

## **GOD’S WONDERFUL PLAN FOR YOU!**

### **Gospel of John Bible Studies - Lesson 1**

You are on earth for a purpose: to know, love, and glorify God. You can come to know God personally when you meet and know God’s Son, Jesus Christ, the Savior. The Bible reveals all the amazing gifts God gives to those who know and follow Jesus.

Some of these marvelous gifts and benefits are found below. This study is linked to the Gospel of John. Allow God to speak to you through the Bible. Think about what each verse says. Then, answer the question in your own words. Write your answer in the blank by the verse. Now, turn to John, chapter 10, and read verse 10.

1. Why did Jesus, the good Shepherd, come? John 10:10

\_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_.

2. What do you think Jesus means by “life ... abundantly”?

\_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_.

3. What kind of life does Jesus give to all who truly believe in Him?  
10:28

\_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_.

4. What does God the Father do when we ask in prayer, using Jesus’  
name? 16:23

\_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_.

5. What do you think it means to ask “in Jesus’ name?”

\_\_\_\_\_.

6. Why does Jesus want to answer our prayers? 16:24

\_\_\_\_\_.

7. How do we become “free” in our lives? 8:31, 32

\_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_.

8. What do you think Jesus means by “the truth” that makes us free?  
17:17

\_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_.

9. How would one go about continuing in the words of Jesus? 8:31

\_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_.

10. In John 14:1 Jesus says to not let our

\_\_\_\_\_.

He wants those who believe in God to believe in,  
\_\_\_\_\_ also.

11. What is in heaven in God’s giant home? 14:2

\_\_\_\_\_.

12. What did Jesus go to do when he ascended back to heaven? 14:3

\_\_\_\_\_.

13. What will Jesus do first, after he finishes building homes for his followers  
in heaven?

\_\_\_\_\_.

14. What does Jesus promise then?

\_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_.

15. What is impossible to buy which Jesus gives us free? 14:26

---

16. If we love Jesus, what are God's feelings about us? 16:27

---

Why not quietly bow your head in prayer right now. Thank God that He loves you, in spite of your life and sins.

The Bible tells us about two kinds of death. The first is when our body dies. The second death is spiritual death, dying without receiving Jesus in our lives. This death is a separation from God, in a place of fire called "Hell."

17. But what does Jesus promise those who are alive and who really believe in Him?

11: 26 \_\_\_\_\_

Notice the important words Martha uses to answer Jesus in John 11:27. Her sentence has in it what she believed about Jesus and his power over death. "Yes, Lord: I believe that thou art the Christ, the Son of God, which should come into the world."

18. When we understand Jesus' words, what happens inside of us?

---

---

19. As Jesus fills those who believe, we receive

---

that empowers us to live for Christ. 1:16.

Grace is the gift of God that we can never merit or earn. It is getting God's spiritual riches, through Jesus, in exchange for our sinful poverty. We are saved from our sins by grace, never by works. "For by grace

---

are ye saved, through faith, and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God” (Ephesians 2:8,9).

20. John gives us a picture of Jesus as God’s Lamb. What did Jesus do about our sins on the Cross? 1: 29

---

21. There is a single word in John 1:12 that tells what it means to “believe” in Jesus. To believe in Jesus means to

---

Him into your heart as the Lord Jesus Christ.

**In this study you have read of God’s loving purpose for your life, and some of the wonderful benefits of knowing Him. Those who truly put their faith in Jesus are given abundant life, eternal life, answers to prayer, freedom, a home in heaven, joy, peace, and grace. Also, God will forgive and take away their sins.**

When you repent of your sins, and receive Jesus, He will come into your heart as Lord forever. To repent is to turn away from your sins to follow Christ. He died for all your sins, and then rose from the grave. In the next lesson you will learn more about one of God’s gifts to you -eternal life.

## **THE POWER OF LIVING FOREVER**

### **Gospel of John Bible Studies - Lesson 2**

Many people think eternal life is something we experience after we die. Others think eternal life is the product of doing enough good things to overcome all the sins we commit. This is not true. Few people realize what Jesus tells us again and again: that we can know for sure that we have eternal life now.

**Let's look at the Gospel of John in the Bible. Turn to chapter 17, verse 3. Read the verse, and answer the question in your own words. Write it in the blank space.**

1. What is eternal life? 17:3

\_\_\_\_\_.

2. How do you think we can “know” God and Jesus? 7:17

\_\_\_\_\_.

Eternal life is not just a promise about the future. Eternal life is wrapped up in a Person, Jesus Christ. To have Jesus as your personal Lord and Savior is to have eternal life.

3. What is the path to finding Jesus? 5:39

\_\_\_\_\_.

4. Who has the words of eternal life for all? 6:67-69

\_\_\_\_\_.

5. If you don't have eternal life what will happen? 3:15

\_\_\_\_\_.

6. How do Jesus' sheep get eternal life? 10:28

\_\_\_\_\_.

## PIONEER EVANGELISM

---

7. What happens when we choose our will over the will of God?

12:25 \_\_\_\_\_

How do we keep eternal life?

---

---

8. Jesus says, “Without me \_\_\_\_\_”

15:5

9. Who has the power over all and can give eternal life?

---

Read John 3:16 twice. Then answer the following questions:

10. Who loves the people in the world?

---

11. What did God do because of His love for you?

---

12. Who is the “begotten son” of God?

---

13. Who may have everlasting life?

---

14. Those who do not believe in God’s only Son Jesus will

---

15. How many people can have everlasting life?

---

16. How long do you think everlasting life is?

---

17. Why does God give us everlasting life?

---

18. How do you keep from perishing?

---

19. In John 5:24, Jesus says something very important. Fill in the blanks.

To have Jesus' everlasting life one must first \_\_\_\_\_

His word, and \_\_\_\_\_ on Him.

20. Then Jesus promises three important things:

You have \_\_\_\_\_

You shall not \_\_\_\_\_

You have \_\_\_\_\_

Everyone can know when he passes from death to life, just as one knows the date he gets married, or his birthday. Have you as yet passed from death to life? You can know.

21. Jesus describes eternal life as a

---

---

4:13,14

22. Then how does one get eternal life? v. 14

---

23. What does it mean to drink water in John 4:14? Circle best answer:

- a) drink real water
- b) to believe in Jesus
- c) dig a well
- d) be baptized

24. Jesus uses another word picture to describe Himself in John 6:47, 48, and 51. Jesus is

\_\_\_\_\_

List 2 qualities that come to mind when you see, touch, and eat BREAD.

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

25. How would each of these qualities relate to Jesus?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

26. If we believe on the living Christ what will we have? 6:47

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

You have learned that eternal life and everlasting life are the same. Obtaining eternal life results from knowing Jesus personally. He is eternal life! You have found that eternal life is forever. No one will perish who has everlasting life. Jesus is your Living Water and your Bread of Life.

In the next study you will learn how to keep from dying from the world's worst disease



## **THE TRAGEDY OF SIN**

### **Gospel of John Bible Studies - Lesson 3**

In each human being is a deadly disease -sin- which infects those you love, and is transmitted from parent to child. Some people think they are getting away with it. However, God judges your sin. Thankfully, God has provided a remedy for sin.

Let's look again at the Gospel of John and also at some key verses from other places in the Bible. Remember to read the verse carefully, before writing your answer in the blank space.

1. John calls Jesus the "Lamb of God." What did Jesus do about our sin? John 1:29

---

---

2. Who is Jesus? What did Jesus claim by calling God his "Father"? 5:17-18

---

---

3. Jesus claim was true! How did religious leaders react again to Jesus calling God his "Father"? 10:31-33

---

Jesus forgave sins, received worship as God, was sinless, and claimed the same qualities as God. He is both God and man.

4. Who will finally judge all sinful people? 5:22, 26-27

---

5. What remedy for sin does Jesus suggest to a very religious man? 3:3

---

## PIONEER EVANGELISM

---

Being born physically is not enough. Because of your sins you must also experience a second birth inside.

6. We need to be born again, because without Christ we are servants of \_\_\_\_\_  
8:34

7. Who is the father of all those who lust and sin? 8:44

---

We have an earthly father, the Devil, who wants us in hell with him for eternity. We need a heavenly Father of love.

8. Because of not trusting our total selves to Jesus, we stand

---

3:18.

9. Read John 8:1-11. What did Jesus say to the proud religious leaders? 8:7 \_\_\_\_\_

---

Jesus forgave the sinful woman. He saw true repentance in her heart. This is how He relates to everyone who is honest about his sin, and desires a new birth.

“For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God”  
(Romans 3:23).

10. According to this verse, how many people have sinned?

---

---

11. What is sin? Sin is (circle all correct answers)

- a) transgressing God’s Law
- b) all unrighteousness
- c) *coming short of the glory of God*

- d) rebellion against God
- e) unbelief; it makes God a liar
- f) living my own way, doing what I want, against God's will.

Sin is rebellion toward God characterized by an attitude of indifference. All the answers in question #11 are Bible definitions of sin. Religious people go to hell. Good people go to hell. Bad people go to hell. Only forgiven people go to heaven. Getting forgiveness for sin involves turning from sin in repentance, and surrendering to Christ Jesus as Lord.

*“For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord” (Romans 6:23)*

12. What wage does sin pay each of us?

---

13. Do we need to work for salvation from God?

---

14. Then, how do we get eternal life?

---

*“For by grace are you saved through faith, and that not of ourselves. It is the gift of God, not of works, lest any many should boast.” (Ephesians 2:8,9).* From this verse answer:

15. How are we saved from hell?

---

16. How do we get this eternal life?

---

Grace is a gift, as is faith. You cannot work for grace.

## PIONEER EVANGELISM

---

17. What does Jesus promise to all who refuse to follow Him as Lord and Savior? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

18. John 8:24

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

19. Who can free us up from sin's power? 8:36

\_\_\_\_\_

20. What did Jesus ask those who knew him best on earth? 8:46

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Jesus had never sinned. He was tempted, however, just as you are. Jesus loves you. His love caused him to choose to take your sins on Himself on the cross.

*"it is appointed unto men once to die, but after that the judgment"*  
(Hebrews 9:27).

21. What two appointments will we all keep?

a. \_\_\_\_\_

b. \_\_\_\_\_

Those who choose Jesus' gift of eternal life will win over these two terrible happenings. In the next lesson you will discover how Jesus took your sins and their consequences on Himself.

## **ACTIONS AND CONSEQUENCES**

### **Gospel of John Bible Studies - Lesson 4**

It is impossible to sin without punishment. You can't escape the eyes of God. "For the ways of man are before the eyes of the Lord, and He pondereth all his goings" (Proverbs 5:21). Read each verse. Write the answer in your words.

1. What has the heavenly Father done about judging us? 5:22

---

---

2. Why is the Son of God, Jesus, our judge? 5:23

---

---

3. What two things has God the Father given His Son Jesus? 5:26,27

a. \_\_\_\_\_

b. \_\_\_\_\_

---

4. What kind of judgment does Jesus provide? 8:16

---

---

5. When judgment came, what happened to Satan, "the prince of this world? 12:31 \_\_\_\_\_

---

---

6. What triggered this loss of Satan's power and position on earth? 12:32

---

---

PIONEER EVANGELISM

---

7. When was Jesus “lifted up”? 12:33

---

*“So then every one of us shall give account of himself to God”  
(Romans 14:12).*

8. How many people will give an account to God on judgment day?

---

9. Whose actions will we be accountable for on judgment day?

---

God has a record keeper, like an invisible video camera traveling with you 24 hours a day. He knows your motives, thoughts, words, and actions. There is a judgment day.

*“You have heard. - ‘Do not commit adultery.’ But I tell you that anyone who looks at a woman lustfully has already committed adultery with her in his heart.” Matthew 5:27*

10. When does adultery begin in a person? (Circle one answer)

- a) When one looks and desires?
- b) When someone commits the act of sin?

Read these words from Jesus: *“For out of the heart come a) evil thoughts, b) murder, c) adultery, d) sexual immorality, e) theft, f) false testimony, g) slander. These are what make a man unclean.”* Matthew 15:19,20.

11. Put each deadly sin in your own words:

- a \_\_\_\_\_
- b \_\_\_\_\_
- c \_\_\_\_\_
- d \_\_\_\_\_
- e \_\_\_\_\_
- f \_\_\_\_\_
- g \_\_\_\_\_

12. Where do these sins come from?

---

13. Which of these sins is the most tempting to you?

---

These terrible sins can destroy a marriage, our children, or our work. But they are not the worst sin. There is an unforgivable sin that sends us to hell.

14. What is this great, unforgivable sin? John 8:24

---

Jesus Christ was complete God, and complete Man. Let's look closely at what He did for us on the cross. Read the following verses from Hebrews, 10:10-19. "By that will we are sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all. And every priest standeth daily ministering and offering often times the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins, but this Man, after He had offered one sacrifice for sins for ever, sat down on the right hand of God ... For by one offering He hath perfected forever them that are sanctified ... And your sins and iniquities will I remember no more. Now where remission of these is, there is no more offering for sin".

15. See back to verse 10: How many times does Jesus have to die to pay for our sins? \_\_\_\_\_

"Sanctified" means "to be made holy, set apart." What Jesus did was so powerful that it cannot be duplicated. No sacrifice today can add to what He already completed. All our sins were put on Christ, and He died in our place. The word "Lord" is used over 40 times in the Gospel of John. Jesus bought with His love the right to be our Lord, our "boss."

## PIONEER EVANGELISM

---

16. What cannot take away our sins today? vv. 11

---

17. What did the Man, Christ Jesus, do on the cross? vv. 12

---

18. How long does this sacrifice last?

---

19. When someone sits down, it may be because he is tired, or because he has finished his work. Why did Jesus sit down by God's side?

---

20. How many times must Jesus die to make us complete and holy before God? v. 14

---

---

21. Because of the blood Jesus shed for our sins, how many of our sins will God remember? vv. 17

---

---

Jesus died for all, but only those who receive Jesus as their Savior and Lord benefit from His death on the cross.

22. Since God accepted Jesus' sacrifice as the complete remission (forgiveness) of our sins, does Jesus need to be sacrificed again and again today in a mass? Why?

---

---



## GOD'S SOLUTION TO OUR SINS

### Gospel of John Bible Studies - Lesson 5

Something happened when Jesus died on the cross that has never happened before or since. Let us discover the heart of the cross as we look into that event in John's gospel, Chapters 19-20.

**The Death of Jesus-** Read John, chapter 19:15-37

1. The ruler Pilate gave Jesus to the soldiers to be  
\_\_\_\_\_ 19:16
2. What do you think the soldiers thought?  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. What might Jesus have been feeling?  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. What was Jesus carrying?  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. What did the soldiers do to Jesus? vv. 18 and 23  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
6. How was Jesus "dressed" hanging on the cross? 19:23  
\_\_\_\_\_
7. What did Jesus see and say while hanging on the cross? 19:26,27  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

*Then said Jesus, "Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do" (Luke 23:34).*

PIONEER EVANGELISM

---

8. According to this verse, how did Jesus respond to those who wrongfully murdered him?

---

---

9. Read verse 30: What were Jesus' last words on the cross?

---

---

10. What did He mean?

---

---

*“He (God) made him (Jesus) who knew no sin to be sin on our behalf, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him” (2 Corinthians 5:21).*

11. What two things does the verse say about Jesus?

a. \_\_\_\_\_

b. \_\_\_\_\_

---

The Apostle Peter wrote. *“For Christ also died for sins, once for all, the just for the unjust, in order that he might bring us to God.” (1 Peter 3:18).*

12. Christ died for our

---

---

13. How many times did Jesus have to die?

---

---

14. What did His death provide for us?

\_\_\_\_\_

*“Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness; by whose stripes ye were healed” (I Peter 3:24).*

15. What did Jesus take on Himself hanging on the cross?

\_\_\_\_\_

16. And we get healing and forgiveness through

\_\_\_\_\_

Turn to John chapter 15:9,13.

17. Why did Jesus choose to lay down his life for us?

\_\_\_\_\_

**The Burial of Jesus** - Read John 19:38-42

1. Who were the friends of Jesus who cared for his body? vv. 38,39

\_\_\_\_\_

2. List three things they did with the body of Jesus?

- a. \_\_\_\_\_
- b. \_\_\_\_\_
- c. \_\_\_\_\_

**The Resurrection of Jesus** - Read John 20:1-31

1. What did Mary Magdalene do?

## PIONEER EVANGELISM

---

2. What did Peter do?

---

3. Whom did Jesus show Himself to? vv. 11 -29

---

4. What did Thomas do? vv. 24-25:

---

26-29

---

5. What have you done with Jesus?

---

6. Why was the Gospel of John written? v. 31

---

---

Paul the Apostle summarized it, “For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received, that Christ died for our sins, according to the Scriptures, and that He was buried, and that He was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures...” (I Corinthians 15:3,4, NAS).

Jesus was God when His heavenly Father sent Him to earth to live as a man. God’s Son experienced all that it meant to be a human being, yet He did not sin. Jesus died on the cross, as a substitute for your sins because of His great love for you. He was separated from God by your sins. He became a perfect sacrifice that cannot be copied or duplicated today.

Jesus was buried in a tomb. God accepted Christ’s death as full payment for your sins, by raising Him from the dead. Jesus Christ is alive, and by His Holy Spirit He will come into the hearts of all who repent of their sins and surrender their lives, by receiving Him as Savior and Lord. He stays with the believer forever.

## **THE MOST AWESOME GIFT!**

### Gospel of John Bible Studies - Lesson 6

It is never enough to know something. You must act on that knowledge. It is wonderful to be offered a gift. But you cannot enjoy the gift unless you receive it from the giver, and use it. God offers the awesome gift of eternal life, but you must receive the gift by accepting His Son, Jesus Christ. Read the following verses, and answer the questions in your own words.

We use the word “believe” every day. “I believe in my family,” or, “I believe in this political candidate.” That is not what the word “believe” means in the Bible. God really desires that we believe Him! But what does it mean to believe?

1. What is the only “work” God accepts for salvation? 6:28,29
- 

Here are a number of verses that demonstrate what it truly means to believe in Jesus Christ.

*Jesus said: “Behold I stand at the door and knock. If any one hear my voice and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me (Revelation 3:20)*

2. Where is Jesus standing?
- 

3. What does ‘the door’ mean in this picture verse?
- 

4. Why is Jesus “knocking” at the door?
-

5. What two things must happen before Jesus will come into the heart?  
a) \_\_\_\_\_  
b) \_\_\_\_\_

6. What does Jesus promise to do to any open heart?  
\_\_\_\_\_

Eating together can be a time of deep bonding and friendship. The Bible contains your spiritual “food.” Jesus wants to have a time of knowing and enjoying being together each day. You need to eat together with God as you study God’s Word. Then you talk with Him in prayer.

*“That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and believe in thine heart that God hath raised Him from the dead, thou shalt be saved.” (Romans 10:9).*

7. What action words illustrate in this verse what it means to believe in Christ?  
\_\_\_\_\_ with your \_\_\_\_\_ ,  
and \_\_\_\_\_ in your \_\_\_\_\_ .

8. Explain the difference between believing in your head, and believing in your heart  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

*“For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved”(Romans 10:13).*

9. What action idea here means to believe in Christ and be saved?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

10. If you have not already believed in Christ, what is your state before God? 3:18

---

---

11. Why don't all people receive God's Son as Savior and Lord? 3:19, 20

---

---

Let's look at the lives of four people who believed in Jesus. Read John chapter 4.

12. Who did Jesus claim to be? vv. 25,26

---

13. When the immoral woman believed in Jesus, what did her faith lead her to do?

---

---

---

14. The story of the nobleman demonstrates the power of believing in Christ. 4:49-53. How do we know the nobleman believed in Jesus about his son?

---

---

The test of true faith is obedience to the Lord Jesus.

15. What did Jesus tell the woman he rescued from death, who had committed adultery? 8: 11

---

---

## PIONEER EVANGELISM

---

16. To believe in Jesus, the Light, is to \_\_\_\_\_ and not walk in darkness. 8:12

17. What does Jesus promise to those who follow Him? 8:12

---

18. After Jesus had anointed the eyes of the man born blind how do we know the man believed? 9:7,8

---

---

19. After the religious rulers kicked out the man Jesus had just healed, Jesus found him. When Jesus revealed Himself, what action showed the belief of the man once blind? 9:35-39

---

---

---

To “repent” means a “change of attitude that results in a change of direction ... a change of life.” To repent is turn from sin’s deadly grip on our lives, and seek Christ for forgiveness and victory over all sin. To “repent” is to change our attitude about Jesus Christ. He is no longer a little baby in the Christmas manger, but Lord of all.

Wouldn’t you like to pray and invite Jesus into your life as Lord and Savior? Here is a prayer many have prayed: “Thank you, Lord Jesus, for dying for me on the cross. Thank you for taking my sins on yourself as my substitute. The best I know how, I turn from my sins, and I give all of myself to you, Lord Jesus. Come into my life as boss. I will follow you wherever you lead.”

After praying this prayer with all your heart, you may write your name here:

---

---

Or, if you are already certain Jesus has taken all your sins and that you will go straight to heaven, check here:

---

---



## **GOD’S GIFT THAT KEEPS GIVING**

### **Gospel of John Bible Studies - Lesson 7**

When you receive Jesus as Savior and Lord, He actually comes to live in your body through the Holy Spirit. “Christ -in you, the hope of glory,” “...Christ liveth in me,”(Colossians 1:27; Galatians 2:20). If you’ve received Jesus, thank him in prayer for His life in you. Jesus is the eternal Gift who never stops giving.

*“Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creation. Old things are passed away, behold all things are become new” (2 Corinthians 5:17).*

1. According to this verse, where does God put us, when we receive Jesus?

---

---

2. What are we now called?

---

3. What does God say about our past life?

---

4. How does God now see us in Christ?

---

The Apostle Paul uses the expression “in Christ” 163 times in the New Testament. At the moment of giving your life to Christ, He came into you, and you were put into Him. This is called “union with Christ.”

**JESUS “I AM” SPECIAL NAMES MEET OUR NEEDS**

When Jesus lives in you, He gives you all the attributes that He is Himself. His character meets your specific needs. In John’s Gospel, Jesus introduces Himself by the Old Testament name for God, “I am that I am.” Let’s learn 6 “I am” names of Jesus.

5. Whom did God send to meet the daily needs in our life? 6:32-35 & 51

---

---

6. What does the “Bread of God” provide freely for the entire world? 6,33

---

---

7. If you come to Jesus, you will never \_\_\_\_\_ . 6:35

8. If you believe on Him, you’ll never \_\_\_\_\_ . 6:35

9. What 2 action words show how to receive the strength and provision of Jesus? 6:35  
\_\_\_\_\_ and  
\_\_\_\_\_ .

10. Jesus said, “I am \_\_\_\_\_” 8:12

11. List three reasons you need light each day :

a. \_\_\_\_\_

b. \_\_\_\_\_

c. \_\_\_\_\_

You need both light for your eyes and light in your mind to discern good from evil. “The entrance of thy words giveth light; it giveth understanding unto the simple” (Psalm 119:130). Jesus wants you to learn His will by studying the Bible daily.

12. Think of 3 things that a shepherd would use a door for with his sheep. John 10:8-10.

- a. \_\_\_\_\_
- b. \_\_\_\_\_
- c. \_\_\_\_\_

Imagine how difficult a shepherd’s job would be without a gate to his pen.

13. How do you need to experience Jesus as a “door” in your life this week?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

*“The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want” (Psalm 23:1). God is called by David, ‘my Shepherd.’ We are His sheep. Jesus claims to be God by using the same name, Shepherd.*

14. Read John 10:11-17. Think of and list 3 things a good shepherd would do for a lamb:

- a. \_\_\_\_\_
- b. \_\_\_\_\_
- c. \_\_\_\_\_

15. How can Jesus, the Good Shepherd, meet a need in your life this week? \_\_\_\_\_

## PIONEER EVANGELISM

---

Find 3 names of Jesus from John 14:6:

16. Jesus is \_\_\_\_\_ each day you follow Him.

17. Jesus is \_\_\_\_\_. You measure your job, your decisions, and your relationships by His will and Word.

18. Jesus is \_\_\_\_\_ He lives in you through His Spirit. He empowers you to live right and gives eternal life.

Though our bodies eventually die, we never die as a person. Jesus will resurrect our bodies when He returns (John 14:2-3).

19. What does Jesus call Himself? 15:5

---

20. To be productive what is essential for us, the branches, to do? 15:5

---

---

21. What can we do alone, without Jesus?

---

**Repeat aloud:** “*Jesus, thank you for being my Bread, Light, Door, Shepherd, Way, Truth, Light, and my Vine.*” This week memorize your favorite Scriptural name of Jesus.

### **OUR NEW HELPER**

Jesus lives in believers through the Holy Spirit. “...*God has sent the Spirit of his Son into your hearts*” (Galatians 4:6). His Spirit gives us everything we need to follow God’s will. He also gives us power to solve our problems and conquer the Devil.

22. What invitation does Jesus give to spiritually thirsty people? 7:37

---

---

23. What happens inside us when we believe and drink?

---

---

24. To what does this “rivers of water” refer? 7:39

---

---

25. How do we get the Holy Spirit into our lives? 7:38

---

---

26. What 2 things does the Holy Spirit, God’s Comforter, do in us? 14:26

a. \_\_\_\_\_

b. \_\_\_\_\_

27. There are 2 names for the Holy Spirit in John 15:26. Which of these names represents an attribute of God’s Spirit that you need today?

---

28. Who bears witness about Jesus to those who don’t know Him?

---

\_\_\_\_\_ 15:26,27

29. When the Holy Spirit comes into each believer, what 4 things will He do? 16:13,14

a. \_\_\_\_\_

b. \_\_\_\_\_

c. \_\_\_\_\_

d. \_\_\_\_\_

30. The Holy Spirit shows us who the Lord Jesus is and what He can do in us. Jesus also promised that He would reveal Himself to us. What is the condition for revealing Himself? 14:21, 24

---

---

---

**GOOD NEWS OF JESUS**  
**BASED ON THE GOSPEL OF MATTHEW**

**The Story of the Life of Jesus Christ**  
**By**  
**Christy A. Brawner**

**Pioneer Evangelism Series**

**How to Use “The Good News of Jesus”  
and “Beginning a New Life in Christ”  
Bible Stories**

- 1. Begin each meeting with a brief word of prayer asking the Lord to bring understanding to the stories.**
- 2. Read the stories to the participants or if there are available copies read the stories together using the indirect method.**
- 3. The leader should ask the oral questions at the end of the story. The purpose for these questions is to review and check for understanding of the story- NOT for elaboration or debate.**
- 4. Read the spiritual truths. Allow the group members freedom to discuss and question each spiritual truth. Be careful to NEVER argue or debate with anyone. It is not necessary at this point for the members to agree or accept the spiritual truths. It is only important that they understand the truths as they are revealed in God’s Word.**
- 5. After the spiritual truths, have a time for each person to share needs and prayer requests with the group.**
- 6. Pray specifically for each need and/or each person in the group. As the group progresses and people accept the Lord allow the members to pray for each other during this intercession time.**



## **THE GOOD NEWS OF JESUS**

By  
Christy A. Brawner

### **“The Birth of Jesus”- Lesson 1** **Matthew 1-2**

**“So all the generations from Abraham to David are fourteen generations, from David until the captivity in Babylon are fourteen generations, and from the captivity in Babylon until the Christ are fourteen generations.” Matthew 1:17**

Mary, a Jewish woman, became pregnant without having sexual relations for she conceived of the Holy Spirit. Her fiancé, being a just man, did not want to publicly humiliate her, so he decided to break off the engagement secretly. But, the same night as he was deciding to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, “Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit. And she will bring forth a Son, and you shall call His name Jesus for He will save His people from their sins.” For Mary was to be the woman of which the prophet Isaiah spoke of in the Old Testament when he said, “Behold, the virgin shall be with child, and bear a Son, and they shall call His name Immanuel”, translated “God With Us.”

Joseph awoke from His dream and obeyed the angel. He married Mary, but they did not have sexual relations until after the birth of the baby. And Joseph named the baby Jesus, according to the instructions, which he had received from the angel. Now Jesus was born in the city of Bethlehem, which is located in the Province of Judea in the country of Israel, and the King of Judea at that time was named Herod.

There were wise men that came from the Orient to Judea following a bright star. According to their studies, this star indicated that the promised king had been born in Judea. Not knowing where exactly the Child was to be found, they went first to Herod’s palace, the king of the district of

Judea, and asked where the new king of the Jews had been born.

Herod was very disturbed by their story, and called a secret meeting with all his religious advisers and priests. He asked these men where, according to Jewish prophecy, was the promised King of the Jews to be born. The priests told him that according to Scripture, the Promised Child was to be born in Bethlehem. He then went to the wise men and asked them when exactly they had first seen the star. He asked this because he wanted to figure out exactly the birth date of the child and calculate His age.

Herod informed the wise men which city the baby was to be born. He also said, “Go and search carefully for the young Child, and when you have found Him, bring back word to me, that I may come and worship Him also.”

The wise men then left the palace and continued to follow the star to Bethlehem. The star, which they had been following, went before them and stood over the house where the young Child was. They entered the house, and immediately as they saw the Child with Mary His mother, they fell down and worshiped Him. They also gave Him valuable gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

So the wise men left this place to return to their homes in the East. But before leaving, they had a dream warning them not to return to Herod and tell him how to find the child. So they went home another way.

After they left, Joseph had another dream. In this dream, he was warned by God that Herod was going to come after the Child and that they were to flee to Egypt. So, that very night, he woke up His family and they fled immediately. They lived in Egypt until the death of Herod, this also being in fulfillment of the prophecy of the prophet Hosea where he said, “Out of Egypt I will call My Son.”

Herod, after discovering that the wise men had deceived him became very angry. He then declared that all male babies under the age of two would be murdered. It was a horrifying slaughter of all the infants in Bethlehem and the surrounding towns. But an earlier Jewish prophet named Jeremiah also had foretold this tragedy.

When Herod died, an angel appeared to Joseph and told him to

return to Israel. Joseph, however, was a little anxious because Herod's son was on the throne in Judea, so he moved his family to the neighboring province of Galilee to a city called Nazareth. Jesus spent his childhood in this town. This also was in fulfillment of the prophecy saying, "He will be called a Nazarene."

### **Oral Questions**

1. Who is Mary?
2. To whom did the angel appear and tell what the Child was to be named?
3. Why did wise men come from the Orient to Judea?
4. Why did Herod want to find Jesus?
5. How did the wise men know they should go home another way and avoid Herod?
6. How did Herod attempt to kill the promised King of the Jews?
7. How did Joseph know he must flee the country and go to Egypt?
8. How did Joseph know when it was safe to return?
9. Why did Joseph take his family to the neighboring province of Galilee instead of Judea?
10. What is the name of the city where Jesus spent his childhood?

## **Spiritual Truths- Lesson 1**

### **Matthew 1-2**

1. God is faithful and always keeps His promises. Since the creation of the first man and woman, God had promised that he would send a Savior to earth. Over the years, He repeated this promise many times to many people often with many details of how this coming would be. Jesus came to earth EXACTLY as had been predicted through the Scriptures. Let us remember in the story at least one prophecy that was fulfilled through the Birth of Jesus.

\*God is faithful to us in the same way. In the Bible, there are many important promises God has made about His plan for us. He will fulfill all these promises and prophecies. It is important for us to read the Scriptures and discover God's promises for our lives.

2. The Bible is the Word of God and everything in it is true. God spoke through his prophets thousands of years in advance many precise details about the birth and life of Jesus. Everything occurred EXACTLY as had been prophesied.

3. God is in control of all things. He can make things happen that are supernatural or miraculous. There are several supernatural things or miracles that happen in this story. What is at least one of these?

4. God can and does communicate to men. Some believe that God created the world but doesn't care what happens here. In what way did God communicate to men in this story? God still communicates to us today. We will learn through this study how we can have a real relationship with God.

5. God knows everything that is going to happen. But sometimes, in His Divine wisdom, He allows horrible things to occur. Herod wanted to kill the Promised King because he felt threatened by Jesus. God knew the wicked sin in Herod's heart. He knew that he was going to kill

hundreds of helpless children. Because of the disobedience and rebellion in his heart a great horror occurred. Today, sometimes many horrible things happen because of disobedience and rebellion in our lives. Do you know of a modern example where someone has been hurt because of the wickedness of another person?

6. Man can never prevail against God and win. Herod was unable to kill the Promised Child. The only thing that he accomplished was to create a horrendous tragedy in the lives of many families. Today, a lot of times, we try to defy God's laws and His will. This always brings tragedy, if not for us than for those around us who we are hurting. Can you think of a time in your own life where you did something wrong and brought tragedy into your life? Can you think of a time when you were hurt because of the rebellion of another person?
7. The priests and religious advisers knew the Scriptures concerning the Promised King, but they did not go to meet Jesus. Is it possible to be very religious, to know much about the Bible, to know much about Jesus Christ, but never know Him personally in one's heart?
8. Jesus is God with us, or Immanuel. The angel spoke these words to Joseph, which were recorded in the Scriptures by the prophet Isaiah. Many people say that Jesus was a prophet. Others say that He was an angel or a good person. But the Bible teaches us that He was "God with us."

In the next six weeks, we are going to try to discover who really is JESUS CHRIST, and what is the GOOD NEWS that He brought to earth.

## THE GOOD NEWS OF JESUS

By  
Christy A. Brawner

### “The Baptism of Jesus”- Lesson 2 Matthew 3-4

#### Review

1. The name of Jesus’ mother was \_\_\_\_\_.
2. One miracle from Jesus’ birth was that He was born of a \_\_\_\_\_.
3. The Old Testament spoke many things about the birth of Christ; one of these was that He would be called Immanuel, which means “God \_\_\_\_\_.”
4. Herod was a \_\_\_\_\_ of Judea who tried to kill Jesus. He \_\_\_\_\_ all of the children under the age of two that lived in and around Bethlehem.
5. The wise men that went to find Jesus were following a \_\_\_\_\_. These men went home a different way than they came because God warned them through a \_\_\_\_\_ that Herod wanted to \_\_\_\_\_ Jesus.
6. Joseph left with his family in the middle of the night to Egypt because God showed him in a \_\_\_\_\_ that Herod was coming after \_\_\_\_\_.
7. Joseph knew that it was safe to return to Israel through a \_\_\_\_\_. But he did not return to Bethlehem, instead he took his family to a city called \_\_\_\_\_.
8. As He has done all throughout history, today God still keeps His \_\_\_\_\_.
9. God knows what’s in our \_\_\_\_\_ even if there is much wickedness there.

10. It is possible to be a religious person, to even know a lot about the Bible, but still never know \_\_\_\_\_ personally in one's \_\_\_\_\_.

### **“Repent for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.” Matthew 3:2**

These were the words that were preached by a man who could be found in the desert of Judea. This man dressed in camel's hair and a leather belt. He lived eating wild honey and grasshoppers. His name was John the Baptist.

Many people from all over the area surrounding the Jordan River would go out to the desert to hear his words. Then after listening to him speak, many would be baptized in the Jordan River confessing their sins. Several of the religious leaders, those called Sadducees and Pharisees, would also go out to see what was happening in the desert. When John the Baptist saw them, he called them a “brood of vipers,” (sons of serpents) further saying that they did not fear God because they thought themselves so religious and of good heritage that they did not need to repent of their sins.

While John was preaching, Jesus came and asked John to baptize him. John did not want to at first because he thought he was too unworthy to baptize Jesus. But Jesus insisted, and the two of them entered into the waters of the Jordan River. When Jesus came up from the water, the Holy Spirit descended like a dove from heaven upon Him. Also, a very loud voice from heaven spoke saying. “This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased,”

So Jesus was taken after that by the Holy Spirit into the desert in order to be tempted by Satan. He fasted from food and water for forty days and forty nights, and after the forty days He was very hungry. It was at this time that Satan came to tempt Jesus.

The Bible tells of three temptations of Jesus in the desert. In the first temptation, Satan tried to get Jesus to turn some stones into bread, claiming that this would prove that He was God. Jesus answered him by using the written Word of God. Secondly, Satan took Him to the roof of a temple and asked Him to jump off the edge thus proving that He was God. But

Jesus answered him again using the written Word of God. Lastly, Satan transported Jesus to a mountain and said, “All these things I will give You if You will fall down and worship me.” Jesus answered him saying, “You shall worship the LORD your God, and Him only you shall serve.” With this the devil left Him, and the angels came and served Him.

After returning from the desert, Jesus heard that John the Baptist had been thrown into jail. Jesus then went to Galilee, the province north of Judea, leaving the city of His childhood, Nazareth, and moving to Capernaum. This was in fulfillment of what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah when he said, “The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, by the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles: the people who sat in darkness have seen a great light, and upon those who sat in the region and shadow of death light has dawned.”

The Bible tells us that from this town Jesus began His public work among the people. The message that He preached was this one, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

### Oral Questions

1. Describe the man called John the Baptist.
2. What was the message of John the Baptist?
3. What would John the Baptist do with those who confessed their sins?
4. Why did John the Baptist not want to baptize Jesus?
5. How was Jesus baptized?
6. What happened when Jesus came up from the water?
7. Why did Jesus go to the desert?
8. What did Jesus do for forty days and forty nights?
9. What was one of Satan’s temptations?
10. After the temptations, who came to serve Jesus?
11. Where did Jesus go after learning about the imprisonment of John the Baptist?
12. What was the message of Jesus? Who preached this same message?



## **Spiritual Truths-Lesson 2**

### **Matthew 3-4**

1. The message of John the Baptist and of Jesus was the same. “Repent for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”
  - **To repent means to turn from the sin in your life. It means to give the complete control of your life to Jesus Christ.**
  - **Sin is disobeying God and His law.**
  - Is repenting a very difficult thing for a person to do? What does this word mean to you? *Discuss this concept among all group members; let each person have an opportunity to voice his/her opinion.*
2. The religious leaders thought that they did not need to repent of their sins because of their religion. They thought that they were good enough. John called these people sons of serpents. Is there anyone in the world who is religious enough or even good enough that they do not need to repent of their sins?

**\*The Bible says in Romans 3:23 that “All have sinned and have fallen short of the glory of God.”**

**\*Is there anyone in the world who does not have sin in their life? Is there anyone who has never disobeyed or defied God’s standard of behavior or attitude? The Bible says ‘No’. Do you agree with the Bible that we all have sin in our life? *Again, it is important to allow each person to have an opportunity to challenge God’s Words on this subject. As a leader, do not argue or let anyone else argue, but it is okay to let people voice their feelings.***

3. Jesus was baptized, but He being God never sinned.

This tells us that baptism is NOT a religious ritual that can take away the sins from a person’s life. If the purpose of baptism was to clean a person from sins, Jesus would not have been baptized because He, being God, has never sinned.

4. When Jesus raised from the waters the Holy Spirit descended upon him like a dove and God the Father spoke from heaven saying, “This is my beloved Son in whom I am well pleased.” Here we see the three persons of the Trinity. What are they?

### God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit.

5. Jesus was taken out to the desert to be tempted by Satan. Satan is real. He is a spirit who is in the world; along with many of his spirit followers called demons, and can bring destruction to our lives by leading us to disobedience of God. Just as Jesus was tempted, Satan also tempts us. But the Bible teaches that we, unlike Christ, are also tempted by wickedness that already exists in our hearts to do things that displease God, or sin.
6. The prophet Isaiah prophesied that Jesus would live in the way of the sea and that He would be a light to the people who were in darkness, to those who were living in the shadow of death.

All of us, without Christ, are in darkness, but maybe you or someone you love is living in the shadow of death. Some find themselves there because of drugs, others through immoral relationships, and still others are victims of violence. This verse tells us that Jesus came to give light to those of us in darkness, and He can give freedom to those who are living in the shadow of death.

\*In our prayer time today, let’s pray for those loved ones that are living in the shadow of death. May we find light and freedom in Jesus Christ.

## **THE GOOD NEWS OF JESUS**

By  
Christy A. Brawner

### **“The Miracles of Jesus”- Lesson 3** **Matthew 4-9**

**“Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men.”- Matthew 4:19**

#### **Review**

1. Who told Joseph about the coming of Jesus, and who told him that His name would be “Immanuel” or “God with us?” This teaches us that Jesus is \_\_\_\_\_ with us.
2. Who wanted to kill the little boy Jesus? Why? Jesus escaped because they fled to \_\_\_\_\_.
3. Who baptized Jesus? The fact that Jesus was to be baptized tells us that the function of baptism is not the cleaning of \_\_\_\_\_ in our lives.
4. When Jesus came out of the water, something like a dove came down from heaven, and a voice also spoke from heaven? Who was the dove and whose voice came from heaven?
5. The Pharisees thought that they didn’t need to repent of their sins because they were very religious. Is it possible for someone to be religious enough to eliminate his or her sins?
6. What does the word “repent” mean?
7. What is sin?
8. Who tempted Jesus in the desert?
9. Where did Jesus go after He left the desert?

While He was going along the Sea of Galilee, Jesus came upon two fishermen. He called them and said, “Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.” They immediately left their nets and followed Him. On

that day, Jesus called his first four disciples: Peter, Andrew, James, and John. All of them were fishermen.

Then Jesus went through all the province of Galilee teaching in the synagogues, preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and curing all kinds of sickness and disease among the people. A large multitude followed Him wherever He went.

A leper came to Jesus and proceeded to worship Him. He called to Jesus and said, "Lord if you are willing, You can make me clean." Jesus responded, "I am willing, be cleansed." Immediately the leper was cleansed.

A captain of the Roman army came to Jesus. This man came to ask Him to cure his servant who was paralyzed and tormented. He believed in Jesus' power to cure him. Jesus told him that many people of all nationalities would come eat together in the kingdom of heaven, and the servant was cured that same hour.

Another time, on the other side of the sea, there were two men possessed by demons. These men were so strong and ferocious that no one could hold them down or even walk by where they were. They lived among the tombs.

When they saw Jesus, the demons yelled out, "What have we to do with You, Jesus, You Son of God? Have You come here to torment us before the time?"

A pretty good way from where they were was a herd of pigs. The demons begged Jesus, "If You cast us out, permit us to go away into the herd of swine." Jesus said to them, "Go." The demons were immediately expelled from the men and entered into the pigs. The pigs in turn became possessed and crazed. They violently ran down the steep cliff crashing into the sea below. All the pigs drowned.

The owners of the pigs ran and told all the inhabitants of this particular city what Jesus had done, including what had happened to the demon-possessed men. The townspeople came out and asked Jesus to leave this region.

He left by boat, returning to His own city. Soon after this, He met a man named Matthew. Matthew worked for the government as a tax collector. Jesus said to him, "Follow Me." Matthew got up immediately and followed Him.

So Jesus and His followers went to eat dinner that night with the tax collectors and other people of bad reputation of the town. When the religious leaders, the Pharisees, saw this, they asked Jesus' disciples, "Why does your Teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?"

When Jesus heard this comment, He answered the Pharisees, "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. But go and learn what this means: 'I desire mercy, and not sacrifice.'" For I did not come to call the righteous, but sinners, to repentance."

### **Oral Questions**

1. What was the profession of the first disciples of Jesus?
2. What did they do when Jesus called them to follow Him?
3. Jesus was going into every part of Galilee and multitudes were following Him. What was He doing to call such attention to Himself?
4. What was the first healing recorded in the book of Matthew?
5. What was the Roman officer's servant's problem?
6. Where did the demon-possessed men live? What kind of men were these?
7. What did the demons do when they saw Jesus?
8. What happened to the demons when they left the men?
9. What happened to the pigs?
10. What was the reaction of the owners of the pigs?
11. What kind of man was Matthew?
12. Jesus ate dinner with what kind of people?
13. What did the Pharisees think of this?
14. What kind of answer did Jesus give to the Pharisees?

## Spiritual Truths- Lesson 3 **Matthew 4-9**

1. Jesus does not make any distinction between people.
  - Jesus' first disciples were fishermen, simple men without formal education.
  - The leper was a person who had been excluded from society because of a skin disease that left him disfigured and despised.
  - The Roman soldier's servant was a crippled person who had no money or position in society.
  - Matthew was a tax collector. Probably very rich, but a corrupt thief.
  - The demon possessed men were so despised by their countrymen that the townspeople preferred healthy pigs to these men being healed. They had actually lived among the tombs.

**\*But all these people were important and valuable to Jesus. You are a person of worth and value in the eyes of God. Your past, your finances, your appearance or your place in society do not mean anything to God.**

2. Jesus has power to cure our diseases. What are the examples in the story of people being cured?
3. Jesus has power over every spirit or demon. There are people who have become involved with demons or spirits, many times because they are trying to do things that are good. But before they know what has happened to them, these demons have taken over their lives. They are followed and tortured by these demons that never leave them alone. These people have no power to get rid of these demons from their lives. **Jesus has authority and power over EVERY demon and spirit in the world. We can have freedom from evil spirits ONLY through Jesus Christ.**
4. Jesus loves people of bad reputation. He accepts all sinners. Jesus

does not condemn people, but His desire is to bring every person to repentance and true forgiveness.

5. The religious people, or Pharisees, did not repent of their sins, and thought they were better than the other sinners who were eating with Jesus. What is better: to be a big sinner who has been forgiven, or a person with few sins but who refuses to repent?
  - It is far better to be a big sinner who has been forgiven.

Jesus accepts us and loves us just the way we are. It does not matter to Him if we are terrible sinners, if we are poor, if we have little education, if we have lots of problems or if we have physical illnesses. In His Eyes, we are all the same. The important thing is for us to repent and follow Him.

## THE GOOD NEWS OF JESUS

By  
Christy A. Brawner

### “The Teachings of Jesus”- Lesson 4 **Matthew 10-16**

**“I desire mercy, and not sacrifice.” Matthew 12:7**

#### **Review**

1. Jesus was born of a Jewish woman named \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Wise men from the Orient were able to find Jesus because they were following a \_\_\_\_\_.
3. The wise men did not return to Herod’s palace because they were warned by God in a \_\_\_\_\_ to return home another way.
4. John the Baptist lived in the desert preaching and \_\_\_\_\_ those people who confessed their sins.
5. What does the word “repent,” mean?
6. When Jesus was baptized, the \_\_\_\_\_ descended to earth like a dove, and a voice from heaven spoke. This demonstrates for us the three persons of God: God the \_\_\_\_\_, God the \_\_\_\_\_, and God the \_\_\_\_\_. We call this the Trinity.
7. In the desert, Jesus was tempted by \_\_\_\_\_.
8. The first disciples of Jesus were \_\_\_\_\_ by profession.
9. Jesus encountered two men who were possessed with demons. How did Jesus help these men? How did the townspeople react to Jesus’ action?
10. The Pharisees criticized Jesus because He ate with what kind of people?
11. Is it better to be a big sinner who has repented, or a person with few sins but an unrepentant heart?



Jesus called twelve men to be His disciples, meaning to be close to Him and be trained by Him. He gave these twelve men power over evil spirits, and He gave them power to cure all kinds of diseases. He told them that they must give freely, for freely they had received. And Judas Iscariot was among these men who were sent out.

Jesus sent them to every corner of the country of Israel in order to call the Jewish people to repentance and faith in Jesus Christ. Jesus gave these men a message, “Whoever confesses Me before men, him I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven. But whoever denies Me before men, him I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven.”

And Jesus Himself went all over Galilee teaching, preaching and healing all kinds of diseases. But the people of Galilee, those with whom He had spent so much of His time rejected His message. The city of Capernaum, where He had begun His public ministry rejected Him. And in seeing this, Jesus went to speak to His Father, and these were His words:

“I thank you Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that You have hidden these things from the wise and prudent and have revealed them to babes. Even so, Father, for so it seemed good in Your sight. All things have been delivered to me by My Father, and no one knows the Son except the Father. Nor does anyone know the Father, except the Son, and the one to whom the Son wills to reveal Him. Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For My yoke is easy and My burden is light.”

After saying these things, Jesus with His disciples went past some wheat fields, and this was on a Sabbath. His disciples were hungry, so they stopped, pick some wheat and ate.

The Pharisees, remember these were the religious leaders, saw this and accused them because it is against the Jewish law to work on the Sabbath. Jesus answered them saying that they still did not understand the law of God because the Scriptures say, “I desire mercy, and not sacrifice.”

From the wheat fields, Jesus and the disciples went to the Jewish synagogue, and there they met a man with a withered hand. Jesus asked that man to stretch out his hand, and He cured him there in the synagogue in plain view on the Sabbath.

The Pharisees, outraged, left that place and formed a council in order to plot against Jesus to kill Him. Jesus, knowing what they were planning, also left that place. But a multitude followed Him, so He cured all of them asking them to keep from turning Him in.

And Jesus continued working in this region for a while longer teaching the people and healing their diseases. Twice the people followed Him out into the wilderness staying there long stretches of time listening to His words without even eating. Twice, Jesus took less than seven loaves of bread and a few fish and fed over four thousand people.

While still working in Galilee, Jesus explained clearly to His followers that He would soon be going to Jerusalem, and horrible things would happen there. He told them that He would have to suffer many things in the hands of the Jewish leaders, that He would be killed, but that three days later He would rise again unto life.

### Oral Questions

1. What was the assignment that Jesus gave His disciples?
2. What did Jesus say He would do for those people who confessed Him before men, and what about those who denied Him before men?
3. How did the inhabitants of Capernaum, as well as many other cities in Galilee where He had performed most of His miracles, react to Jesus' message?
4. Jesus said for all those who are weary and heavy-laden to come to Him. What does He promise to do for these people?
5. Why did Jesus and His disciples stop in the wheat fields?
6. Why were the Pharisees critical of Jesus for gathering wheat?
7. Why were the Pharisees against Jesus healing the man with the withered hand?
8. What was the purpose of the council created by the Jewish leaders?
9. Jesus told His followers that certain things were going to happen to Him. What was His prophecy?