice, Jesus takes away the sin of everyone who trusts in Him.

Because God forgives our sin, we no longer need to make a sacrifice to pay for sins.

God calls us to live in a way that honors Him. Jesus' blood has made the way for us to have hearts that are clean and without guilt. Jesus makes us pure when we have faith in Him.

We can help one another do what is right by loving others and doing good works. We can meet together and encourage one another because one day, Jesus will come again.

Christ Connection: Jesus came to be the sacrifice for sin. He lived a sinless life, died on the cross, and rose from the dead. In Him, we have complete forgiveness once and for all.



THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

The Bible tells us what is true about God and about ourselves. All of the stories in the Bible fit together to tell us the big story of how God rescues sinners through His Son, Jesus.

» Write JESUS or the LAW next to each statement. Look up Hebrews 10 in your Bible to help you.

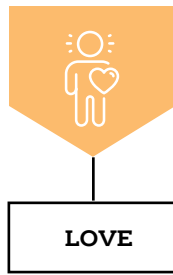
- _____ Shadowed something greater
- _____ Able to take away all sin
- _____ Offered a single sacrifice for all time
- _____ Impossible to take away sin
- _____ Reveals our sin
- _____ Sat down at the right hand of God
- _____ Makes us clean by faith
- _____ Must offer repeated sacrifices

» What does this story teach us about God?

» How is Jesus our perfect sacrifice?

CHRIST CONNECTION

Jesus came to be the sacrifice for sin. He lived a sinless life, died on the cross, and rose from the dead. In Him, we have complete forgiveness once and for all.



THE GOD OF THE GOSPEL

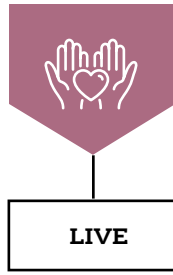
- » Why could the sacrifices required by the law never fully wash away sin?

- » Is there anything we need to add to Jesus' sacrifice? Why not? Or is there anything else we need to do to be forgiven by God? Why?

- » As we wait for Jesus to return, how can we live in a way that honors Him?

CHRIST CONNECTION

Jesus came to be the sacrifice for sin. He lived a sinless life, died on the cross, and rose from the dead. In Him, we have complete forgiveness once and for all.



THE MISSION OF THE GOSPEL

» Find John 1:29 in your Bible and write the words below.

» Write a prayer to God, praising Him for sending Jesus to be the sacrifice for our sin.

READ THE WORD

Read one of the following passages each day this week:

Hebrews 10:10

Hebrews 7:27

Hebrews 10:18

Hebrews 9:12-14

Hebrews 10:23-25

Hebrews 9:28



Unit 20 | Session 1

JESUS TOLD NICODEMUS ABOUT ETERNAL LIFE

John 3

One night, a religious man came to see Jesus. The man's name was Nicodemus. Nicodemus was a Pharisee. Nicodemus wanted to know more about Jesus.

"Rabbi," he said, "we know that You are a teacher who has come from God. No one could do the miracles You do unless God were with him."

Jesus said, "I tell you: Unless someone is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God."

Now Nicodemus was confused. "How can anyone be born when he is old?" Nicodemus asked.

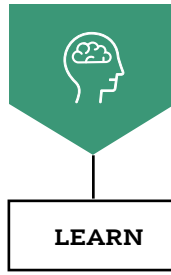
Jesus said, "A person cannot enter God's kingdom unless he is born of water and the Spirit. Physical life doesn't last forever. But the Spirit gives people a better kind of life—spiritual life—so they can live with God forever.

Nicodemus still didn't understand. "How is this possible?" he asked.

Jesus said, "Do you remember how Moses raised up the bronze snake? Everyone who looked at it was healed. Like that, the Son of Man will be raised up, so that everyone who believes in Him will have eternal life."

Jesus said, "God loved the world in this way: He gave His one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in Him will not perish but have eternal life.

Christ Connection: Nicodemus needed new life—eternal life—but he could not do anything to earn it. Eternal life is a gift that comes only from God. God showed His love in this way: He sent His one and only Son to save the world. Everyone who believes in Him will not perish but will have eternal life.



THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

The Bible tells us what is true about God and about ourselves. All of the stories in the Bible fit together to tell us the big story of how God rescues sinners through His Son, Jesus.

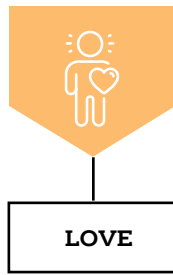
» Look up and read John 3:16; Romans 5:8; Ephesians 2:4-5; and 1 John 4:9-10. Then, in your own words, summarize how God has shown His love to us.

» What does this story teach us about God?

» What did Jesus say is the only way into the kingdom of God?

CHRIST CONNECTION

Nicodemus needed new life—eternal life—but he could not do anything to earn it. Eternal life is a gift that comes only from God. God showed His love in this way: He sent His one and only Son to save the world. Everyone who believes in Him will not perish but will have eternal life.



THE GOD OF THE GOSPEL

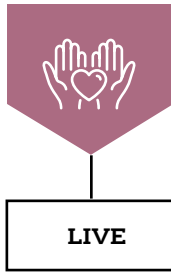
» Do you ever try to obey God, thinking your actions will make Him want to save you? Explain.

» What does it mean to “perish”? Why is this bad news?

» How are we born again?

CHRIST CONNECTION

Nicodemus needed new life—eternal life—but he could not do anything to earn it. Eternal life is a gift that comes only from God. God showed His love in this way: He sent His one and only Son to save the world. Everyone who believes in Him will not perish but will have eternal life.



THE MISSION OF THE GOSPEL

» Find Romans 5:8 in your Bible and write the words below.

» Write a prayer to God, thanking Him for the incredible gift of His Son, Jesus, and the eternal life He gives to all who believe in Him.

READ THE WORD

Read one of the following passages each day this week:

Ephesians 2:4-5

1 John 2:24-25

John 5:24

John 1:12-13

John 10:28

1 Peter 1:3



Unit 20 | Session 2

JESUS TOLD A WOMAN ABOUT LIVING WATER

John 4

Jesus and His disciples traveled through Samaria and stopped in a town with a well.

While Jesus was at the well, a Samaritan woman came to get water from the well. Jesus said to her, “Give Me a drink.”

The woman was surprised. “Why are You talking to me?” she asked.

Jesus said, “I asked you for a drink. You don’t know who I am. If you did, you would have asked Me for a drink, and I would give you living water.”

The woman was confused. She said, “Where do You get this ‘living water’?”

Jesus said, “Anyone who drinks this well water will be thirsty again, but whoever drinks from the water I give will never be thirsty again! Jesus was talking about the Holy Spirit, but the woman did not understand.

“Sir,” she said, “give me this water.

“Go get your husband,” Jesus said.

“I don’t have a husband,” the woman replied.

Jesus knew she was telling the truth. He said, “You don’t have a husband now, but you’ve had five husbands.”

Jesus was right. “I see You are a prophet,” the woman said.

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

Then Jesus said, “I am the Messiah.”

Christ Connection: Jesus offers something better than physical water; He gives us Himself. Jesus gives the Holy Spirit to everyone who comes to Him by faith. We can worship Him as Lord and Savior wherever we are.



THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

The Bible tells us what is true about God and about ourselves. All of the stories in the Bible fit together to tell us the big story of how God rescues sinners through His Son, Jesus.

» Jesus told the woman at the well that whoever drinks from the water He gives will never be thirsty again. Circle the phrases that describe truths about the living water Jesus gives.

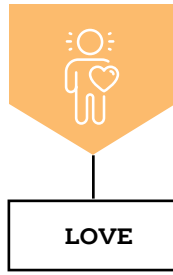
- Provides eternal life
- Comes from following the law
- Creates sinful desires
- Comes from faith in Jesus
- Allows us to worship God anywhere
- Helps us live by the Spirit
- Makes us forget truth
- Satisfies us in Jesus

» What does this story teach us about God?

» What did Jesus say the Holy Spirit will help us do?

CHRIST CONNECTION

Jesus offers something better than physical water; He gives us Himself. Jesus gives the Holy Spirit to everyone who comes to Him by faith. We can worship Him as Lord and Savior wherever we are.



THE GOD OF THE GOSPEL

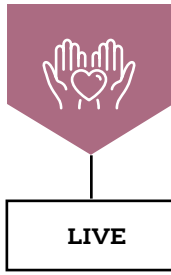
- » What are some things people try to fill their life with to be happy? Do these things give everlasting happiness? Why not?

- » How does Jesus' encounter with the Samaritan woman encourage us to reach out to those who are different?

- » Where can you worship God?

CHRIST CONNECTION

Jesus offers something better than physical water; He gives us Himself. Jesus gives the Holy Spirit to everyone who comes to Him by faith. We can worship Him as Lord and Savior wherever we are.



THE MISSION OF THE GOSPEL

» Find Romans 5:8 in your Bible and write the words below.

» Write a prayer to God, thanking Him for the gift of eternal life and the Holy Spirit.

READ THE WORD

Read one of the following passages each day this week:

Psalm 90:14

John 7:37-38

Luke 6:27

Revelation 7:16-17

1 Corinthians 10:31

Psalm 36:8-9



Unit 20 | Session 3

GOD LOVES ALL PEOPLE

1 Corinthians 13

What is love? People have different ideas about what love is. The Bible says God is love. He loves people—all people! And because God loves us, we can love others.

Paul, a follower of Jesus, wrote a letter to the church in Corinth. Paul told the Corinthians that God gives believers spiritual gifts. Paul said that the greatest spiritual gift is love.

This is what Paul wrote about love:

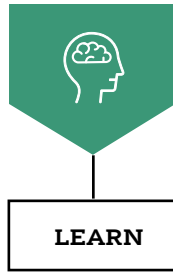
“If I speak different languages but don’t have love, what good is it? I’m just making noise, like a loud gong or clanging cymbal. If I understand and know all things, or if I have great faith but do not have love, then I am nothing. If I am generous and give away all my possessions but do not have love, I gain nothing.”

Then Paul described what love is like. He wrote, “Love is patient, and love is kind.

Love does not envy. It is not boastful or arrogant. Love is not rude or self-seeking. It is not irritable, and it keeps no record of wrongs. Love finds no joy in unrighteousness; it rejoices in the truth. Love does not give up, is always trusting, is always hoping, and never quits.

God’s gift of love is unlike other spiritual gifts because it never ends. One day, we will see God face to face and we will know Him perfectly. These gifts will remain: faith, hope, and love—but the greatest of these is love.”

Christ Connection: God proves His own love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. God is love, and God loves all people. He calls everyone who trusts in Jesus to love Him and love others.



THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

The Bible tells us what is true about God and about ourselves. All of the stories in the Bible fit together to tell us the big story of how God rescues sinners through His Son, Jesus.

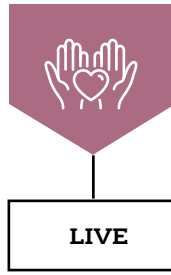
» Write a description of what you think love is. Then after the Bible story, compare your description with how the Bible defines love.

» What does this story teach us about God?

» What did Paul say was the greatest spiritual gift?

CHRIST CONNECTION

God proves His own love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. God is love, and God loves all people. He calls everyone who trusts in Jesus to love Him and love others.



THE MISSION OF THE GOSPEL

» Find Romans 5:8 in your Bible and write the words below.

» Write a prayer to God, thanking Him for His never ending love, and asking Him to help us love others.

READ THE WORD

Read one of the following passages each day this week:

1 John 4:9

1 Thessalonians 3:11-13

Philippians 2:3-4

1 Peter 4:8

1 John 3:23-24

John 13:34-35



Unit 21 | Session 1

PEOPLE REJECTED JESUS

Luke 4

On the Sabbath day, Jesus went to the synagogue in Nazareth. Jesus stood up to read Scripture. He unrolled the scroll of the prophet Isaiah and read: “The Spirit of the Lord is on Me. He has chosen Me to tell good news to the poor. He has sent Me to tell the captives that they are free, to tell the blind that they can see, to free people who have been treated badly, and to announce that the Lord’s favor is on us.”

Jesus said, “Today as you listened to Me reading these words, they came true.”

The people said good things about Jesus. But some of the people in Nazareth had known Jesus from His youth. “Isn’t this Joseph’s son?” they asked. They expected the Messiah to be someone else.

Jesus said, “No prophet is accepted in his hometown.” He reminded them of Elijah and Elisha. When there was a terrible famine in Israel, plenty of widows in the

country needed help. But the prophet Elijah did not help the widows in Israel. Instead, God sent Elijah to help a widow in another land.

And when Elisha was a prophet, many people in Israel had leprosy. But Elisha did not heal them. Instead, he healed a man named Naaman (NAY muhn) from Syria.

The people in the synagogue were angry. They forced Jesus out of town. Jesus walked right through the crowd and went on His way.

Christ Connection: Jesus read Isaiah’s words and announced that He is the promised Messiah. The people of Nazareth rejected Jesus because of their unbelief. God invites us to trust in His Son, Jesus. Jesus came into the world to rescue sinners.



LEARN

THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

The Bible tells us what is true about God and about ourselves. All of the stories in the Bible fit together to tell us the big story of how God rescues sinners through His Son, Jesus.

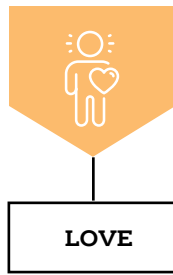
» Look up and read Luke 4:18-19 in your Bible. Then write five things Isaiah said Jesus would do.

» What does this story teach us about God?

» Why was Jesus rejected by the people of Nazareth?

CHRIST CONNECTION

Jesus read Isaiah's words and announced that He is the promised Messiah. The people of Nazareth rejected Jesus because of their unbelief. God invites us to trust in His Son, Jesus. Jesus came into the world to rescue sinners.



THE GOD OF THE GOSPEL

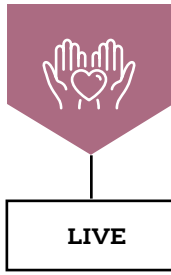
» Have you ever asked God for proof about something before you would believe Him? Why?

» How does our Bible story remind us that Jesus is the fulfillment of the Old Testament?

» Will Jesus ever reject us? Why not?

CHRIST CONNECTION

Jesus read Isaiah's words and announced that He is the promised Messiah. The people of Nazareth rejected Jesus because of their unbelief. God invites us to trust in His Son, Jesus. Jesus came into the world to rescue sinners.



THE MISSION OF THE GOSPEL

» Find Hebrews 11:6 in your Bible and write the words below.

» Write a prayer to God, asking Him to help us live by faith and trust in Jesus.

READ THE WORD

Read one of the following passages each day this week:

2 Corinthians 5:7

Mark 12:10-12

Acts 18:28

Isaiah 53:3

John 6:35-37

Psalm 22:6



Unit 21 | Session 2

PEOPLE WERE AMAZED BY JESUS

Luke 4

Jesus traveled to Capernaum (kuh PUHR nay uhm) with His disciples Simon, Andrew, James, and John. He went into the synagogue on the Sabbath and began to teach. The people there were very surprised at His teaching. He spoke with authority.

Just then, a man with an unclean spirit shouted, “What do You have to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? I know who You are—the Holy One of God!” Jesus commanded the spirit to be quiet and come out of the man. The spirit yelled again and then came out.

Everyone was amazed! “Who is this Jesus?” they asked. “He teaches with authority, and the unclean spirits obey Him!”

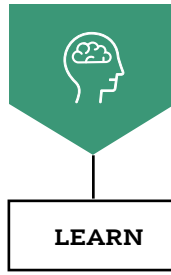
Next, Jesus and His disciples went to Simon and Andrew’s house. Simon’s mother-in-law was in bed with a fever. Jesus went to her, took her hand, and

healed her. That evening, large crowds of people came to the house with others who were sick or bothered by evil spirits, and Jesus healed them.

Early the next morning, Jesus went out by Himself to pray. Simon and the other disciples found Him and said, “Everyone is looking for You.”

Jesus said, “Let’s go on to the nearby villages so I can preach there too. This is why I have come.”

Christ Connection: Jesus’ miracles proved that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God. His miracles strengthened people’s faith and met their needs. Through Jesus, God did what is impossible for us to do on our own. He provided forgiveness, salvation, and eternal life.



THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

The Bible tells us what is true about God and about ourselves. All of the stories in the Bible fit together to tell us the big story of how God rescues sinners through His Son, Jesus.

» Circle the facts you think are most amazing.

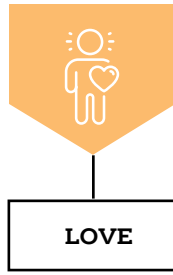
1. A blue whale's heart can weigh up to 2,000 pounds.
2. Methuselah lived to be 969 years old.
3. Lava from a volcano can be as hot as 2,200 degrees Fahrenheit.
4. Jesus walked on water.
5. The human heart beats around 100,000 times a day.
6. Jesus raised Lazarus from the dead.
7. An octopus has three hearts.
8. God loves you and made you to know Him.

» What does this story teach us about God?

» How did the people react to Jesus' teaching?

CHRIST CONNECTION

Jesus' miracles proved that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God. His miracles strengthened people's faith and met their needs. Through Jesus, God did what is impossible for us to do on our own. He provided forgiveness, salvation, and eternal life.



THE GOD OF THE GOSPEL

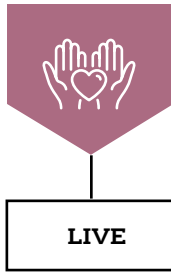
» How did Jesus' miracles prove He is God's Son?

» How do Jesus' miracles help your faith?

» Jesus' miracles helped meet people's physical needs. How has God met your needs?

CHRIST CONNECTION

Jesus' miracles proved that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God. His miracles strengthened people's faith and met their needs. Through Jesus, God did what is impossible for us to do on our own. He provided forgiveness, salvation, and eternal life.



THE MISSION OF THE GOSPEL

» Find Hebrews 11:6 in your Bible and write the words below.

» Write a prayer to God, thanking Him that He meets our greatest need through Jesus.

READ THE WORD

Read one of the following passages each day this week:

John 14:10-11

Matthew 9:22

Romans 1:16

Luke 7:48-50

Philippians 4:19

Mark 10:51-52



Unit 21 | Session 3

PETER WORSHIPED JESUS

Luke 5

One day, Jesus stood by a lake as He taught about God’s Word. Crowds of people gathered together, pressing in to hear what Jesus was saying. Jesus looked out and saw two boats at the edge of the lake.

Jesus got into one of the boats and asked a fisherman named Simon Peter to push the boat a little out from the land.

When Jesus was finished speaking, He told Peter to move the boat to deeper water and let down his nets to catch fish.

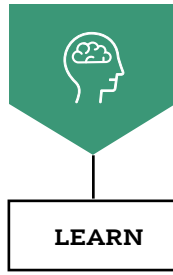
Peter said, “Master, we’ve been fishing all night long and didn’t catch anything. But I will do what You said.”

So Peter and his partners—James and John—let down the nets. They caught so many fish that the nets began to tear. Both boats were so full of fish that they began to sink. The fishermen were all amazed.

Peter fell at Jesus’ knees and said, “Go away from me, Lord! I am a sinful man!”

Jesus said, “Don’t be afraid. From now on, you will be catching people.” Then Peter, James, and John brought the boats to land, left everything, and followed Jesus.

Christ Connection: Peter understood that he was a sinner and recognized that Jesus is God. He responded to Jesus’ grace and kindness by following Him. When we understand that Jesus is God and that we are sinners, we can turn to Him for forgiveness and follow Him by faith.



THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

The Bible tells us what is true about God and about ourselves. All of the stories in the Bible fit together to tell us the big story of how God rescues sinners through His Son, Jesus.

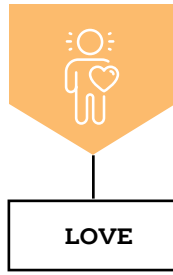
» Look up Acts 3:19; Romans 10:9; and Luke 9:23. Then write three ways you can follow Jesus today.

» What does this story teach us about God?

» Why did Peter recognize himself as a sinner?

CHRIST CONNECTION

Peter understood that he was a sinner and recognized that Jesus is God. He responded to Jesus' grace and kindness by following Him. When we understand that Jesus is God and that we are sinners, we can turn to Him for forgiveness and follow Him by faith.



THE GOD OF THE GOSPEL

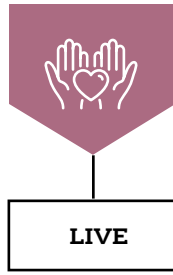
» Have you ever responded like Peter when you saw the ugliness of your sin compared to God's holiness? Explain.

» What does it look like to follow Jesus?

» Who is invited to follow Jesus?

CHRIST CONNECTION

Peter understood that he was a sinner and recognized that Jesus is God. He responded to Jesus' grace and kindness by following Him. When we understand that Jesus is God and that we are sinners, we can turn to Him for forgiveness and follow Him by faith.



THE MISSION OF THE GOSPEL

» Find Hebrews 11:6 in your Bible and write the words below.

» Write a prayer to God, praising Him that Jesus came to save sinners and asking Him to help us follow Him by faith.

READ THE WORD

Read one of the following passages each day this week:

Isaiah 6:4-7

John 8:12

Luke 5:11

John 12:26

Luke 5:32

Matthew 16:24-26



Unit 21 | Session 4

WE ARE SAVED BY FAITH IN JESUS

Hebrews 11

In the book of Hebrews, we find a list of people who lived by faith. What is faith? Faith is being sure that what we hope for will actually happen. Faith is obeying God because we trust Him. By faith, we believe that God created everything from nothing, just by speaking!

Many people in the Bible had faith, and this pleased God. Abel had faith when he gave an offering to God, and God accepted his offering. We must have faith in order to please God.

Noah had faith too. He obeyed God by building an ark to rescue his family.

Abraham had faith when God called him to leave his home. Abraham did not know where he was going, but he obeyed God. Abraham believed that God was going to keep His promises.

Abraham's wife Sarah had faith. She trusted God to give her a family even

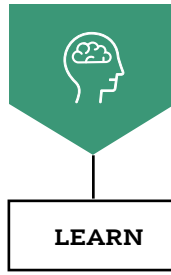
though she was too old to have children. God gave them a family as numerous as the stars in the sky.

Isaac, Jacob, Joseph, and Moses had faith. Rahab had faith when she hid the Israelite spies in Jericho. King David had faith too. All of these people trusted God, and so did many others.

Having faith was not easy. They all died before God's greatest promise—the arrival of Jesus—came true, but they believed that God had a wonderful plan.

God kept His promise to send the Messiah—His own Son, Jesus—to rescue people from sin.

Christ Connection: The Bible gives examples of people who had faith, but the true hero of the Bible is Jesus. Jesus lived a perfect life, died on the cross, and rose from the dead. We are saved from our sins by faith in Jesus.



THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

The Bible tells us what is true about God and about ourselves. All of the stories in the Bible fit together to tell us the big story of how God rescues sinners through His Son, Jesus.

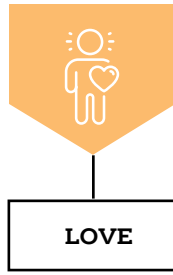
» Look up Hebrews 11 in your Bible and choose three people to write how they lived by faith.

» What does this story teach us about God?

» Who were some of the people mentioned in our story? How did they display faith?

CHRIST CONNECTION

The Bible gives examples of people who had faith, but the true hero of the Bible is Jesus. Jesus lived a perfect life, died on the cross, and rose from the dead. We are saved from our sins by faith in Jesus.



THE GOD OF THE GOSPEL

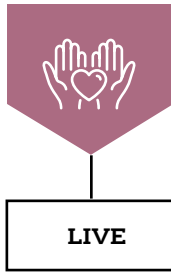
» How does this world tempt us to place our hope or faith in something other than Jesus?

» What faith story encouraged you most from Hebrews 11? Why?

» When do you find it most challenging to live by faith?

CHRIST CONNECTION

The Bible gives examples of people who had faith, but the true hero of the Bible is Jesus. Jesus lived a perfect life, died on the cross, and rose from the dead. We are saved from our sins by faith in Jesus.



THE MISSION OF THE GOSPEL

» Find Hebrews 11 in your Bible and write the words below.

» Write a prayer to God, praising Him for salvation available to us by faith in Jesus.

READ THE WORD

Read one of the following passages each day this week:

Hebrews 12:1-2

1 Peter 1:8-9

1 Corinthians 1:8-9

Hebrews 10:38-39

Hebrews 10:22-23

Romans 1:16-17



Unit 22 | Session 1

JESUS CALMED A STORM

Matthew 8; Mark 4; Luke 8

Jesus spent all day teaching crowds of people near the Sea of Galilee. That evening, Jesus wanted to cross over to the other side of the sea.

Jesus and His disciples got into a boat and began sailing. While Jesus and His disciples traveled, Jesus fell asleep on a cushion at the back of the boat.

All of a sudden, a storm came. Water was rushing into the boat, and the disciples were afraid! If the water kept coming in the boat, the boat would sink. Surely they would all drown!

Jesus was still fast asleep at the back of the boat. Did Jesus care that they were about to sink into the sea?

The disciples woke up Jesus. “Lord, save us!” they said. “We are going to die!”

Jesus opened His eyes and saw that His friends were afraid. He got up and spoke

to the wind. Then Jesus said to the sea, “Silence! Be still!”

At the sound of Jesus’ voice, the wind stopped blowing and the waves stopped crashing.

Jesus looked at His disciples and asked, “Why are you afraid? Do you still have no faith?”

The disciples were amazed. “Who is this man?” they asked each other. “Even the wind and the waves obey Him!”

Christ Connection: Jesus’ disciples knew Jesus was a good man and a good teacher. When Jesus calmed the wind and the waves, He showed His disciples that He is also God. God rules the sea and stills its waves.



LEARN

THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

The Bible tells us what is true about God and about ourselves. All of the stories in the Bible fit together to tell us the big story of how God rescues sinners through His Son, Jesus.

» Unscramble the words. Then use the letters in parentheses to complete the message.

1. a i f r a d _ _ (_) _ _ _ _ _

2. c o i s h u n _ _ (_) _ _ _ _ _

3. s l i t l _ _ _ _ (_) (_)

4. t e h y _ _ _ _ (_)

5. f t i a h (_) _ _ _ _ _

6. J s u e s _ _ _ _ (_) _ _

7. c l a m _ _ _ (_) _ _

8. s l i e c n e _ _ _ (_) _ _ _ _ _

9. o u y (_) _ _ _

10. s o t r m _ _ _ _ _ (_)

11. w e v a s _ _ (_) _ _ _ _ _

12. w n i d _ _ _ (_) _ _

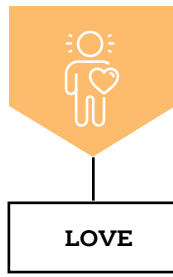
JESUS IS _____ GOD AND _____.

» What does this story teach us about God?

» How did the disciples react after Jesus calmed the storm?

CHRIST CONNECTION

Jesus' disciples knew Jesus was a good man and a good teacher. When Jesus calmed the wind and the waves, He showed His disciples that He is also God. God rules the sea and stills its waves.



THE GOD OF THE GOSPEL

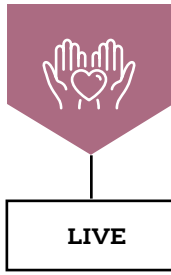
» Have you ever responded in doubt toward God like the disciples? Explain.

» How did Jesus show faith during the storm?

» How does Jesus offer even greater safety than saving people from a storm?

CHRIST CONNECTION

Jesus' disciples knew Jesus was a good man and a good teacher. When Jesus calmed the wind and the waves, He showed His disciples that He is also God. God rules the sea and stills its waves.



THE MISSION OF THE GOSPEL

» Find John 1:18 in your Bible and write the words below.

» Write a prayer to God, thanking Him for Jesus' power over sin and death.

READ THE WORD

Read one of the following passages each day this week:

John 14:27

Matthew 28:18

John 10:18

John 1:14

John 5:24

Psalm 89:9



Unit 22 | Session 2

JESUS HEALED AND FORGAVE

Matthew 9; Mark 2; Luke 5

Jesus traveled home to the town of Capernaum (kuh PUHR nay uhm). The people gathered at a house to hear Him teach. Pharisees and other teachers of the law had traveled from villages all over Galilee and Judea. So many people came that they stood in the doorway.

Four men came to the house. They were carrying their friend on a mat because he could not walk. They wanted Jesus to heal him. The men carried their friend up to the roof. They took off part of the roof above Jesus. Then they lowered their friend so that he was right in front of Jesus.

He told the man lying on the mat, “Young man, your sins are forgiven!” When the religious leaders heard this, they thought, Who does Jesus think He is? He is being disrespectful to God! Only God can forgive sins.

Jesus knew what the religious leaders

were thinking. He said to them, “Is it easier for Me to say to this man, ‘Your sins are forgiven,’ or ‘Get up and walk?’”

Jesus had the power to forgive people’s sins. Jesus showed His power on earth to forgive sins by turning back to the man on the mat and saying, “Get up, pick up your mat, and go home.”

The man immediately got up. He picked up his mat, and he went home.

Everyone in the crowd praised God and said, “We have never seen anything like this!”

Christ Connection: The man who was paralyzed needed to be healed. Jesus did something even greater; Jesus forgave his sins, and then He healed the man. Because Jesus is God, He has the power and authority to heal and forgive. Jesus forgives everyone who trusts in Him.



LEARN

THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

The Bible tells us what is true about God and about ourselves. All of the stories in the Bible fit together to tell us the big story of how God rescues sinners through His Son, Jesus.

» Look up each verse and explain how it shows Jesus has power to heal and forgive.

Luke 7:47-48

John 5:5-9,14

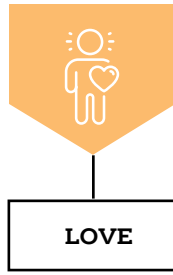
1 Peter 2:24-25

» What does this story teach us about God?

» What miracle do you think was greater—to be healed or to be forgiven of sins?

CHRIST CONNECTION

The man who was paralyzed needed to be healed. Jesus did something even greater; Jesus forgave his sins, and then He healed the man. Because Jesus is God, He has the power and authority to heal and forgive. Jesus forgives everyone who trusts in Him.



THE GOD OF THE GOSPEL

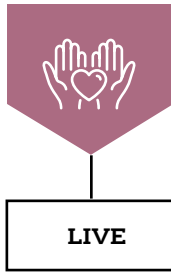
» How did the crowd and the religious leaders respond differently to Jesus' authority?

» How does God respond to us when we acknowledge our sin?

» How does Jesus forgive our sins?

CHRIST CONNECTION

The man who was paralyzed needed to be healed. Jesus did something even greater; Jesus forgave his sins, and then He healed the man. Because Jesus is God, He has the power and authority to heal and forgive. Jesus forgives everyone who trusts in Him.



THE MISSION OF THE GOSPEL

» Find John 1:18 in your Bible and write the words below.

» Write a prayer to God, praising Him for the forgiveness you have through Jesus and the new life He gives.

READ THE WORD

Read one of the following passages each day this week:

Mark 2:6-12

Luke 7:47-50

1 John 1:8-9

Psalm 103:2

Matthew 9:2

Micah 7:18



Unit 22 | Session 3

JESUS HEALED SICKNESS

Matthew 9; Mark 5; Luke 8

Jesus stood on the shore of the Sea of Galilee. Suddenly, Jairus (JIGH ruhs) begged Jesus for help. “My daughter is about to die! Please come touch her so she will be healed and live,” he said. Jesus went with Jairus, and many people followed.

In the crowd was a woman who had been bleeding for 12 years. No one could help her. The woman said to herself, “If I touch even Jesus’ clothes, I will be healed.” She came up behind Jesus in the crowd and touched His clothes. Immediately, her bleeding stopped and she knew she was healed.

Jesus turned around. “Who touched My clothes?” He asked.

The woman, knowing she was healed, came forward and fell before Jesus.

Jesus said to her, “Daughter, your faith has saved you. You are healed.”

Some men came from Jairus’ house and told Jairus, “Your daughter is dead.”

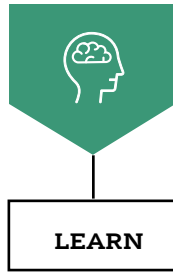
Jesus told Jairus, “Do not be afraid. Just believe.”

Jesus and three of His disciples went to Jairus’ house. People there were crying. “Why are you crying?” Jesus asked. “The child is not dead. She is sleeping.”

Jesus took Jairus and his wife into the room where the child was. He took the girl by the hand and said, “Little girl, get up.”

Immediately, the girl got up and began walking around.

Christ Connection: By healing the woman and raising the little girl from the dead, Jesus showed His power as the Messiah. Jesus died on the cross and rose again to save people from sin and death. When we trust in Jesus, God forgives our sins and changes us to be more like His Son.



THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

The Bible tells us what is true about God and about ourselves. All of the stories in the Bible fit together to tell us the big story of how God rescues sinners through His Son, Jesus.

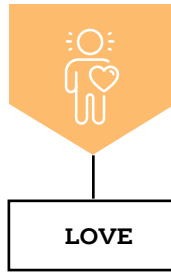
» In today's Bible story, Jesus said it was the woman's faith that saved her. Write a prayer to God, asking Him to help you trust Him about a specific need.

» What does this story teach us about God?

» How was the woman healed and Jairus' daughter raised to life?

CHRIST CONNECTION

By healing the woman and raising the little girl from the dead, Jesus showed His power as the Messiah. Jesus died on the cross and rose again to save people from sin and death. When we trust in Jesus, God forgives our sins and changes us to be more like His Son.



THE GOD OF THE GOSPEL

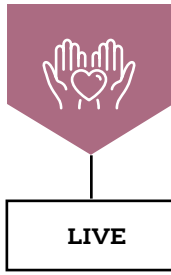
» Using this story, how would you explain to a friend that Jesus is the Son of God?

» Jairus was told to believe before he saw his daughter raised from the dead. How do we believe in God's promises without seeing them?

» How does this story teach us that Jesus gives new life?

CHRIST CONNECTION

By healing the woman and raising the little girl from the dead, Jesus showed His power as the Messiah. Jesus died on the cross and rose again to save people from sin and death. When we trust in Jesus, God forgives our sins and changes us to be more like His Son.



THE MISSION OF THE GOSPEL

» Find John 1:18 in your Bible and write the words below.

» Write a prayer to God, praising Him for Jesus' power to save and the hope of new life you have in Him.

READ THE WORD

Read one of the following passages each day this week:

1 John 5:11

Romans 5:17-18

Hebrews 11:1-3

Psalm 41:3-4

Philippians 3:21

Psalm 147:2-3



Unit 22 | Session 4

JESUS FED MANY PEOPLE

Matthew 15; Mark 8

Jesus had been traveling with His disciples in an area where Gentiles—or non-Jews—lived. Jesus looked at a large crowd of people and had compassion on them. They had been with Jesus for three days, and some had come a long distance to meet Him. They had nothing to eat.

Jesus told His disciples, “If I send them home, they will collapse on their way.”

The disciples said, “Where can we get enough bread to feed them?”

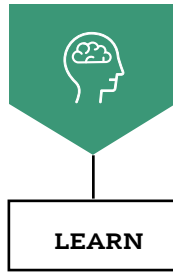
Jesus asked, “How many loaves of bread do you have?”

The disciples answered, “Seven.”

Jesus took the seven loaves, gave thanks to God, and broke the bread into pieces. The disciples also had a few small fish, so Jesus blessed the fish and served them too.

Everyone ate and was satisfied. The disciples collected seven baskets full of leftover pieces. Jesus told the crowd—four thousand men plus women and children—to go home.

Christ Connection: By feeding the crowd, Jesus provided for the physical needs of the people. Later, Jesus called Himself the Bread of Life. (John 6:35) Only Jesus can satisfy our souls forever by providing forgiveness, peace with God, and eternal life.



THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

The Bible tells us what is true about God and about ourselves. All of the stories in the Bible fit together to tell us the big story of how God rescues sinners through His Son, Jesus.

» Jesus is the Bread of Life because only He can satisfy us. Look up each Bible verse and match it to its correct description.

John 6:51

God's presence brings us complete joy.

Psalms 107:9

God fills us with good things and we are satisfied.

Psalms 16:11

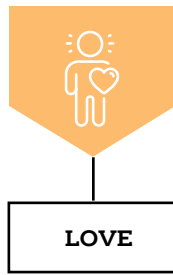
Jesus gave His life so we can live forever.

» What does this story teach us about God?

» How does Jesus satisfy us?

CHRIST CONNECTION

By feeding the crowd, Jesus provided for the physical needs of the people. Later, Jesus called Himself the Bread of Life. (John 6:35) Only Jesus can satisfy our souls forever by providing forgiveness, peace with God, and eternal life.



THE GOD OF THE GOSPEL

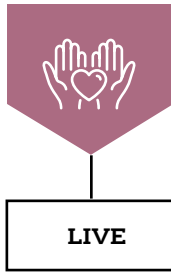
» What is the difference in God meeting our wants versus our needs?

» What do you need to trust God with this week?

» Jesus showed compassion on the crowd. How has Jesus shown you compassion?

CHRIST CONNECTION

By feeding the crowd, Jesus provided for the physical needs of the people. Later, Jesus called Himself the Bread of Life. (John 6:35) Only Jesus can satisfy our souls forever by providing forgiveness, peace with God, and eternal life.



THE MISSION OF THE GOSPEL

» Find John 1:18 in your Bible and write the words below.

» Write a prayer to God, thanking Him for meeting your greatest need by sending Jesus to die for your sin.

READ THE WORD

Read one of the following passages each day this week:

Philippians 4:19

Psalm 23:1-2

Psalm 28:7

Isaiah 55:1-3

Exodus 34:6

Psalm 145:16-19



Unit 22 | Session 5

JESUS' MIRACLES PROVE HE IS GOD

John 14

Jesus' disciples were worried. Jesus had met with them, washing their feet and telling them that one of them—Judas—would betray Him. He said Peter would deny Him. He told them that He was going away.

Jesus was going to die on the cross to rescue sinners. Then He was going back to heaven. Jesus' disciples were confused, so Jesus comforted them.

“Don't let your heart be troubled,” Jesus said. “Believe in God, and believe in Me.” Jesus was going away, but that was for their good. “Then,” Jesus said, “I will come back so you can come with Me.”

Jesus' disciples didn't understand. Jesus said, “I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me. If you know Me, you will also know My Father. You know the Father because You know Me.”

Philip said, “Lord, show us the Father.

“You have seen Me, so you have seen the Father. Don't you believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in Me? Believe My words,” Jesus said. “Believe because of the miracles I have done!” Jesus' miracles prove He is God. He had healed the sick, raised the dead, and calmed a storm—all things that only God can do. Jesus did these things to show that He is God the Son.

Christ Connection: God has always existed as three Persons—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. The Father sent the Son to rescue us from sin. He gives us the Holy Spirit to comfort us, show us our sins, and guide us as we live for God's glory.



LEARN

THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

The Bible tells us what is true about God and about ourselves. All of the stories in the Bible fit together to tell us the big story of how God rescues sinners through His Son, Jesus.

» God has always existed as three Persons—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Circle the statements that are true about God. Use the Bible references to help you.

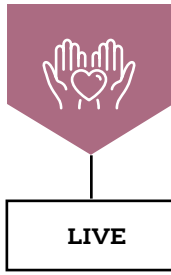
- Jesus made all things (John 1:1-3)
- Jesus and the Father are not one (John 10:30)
- The Holy Spirit was not present at creation (Genesis 1:1-3)
- Disciples are made in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit (Matthew 28:19)
- Jesus is the only mediator between God and man (1 Timothy 2:5)
- Jesus sent the Holy Spirit from the Father to testify about Jesus (John 15:26)

» What does this story teach us about God?

» How did Jesus say His disciples could know He is God?

CHRIST CONNECTION

God has always existed as three Persons—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. The Father sent the Son to rescue us from sin. He gives us the Holy Spirit to comfort us, show us our sins, and guide us as we live for God's glory.



THE MISSION OF THE GOSPEL

» Find John 1:18 in your Bible and write the words below.

» Write a prayer to God, thanking Him for sending Jesus to reveal to you what He is like and to save you from sin.

READ THE WORD

Read one of the following passages each day this week:

John 13:36

1 Corinthians 8:6

John 14:10-11

Hebrews 1:3

John 14:6

1 John 5:20



Unit 23 | Session 1

JESUS TAUGHT ABOUT CHARACTER

Matthew 5

Great crowds of people followed Jesus. One day, Jesus went up on a mountain and began to teach about the kingdom of God.

He said:

“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for the kingdom of heaven is theirs.

Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

Blessed are the humble, for they will inherit the earth.

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy.

Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

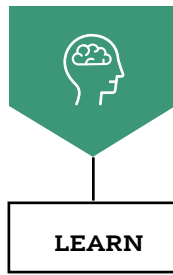
Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called sons of God.

Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness, for the kingdom of heaven is theirs.”

Jesus said, “Let your light shine before others so that they may see the good things you do and praise God.”

Then Jesus taught about God’s law. Jesus did not come to get rid of the law, but to obey it perfectly. He said that to enter heaven, a person must be righteous on the inside too, obeying God for the right reasons. Jesus said, “Love your enemies, and pray for them. Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect.”

Christ Connection: Jesus taught people what it means to follow Him. He taught how people should live. People who trust in Jesus live to honor God and show what His kingdom is like.



THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

The Bible tells us what is true about God and about ourselves. All of the stories in the Bible fit together to tell us the big story of how God rescues sinners through His Son, Jesus.

» Look up Matthew 5:2-11 in your Bible to help you match the blessings Jesus taught.

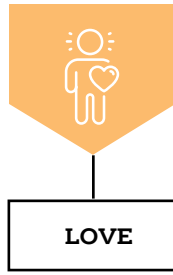
Blessed are the poor in spirit	for they will be shown mercy
Blessed are those who mourn	for they will be called sons of God
Blessed are the humble	for they will be filled
Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness	for the kingdom of heaven is theirs
Blessed are the merciful	for they will see God
Blessed are the pure in heart	for they will be comforted
Blessed are the peacemakers	for the kingdom of heaven is theirs
Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness	for they will inherit the earth

» What does this story teach us about God?

» Jesus said that we are like salt and light to a world that does not know Him when our works follow His commands. But do our works save us? Why not?

CHRIST CONNECTION

Jesus taught people what it means to follow Him. He taught how people should live. People who trust in Jesus live to honor God and show what His kingdom is like.



THE GOD OF THE GOSPEL

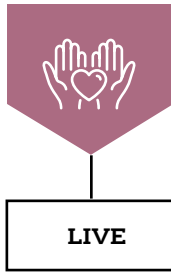
» In today's Bible story, what teaching of Jesus is hardest for you to obey? Why?

» What are ways you can be a light for Jesus so that others can give glory to God?

» Can we do good things and glorify God without trusting in Jesus? Why not?

CHRIST CONNECTION

Jesus taught people what it means to follow Him. He taught how people should live. People who trust in Jesus live to honor God and show what His kingdom is like.



THE MISSION OF THE GOSPEL

» Find 1 Chronicles 29:11 in your Bible and write the words below.

» Write a prayer to God, thanking Him that Jesus lived the perfect life for you and asking Him to help you live like Jesus.

READ THE WORD

Read one of the following passages each day this week:

Galatians 2:20

John 12:35-36

Ephesians 5:8-9

1 Peter 4:14

James 2:22

2 Timothy 2:22



Unit 23 | Session 2

JESUS TAUGHT ABOUT BEHAVIOR

Matthew 6

Great crowds of people followed Jesus. One day, Jesus went up on a mountain and began to teach.

Jesus said, “When you give to people who are poor, give in secret. And when you pray, don’t pray just so that people will hear you.”

Jesus taught the people how to pray: “Our Father in heaven, Your name be honored as holy. Your kingdom come. Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. And do not bring us into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.”

He also said, “Forgive others. If you forgive those who sin against you, God will forgive you too. But if you don’t forgive them, God will not forgive you.”

Jesus said, “Do not collect treasures on

earth. Collect treasures in heaven instead. For where your treasure is, that is where your heart will be also.”

Jesus also taught that God provides for His people. “Don’t worry about your life or what you will eat or drink or wear. Seek the kingdom of God and His righteousness first, and all these things that you need will be given to you.”

Jesus taught many things about how people in His kingdom should live. When He finished teaching, the crowds were amazed.

Christ Connection: Jesus taught people what it means to follow Him. He taught how people should interact with God and others. Believers live to honor God—not to earn God’s favor but because they already have it.



THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

The Bible tells us what is true about God and about ourselves. All of the stories in the Bible fit together to tell us the big story of how God rescues sinners through His Son, Jesus.

» Look up Matthew 6 to help you know what statements are true or false. Write a T for true or a F for false.

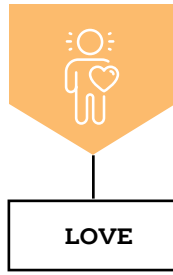
- ___ 1. When you give to people who are poor, let everyone know what you gave. (Matthew 6:3-4)
- ___ 2. Pray that God's kingdom will come and His plans will be done. (Matthew 6:9-10)
- ___ 3. If you forgive those who sin against you, God will forgive you too. (Matthew 6:14-15)
- ___ 4. Collect treasure on earth which will not be destroyed. (Matthew 6:19-20)
- ___ 5. For where your treasure is, that is not where your heart will be also. (Matthew 6:21)
- ___ 6. Jesus used the example of cats catching mice to teach that God provides for people. (Matthew 6:25-26)
- ___ 7. Jesus taught that we should not worry about our life but trust God. (Matthew 6:30-32)
- ___ 8. Seek the kingdom of God and His righteousness first. (Matthew 6:33)

» What does this story teach us about God?

» What example did Jesus give to demonstrate God's care for His people?

CHRIST CONNECTION

Jesus taught people what it means to follow Him. He taught how people should interact with God and others. Believers live to honor God—not to earn God's favor but because they already have it.



THE GOD OF THE GOSPEL

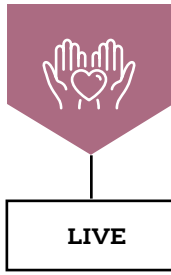
» What are some earthly treasures people's hearts seek after?

» How did Jesus' prayer show faith in God?

» What should we do when we feel worried?

CHRIST CONNECTION

Jesus taught people what it means to follow Him. He taught how people should interact with God and others. Believers live to honor God—not to earn God's favor but because they already have it.



THE MISSION OF THE GOSPEL

» Find 1 Chronicles 29:11 in your Bible and write the words below.

» Write a prayer to God, thanking Him for His Word and for helping you live to honor Him.

READ THE WORD

Read one of the following passages each day this week:

Matthew 6:19-20

Matthew 10:29-31

Matthew 6:9-13

Matthew 5:6

Philippians 4:6-7

Psalm 55:22



Unit 23 | Session 3

JESUS TAUGHT ABOUT GOD'S LOVE

Luke 15

Tax collectors and sinners came to listen to Jesus teach. Jesus said, "If a man has 100 sheep and loses one, he leaves the 99 sheep and searches for the lost sheep until he finds it. Then he tells his friends, 'Let's celebrate!' In heaven, there is more joy when one sinner repents and turns back to God than for 99 people who did not wander off."

Jesus also said, "If a woman has 10 silver coins and loses one of them, she lights a lamp, sweeps the house, and searches carefully until she finds it. Then she tells her friends, 'Let's celebrate!'"

Jesus told a third story. "A man had two sons. The younger son said, 'Father, give me my inheritance.' The father gave his son his share, and the son went to another country. He wasted his money.

"The younger son decided to go back to his father and admit he was wrong. His father saw him coming. His father ran to

him. The son began to apologize.

"But the father told his servants, 'Let's celebrate with a feast! This son of mine was lost, and now he is found!'

The older son heard music at the house. 'What's going on?' he asked.

"Your brother is here,' the servant said. 'Your father is celebrating.'

"The older brother was angry! He refused to go to the feast. The older brother said, 'I never disobeyed you! But you never threw a party for me.'"

Christ Connection: Jesus told these parables to teach about God's love. God sent Jesus so sinners can be forgiven. As Savior, Jesus loves and seeks sinners. He paid the ultimate price—His own life—to save people from sin.



LEARN

THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

The Bible tells us what is true about God and about ourselves. All of the stories in the Bible fit together to tell us the big story of how God rescues sinners through His Son, Jesus.

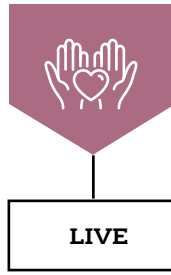
» Jesus came to seek and save the lost. How would you celebrate a friend repenting of sin and being saved by faith in Jesus? Write a description or draw a picture to show your celebration.

» What does this story teach us about God?

» How did the older brother's response show he was lost too?

CHRIST CONNECTION

Jesus told these parables to teach about God's love. God sent Jesus so sinners can be forgiven. As Savior, Jesus loves and seeks sinners. He paid the ultimate price—His own life—to save people from sin.



THE MISSION OF THE GOSPEL

» Find 1 Chronicles 29:11 in your Bible and write the words below.

» Write a prayer to God, praising Him for His love and the salvation He provides through faith in Jesus.

READ THE WORD

Read one of the following passages each day this week:

Luke 15:28-30

Luke 5:31-32

Luke 15:7

1 Timothy 1:15-16

1 John 4:10

Luke 19:10



Unit 23 | Session 4

JESUS TAUGHT ABOUT GOD'S KINGDOM

Matthew 13

Jesus' disciples asked Him, "Why do you teach in parables?"

Jesus answered, "Not everyone will understand the hidden truths about the kingdom of heaven."

Jesus said, "You are blessed because you do understand."

Jesus told a parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that a man planted in his field. It is the smallest of all seeds, but it becomes a tree, and the birds come and build nests in its branches."

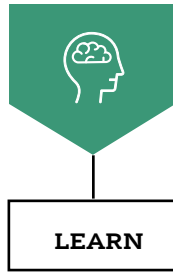
"The kingdom of heaven is like leaven that a woman mixed into fifty pounds of flour. The leaven makes the dough rise."

Jesus told another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a treasure, buried in a field, that a man found. He reburied it, and then he joyfully sold everything he had and bought that field."

"The kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls. When he found one priceless pearl, he sold everything he had and bought it."

"The kingdom of heaven is like a large net thrown into the sea. It collected every kind of fish. The fishermen gathered the good fish into containers. But they threw out the worthless ones." Jesus said at the end of time, God will separate people who trust in Him from those who don't.

Christ Connection: The kingdom of God is growing in the world. This kingdom is valuable and worth giving everything for. While we wait for Jesus to return and fully set up His kingdom, we carry out the mission of telling others about King Jesus, who rescues sinners.



THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

The Bible tells us what is true about God and about ourselves. All of the stories in the Bible fit together to tell us the big story of how God rescues sinners through His Son, Jesus.

» Cross out the statements that do not describe someone trusting in Jesus.

Accepting Jesus as your Savior

Loving God above all

Storing up treasures on earth

Repenting of sin

Doing only what you want to do

Holding grudges

Loving your enemies

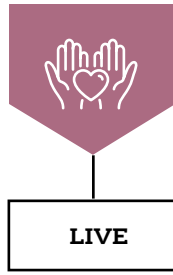
Wanting to do God's will

» What does this story teach us about God?

» Will everyone be a part of God's kingdom? Why not?

CHRIST CONNECTION

The kingdom of God is growing in the world. This kingdom is valuable and worth giving everything for. While we wait for Jesus to return and fully set up His kingdom, we carry out the mission of telling others about King Jesus, who rescues sinners.



THE MISSION OF THE GOSPEL

» Find 1 Chronicles 29:11 in your Bible and write the words below.

» Write a prayer to God, praising Him for His kingdom and helping you to contribute to its growth.

READ THE WORD

Read one of the following passages each day this week:

Revelation 21:3

Psalm 103:19

Philippians 3:7-8

Matthew 7:21

Matthew 9:37-38

Matthew 3:2



Unit 23 | Session 5

WE ARE PART OF GOD'S KINGDOM

Matthew 22; Luke 14

One of the parables Jesus used to teach people was about a wedding feast. Jesus said, “This is what God’s kingdom is like. A king’s son was getting married, so the king prepared a big wedding feast. The king sent out his servants to tell everyone who was invited to the banquet that the feast was ready. The servants came back. They told the king that the people did not want to come.

“So the king sent out his servants again. The king said, ‘Tell the guests that I have prepared a feast! Come to the wedding banquet!’

“The servants went out, but the people did not listen.

“Then the king told his servants, ‘The feast is ready, but the people who were invited do not deserve to come to my feast. Go out to the streets and invite everyone you see.’

“So the servants went out and did what the king asked. They invited all the people they saw. But when the king came in to see the guests, he saw a man who was not dressed in the right clothes for a wedding.

“The king said to the man, ‘Friend, how did you get in here without wedding clothes?’

“The king ordered his servants, ‘Throw him out.’”

Jesus ended His story by saying, “Many people are invited to God’s kingdom, but only a few are chosen.”

Christ Connection: Jesus invites us to join Him in heaven—the great wedding feast. When we receive His invitation, Jesus gets us ready by clothing us in His righteousness. Salvation is a free gift for everyone who trusts in Christ.



LEARN

THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

The Bible tells us what is true about God and about ourselves. All of the stories in the Bible fit together to tell us the big story of how God rescues sinners through His Son, Jesus.

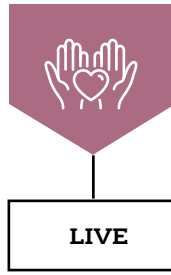
» Write a note to a friend explaining how we can enter the kingdom of God. Look up John 3:3 and 1 John 5:1,11.

» What does this story teach us about God?

» Why did the man get thrown out of the wedding feast?

CHRIST CONNECTION

Jesus invites us to join Him in heaven—the great wedding feast. When we receive His invitation, Jesus gets us ready by clothing us in His righteousness. Salvation is a free gift for everyone who trusts in Christ.



THE MISSION OF THE GOSPEL

» Find 1 Chronicles 29:11 in your Bible and write the words below.

» Write a prayer to God, thanking Him that you have been invited to His kingdom and that His invitation is a free gift through faith in Jesus.

READ THE WORD

Read one of the following passages each day this week:

Revelation 19:6-9

Hosea 2:18-19

Matthew 5:11-12

Colossians 1:21-22

Romans 10:10

2 Corinthians 5:21



Unit 24 | Session 1

JESUS KNEW HE WOULD BE REJECTED

Luke 13

As Jesus traveled, He made His way toward Jerusalem. Jesus stopped to teach. Someone asked Jesus, “Lord, are only a few people going to be saved?”

Jesus said, “Focus on entering God’s kingdom. The path to heaven is like a narrow door. Many people will try to get to heaven, but not many people will.” Salvation comes only through Jesus.

Some people will think they deserve to enter God’s kingdom because they knew who Jesus was and listened to Him. But Jesus will say, “I don’t know you.” People must repent and trust in Jesus as Lord and Savior to be rescued from their sins.

Jesus’ teaching was hard for some people to hear. Only people who accept the good news of Jesus can enter the kingdom of God.

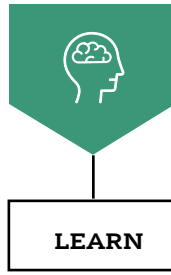
Then some religious leaders came to Jesus. They said, “You need to leave.

Herod wants to kill You.”

Jesus said, “Go tell Herod that I am still working. On the third day, I will finish My work.

Jesus wept over the city of Jerusalem. He knew He would be rejected and killed there. “Jerusalem, Jerusalem,” He said, “I’ve wanted to help and protect your people—to gather them like a hen gathers her chicks under her wing. But you did not let Me.”

Christ Connection: Everyone is invited into the kingdom of God, but not everyone will enter. People are saved only by trusting in Jesus. Jesus is the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Him.



THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

The Bible tells us what is true about God and about ourselves. All of the stories in the Bible fit together to tell us the big story of how God rescues sinners through His Son, Jesus.

» Write today's Bible story in your own words by completing the prompts. Look up Luke 13:22-35 if you need help.

WHO:

WHAT:

WHERE:

WHEN:

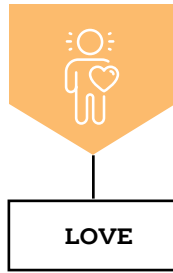
WHY:

» What does this story teach us about God?

» What did Jesus say He wanted to do for the people of Jerusalem?

CHRIST CONNECTION

Everyone is invited into the kingdom of God, but not everyone will enter. People are saved only by trusting in Jesus. Jesus is the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Him.



THE GOD OF THE GOSPEL

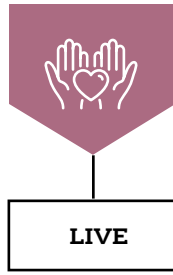
» Even though Jesus had performed miracles and taught many truths, why did the people reject Him?

» Jesus taught people to seek the narrow door that leads to His kingdom. How do we do this?

» Will we be rejected like Jesus? Why or why not?

CHRIST CONNECTION

Everyone is invited into the kingdom of God, but not everyone will enter. People are saved only by trusting in Jesus. Jesus is the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Him.



THE MISSION OF THE GOSPEL

» Find Isaiah 53:3 in your Bible and write the words below.

» Write a prayer to God, thanking Him that Jesus faced rejection so you could be saved from your sin.

READ THE WORD

Read one of the following passages each day this week:

Ephesians 4:18

John 1:11-12

Acts 16:30-31

Matthew 21:42-43

John 15:20-21

1 John 3:1



Unit 24 | Session 2

JESUS RAISED LAZARUS

John 11-12

Jesus and Lazarus were friends. Lazarus lived in the town of Bethany, in Judea, with his sisters, Mary and Martha. One day, Lazarus got sick. Mary and Martha sent a message to Jesus.

Jesus told His disciples, “Lazarus’ sickness will not end in death.” Jesus stayed where He was for two more days. Then Jesus said, “Let’s go back to Judea.”

By the time Jesus arrived in Bethany, Lazarus had been in a tomb for four days. Martha said, “Lord, if You had been here, my brother wouldn’t have died.” Martha knew Jesus could do a miracle though.

Jesus replied, “Your brother will rise again. I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in Me, even if he dies, will live. Everyone who lives and believes in Me will never die—ever.”

Martha said. “I believe You are the Messiah, the Son of God.”

Mary was crying. Jesus wept too.

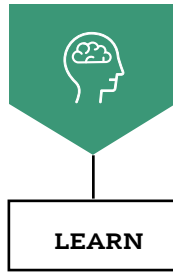
Mary led Jesus to the tomb where Lazarus was buried.

Then Jesus shouted, “Lazarus, come out!”

Lazarus came out of the tomb, wrapped in linen and cloth. Jesus said, “Unwrap him and let him go.”

The religious leaders decided they wanted to kill Lazarus because many people were trusting in Jesus.

Christ Connection: When Jesus raised Lazarus from the dead, He showed that He has power over death. Jesus said, “I am the resurrection and the life.” Jesus died on the cross for our sins and rose from the dead. He gives eternal life to those who trust in Him.



THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

The Bible tells us what is true about God and about ourselves. All of the stories in the Bible fit together to tell us the big story of how God rescues sinners through His Son, Jesus.

» Number the events 1–8 in the correct order of the story. Use John 11 to help you.

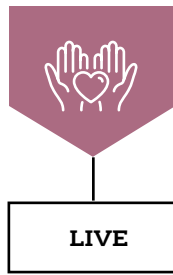
- ___ Jesus raised Lazarus from the tomb and said, “Lazarus, come out!”
- ___ By the time Jesus arrived, Lazarus had been dead four days.
- ___ Mary and Martha sent a message to Jesus telling Him Lazarus was sick.
- ___ The religious leaders wanted to kill Jesus because many trusted in Him after He raised Lazarus from the dead.
- ___ Martha told Jesus that if He had been here Lazarus would not have died.
- ___ Lazarus, Jesus’ friend, got sick.
- ___ Jesus said that everyone who believes in Him will never die.
- ___ Lazarus came out of the tomb, wrapped in linen and cloth.

» What does this story teach us about God?

» Who were some of the people that rejected Jesus?

CHRIST CONNECTION

When Jesus raised Lazarus from the dead, He showed that He has power over death. Jesus said, “I am the resurrection and the life.” Jesus died on the cross for our sins and rose from the dead. He gives eternal life to those who trust in Him.



THE MISSION OF THE GOSPEL

» Find Isaiah 53:3 in your Bible and write the words below.

» Write a prayer to God, praising Him for the power He has over death and giving thanks for Jesus' death and resurrection so that we can have new, eternal life.

READ THE WORD

Read one of the following passages each day this week:

John 12:25

Romans 8:38

1 Corinthians 15:55-57

Romans 6:4

1 John 5:4

John 6:40



Unit 24 | Session 3

THE WORLD IS AGAINST GOD

Ephesians 6

“Be strong! God is strong, and He will give you strength.” Paul wrote these words in a letter to the church at Ephesus. Paul was in prison in Rome, and he knew from experience that the Christian life was not an easy life. In fact, the Christian life is like a battle. The battle is against evil.

“Put on the full armor of God,” he said. “It will help you stand up against the devil, who is trying to trick you.”

Evil is strong, but God is stronger. These are the pieces of God’s armor:

Truth is like a belt around our waist. Truth can stand up against lies.

Righteousness is like armor on our chest.

Paul said, “Be ready with the gospel—like sandals on your feet.” We must always be ready to tell others the gospel.

Faith is like a shield. This evil one—the

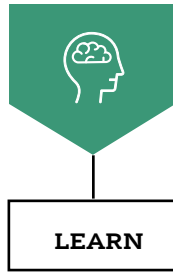
Devil—wants us to doubt God and believe lies. God gives us faith to help us trust in Him and obey Him.

Paul said, “Salvation is like your helmet, and God’s Word is like your sword.”

God’s Word, the Bible, is a strong sword! The Bible tells us what is true, and the Holy Spirit helps us do what it says.

We must remember to pray. God will show us how to be ready and how to live for Him.

Christ Connection: Paul told believers to be ready to fight a spiritual battle every day. People and powers who are against God will be against us too. But Jesus died and rose from the dead. He had victory over evil. We can fight the battle against evil, knowing Jesus already won the war.



THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

The Bible tells us what is true about God and about ourselves. All of the stories in the Bible fit together to tell us the big story of how God rescues sinners through His Son, Jesus.

» Match each piece of armor with its spiritual counterpart. Look up Ephesians 6:14-17 if you need help.

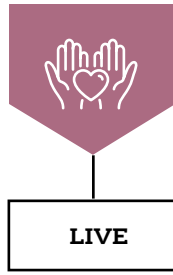
Sword	Faith
Belt	Righteousness
Helmet	Gospel of peace
Breastplate	Truth
Sandals	Word of God
Shield	Salvation

» What does this story teach us about God?

» Why does Paul tell Christians to remember to keep praying?

CHRIST CONNECTION

Paul told believers to be ready to fight a spiritual battle every day. People and powers who are against God will be against us too. But Jesus died and rose from the dead. He had victory over evil. We can fight the battle against evil, knowing Jesus already won the war.



THE MISSION OF THE GOSPEL

» Find Isaiah 53:3 in your Bible and write the words below.

» Write a prayer to God, praising Him that He has overcome evil through Jesus, and asking Him to help you live in the strength He provides.

READ THE WORD

Read one of the following passages each day this week:

John 16:33

1 Peter 4:1-2

1 Peter 5:8

Hebrews 4:12

Psalm 23:4

Romans 13:12-14