

THE FIFTH GRADE

COURSE is planned to meet the needs and abilities of fifth graders. This is an exciting study that involves teachers and students in learning that the Old Testament Scriptures point to Jesus Christ.

Inquisitive, eager fifth graders need special Bible teaching. This **Teacher's Manual** includes step-by-step teacher training helps, practical suggestions for early-time activities and a variety of methods for involving the pupil in a meaningful study of God's Word.

The **Multi-media Packet** correlated with this course is easy to use. Projected and non-projected visuals add interest and vividly illustrate Bible truths.

The colorful **Student Book** for this course is a biblical resource and personal Bible study guide (with tear out lesson study pages), providing information and activities to stimulate study and make Bible truths more relevant.

The **Bible Memory Marathon** is the correlated memory program planned for fifth graders. This lively Olympic theme will challenge pupils to "press toward the mark" in memorizing the Word of God with understanding.



Ruth Bathauer

RUTH BATHAUER, EDITOR
Junior Department Grade 5
JAMES PADGETT, ILLUSTRATOR



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LORD OF MY LIFE

This year's course offers an opportunity to teach fifth graders through sequential studies in the Old and New Testaments that Christ is the central figure of the entire Bible. It reminds the pupil of God's plan for his people Israel, and of his plan of redemption for all who believe in Jesus Christ, the Messiah of Old Testament prophecies. Personal use of the Bible is encouraged through a Bible study guide for the pupil which is graded to the best educational standards for his grade and ability. With these tools you have the opportunity to bring the pupil, guided by the Holy Spirit, to give his life to Jesus Christ and trust him for his every need.

This quarter your pupils will study about Christ's last week here upon earth. Before coming into the fifth grade they completed a study on the life of Christ which led

up to the Passion Week. The material in this quarter now builds upon the fourth grade study. Step by step the pupil will follow Christ from the time of the triumphal entry into Jerusalem, through the arrest and trial of Christ, the death and resurrection of Christ, and finally, to Christ's ascension. A unique time line tabletop project of the Passion Week will enrich the study. (See photograph, page 3.)

The aim of the quarter is to teach the pupil that Jesus Christ our Saviour also wants to become our Lord. The pupil will be challenged to become a member of God's family by receiving the Lord Jesus Christ as Saviour, and led by the Holy Spirit, be encouraged to grow in knowledge and understanding of God's Word, as related to his day-by-day experiences.

There are three units in this quarter's study. Be sure to read the full description given at the beginning of each unit. (See pages 4, 20 and 39.)

OUTLINE OF PUPIL ACTIVITIES AND TEACHING TOOLS

TITLES AND SCRIPTURES	SUGGESTED ACTIVITIES	TEACHING TOOLS
1 CHRIST IS HAILED KING Luke 19:28-44; John 12:1,2,12-19	Make tabletop project of Jerusalem; browse through missionary books, look at pictures, read letters; list prayer needs or write letters to missionary; have group reading of Psalm 24; make name cards.	Visual aid book; Split/35 filmstrip; brown wrapping paper; cardboard or poster board; 12"x18" construction paper, ruler, crayons, cellophane tape, white glue, scissors, yarn, clay, sand, toothpicks; missionary pictures, letters, books, paper and pencils; 3"x5" cards.
2 JESUS ESTABLISHES THE LORD'S SUPPER Luke 19:41-48; 22:1-23	Illustrate Bible passage with sketches, a poem or paragraph; make a diorama of Jesus entering Jerusalem; continue tabletop project; make a folder for pupils' tear sheets.	Visual aid book; paper and pencils; large shoe box, construction paper, clay, pipe cleaners, cloth bits, scissors, crayons, cellophane tape, paste; materials for continue tabletop project.
3 THE ARREST AND TRIAL OF JESUS John 18:1-19:16	Plan and present a review drama; complete diorama; continue tabletop project.	Visual aid book; Split/35 filmstrip; materials to complete diorama; materials to continue tabletop project.
4 JESUS DIED AND AROSE Luke 23:26-53; John 19:17-42	Sing favorite Easter hymns; discover three names given to place of Jesus' crucifixion; continue tabletop project.	Visual aid book; collection of Easter hymns; chalkboard, chalk; materials to continue tabletop project.
5 CHRIST IS ALIVE Luke 24:13-45; John 20; Acts 1:6-11	Write reports for review; sing familiar Easter songs; continue tabletop project.	Visual aid book; paper and pencils; "Everyone Sings" and "Sunday School Songs"; materials to continue tabletop project.
6 BECOMING A MEMBER OF GOD'S FAMILY John 3:1-21; Acts 16:16-34	Match statements to person for review; make a 3-D folder of Christ's ascension; complete tabletop project; review memory verses for first unit.	Visual aid book; Split/35 filmstrip; 3"x5" cards, two boxes; 12"x18" cardboard, construction paper, ruler, scissors, paste; materials to complete tabletop project; memory verse cards, pocket chart.
7 GROWING THROUGH BIBLE STUDY Matt. 4:3-11; Col. 3:16; II Tim. 2:15; 3:15-17; I Peter 2:1-3	Examine Bible helps and purpose of concordance; examine various translations and paraphrases of the New Testament; browse through library books; make a poster.	Visual aid book; concordance; various translations and paraphrases of the New Testament; a book display from church library; magazines, construction paper, paste, scissors, felt pens.
8 LEARNING TO PRAY Matthew 6:5-15; Luke 11:1-10; 18:10-14	Write a poem or psalm of thanksgiving; look up references to find the times that Jesus prayed; use concordance to find Bible references to the word "prayed."	Visual aid book; chalkboard and chalk; pictures of a rosary and Buddha prayer wheels; paper, pencils; concordance, large sheet of paper.
9 LEARNING TO TALK ABOUT CHRIST Matt. 28:16-20; Acts 1:8; 4:13-22; 11:19-26	Sing song of testimony; define the word "thankfulness" and illustrate by making a collage; make a neighborhood map mural.	Visual aid book; "Everyone Sings" or other hymn-book; white poster board, magazines, scissors, paste, felt pen; large sheet white butcher paper or newsprint; colored pencils or crayons, rulers.
10 LEARNING TO GIVE TO GOD Matthew 22:15-22; Mark 12:41-44; Luke 21:1-4; Acts 4:32-5:10	Illustrate ways to witness in your neighborhood on the map mural; find and mount pictures to illustrate governmental services in your community; list ways our offerings are used in God's work.	Visual aid book; Split/35 filmstrip; picture of your church; materials to complete neighborhood map mural; magazines, construction paper, scissors, paste; chalkboard, chalk.
11 GOD WANTS ME TO SHOW KINDNESS AND LOVE Luke 10:25-37; John 13:34,35	Find and mount pictures of various racial and cultural groups; make favors for hospital or old people's home; make joyballs for sick children; make tape recording of worship service; make short-story scrapbook for hospital ward.	Visual aid book; magazines, construction paper; used greeting cards, ribbon, artificial flowers, 5"-6" paper doilies; pinking scissors, crepe paper, gospel tracts, Bible pictures or verses, small toys or favors; tape recorder.
12 GOD WANTS ME TO BE UNSELFISH AND FORGIVING Matthew 18:21,22; Luke 15:11-32	Review memory verses with memory verse cards; unscramble memory verse phrases; make a panel picture to review last week's lesson.	Visual aid book; memory verse cards, pocket chart; chalkboard, chalk; felt pens or crayons, scissors, black construction paper, 13"x48" shelf paper, Plasti-Tak or cellophane tape.
13 GOD WANTS ME TO BE PATIENT WITH OTHERS Luke 10:38-42; John 15:1-14	Make definition for word "patience" and illustrate; review memory verses for the quarter; make diorama scenes for class review.	Visual aid book; white construction paper or newsprint; pencils, crayons; memory verse cards, pocket chart; diorama box, pipe cleaners, cloth scraps, construction paper, lightweight cardboard, Easter grass, twigs, toothpicks, clay.

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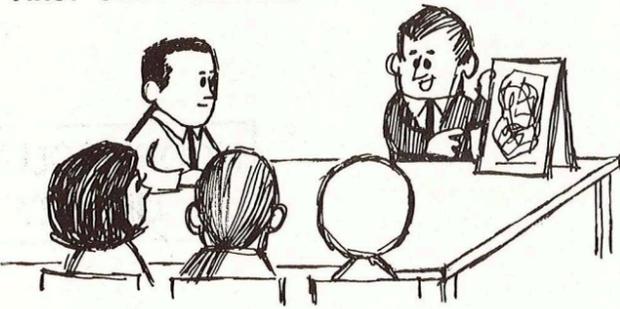
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FOURTH GRADE	FIFTH GRADE	SIXTH GRADE
COURSE 1 Title: Stories of the Beginnings Scripture: Gen. 1:1-18:16 The Bible is God's holy and inspired Word written for all people and all times. Christ, the eternal God and Creator of all things, has a plan for our salvation.	COURSE 1 Title: Lord of My Life Scripture: Luke; John; Acts Christ who gave Himself willingly to become the Saviour of all who believe, must also become Lord of life. The Bible contains the pattern of growth for each believer.	COURSE 1 Title: The Decline of a Nation Scripture: I Kings 11-II Kings 7; selections from II Chronicles The kingdom of Israel is divided. During this time the Israelites failed God many times, but God was faithful. The Lord Jesus is the stronghold for believers; He is faithful in guiding pupils to Christian maturity.
COURSE 2 Title: Old Testament Heroes Scripture: Gen. 18:16-50:26; Job 1-42 God worked out His plan in the lives of great men who trusted in Him. Christ has a plan for our lives and helps us at all times.	COURSE 2 Title: Men of Courage Scripture: Selections from Numbers 20-Judges 8 Joshua led the Israelites into the Promised Land. God gave them victory when they trusted and obeyed Him. God helps us when we trust and obey Him.	COURSE 2 Title: To Captivity and Back Scripture: I Kings, Chap. 11-25; II Chronicles, Chapters 22-36. Additional selections from the Old Testament to complete the chronological study for Juniors. God was patient and loving in warning His people; when they failed, He punished them. A new covenant of redemption was established by God in Christ Jesus.
COURSE 3 Title: Adventures in the Wilderness Scripture: Exod. 1:1-Num. 14:45 God delivered His people from bondage. He gave them the Law and the pattern of the Tabernacle. Christ is our deliverer and the fulfillment of the Law.	COURSE 3 Title: Adventures with New Leaders Scripture: Selections from Judges 13-I Samuel 18 God worked through leaders who committed their lives to Him. Christ wants first place in our lives. He will honor and bless those who are committed to Him.	COURSE 3 Title: The Birth of the Church Scripture: Acts, Chapters 1-28 God established the church through people who obeyed Him. The Holy Spirit was upon those early Christians as the church of Christ spread. Each believer has an opportunity to serve the Lord in his own church.
COURSE 4 Title: Jesus, the Son of God Scripture: Matt.; Luke; John Christ is God's beloved Son, the Lord Jesus. The Lord Jesus Christ came in fulfillment of the prophecies to save us from sin.	COURSE 4 Title: One Nation Under God Scripture: I Samuel 23-II Chronicles 9 David and Solomon became two of Israel's greatest kings. God used the two men to lead the nation, Israel. God leads and guides those who serve Him.	COURSE 4 Title: Followers of the Way Scripture: Selections from The New Testament Lesser known New Testament personalities who had a vital part in the growth and development of the early church will be studied. Pupils will discover anew the meaning of being a Christian and having a vital role in the church today.

PLANNING THIS QUARTER

FIRST STAFF MEETING



Attention Departmental Leader: The following suggestions will help you plan the work in your department for Unit I. Below is a check list of items to take care of *before* the first staff meeting.

- Schedule a meeting of your staff before the first Sunday of this quarter.
- Distribute teacher's book, pupil's book and visual aid kit to each teacher and associate teacher. Ask them to bring these items to the meeting.
- Ask the memory work chairman or a teacher to present the memory work program.
- Assign a teacher to make up a visual aid book for the first five lessons and be ready to show it at the meeting.
- Ask all teachers to read through lessons 1-5.
- Make arrangements to have a projector on hand to preview the Split/35 filmstrip to be used in Unit I. Use either the Split/35 projector or a 35mm projector with an adapter. (Adapter and Split/35 projector are available from your Sunday School supplier.)

At the First Staff Meeting

1. Begin on time. Open the meeting with prayer. Read Philippians 2:5-11.
2. Become familiar with the aim for the quarter (51) and discuss aims of the five lessons in Unit I.
3. Make plans to use the Split/35 filmstrip with Lesson 1 to introduce the unit.
4. Introduce plans for making the time line tabletop project of the city of Jerusalem showing the events of the Passion Week. Become well acquainted with the instructions for making the project.
5. Select the early teaching time activities you will use with your groups.
6. Discuss the value of early time activities and how the pupils are stimulated through these activities.
7. Introduce the memory work program for the fifth graders. Show the Memory Work Marathon wall poster and become acquainted with the requirements and awards.
8. Examine the pupil's book and explain how it will be used.
9. Discuss other departmental matters.
10. Close in prayer.

SECOND STAFF MEETING

Before the Staff Meeting

- Plan second staff meeting before teaching Units II and III.
- Ask a teacher to make up a visual aid book for these two units.

- Make preparations to preview Split/35 filmstrip, frames 12-22, to be used in Lesson 10.
- Assign a teacher to read "Handling Discipline Problems"—a section found in chapter five of the book, *Teaching That Makes a Difference*, listed on page 25.

At the Staff Meeting

1. Begin on time with prayer. Read Romans 12:1-8.
2. Discuss aims for next two units. These units are especially related to the life of fifth graders. Think through some of the problems the fifth graders in your local church face.
3. Have teacher show made-up visual aid book.
4. Preview frames 12-22 of the Split/35 filmstrip for Lesson 10.
5. Have teacher report on "Handling Discipline Problems." Encourage group to discuss such questions as:
 - What are some causes of discipline problems?
 - What do you consider a discipline problem?
 - What are some discipline problems in your group?
 - What steps can be taken to help solve the problems?
6. Discuss other departmental matters.
7. Close in prayer.

EARLY TEACHING TIME

One of the new features of great potential in this course is the Early Teaching Time activity suggested in each lesson.

What Is It?

It is that period between the time when your early pupil first arrives and the formal beginning of Sunday School. During this informal period of learning, you may help the pupil select and become involved in an early time activity.



Why Have Early Teaching Time?

Early teaching time provides extra teaching time. If you will use just 15 minutes for these activities each Sunday, you will add 13 hours of teaching time a year. All activities are correlated to the lesson; thus as soon as the pupil arrives, constructive learning begins.

These activities cut down on discipline problems. Busy, energetic pupils will get into less trouble than idle ones.

Early time activities encourage pupils to come on time. No junior will want to miss exciting and interesting things going on in Sunday School.

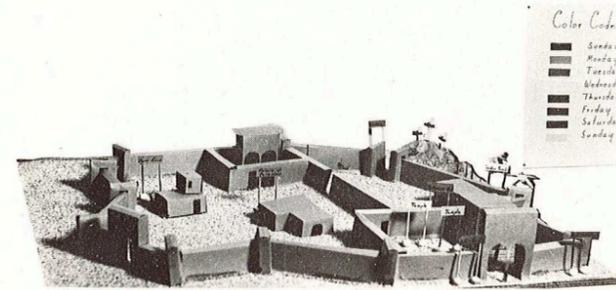
How Is Early Teaching Time Conducted?

You will not need to use all suggestions. Select only those activities most useful to your group. Pupils will be working on some activities in groups and on others as individuals. Some of these will extend over a period of several weeks.

You, as the teacher, are responsible for the activities. Work with the department superintendent in conducting this extended teaching period.

A TIME LINE PROJECT

One of the exciting early time learning experiences the fifth grader may have this quarter is to build a model of the city of Jerusalem on a table top. (See photograph.) This is a combination of a tabletop project and a time line.



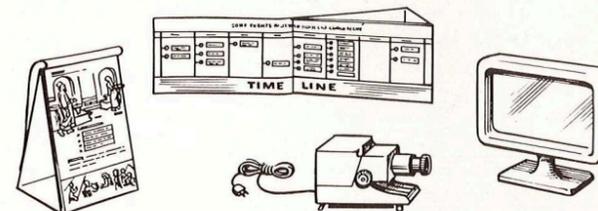
The pupil will build the city walls and then add such places of interest as the city gates, the Temple, the upper room, the judgment hall, the hill of Calvary and others. A card containing a color code may be attached to the wall behind the tabletop project. The color code will be used to show the days of the Passion Week and to show what events occurred on each specific day. The pupils will make colorful signposts to correspond to the color code and place them on the project. For example, the pupils will place a purple-colored signpost at the Golden Gate to indicate the Triumphal Entry took place on Sunday. Pupils are also encouraged to write brief summaries of each event.

Complete directions are given in Early Teaching Time in Lessons 1 through 6. Familiarize yourself with construction plans well in advance. This can be an enjoyable learning experience as the pupils trace the events of the Passion Week.

VISUAL AID KIT

Pupils learn by doing, seeing and hearing. Your visual aid kit has been designed to help your pupils learn by using these three senses. The visual aid kit contains a large colorful visual aid book to be used as a flip chart to provide a variety of ways to present the lesson truths. (See sketch.)

Materials and instructions for making an easel for the flip chart are included in the kit. Two pages of precut figures and wordstrips are also included, plus complete instructions for visualizing the lessons. A large time line in the book will help the fifth grader follow the events of the Passion Week.



One of the most exciting features of the visual aid kit is the addition of the Split/35 lesson strips which will enable you to project colorful pictures on a screen in your classroom. Use the lesson strip as a tool—

- to stimulate interest
- to clarify concepts of Bible times and customs
- for review
- to introduce a unit
- to create a lasting impression.

HOW TO USE THE PUPIL'S BOOK

The fifth grade pupil's book is designed to stimulate interest in Bible study. Pupils should do the work in their books *after* the lesson has been taught to help them retain familiar truth by review and application. There is a list of daily Bible reading for the fifth grader to follow. As he reads his Bible daily he may check the squares in the list to show his progress.

This unique book is a resource-workbook combination which provides information as well as workbook activities. The first two pages of each lesson provide additional reading enrichment material related to the lesson such as Bible background material, pictures, stories, Bible reading from recent translations and maps. The last page (front and back) of each lesson is a tear-out sheet providing workbook activities.

After the pupil has read the Bible readings each day he is to complete the worksheet and hand it in to you each Sunday. You will take the worksheet home, check it and return it to the pupils the following Sunday. This method of checking will give you a clearer idea of your pupil's progress and understanding. It will create an interest for the pupil when he realizes that his work is checked each week. Suggestions are given in the pupil's book for ways to file and keep the corrected worksheets.

If you desire, you may give each pupil an achievement score on his work each week. Grading may be done either by marking the worksheets "excellent," "satisfactory," or "poor," or if you prefer you may grade on a percentage basis. Be generous in your comments and fair in your grading. If you give a grade of "poor" be sure to discuss the errors with the pupil. Make sure he understands where he made the error. You may wish to raise the grade of a pupil who will correct his errors.



HOW TO PREPARE YOUR LESSON

Pray daily for divine guidance that God may speak to you through his Word (Psalm 119:18). Pray that the Holy Spirit may prepare the pupils' hearts.

Begin your preparation in ample time. There is no substitute for preparation.

Read the Scripture portion. Become acquainted with the unit aims and the lesson aims. You are teaching pupils, not material—think how these aims might be adapted to meet the needs of your pupils. Discover how each lesson fits into the unit. Prepare the visual aids. Do the work in the pupil's book. Preview any filmstrips to be used with the lesson. Use resource materials. Consult a good Bible dictionary and other translations (see bibliography, page 25).

Choose the early time activities most suitable to your group. Make sure all necessary supplies are on hand.

Decide how you will involve the pupils in the class sessions. Pupils learn best when they become involved.

Decide which points of the Bible study apply most directly to the individuals in your class.

Pray for your pupils as individuals. Depend upon the Lord who has commanded you to "Go . . . teach." Claim his promise, *lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world* (Matthew 28:20).

UNIT I THE LAST DAYS OF CHRIST ON EARTH

UNIT AIM

To teach that Jesus Christ, God's Son, gave himself as a willing sacrifice for sin in accordance with God's great plan.

UNIT AT A GLANCE

In the five lessons of Unit I the pupils will trace the footsteps of Jesus Christ during the Passion Week. The unit begins with the study of the triumphal entry to show these events were the fulfillment of Old Testament prophecy. During the study the pupils will make

a unique tabletop time line of the city of Jerusalem. A color code will show where the events of the Passion Week occurred. (See photograph, page 3.) An S/35 filmstrip, included in the visual aid kit, may be used in Lesson 1 to create interest in this well-known portion of Christ's life. At the first showing of the eleven frames pupils will be encouraged to list questions on newsprint to be answered as the study progresses. At the conclusion of Unit I, in Lesson 6, the questions will be examined again and pupils will see how many of the questions have been answered. Show the filmstrip again in Lesson 6 to give a full picture of the Passion Week.

LESSON 1

CHRIST IS HAILED KING

PREPARATION

TEACHING AIMS

Teach so pupil may
KNOW that the events of the triumphal entry were the fulfillment of Old Testament prophecy;
RESPOND by realizing that God is beyond our understanding, but we can trust him.

MEMORY VERSE

For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts. Isaiah 55:8,9

SCRIPTURE

Luke 19:28-44; John 12:1,2,12-19

THINK ON THESE THINGS

The Jews, who recoiled under the bonds of Roman rule, knew well the prophecies of the Messiah who was to bring deliverance and once again establish David's throne (Psalm 132:11; Isaiah 2:4; 9:6,7; Daniel 7:14). In Christ they hoped for the fulfillment of these prophecies. Surely, this one who healed the sick and raised the dead would bring deliverance.

However, Christ refused to heed their cry, "Hosanna" or "save now." He knew that man's desire for deliverance from physical oppression must not be substituted for the deliverance which he alone could bring from the power of sin (Heb. 12:2). Man's limited understanding could never comprehend why the cross must come before the crown.

We often are like those who gaily cried, "Hosanna!" We desire immediate deliverance from distress, many times unaware that God may have a better plan that involves a factor unknown to us. The obvious solution to our problems may be no real solution at all. Remember always, that his way is best although you may not know why (Rom. 8:28). Lean confidently on the Lord in times of trouble, recalling

his words, *For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD* (Isa. 55:8).

TEACHING TOOLS

- Visual aid book; wordstrips 1 and 2. (See inside front cover of visual aid book for instructions.)
- Projector and screen for viewing the S/35 filmstrip LF-51. (Preview and study the script. It will be most effective if the information can be given and the questions asked conversationally as the pupils view the pictures.)
- Materials needed for tabletop project of Jerusalem: Large piece brown wrapping paper, stiff cardboard or poster board, colored construction paper (12"x18"), ruler, crayons, cellophane tape, white glue, scissors, yarn, clay, toothpicks, sand, 5"x7" card.
- Pictures and letters from missionary family sponsored by your Sunday School or church; books about mission area; paper and pencils.



EARLY TEACHING TIME

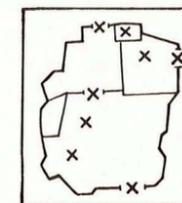
CHOOSE what is best for your class.

Have pupils begin a tabletop project showing the city of Jerusalem. Locate places of activities leading up to the Crucifixion. A color code will show when each event took place. This project will continue for five weeks.

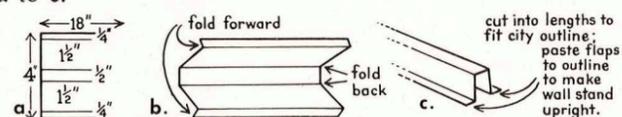
For the base, tape or staple a large piece of brown wrapping paper to stiff cardboard or poster board 24"x30". Have pupils make an outline of city wall with pencil. (See sketch

or project the first frame of S/35 filmstrip LF-51 which shows the city of Jerusalem in the time of Jesus.) Mark an "X" on the base for the following: Temple and court, upper room, high priest's palace, Pilate's judgment hall and the city gates. (See sketch.) Have other pupils prepare a color code to show when each event took place. List the days of the week on a card. Paste a strip of colored construction paper beside each day of the week. Attach color code to wall behind tabletop project or to front of table edge.

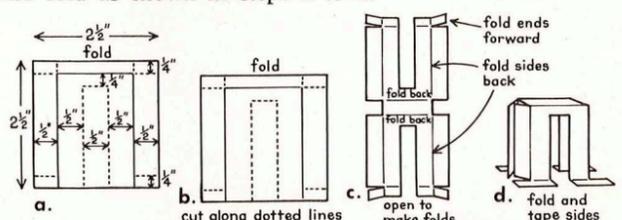
Color Code	
(purple)	Sunday
(orange)	Monday
(green)	Tuesday
(blue)	Wednesday
(brown)	Thursday
(red)	Friday
(black)	Saturday
(yellow)	Sunday



To make city walls, cut 4"x18" strips of beige or brown construction paper; measure and fold lines as shown in steps a to c.

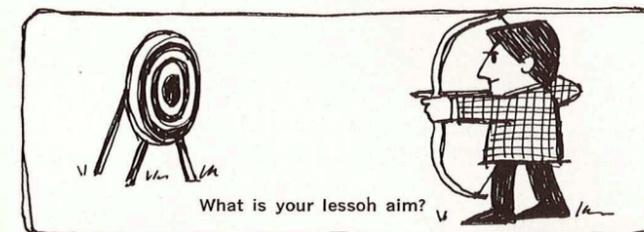


To make wall posts, fold beige or brown construction paper lengthwise 2 1/2" from edge; cut into 2 1/2" squares; cut and fold as shown in steps a to d.



Join the wall seams together by placing a post over each one; tape flaps down securely.

- Let pupils browse through books, look at pictures of your missionaries and read letters to become better acquainted with mission needs. Pupils may choose either to list specific prayer requests or write letters to a missionary.
- Divide students into two groups and let both groups practice reading aloud Psalm 24 as follows: Read verses 1,2 in unison; Group I asks questions and Group II reads answers in verses 3,4,8 and 10. Omit verses 5,6; read verses 7-9 in unison. Let entire group give the reading in the opening worship service.



CLASS TIME

Spend some time to become acquainted. Introduce yourself and let pupils give their names. If you prefer, pupils may make name cards by writing their names on 3"x5" cards and wearing them. Refer frequently to their name cards and you will learn their names rapidly. Begin now to

discover their interests, and let them feel your warm concern for each one.

Take roll and make any necessary announcements. Take the offering if it has not been received during the worship service. Explain the class procedure and let pupils suggest rules for good conduct. Let them suggest conduct rules for the class.

Before distributing the pupil's book for the new quarter clip the "Letter to Parents," and mail it.



PRAYER

Open with prayer, asking for God's guidance as you teach.

Use frames 1-11 of S/35 filmstrip LF-51 to introduce this lesson and the four that follow. If the projector or the filmstrip is not available, follow lesson in your book. The purpose of this tool is to give the pupils an overview and bring out questions about the last week of Jesus' earthly ministry. This can also be done with materials in the pupil's book, the visual aid book, conversation, or a combination of these items.

As the pupils ask questions, you may want to write them out on newsprint or chalkboard. In these first five lessons, you will help them discover the answers to their questions, so that by Lesson 6 when you show the filmstrip again for review, your pupils will be able to discuss the pictures and the answers to the questions.

If you cannot show the S/35 filmstrip now, show it the first Sunday that you can.

POINT OF CONTACT

Excitement is contagious. When one person is excited about something, he often talks about it until others, too, become excited.

How many of you have watched a presidential election on television? Think of the excitement of the crowd at the election headquarters. As the election draws to a close, and even before all votes are counted, the people are eager to see their candidate. Again and again the announcement is made that the president-elect will soon appear. Each time loud, joyous cheers go up from the crowd.

At last the long awaited moment arrives. The announcement is made that the president-elect has arrived at the election headquarters. Excitement increases as the crowd of people and newspaper reporters push toward the door. As the hero steps from an automobile, the television cameras get his picture on the screen, people cheer and wave, lights flash as newsmen take pictures—everyone wants to see and greet the new leader!

BIBLE LESSON

When Jesus was here on earth, many people, too, wanted to greet him as their new leader and king.

It was springtime and time for the Passover Feast in the beautiful city of Jerusalem. As the people from the surrounding areas made ready to go to the feast, there was a feeling of excitement everywhere, a feeling that something exciting would happen at the feast. Some of the people felt sure that at last the time had come for Jesus to declare himself king and claim his throne in Jerusalem at the Passover Feast.

Jesus, in the meantime, continued in his work. He knew that the time for his death on the cross was very near. Jesus and his disciples were in Jericho, but they too planned to go to Jerusalem to the feast.

The journey from Jericho to Jerusalem would take six to eight hours. It was a stretch of 17 miles up hill all the way. Jericho was about 825 feet below sea level, and the Mount of Olives, which had to be crossed at Jerusalem, was 2600 feet above sea level.

Six days before the Passover Feast, Jesus came from Jericho to Bethany and stayed at the home of Mary, Martha and Lazarus. (See John 12:1.) What do you remember that Jesus did for Lazarus? (Raised him from the dead) Bethany was about two miles from Jerusalem. Perhaps Jesus stayed in Bethany each night during the feast, and went to Jerusalem during the day. Feelings of hatred were high and it was very dangerous for him to be in Jerusalem.

Many of the Jews heard that Jesus was in Bethany, so they rushed out to see him. They also wanted to see Lazarus for here was a living proof of Jesus' power. Can't you imagine how the excitement grew as people went to their homes and reported they had actually seen Lazarus living, breathing, and very much alive! No wonder many of the people wanted to make Jesus their king.

When the chief priests saw what was happening they decided they would have to kill Lazarus. Now their plot for killing included not only Jesus, but also Lazarus. Lazarus, just by being alive, was an excellent witness to Christ. The Jewish rulers were afraid of what might happen if Jesus' following became too strong.

An Errand for Two

It was perhaps about sundown on Friday before the Passover Feast when Jesus arrived at Bethany, and he spent the Sabbath day there. Early on the morning after the Sabbath, on Palm Sunday, he and his disciples went from Bethany to Jerusalem.

Many people, plus his disciples, followed Jesus that day. They watched him closely. Possibly they asked one another in soft whispers, "Will he announce that he is king when he gets to Jerusalem?" One of the strongest desires of the people was that Jesus would overthrow the Roman government and set up his kingdom. They suffered great hardship under the Roman government, and they felt their lives would be completely different if Jesus became their king.

Soon after Jesus and the people started their journey to Jerusalem, Jesus stopped and sent two of his disciples, probably Peter and John, to the village of Bethphage on an errand. Bethphage was about one mile east of Jerusalem. Jesus said, *Go ye into the village over against you; in the which at your entering ye shall find a colt tied, whereon yet never man sat: loose him, and bring him hither* (Luke 19:30).

Perhaps the disciples and those who heard Jesus ask for a colt watched him even more closely. They were well acquainted with the teaching of Old Testament prophets who said that the Messiah would ride into Jerusalem on a colt. The Bible says it this way, *Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion; shout, O daughter of Jerusalem: behold, thy King cometh unto thee: he is just, and having salvation; lowly, and riding upon an ass, and upon a colt the foal of an ass* (Zechariah 9:9). You can imagine why the excitement would increase!

Before the disciples left for Bethphage Jesus further said, "If anyone asks you why you are untying the colt, tell them the Lord has need of it." Jesus was only borrowing the colt for that particular day and would return it. (See Mark 11:3.)

The two disciples obeyed Jesus, went to the village and found everything exactly as the Lord said. There by the roadside was a colt tied by the side of its mother. As the two men began to untie the animal its owner asked, "Why are you untying the colt?" The disciples remembered what Jesus told them. "The Lord has need of it," they said. Because the Lord is the Son of God, he knows everything that has happened, and what will happen. That is why he knew what the owners would ask.

The colt was taken back to Jesus and the disciples placed their cloaks upon the colt's back. Then Jesus sat upon the colt and the group made their way into Jerusalem to the Passover Feast.

It was customary for a king or a person of royalty to

ride a donkey. The donkey was an animal of peace, while the horse was a symbol of war. Jesus riding on the donkey was a sign that he was coming in peace, not in war.

Jesus Greeted as King

The excitement was stronger than ever now. Jesus was acting like a king by riding on the donkey. Surely this was the day the people would see and hear Jesus proclaim himself as the king! Some placed their garments upon the roadside as a carpet on which the donkey walked.

Perhaps some people ran on ahead into Jerusalem with the exciting news that Jesus had asked for a donkey! Any minute they could expect Jesus to ride into the city. This was the day they had waited for! The excitement in Jerusalem was so great, many people dashed out of the city and ran down the road to meet Jesus. As they went they took branches from palm trees, waved the branches and kept shouting praises, *Hosanna: Blessed is the King of Israel that cometh in the name of the Lord* (John 12:13). The word "hosanna" means "save now."

As the group from Jerusalem met the group from Bethany, the shouts of praise became stronger. Gradually the long procession went up and over the ridge of the Mount of Olives. At this point they caught the first glimpse of the city below, and again they sang and shouted praises to Jesus. On they went across the valley of Kidron and finally to the city of Jerusalem. All the way, Jesus was greeted and saluted as the King of Israel, who had come from the Lord.

God's Plan

As the people saw each event of the day, they supposed it was as it was recorded in the Old Testament prophecies concerning the Messiah. The prophets said Jesus would do many miracles including healing the sick (see Isaiah 35:5,6) and raise the dead. Just before the feast, some of the people had seen Jesus cause blind Bartimeus to see; some had seen Jesus raise Lazarus from the dead. Jesus rode into the city on a donkey colt exactly as the Bible said (from Zechariah 9:9). He rode through the golden gate of the city. (See Ezekiel 43:1-4.) (Point to picture A in visual aid book, page 1.)

If they had made a list of all that the Messiah would do, they could have checked off each point. Now the people thought they knew exactly what Jesus would do next. They believed he would ride into the city, proclaim himself King of Israel, set up his kingdom at once, and release them from the bonds of the Roman government. Perhaps that is why they were singing and chanting the words they used. Turn to Psalm 118:25,26 and compare these two verses with John 12:13.

Step by step, Jesus did what the prophets said, but only to a point. He did not set up his kingdom at once as they expected. I wonder why he didn't. (Point to question under picture A.) Could it have been because Jesus did not know the Old Testament? (Wait for comments; then help pupils recall occasions when Jesus quoted from the Old Testament as when Satan tempted him [Luke 4:1-13], or when Jesus read from the Old Testament in the synagogue [Luke 4:16-19].) Jesus knew the Old Testament, so that could not have been the reason.

Was it because Jesus couldn't do anything about it? (Point to question under picture B.) Jesus is the Son of God. Nothing is too hard for him.

Did Jesus not set up the kingdom at once because he didn't care that the people were suffering? (Point to question under picture C and wait for comments.) But Jesus did care! The Bible tells us Jesus cared so much that he wept over the city and its people and said, *O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, . . . how often would I have gathered thy children together, as a hen doth gather her brood under her wings, and ye would not* (Luke 13:34). Even on Palm Sunday,

when Jesus saw the city, he wept over it (see Luke 19:41). So that was not the reason.

The people expected the Lord Jesus to overthrow the Roman government and free them. But God had a better plan. Jesus came to earth to die on the cross for all who believed in him and to free them from their sins. He came to give them eternal life. God's complete plan was far greater than the people expected. (Attach wordstrip 1 to cover questions under pictures A, B and C.) They didn't know God's plan and didn't trust him.

Trust God

Today you and I can read God's promises. We believe they are true because we can fully trust God to keep his promise. We may not know exactly *how* God will work out our problems and how he will keep his promise, but we can trust him.

Look at the picture of Bob for example. (Point to picture D in visual aid book.) Notice how sad and lonely Bob looks.

For quite some time Bob knew that things in his home were not right. His parents quarreled a great deal; often he saw his mother brush tears from her eyes. He was so afraid that his parents would separate as his friend Jim's parents had done. Bob prayed much for his parents. He trusted God to work out this problem. One day, however, when his parents didn't know he was in the house, Bob heard his mother say, "Are you going to tell Bob you are leaving?" Bob couldn't understand all his father said, but he knew what was going to happen next. His heart sank!

Does this mean that God didn't know about Bob, or couldn't hear him when he prayed? (Point to picture E in visual aid book and wait for comments. Have pupils read Isaiah 65:24: *And it shall come to pass, that before they call, I will answer; and while they are yet speaking, I will hear.*) God does know all about us and he hears when we pray.

Do you think it was because God couldn't do anything about Bob's situation? (Help pupils understand that nothing is too hard for God. Refer to Jeremiah 32:17 or Matthew 28:18.)

Would you say it was because God didn't care? (Guide pupils in their thinking. Emphasize that we know God loves each one of us so much that he sent his Son to die for us.)

A NEW TOOL TO HELP YOU TEACH

One of the new tools in your fifth grade Visual Aid Kit (VA-51) is an S/35 Lesson-Strip. Now's the time to take it out and look it over. You'll find it very attractive. But what's it for? What's the best way to use it?

First, you'll notice that the filmstrip is correlated with lessons in this quarter. It goes right along with them.

You'll also find your S/35 filmstrip easy to handle. It's only half the width of an ordinary 35mm filmstrip. It comes in a handy 9" x 12" teaching folder. You can keep it in your VA Kit or in a filing cabinet.

With an ordinary-sized class, you don't have to darken the room to show this filmstrip. You can project it on a special 9" x 12" tabletop screen. For large groups, you can project it on a large screen, but in that case it's better to darken the room. Either way you'll find S/35 filmstrip bright,

Why didn't the Lord help Bob? We don't know why he didn't, but it must have been that God knew something we don't know. We do know that God loves and cares for each of us as no one else can. We will never know why—perhaps Bob will never know why—but he can know that God loves him even though his parents made a mistake. God is all knowing and all powerful. He knows what will happen in the future and the things that will work out for the best. No matter what happens to you and me, we can know beyond a shadow of doubt that, even though we can't understand how, God will work out our problems so we can trust him. (Attach wordstrip 2 under pictures D and E.) You can feel safe because you know God knows your problems and fears. You know that God loves you and has power to help you. Knowing and believing this, you can trust God to take care of you.

PRAYER

Let's thank God for his love and goodness to us, and that we can trust him completely.

MEMORY WORK

The memory work for today has been referred to in the Bible study. Make sure pupils understand the verse. Let them tell ways that their ways and thoughts differ from God's. Let them tell why.

ASSIGNMENT

Assign the memory verse, Isaiah 55:8,9.

Introduce the fifth grade memory course. Explain the assignments and awards. (See page 24.) The memory verse of the Sunday School lesson is to be learned each week as part of the requirements. Distribute memory list cards.

Distribute the pupil's books. Let them write their name on the inside front cover. Encourage pupils to follow the Bible reading selections each day. Explain that the tear out sheet is to be done at home each week and handed in each Sunday. If you plan to grade pupil's work, call attention to the line on which you will place the grade. The tear sheets are to be graded each week and returned to the pupils the following Sunday. Tell pupils not to work ahead; workbooks are to be done *after* the lesson has been taught.

colorful, fascinating.

What About Equipment?

No problem at all. (1) You can use a standard 35mm projector by adding a simple adapter, (2) you can use an inexpensive little S/35 projector, or (3) you can use a *combination* standard 35mm and S/35 projector made by Standard Projector Company of Chicago.

The Last Word

Don't worry. S/35 is not a device to replace you, the teacher. Its purpose is to help you wake up your pupils, interest them, stimulate their minds, encourage their questions and discussion—in short, S/35 is simply a way to help you communicate the Word of God to your pupils.

JESUS ESTABLISHES THE LORD'S SUPPER

PREPARATION

TEACHING AIMS

Teach so pupil may
KNOW that Jesus Christ established the Lord's Supper and taught his disciples that he was the willing sacrifice for sin; **RESPOND** by realizing that the Lord's Supper is a memorial of the sacrifice Christ made for us.

MEMORY VERSES

And he took bread, and gave thanks, and break it, and gave unto them, saying, This is my body which is given for you: this do in remembrance of me. Luke 22:19

For as often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do show the Lord's death till he come. I Corinthians 11:26

SCRIPTURE

Luke 19:41-48; 22:1-23

THINK ON THESE THINGS

In the Lord's Supper Christ set forth vividly the truth he wanted the disciples to remember above all else, that his greatest work and the purpose for which he came was our redemption (Mark 8:31; Luke 9:22). For this reason Christ wants his death to be remembered (Luke 22:19,20). He wants it considered not as the tragic end of a great career, or as a martyr's death, but as a life willingly sacrificed for the remission of sin (John 10:11). To make sure that this central truth of his ministry was not forgotten, Christ used the elements of bread and wine to remind us of his body, broken for us, and the blood which was shed on our behalf.

TEACHING TOOLS

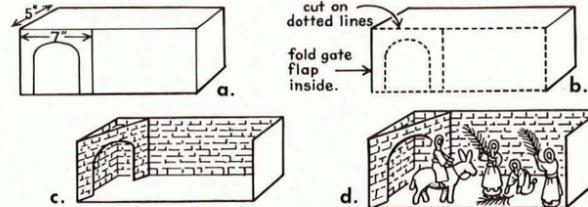
- Visual aid book, wordstrips 3-11. (See inside front cover of visual aid book for instructions.)
- Paper and pencils to illustrate Bible scene.
- Materials for making a diorama of Jesus entering the city of Jerusalem: Large shoe box or other lightweight cardboard box, construction paper, clay, pipe cleaner, bits of cloth, scissors, crayons, cellophane tape, paste.
- Materials to continue tabletop project (see page 4).



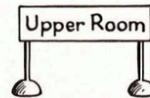
EARLY TEACHING TIME

CHOOSE what is best for your class.
 Write the following references on the chalkboard: Luke 19:37,38 and John 12:12,13. Let pupils illustrate verses either with sketches, a poem or a descriptive paragraph. Let them share illustrations during review.

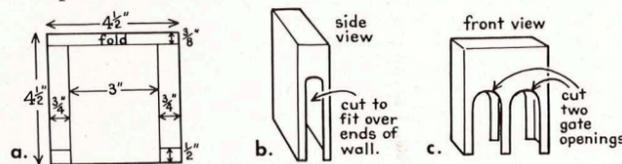
Have pupils make a diorama showing Jesus entering Jerusalem. To prepare box, first measure width; use measurement plus 2" to mark off distance from front left side; draw line parallel to front left side; carefully sketch arched gate (see step a). Cut on dotted lines (see step b); fold gate flap to inside back and tape. Make a stone wall background by drawing stones on brown paper; paste to background; trim (see step c). Cut tree, paste inside box; make clay donkey; make and dress pipe cleaner figures; place one figure on donkey and other figures in box (see step d). Save diorama box for Lesson 13; see page 46.



Have pupils continue making tabletop project of Jerusalem. Let several pupils write summaries for each day's events; display above the project along with the color code card. Make signposts corresponding to the color code, to identify the various areas on the project and the day on which an event took place. Cut 1/2"x1 1/2" strips of purple and orange construction paper and label as follows: purple—city gates; orange—temple. Paste ends of each paper strip to two toothpicks; stick toothpicks into balls of clay and attach in place by pressing the clay gently to the tabletop project (see sketch).

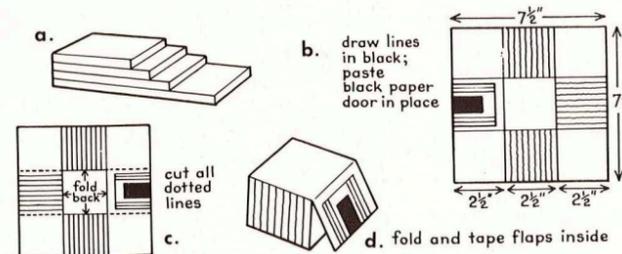


For the gate leading to Calvary, make two wall posts (see page 5), but cut only one side opening to seal the ends of the wall. For the Golden Gate or gate to the Temple, repeat above steps increasing the size and cutting as shown in steps a to c.

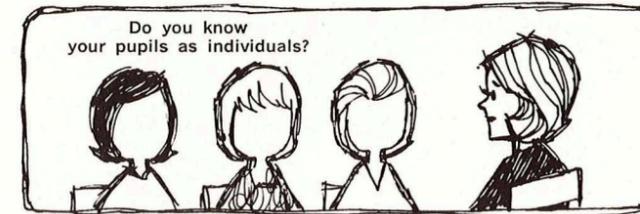


For the gate on the north, repeat steps above but use 3 1/2" square and cut only one opening.

To make temple and court, cut cardboard into the following four sizes: 3 1/2"x5 1/2", 3 1/2"x3 1/2", 3 1/2"x3", 3 1/2"x2 1/2"; cover with beige or brown construction paper and paste together as shown in step a; place within temple area. Cut 7 1/2"x7 1/2" beige or brown construction paper, measure and fold as shown in b to d. Place temple on court area.



NOTE: Either during teaching time or at the end of the class period have pupils decide how they will keep the tear sheets from their pupils' books which you return to them. They may make a simple folder (see page 1, pupil's book) or each pupil may secure a three-ring loose leaf notebook. A large manila envelope might also be used. If time is limited let pupils do this at home. Suggestions for keeping the tear sheets are also given in the pupils' books.



CLASS TIME

PRAYER

Pray for guidance in the Bible study. Encourage pupils to participate in prayer.

REVIEW

(Collect work sheets from pupils who have completed their work.) Six days before the Passover Feast Jesus came to Bethany. On Sunday of that week he rode into Jerusalem on a donkey. What was the attitude of the people toward Jesus? (If pupils illustrated the triumphal entry as suggested in "Early Teaching Time," let them share their work.)

POINT OF CONTACT

How many of you have ever seen the Lincoln memorial in Washington, D.C.? It is a monument to Abraham Lincoln. It reminds us of this great man who freed the slaves.

Memorial statues and plaques are used to remind us of famous people of the past.

Today we want to talk about a memorial but it is not a statue or a plaque. It is a memorial service. This memorial is different from any other, because it looks back to something that was done and forward to something which will come. It is called the Lord's Supper or Communion service. When Christians partake of this memorial service they are reminded of the Lord Jesus Christ.

BIBLE LESSON

The last week of Christ's life on earth had begun. It was a busy week. Jesus knew that his death was near. He knew that his disciples still expected him to set up a kingdom on earth. He also knew that though the people greeted him as a king the day before they really did not want him to be their king. The Bible says Jesus went outside the city of Jerusalem and wept over their unbelief. (Refer to time line in visual aid book, page 2; attach wordstrips 3 and 4 beside codes I and II; see map, page 4.)

When he came back to the city Jesus went to the Temple. In the large outer courts a huge market had been set up. (Attach wordstrip 5 beside code III.) People were buying and selling oxen, sheep and doves to be used for sacrifices at the feast. Coins were exchanged for temple tax. The noisy trading and bargaining disturbed the quieter use of the Temple for worship. Jesus was so displeased with what he saw that he went in, overturned the tables of the money-changers and drove the traders out. Look at Luke 19:46 to see what Jesus said. (Attach wordstrips 6 and 7 beside codes IV and V; see map, page 4.)

I wonder whether what we do in our church would be

pleasing to Christ. We don't have a "market" in our church but I wonder whether we treat God's house as a house of prayer. Do we by whispering, giggling, or by passing notes disturb others who come to worship? Do we with our actions make God's house a "den of disturbances"?

On Tuesday Jesus probably taught in the Temple. (Luke 20:1). (Attach wordstrip 8 beside code VI.) Again the Pharisees asked questions hoping to trick Jesus into an answer whereby they could accuse him of a wrong. But for each question Jesus had an answer.

The Bible does not tell us exactly what Jesus did on Wednesday. Perhaps it was a day of rest. Wednesday afternoon Judas started a plan for which he would be sorry. (Attach wordstrip 9 beside code VII.)

Judas Iscariot

Judas was tempted by Satan and he made a plan. Judas knew that some men wanted to destroy Jesus. He went to find the chief priests and captains, Jesus' greatest enemies.

When Judas arrived at the palace of the high priest, Caiaphas, he perhaps found the men working on a plot to kill Jesus. They wanted to arrest Jesus but they were afraid of his large following. An arrest during Passover week might stir up the people and create a revolt. But Judas came with an unexpected offer to make their plans more simple. Judas, who had been one of the disciples for many months, now made arrangement to lead the enemies to Jesus at a time when Jesus was alone. Now they could arrest him without stirring up the people. How happy these men were to make a deal with Judas. Judas had become a spy. He was to be paid thirty pieces of silver for this work.

Preparation for the Lord's Supper

On Thursday all people made ready for the paschal meal which would be eaten as part of the Passover Feast. This was one of the most important celebrations of the feast. (Let pupils recall information concerning the Passover Feast. It was a memorial of God's delivering the Israelites from Egypt. Bitter herbs and unleavened bread reminded them of suffering under the Egyptians. The Passover lamb which was killed and eaten reminded them of the blood sprinkled on the doorposts on the night the death angel spared the first born of all Israelites.)

In every household a thorough search was made for any bread which might have leaven in it. It had to be taken from the house, for nothing was to remain in the house with leaven. All work stopped for most of the day and certainly by noon.

Around noon on Thursday the disciples asked Jesus where they would eat the Passover Feast since they did not have a home in Jerusalem. Jesus appointed Peter and John to make arrangements to prepare for the meal. (Attach wordstrip 10 beside code VIII.) He told them to go into Jerusalem and they would find a room prepared for them. How would Peter and John find the room? What clue did Jesus give them? Find it in Luke 22:10.

It was unusual for a man to carry a pitcher of water. Carrying water was the task done by women in that day.

The two disciples did as Jesus commanded. When Peter and John arrived in Jerusalem they watched the people carefully. Sure enough there was a man carrying a water pitcher. Peter and John hurried to him. They were not instructed to speak to him. Without saying a word the two disciples quietly followed the man into the house. When they saw the owner of the house they asked the proper question, "The Master asks you where is the guest room where I may eat the Passover meal with my disciples." (See Luke 22:11.)

Perhaps after Peter and John found the home where Jesus planned to eat the Passover they went to the Temple for the lamb.

For centuries the lamb for the paschal meal was no longer killed in the various homes but was gotten from the Temple where it was slaughtered by the priests. It was the custom of the head of the household to go to the Temple in the afternoon between three and six o'clock to have his lamb killed and brought home.

Christ Our Sacrifice

At sundown Jesus and the other ten disciples came to the room to eat the meal together. Jesus was eager to have this time with his disciples before his suffering on the cross. He said, *With desire I have desired to eat this passover with you before I suffer: for I say unto you, I will not any more eat thereof, until it be fulfilled in the kingdom of God* (Luke 22:15,16).

Long before Jesus was born in Bethlehem many prophecies were made concerning him. (Let pupils recall some of them such as healing the sick, that he would raise the dead.) All of those prophecies had been fulfilled. The prophecies also said that Jesus was the promised One who would save the people from their sins. In order to save the people from sin it was God's plan that Jesus would die on the cross and shed his blood as a sacrifice for our sins.

In the Old Testament and before Jesus died on the cross, God demanded that an animal (such as a lamb) be killed and offered as a sacrifice for the sins of the people. By the death of the animal the sins of the people were covered. All of the Old Testament sacrifices were a picture of what would happen when Christ would come and die for our sins. Christ took the punishment for our sins. Because Christ died on the cross he took your place and mine. He became our substitute. (Explain that a substitute is a person or thing put in place of another.) Today it is no longer necessary to kill an animal to sacrifice for our sins. Christ became that sacrifice for us.

At the feast Jesus took the bread and when he had given thanks, he said, *This is my body which is given for you: this do in remembrance of me* (Luke 22:19). Jesus was speaking of his coming death on the cross.

Then Jesus did the same with the cup of wine which was usually used at the Passover. Jesus said, *This cup is the new testament in my blood, which is shed for you* (verse 20).

The Lord's Supper

At this Last Supper with his disciples Jesus completely changed the meaning of the Passover meal. He made a new agreement with his followers. The old Passover Feast reminded the people of their escape from their cruel taskmasters in Egypt. The Lord's Supper, the new feast, was to remind all those who receive the Lord Jesus as their Saviour that they have been freed from sin. From that time until today, and even until Jesus comes back to earth again, followers of Christ are to observe the Lord's Supper. The Lord's Supper is also called "Communion service." (Attach wordstrip 11 beside code IX.)

HOW TO MASTER THE ART OF STORYTELLING

- You must know, believe and enjoy the story yourself.
- Tell the story; do not read it to the pupils.
- Make the story your own; do not memorize it word for word.
- Tell the story simply, directly, dramatically.
- Use simple words—familiar and vivid words.
- Use short, simple sentences. Speak slowly and clearly.
- Never talk down to the boys and girls.
- Look right at them as you tell the story.

The Lord's Supper is a sacred and holy memorial service for Christians because it is a reminder of the sacrifice Christ made for us. Jesus said, *This is my body which is given for you: this do in remembrance of me* (Luke 22:19). This is Christ's command to every Christian today.

The Lord's Supper also reminds us that Jesus is coming again. As Christians we are to observe the Lord's Supper until Christ returns. The Bible says it this way, *For as often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do show the Lord's death till he come* (I Corinthians 11:26).

(If time permits choose one of the following learning activities for your class.)

Take a trip to the church sanctuary and see the communion table. If the words, "This do in remembrance of me," appear on the table refer to them.

Invite a person into your class who is responsible for preparation for the Communion service in your local church. Or let pupils interview that person outside of class. It would be helpful before either the visit or the interview to let pupils decide on questions they would like to ask concerning the preparation.

Let pupils find and read I Corinthians 11:23-29. Point out that this Scripture is often read by the minister at Communion services.

If possible make plans to attend a Communion service in your church and discuss the service at a later time.

If possible, have a piece of matzo in class for pupils to taste. It is available in any grocery store. Explain that matzo is unleavened bread used in many churches today.)

PRAYER

Let's thank the Lord for the sacrifice he made for us.

MEMORY WORK

Refer to the memory verses in the visual aid book, page 17. Have pupils find them in their Bibles. These verses have been discussed in the Bible study. Make sure pupils understand that the Lord's Supper is a memorial service to remind us of the death, resurrection and coming again of Christ.

ASSIGNMENT

- Assign the memory verses to be learned.
- Distribute the graded, or scored, worksheets you collected last Sunday. Discuss any questions with which pupils seemed to have trouble.
- Encourage pupils to do the Daily Bible Readings.
- Let pupils decide how they will keep their scored or graded worksheets. They may make a folder (see sketch in pupil's book), use a three-ring loose leaf notebook or prepare a large manila envelope.



THE ARREST AND TRIAL OF JESUS

PREPARATION

TEACHING AIMS

Teach so pupil may
KNOW that Jesus allowed himself to be arrested as a supposed criminal to fulfill God's plan for our salvation;
UNDERSTAND that each individual must face the claims of Christ and decide whether to reject or receive him.

MEMORY VERSE

What shall I do then with Jesus which is called Christ?
 Matthew 27:22

SCRIPTURE

John 18:1-19:16

THINK ON THESE THINGS

Nothing demonstrates more clearly the love of Christ for us than the indignities he endured before the Crucifixion. Not one effort did he make to escape; not one word did he utter in his own defense. As Isaiah 53:7 foretold, *As a sheep before her shearers is dumb, so he openeth not his mouth*. Notice that the only word of appeal he made was on behalf of those he loved (John 18:8). He willingly bore without complaint all the scorn and hatred heaped upon him in order to pay the penalty for our sins (I Peter 2:21-24). As you study the trial and arrest of Jesus, remember it was you and your sins that deserved the judgment he received (II Corinthians 5:21).

Thank God for the indescribable love of Christ who for your sake endured betrayal, unjust accusations, mockery, brutality and death. It is beyond our comprehension that the Son of God would endure such mental and physical suffering for us, but Christ's love is a divine love which passes human knowledge (Ephesians 3:17-19). We dare not accept such great love lightly. *For the love of Christ constraineth us . . . that they which live should not henceforth live unto themselves, but unto him which died for them, and rose again* (II Corinthians 5:14,15).

TEACHING TOOLS

- Visual aid book, wordstrips 12-17. (See inside front cover of visual aid book for instructions.)
- Projector and S/35. Use the suggested frames as teaching pictures.
- Paper and pencils.
- Materials to complete diorama started last week (see page 8).
- Materials to continue tabletop project (see page 4).

EARLY TEACHING TIME

CHOOSE what is best for your class.
 Have students divide into two groups and let each group choose a leader. Let each group plan and present a two-minute review skit to illustrate one of the following:

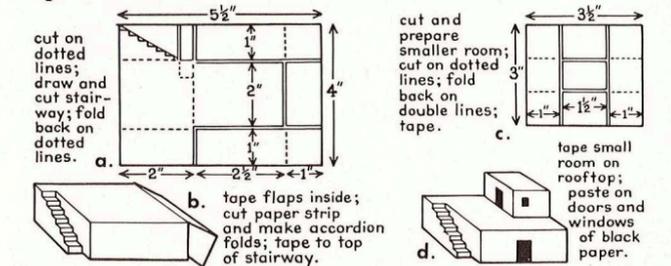
1. Judas makes arrangements to betray Jesus (Matthew 26:14-16; Luke 22:4-6).
2. Peter and John prepare for the feast (Luke 22:7-13).



Use the following questions to stimulate pupils: How many characters are needed? What did the characters say? Who will be the characters? What actions will there be?

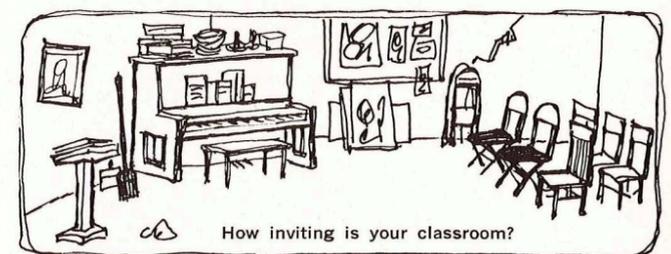
- Have pupils complete diorama started last week.
- Have pupils continue work on tabletop project.

To make the Upper Room, cut 4"x5½" beige or brown construction paper; measure, fold and tape as shown in steps a to d.



- Have pupils make two colored signs and attach to tabletop project as described on page 8; label as follows: green—temple; blue—upper room.

- Write summaries of events in lesson and add to the summaries started last week.



CLASS TIME

PRAYER

Open the class period with prayer. Pray that pupils might become more aware of Christ's sacrificial death for them.

REVIEW

(Collect the worksheets from pupils who are ready to hand them in. If pupils prepared the skits suggested in "Early Teaching Time," let them give them now.)

What was the name of the memorial service we discussed last week? Who established the Lord's Supper? Of what does it remind us?

POINT OF CONTACT

What words pop into your mind when I say "arrest"? (Wait for comments.) One usually thinks of policemen, or a criminal who committed a crime of some kind such as a robbery or murder. What do you think of when I say "trial"? Yes, one immediately thinks of lawyers, courtrooms or a judge. With both of these words, "arrest" and "trial," one thinks of a criminal or someone who has committed a serious crime and who must be punished. Would you ever think of the name "Jesus Christ" when we mention these two words? No, because we know that Jesus was without sin. In our Bible lesson today, we will study about the time that Jesus Christ was arrested and how he stood trial.

BIBLE LESSON

The same night after Jesus established the Lord's Supper, he and the eleven disciples left the room together.* They went outside the city of Jerusalem and walked through a dark ravine east of the city. The ravine had water flowing through it only after a shower or rain and it was called the Kidron Brook. It was about midnight. Jesus and the eleven walked through the ravine and across the western slope of the Mount of Olives. There they came to a garden called Gethsemane. It must have been a quiet garden for Jesus often came there to pray (from Luke 22:39).

Jesus knew that within the next hours he would suffer greatly. In the garden he prayed concerning the coming suffering. He wanted above all else to do God's will. (See Luke 22:41,42.) (Attach wordstrip 12 to time line beside code X on page 3 in visual aid book; see map, page 4.)

Jesus had hardly finished praying when the quietness of the garden was broken by the sound of many soldiers' feet.† The darkness was shattered by the glow of torches and lanterns which the soldiers carried. Leading the armed soldiers was Judas Iscariot. Remember Judas had made a bargain with the captains and chief priests to lead them to Jesus. Jesus had been in the Temple and city each day teaching, but his enemies didn't arrest him then (Mark 14:49). Instead they decided to come to the garden. Judas knew that Jesus often went to Gethsemane to pray, so it was an easy matter to bring the soldiers to Jesus.

Usually when a police officer makes an arrest the criminal tries everything possible to escape. The scene in the garden on that Thursday night was very much like that of soldiers and officers capturing a criminal—but there was no criminal!

Instead of hiding in the darkness, Jesus came forward fearlessly into the light of the torches to meet his enemies. He knew what was to happen but he asked, *Whom seek ye? They answered him, Jesus of Nazareth. Jesus saith unto them, I am he* (John 18:4,5).

The Roman soldiers and Temple police were so shocked and surprised, the Bible says, *they went backward, and fell to the ground* (verse 6). None of the officers wanted to be the first to lay hands on this person Jesus who claimed to be the Son of God. Very calmly Jesus asked again, *Whom seek ye* (verse 7)? When the soldiers answered, Jesus said, *I have told you that I am he: if therefore ye seek me, let these [my disciples] go their way* (verse 8). Jesus was concerned for the eleven disciples as he said, "Take me alone." Peter made an effort to help Jesus. He took out his sword, but no doubt Peter was frightened and nervous, and his aim was bad. Instead of hitting the man's head, Peter only cut the man's ear. Jesus healed the ear and said to Peter, "Put up your sword. This event which is about to happen is something God has given me to do." The Bible says it this way, *Put up thy sword into the sheath: the cup which my Father hath given me, shall I not drink it* (verse 11)?

A Willing Sacrifice

Then the captain and officers stepped up to Jesus and arrested him. (Attach wordstrip 13 beside code XI.) They bound him and took him from the garden. Perhaps the officers felt that at last they had captured the man who had been creating so much trouble for almost two years. But how wrong they were! There was no soldier on earth who had power to bind Jesus the Son of God! They did not capture him; Jesus came voluntarily and willingly. He permitted the soldiers to take him. Look at John 18:4. Notice that Jesus came out to meet the enemies. What clues can you find in verses 8 and 11 that tell you Jesus permitted the enemies to arrest him? (He admitted that he was Jesus. He knew this was a task given to him by God.) Jesus, the Son of God, was willing to make the sin-sacrifice for us.

Although the enemies were led to the garden by Judas, and though they came by night as if they were arresting a common criminal, Jesus knew long before they came what would happen. In fact, he had predicted it (see Mark 10:33). Jesus recognized all these events as the fulfillment of prophecy (see John 18:32). Jesus knew and was in control of the situation. In the past when his enemies tried to attack him or stone him, Jesus left them because the time was not right. Now, however, was the time, and he came willingly and voluntarily (see John 12:23; 13:1; 17:1).

Jesus Before the High Priest

It was well past midnight by the time the soldiers bound Jesus and led him from the garden to the palace of Annas. (Attach wordstrip 14 beside code XII. Trace journey on city map.) Annas was the former high priest and his son-in-law, Caiaphas, was the high priest.

The streets were no doubt quiet at that hour of the night. All of the disciples had fled except Peter and John, who followed quite a distance behind Jesus.

One of the first things Annas did was to ask Jesus about his teaching. Annas was apparently trying to accuse Jesus of stirring up a revolt against the authorities by his teaching. Look at John 18:20,21 to see what Jesus said. (Help pupils translate the answer into their own words, such as "I didn't teach anything secretly. My teaching was for all to hear. Why not ask the people who heard me teach?") The answer angered the officers and they struck Jesus. Annas seemed to be unsure of what he was to do with Jesus so he sent him on to Caiaphas, the high priest.

After being taken to the palace of Caiaphas, and tried there by the ruling body called the Sanhedrin, Jesus was sent on to yet another person and place, to Pilate and the hall of judgment. (Attach wordstrip 15 beside code XIII.) It would appear that neither Annas nor Caiaphas wanted to take the responsibility of giving punishment to Jesus, so they sent him to Pilate. All night long Jesus was led from one officer to another with the jeering crowd accusing Jesus of crimes of which he was innocent.

Peter Denies Christ

It was while Jesus was being questioned and mistreated that Peter was faced with a choice. He was no doubt frightened and confused to see Jesus arrested by the soldiers. Peter waited out in the courtyard to see what would happen next. It was a cold night so Peter stepped up to a fire to warm himself. While he was there some of the people recognized Peter and asked him whether he, too, was with Jesus. Three different times Peter was asked the same question and each time Peter said he didn't know the Lord!

When Jesus told his disciples earlier that he would have to suffer, Peter offered to die for Christ if necessary. Jesus understood Peter, but he said, "[Peter,] *The cock shall not crow, till thou hast denied me thrice* (John 13:38). And it happened just as the Lord said it would. When for the third

time Peter said, "I don't know the man," he heard a rooster crow, and it reminded him of what Jesus said. Peter went out and wept. (Attach wordstrip 16 beside code XIV.)

Jesus Before Pilate

Pilate was the governor of Rome. His home was in Caesarea but he was in Jerusalem for the Passover Feast so he could deal with any uprisings. The judgment hall was the official quarters of the governor at the Fortress of Antonia. It was located at the northwest corner of the Temple area. (See city map, page 4.)

Many of the Jews who were in the crowd following Jesus to the hall of judgment did not go in. The governor was a Gentile. It was believed that if a Jew went into a Gentile home it would make him unclean and would keep him from eating the Passover that night. These blinded people did not realize that even though they wanted to be ready to obey God in keeping the Passover, they were not ready to receive God's Son, Jesus Christ.

All that the Jews wanted was Governor Pilate to approve their decision to destroy Jesus and to give them authority to do so. Jesus was apparently brought into the hall of judgment and since the Jews would not come in, Pilate would question Jesus and then go out and talk to the Jewish people.

The first thing Pilate wanted to know was what charges were being made against Jesus, but the Jews did not have a good answer.

After questioning Jesus, Pilate went out to the people and announced that he could find no fault with Jesus. He did not want to make a decision concerning Jesus either. He tried several ways to avoid making a decision. It was a custom that each year at the Passover the governor would release a prisoner. Usually the crowd was given a choice of the prisoner to be released. Pilate gave them a choice between Jesus or Barabbas, a robber. Perhaps Pilate thought this was a way to free Jesus. Pilate stepped before the mob and asked, "Shall I release the King of the Jews?"

The people cried out, "No, not this man! Release Barabbas!"

Pilate still wanted to save Jesus from death, but he also wanted to please the Jews, so he suggested a lighter penalty. Since he didn't have the courage to free Jesus outright, Pilate ordered that Jesus be scourged or beaten by the soldiers.

As soon as the soldiers had their orders, they mocked Jesus.* They made a crown of thorns and placed it upon Jesus' head. To complete the costume of a king they also brought a purple robe and put it on Jesus. The Bible says they hit Jesus with their hands and shouted, *Hail, King of the Jews* (John 19:3)!

*Show frame 6, LF-51, if desired.

HOW DO PUPILS LEARN?

Pupils learn by doing. In Sunday School pupils are "doing" when their minds are at work thinking, questioning, and finding answers. They are "doing" when they join in a discussion or when working with their hands.

Pupils learn when they are interested and when they become involved in the lesson. They learn least when they are expected to sit still while the teacher drones on and on!

It was perhaps about six o'clock early Friday morning when Pilate brought Jesus out before the people and gave the sentence that he was to be crucified. (Attach wordstrip 17 beside code XV.)

Accept Christ or Reject Him

The one choice which every person must make is whether to choose Christ or to turn away from him. Our memory verse asks the question, "What shall I do then with Jesus which is called Christ?" The Jewish people had a choice but they chose to destroy Christ.

Pilate had a choice to make. While questioning Jesus, Pilate said at least three times that he could find no fault with Jesus. Even Pilate's wife sent a message to him saying, "Have nothing to do with that just and upright man." She had a dream and felt it was very dangerous for Pilate not to release Jesus. (See Matthew 27:19.) But Pilate tried to please both the people and his conscience. He did not have the courage to use his power to release Jesus. Pilate made a choice. In trying to please the crowd he made a wrong choice.

Peter, too, made a choice. At one time he boasted that he was ready to die for Christ if necessary. But the time came when Peter was frightened, the crowd had turned against him, and Peter too made a wrong choice. In a very short time Peter was sorry for what he had done and Christ forgave him.

Today, you are faced with the question, "What shall I do then with Jesus which is called Christ?" You can choose Christ as your Saviour and give him first place in your life, or you can choose to have your own way and do what you want to do. The choice, however, is up to you.

PRAYER

Let's bow our heads right now and ask the Lord to help us to make the right choice.

MEMORY WORK

Refer to Matthew 27:22 which has been discussed in the Bible lesson. Remind pupils that the memory verse is a question which each one of us must face.

ASSIGNMENT

- Assign the memory verse, Matthew 27:22, to be learned.
- Return the worksheets you collected last Sunday. Discuss any question with which pupils may have had difficulties.
- Find out how many have decided on a method of keeping their worksheets.
- Call attention to the map of Jerusalem in back of pupils' books. Encourage them to study it carefully.

* At this point you may wish to project frame 4, LF-51.

† At this point you may wish to project frame 5, LF-51.

JESUS DIED AND AROSE

PREPARATION

TEACHING AIMS

Teach so pupil will
KNOW that Jesus Christ died on the cross willingly as a sacrifice for our sins;
RESPOND with a spirit of gratitude and love to Jesus Christ who gave himself for us.

MEMORY VERSE

For Christ also hath once suffered for sins, the just for the unjust, that he might bring us to God. I Peter 3:18

SCRIPTURE

Luke 23:26-53; John 19:17-42

THINK ON THESE THINGS

The concept of a holy and righteous God is so far removed from the comprehension of sinful man that we shall always be mystified that God's holiness demands such a fellowship with himself. Death on the cross as an atonement for sin is the purpose for which Christ came. At the beginning of Jesus' ministry, John the Baptist recognized him as the Lamb of God (John 1:29). Repeatedly Jesus stated that he came to give his life (Mark 10:45; John 10:11).

If Jesus had chosen to do so, he could have avoided the cross, but he did not so choose because this was the divine plan for dealing with sin. (See Matthew 26:52-54.) Only by faith in Christ's sacrifice for us can we please God and receive forgiveness for our sin (Acts 10:43; Ephesians 2:8,9).

As you prepare to teach this lesson read Romans 5. Rejoice that through faith in Christ you are justified and have peace with God. Thank God for the gift of salvation which provides for you not only peace, but also hope and joy.

TEACHING TOOLS

- Visual aid book, wordstrips 18-22. (See inside front cover of visual aid book for instructions.)
- Collection of Easter hymns.
- Chalkboard, chalk.
- Materials to continue tabletop project (see page 4).



EARLY TEACHING TIME

CHOOSE what is best for your class.

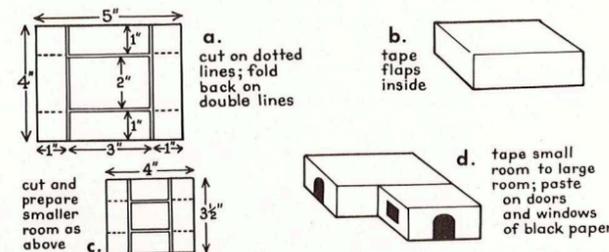
- Have pupils gather around the piano and sing some of

their favorite Easter hymns. Let them tell why they like the hymn they chose. Some may want to select their favorite verses of a hymn.

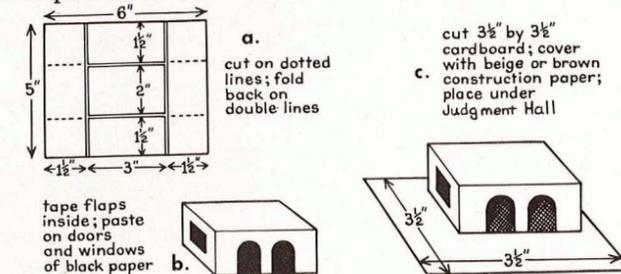
- Write the following references on the chalkboard: Luke 23:33 and John 19:17. Have pupils find the three names given to the place where Jesus was crucified and write the names on the chalkboard. Refer to the names in class.

- Have pupils continue making the tabletop project of Jerusalem.

To make the high priest's palace, cut 4"x5" beige or brown construction paper; measure, fold and tape as shown in steps a to d.



To make Pilate's judgment hall, cut 5"x6" beige or brown construction paper; measure, fold and tape as shown in steps a to c.



- Have pupils make three colored signposts and attach to the tabletop project as described on page 8; label as follows: blue—garden of Gethsemane; red—palace of Caiaphas; red—judgment hall. Write summaries of events in lesson and add to the summaries started last week.



CLASS TIME

PRAYER

Encourage several pupils to pray and thank the Lord Jesus Christ for his great love in dying on the cross for them.

REVIEW

(Use the time line and map of Jerusalem on pages 2,3 and 4 of the visual aid book for review. Trace Jesus' steps from the garden of Gethsemane to the palace of Annas and

Caiaphas, the chief priest, and then to Pilate's judgment hall.)

All night long after Jesus' enemies came to the garden to arrest him, he was jeered at, beaten and questioned. Even when Friday morning dawned, there was still no time for food or rest.

POINT OF CONTACT

(Because this lesson builds so much on Lesson 3, in fact it is really a part of it, the "Point of Contact" has been omitted. Use the review to build the continuity between Lessons 3 and 4.)

BIBLE LESSON

The time was probably between eight and nine o'clock on Friday morning that Jesus was led out to be crucified. There were two thieves who were to be crucified that Friday morning also. They, too, were in the procession. Each prisoner was guarded by four soldiers who goaded him on the way.

A huge crowd of people gathered and followed the procession. Shops and business places were no doubt closed because of the Passover celebration, but many people came out to line the streets to see what was happening.

From the judgment hall the soldiers led Jesus away from the Temple and through the business district of Jerusalem, outside the city wall to a low rocky hill north of the city, near a highway. (Trace the journey on city map in visual aid book, page 4; attach wordstrip 18 to time line beside code XVI, page 3.) This was no doubt the place where criminals were customarily killed. The Bible has three names for this hill. (If pupils wrote the names on the chalkboard during early time refer to them.) One name is Calvary; another is Golgotha, which is the Hebrew word. It is also called "the place of the skull." The hill probably got its last name because its shape is like a skull.

Jesus, tired and weary from a long night without sleep, carried his heavy cross part of the way. But he had suffered so much during the night and early morning, the weight of the cross was too much. He could carry it no farther. A man was chosen from the crowd to carry the cross the rest of the way. The man, Simon, was from the African city of Cyrene.

Jesus Is Crucified

The Bible says, *And when they were come to the place, which is called Calvary, there they crucified him* (Luke 23:33). Jesus was nailed to the cross which was placed between the two criminals who were crucified with him.

It was the custom to carry a sign before the criminal as he was led out to be crucified. On the sign was written the crime of which he was guilty. This board was then nailed to the cross above the criminal's head for all to see.

Above Jesus' head on the cross, Pilate placed a sign which was written in three languages—Latin, Greek and Hebrew. The sign said, *JESUS OF NAZARETH THE KING OF THE JEWS* (John 19:19).

Just below the hill of Calvary was a highway on which many people passed by. From the road the crowds of people watched Jesus. Some mocked and jeered. The soldiers began to divide the garments of their prisoners among themselves as was the custom. The clothing served as an extra tip, or pay, for doing the crucifixion. The soldiers didn't realize it but many years earlier the prophets predicted even this would happen. Let's find Psalm 22:18 and read it. Jesus had a cloak which was more valuable than his other clothing. For this the soldiers drew lots to see who would receive it.

It was while the soldiers were dividing his garments that Jesus said, *Father, forgive them; for they know not what*

they do (Luke 23:34). What great love Jesus Christ has for man!

Still the mocking and jeering went on. As Jesus was suffering there on the cross the people shouted, *He saved others; let him save himself, if he be Christ, the chosen of God* (verse 35).

Even one of the thieves on the cross jeered at Jesus saying, *If thou be Christ, save thyself and us* (verse 39). But the other said, *Lord, remember me when thou comest into thy kingdom* (verse 42).

A Willing Sacrifice

How little the people realized what was really happening. They did not know that Jesus was on the cross because he willingly took the punishment for the sins of the people. They didn't realize that he could very easily have saved himself, for he is the Son of God. God sent Jesus into the world as the promised Saviour and Jesus was willing to do God's will.

Jesus had been hanging on the cross for three hours. It was noontime when suddenly a great darkness came over the earth. It was so dark the sun could no longer be seen. The darkness was not just a moment of darkness, but it lasted for three hours, from noon until three o'clock Friday afternoon.

Suddenly Jesus cried out with a loud, strong voice, *It is finished* (John 19:30). *Father, into Your hands I commit My spirit* (Luke 23:46, Amplified). Then the Bible says, *he [Jesus] bowed his head, and gave up the ghost* (John 19:30). At last the task for which Jesus Christ had been sent to earth was finished.

Jesus, the Son of God, died not because his enemies captured him and nailed him on the cross—he died because he was willing to die. He died because he was ready. At least a year earlier, Jesus said no one could take his life from him. The Bible says it this way, *Therefore doth my Father love me, because I lay down my life, that I might take it again. No man taketh it from me, but I lay it down . . . and I have power to take it again. This commandment have I received of my Father* (John 10:17,18). (Attach wordstrip 19 beside code XVII.)

Suddenly the feeling of the crowd on the hillside around the cross that afternoon changed. One of the soldiers, who no doubt had been chosen to help with many other crucifixions, was startled and amazed at what he had seen. He saw the weird darkness; he saw Jesus' attitude of forgiving his enemies even as he suffered so greatly. The Bible says the soldier glorified God and said, *Certainly this was a righteous man* (Luke 23:47) or *Truly this man was the Son of God* (Mark 15:39).

The huge crowd around the cross was also amazed at what they saw. Perhaps those who had mocked Jesus were no longer on the hillside, but many of the people of Jerusalem returned to their homes feeling very sad. Perhaps many among the crowd had believed in Jesus and followed him, and now he was dead. The Bible tells us: *And all the throngs that had gathered to see this spectacle, when they saw what had taken place, returned to their homes beating their breasts* (Luke 23:48, Amplified).

Jesus Is Buried

After Jesus died, a follower of Jesus named Joseph of Arimathea went to Pilate to ask permission to bury the body of Jesus. Joseph was a rich man who had a new tomb in a beautiful garden. Many people of means had tombs of their own which they often prepared long before they were needed.

The tomb was really like a cave, or like a large walled

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vault, with niches along the side. The law required that a tomb be six feet wide, nine feet long and six feet high. When a person made his own tomb the size might vary somewhat. A tomb usually had space or niches for eight bodies. Each body was wrapped in fine linen and spices were spread over it.

It must have taken great courage for Joseph to ask Pilate for the body of Jesus, more courage than Jesus' disciples had. Remember poor Peter was so frightened he denied he even knew Jesus. All of the disciples had scattered. (See Matthew 26:56.)

After asking Pilate for the body of Jesus, Joseph bought expensive fine linens in which to wrap the body. All of this had to be done before sundown. There was no time to waste, for the Sabbath day had almost arrived. The Sabbath day started Friday night at sundown. One of the laws of the Sabbath was that it was unlawful for anyone to touch a dead body on that day.

When Pilate granted permission, Joseph and his friend Nicodemus took the body from the cross and wrapped it in linen. Carefully and lovingly the two men carried the body of Jesus from the cross on the hillside to the new tomb in the garden. (See city map.)

Several of the women, perhaps Mary Magdalene and the other Mary, followed Joseph and Nicodemus to the garden. Jewish manners would not permit them to go right to the tomb because both Joseph and Nicodemus were members of the Sanhedrin. From a distance they watched where the body of Jesus was laid. After the Sabbath (Saturday) was past, the women no doubt planned to come and bring more spices for Jesus' body. They saw Joseph and Nicodemus roll a stone to close the entrance of the tomb. (Attach wordstrip 20 beside code XVIII.)

Most well-built tombs were closed with a large flat circular disklike stone which was set in a shallow trough. The stone could then be rolled back and forth to open and close the entrance.

As the two men left the garden that night with the three women following at a considerable distance, all of them must have felt sad and very discouraged. The Man who they believed was the promised Saviour had just been buried. Their hopes and fondest dreams had just been shattered. Little did these people realize the great and glorious surprise God had in store for them. Jesus is the Saviour and death could not hold him!

Christ Arose

Time went by, and on the first day of the week Mary Magdalene and the other women came to the tomb while it was still dark. (See Luke 24:10.) As Mary came near, she saw that all was not right at the tomb. The stone had been rolled from the entrance and it was open! (Attach wordstrip 21 beside code XIX.) Can you imagine Mary's feeling? Perhaps because of the darkness, and because she was afraid thieves had been there, Mary ran out of the garden.

The other women remained and tried to look into the tomb. Suddenly they saw two men in dazzling white garments who asked, *Why seek ye the living among the dead? He is not here, but is risen: remember how he spake unto you when he was yet in Galilee* (Luke 24:5,6). Then the

women did remember and left the garden to tell the others.

In the meantime, Mary felt she just must find Peter and John. Excitedly, she told them what she had seen. "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb and we don't know where they have laid him."

That was all Peter and John heard. They broke into a run and ran all the way to the garden and to the tomb to see for themselves. John arrived first. Sure enough the stone was gone! Peter, just a few steps behind John, ran right into the tomb. It was empty! The only things left were the linen graveclothes. Excited, and perhaps frightened, Peter and John left for home.

Mary, however, stayed in the garden near the tomb for a while, sobbing. Suddenly, through her tears, she saw two angels sitting in the tomb where Jesus had lain. The angels asked, "Woman, why are you crying?" Mary replied, *Because they have taken away my Lord, and I know not where they have laid him* (John 20:13).

With that, Mary turned around and saw a Man standing there. She did not recognize him but thought he was the gardener. The Man too asked, "Why are you crying?" Mary must have thought the gardener knew about Jesus for she said, "Sir, if you have taken him away, tell me where you have put him and I'll take him away."

It was then that Mary heard the most beautiful sound she had ever heard. The "gardener" called her by name and said, "Mary," and she recognized him! It was Jesus and he was alive! He was living! The news was almost too great. Jesus asked Mary to go and tell his followers. This was probably the easiest and most exciting command Mary had ever obeyed. At once she went to tell everyone she met, "Jesus is alive. He arose and is living again!" (Attach wordstrip 22 beside code XX.)

PRAYER

Let's bow our heads and thank God that Jesus is living today and that he loves us and guides us. Let's thank him for taking the punishment for our sins.

MEMORY WORK

Refer to the memory verse, I Peter 3:18, in the visual aid book. Read it.

Everyone born into the world is a sinner. Only Christ the Son of God is without sin. But Christ willingly suffered on account of our sins. Sin keeps man from God. Christ suffered for our sin so that he might bring us to God. Because of his death our sins can be forgiven when we believe on him. Jesus Christ made it possible for us to come to God by taking upon himself our sins which kept us from God.

ASSIGNMENT

- Assign the memory verse, I Peter 3:18, to be learned.
- Return the worksheets which you collected and checked last week.
- Make sure pupils understand the assignments in the pupils' books.

CHRIST IS ALIVE

PREPARATION

TEACHING AIMS

Teach so pupil will
KNOW that the risen Christ returned to heaven and that someday he will come again as King and Lord;
UNDERSTAND that Christ is living today.

MEMORY VERSE

In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also. John 14:2,3

SCRIPTURE

Luke 24:13-45; John 20; Acts 1:6-11

THINK ON THESE THINGS

The empty tomb has become the sign of Christ's greatest victory. Christ's resurrection assures us of his power over life and death. It validates his power to forgive sins (I Corinthians 15:17). To the Christian, Christ's resurrection brings joy and hope because it assures him that Jesus Christ is a living person. Because he lives, we too, shall live (John 14:19).

As Jesus foretold his death, so he also foretold that he will come again (Matt. 24:30; Luke 21:27). The blessed hope of the believer is that when the Lord comes, our fellowship with him will be complete, for we will be with him (John 14:3) and we shall be like him (I John 3:2). No more will our lives be marred by sin and separation. Then shall all the good things which God has prepared for us be fulfilled and we shall be satisfied (Psalm 17:15). Let the hope of Christ's second coming be your comfort (I Thess. 4:13-18) as well as your encouragement to Christian service (II Peter 3:14) and holy living (I John 3:3).

TEACHING TOOLS

- Visual aid book, figures 23-27,29 and wordstrips 28,30. (See inside front cover of visual aid book for instructions.)
- Paper and pencils for pupils to make reports for review.
- Everyone Sings* and *Sunday School Sings* or other songbooks with familiar Easter songs.
- Materials to continue tabletop project (see page 4).

EARLY TEACHING TIME

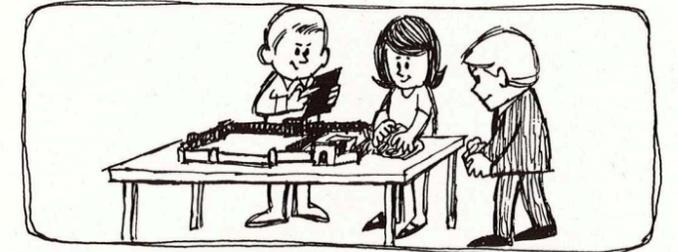
CHOOSE what is best for your class.
 Let pupils recall the crucifixion of Christ by turning to Luke 23:26-53 or John 19:16-42. Give them paper and pencils and let each one choose one of the questions below and write out the answer in his own words.

- What do you think was the saddest part of the account of the death of Jesus?
- What do you think was the most unusual or different thing that happened?

—Can you find a miracle in the story of Jesus' death? Write a short report about it.

NOTE: Do not expect "right" or "wrong" answers. Let pupils give their impressions and opinions.

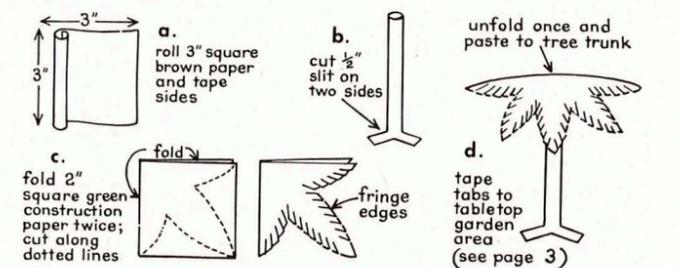
Have pupils gather around the piano and sing several familiar Easter songs. The following are suggested: "I Am the Resurrection" and "Hallelujah! What a Savior!" (*Everyone Sings*); "Christ the Lord Is Risen Today," "He Lives" and "Christ Arose" (*Sunday School Sings*).



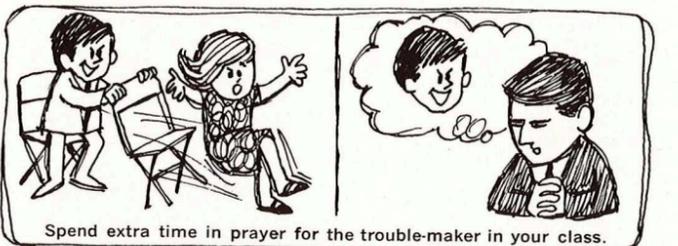
Have pupils continue making tabletop project of Jerusalem.

To make the hill of Calvary, crumple a paper towel and put in place (see page 3); crumple two more paper towels and place over first one, shaping them to resemble a low hill; secure with tape. Cut three small black crosses from construction paper; make three tiny slits in top of hill and paste bottom end of cross into each slit.

To make garden, make several palm trees as shown in steps a to d.



Have pupils make four colored signs and attach to tabletop project as described on page 8; label as follows: red—Calvary; red—garden tomb; black—garden tomb; yellow—garden tomb. Write summaries of events in the lesson and add to display.



CLASS TIME

PRAYER

Ask for specific prayer requests. Encourage pupil participation through sentence prayers.

REVIEW

(Collect worksheets pupils have ready to hand in. Let pupils share answers to questions suggested in "Early Teaching Time." Or use the time line and let pupils recall briefly the events of the Passion Week.) The most glorious event of the entire week was that Jesus arose. The first person to actually see him was Mary of Magdala and she went to tell the other disciples.

POINT OF CONTACT

(Because this lesson is a continuation of Lesson 4 the "Point of Contact" has been omitted. Use the review to build continuity between Lessons 4 and 5.)

BIBLE LESSON

It is difficult to imagine just how the disciples felt when they heard Mary's report that Christ is alive. (Attach figure 23 to page 5 of visual aid book.) No doubt the air was charged with excitement among those who had heard the news. Perhaps many small groups gathered and talked about what Mary had said. But this was just the beginning of the excitement. Many would see him with their own eyes!

Jesus Appears on Emmaus Road

That Sunday afternoon after Jesus arose, two of his followers were walking along the road northwest of Jerusalem. Perhaps they had been with the disciples earlier that morning and heard what the women said about the empty tomb. They were on their way to the village of Emmaus which was about seven miles from Jerusalem. Do you have any idea what the men were talking about? Right, they were discussing the events of the Crucifixion. As they talked, suddenly a Stranger joined them. Look at Luke 24:15 to see who it was. Did the two men know who he was? Look at verse 16. (Attach figure 24 to visual aid book.)

As Jesus joined the two men he asked, "What is this big discussion that you are having?" They stopped in their tracks. Only a stranger would not know what had happened in Jerusalem. One of the men named Cleopas asked, "Are you a stranger to Jerusalem that you don't know about the things that have happened?"

Jesus asked, "What things?"

No doubt the words came tumbling out as the two men tried to tell Jesus what had happened.

"We mean Jesus of Nazareth who was a prophet and who did mighty works before God and all the people. But our chief priests and rulers sentenced him to death and had him crucified."

Perhaps the other interrupted, "We were hoping that he was the promised Saviour who would redeem Israel and set us free. Now it's the third day and this morning some women went to the tomb. They couldn't find his body and they returned from the tomb saying they saw a vision of angels who say he is alive!"

As they walked along Jesus talked to the two excited men about the prophecies concerning himself. He started with the books of Moses and went on through the Prophets, book by book. But still they did not recognize Jesus.

When they arrived at Emmaus the two invited Jesus in for the evening meal. The Lord Jesus went in and sat down at the table. Just before they ate Jesus took bread and gave thanks. It was then that they suddenly recognized him. It was Jesus! Now it was no longer only the story of the women that morning—they had seen him with their own eyes. As soon as they recognized him, Jesus vanished. Imagine their surprise and joy when they realized it was Jesus and that he is alive! They said, *Did not our heart burn within us, while he talked with us by the way, and while he opened to us the scriptures* (Luke 24:32)? After their

great surprise their first thought was to go back to Jerusalem at once and tell the other disciples! The Bible says they left Emmaus within the hour. They left their meal uneaten and hurried back to Jerusalem.

Jesus Appears to the Twelve

The two men hurried back to Jerusalem as quickly as possible. There they found the disciples and other followers of Jesus hiding together in a room. The door was shut to protect them from danger and their enemies. Probably they took precaution because they were not sure what the members of the Sanhedrin would do since the tomb was empty. The disciples were sure of one thing. Jesus is alive!

As the two from Emmaus came in the disciples told them, "The Lord really is risen and he appeared to Peter." The Bible doesn't tell us what happened when Peter and Jesus met for the first time after Peter had denied Jesus, but we can be sure that Peter was forgiven.

What exciting news to hear. Then the two from Emmaus told their exciting news. They told of meeting Jesus, of talking to him, but not recognizing him until the evening meal. While this exciting and amazing discussion was going on, suddenly Jesus stood in their midst! He greeted them, *Peace be unto you* (John 20:19). (Attach figure 25 to visual aid book.)

The men were so frightened they thought surely they saw a ghost! Jesus knew what they were thinking and he said, "Why are you frightened? See my hands and feet, come, touch me and see. A spirit doesn't have flesh and bones like you see that I have." Slowly the truth began to dawn and they realized that it really was Jesus. They were filled with joy and amazement. Then Jesus asked, "Do you have anything to eat?" Quickly they gave him some broiled fish and watched him as he ate.

We don't know how Jesus' body was different after resurrection but it was. We know he wasn't like a ghost because they could touch him; he had flesh and bones, and he could eat food which a ghost cannot do. We can't understand the mystery of his resurrection body because he did not explain it to us but we can believe it is true.

As Jesus talked to the amazed disciples he reminded them that the prophets had said that the promised Saviour would need to suffer and die. They said he would be raised again on the third day. The Bible says it this way, *Thus it is written, and thus it behoved Christ to suffer, and to rise from the dead the third day: and that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem* (Luke 24:46,47).

Jesus Appears to Thomas

One of the disciples, Thomas, was not with the other disciples when Jesus came to them. Naturally they could hardly wait to tell Thomas the news! As soon as they saw him they said, "Thomas, we have seen the Lord!" How did Thomas receive the news? Did he believe them? Look at John 20:25. (Thomas doubted.) In other words, Thomas said, "Unless I see his hands and the scars of the nail prints, and actually touch his hands and his side where they wounded him, I'll never believe your story!"

Eight days later the disciples were gathered together again. This time Thomas was with them. Suddenly Jesus appeared. Jesus the Son of God knew what Thomas had said when the disciples told him Jesus is alive. Now Thomas was to have an opportunity to see for himself. The first thing Jesus said was, "Thomas, see my hands and the scars. Reach out your hand and touch the scars. Place your hand also on the scar on my side. Stop your unbelief and believe." (See John 20:27.)

The surprise of actually seeing Jesus, as well as the scars in his hands and side, took away all doubt from Thomas. There was only one answer he could give and Thomas said, *My Lord and my God* (John 20:28). (Attach figure 26 to

visual aid book.) Suddenly Thomas realized that Jesus really is the Son of God!

Jesus knew 1900 years ago that there would be people who would doubt him. He also knew that many would believe. That night Jesus talked about those of us who are here today and who believe in him. Jesus said, *Thomas, because thou hast seen me, thou hast believed: blessed are they that have not seen, and yet have believed* (John 20:29). We have never seen him or had opportunity like Thomas to touch him and still we believe in Christ.

Jesus Appears to Others

During the forty days after that glorious morning when Christ arose, he appeared to more than five hundred people. The most important thing the Lord did during those forty days was to show himself alive to many people and with many proofs. What are some of these proofs? Let's list them. He appeared to many people. He appeared to the women, to the disciples, to the two men on the road to Emmaus. He met Peter privately somewhere. He ate food so that they knew he was real, for a ghost could not eat. It wasn't only that they could see him with their eyes, but he invited them to touch him and see that he was real. He appeared to more than five hundred persons during the forty days. (Attach figure 27.)

Why do you suppose the Lord Jesus went to so much trouble? It was because it is very important for the people of that day as well as for you and me to know that the body of Jesus was raised from the dead and that he is alive today.

Christ Ascends to Heaven

It was at the end of the forty days that Jesus and the disciples were gathered together for a meal. Jesus talked to the disciples and gave them instructions. He asked them not to leave Jerusalem for a while. The Holy Spirit would be sent to them and would give them power to do the Lord's work. Perhaps the disciples did not understand all that the Lord told them. There was still one question which was bothering them. They asked, "Lord, will you at this time set up your kingdom?" But the Lord answered, *It is not for you to know the times or the seasons, which the Father hath put in his own power. But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth* (Acts 1:7,8).

After Jesus had told the disciples these things, he took them outside the city to the Mount of Olives. There, when he finished speaking, Jesus left them and slowly went up toward heaven. As the disciples watched this strange and amazing sight they saw a cloud receive him and they could no longer see Jesus. (Attach figure 29 and wordstrip 28 above it.) While they were standing there spellbound

looking toward heaven, two men dressed in white stood next to the disciples and asked, *Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? this same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven* (Acts 1:11).

Christ Will Come Again

Many things had happened within the past forty days which the disciples and Jesus' followers did not understand. Now out on the Mount of Olives, after Christ instructed the disciples to go into all the world and preach and teach the message about him, he left them. But how like Jesus to send angels to the disciples with a message. The Lord Jesus had barely left this earth before he sent the message that he would be coming back to earth again. When he comes he will take those who believe to be with him. Just as the message, "He is coming," rang throughout the Old Testament, so the message for Christians today is that Jesus is coming to earth again. Just as the first message came to pass when Jesus was born as a babe on earth, so the second message will come true. (Attach wordstrip 30 below figure 29.)

PRAYER

Close in prayer. Thank God especially for the assurance we have of serving a living Saviour.

MEMORY WORK

Refer to the memory verse in the visual aid book. Jesus spoke these words before he was crucified. He told the disciples why he had to leave the earth. He was going back to heaven to prepare a place for the disciples and for all who believe in him. Jesus had to go back to heaven because it meant that he would come to earth again so that those of us who believe in him can be with him.

"Many mansions" means a place where Christians will be with Christ. There will be room for all. Just as Jesus sent Peter and John to prepare the room for the Lord's Supper, so Jesus has gone ahead to prepare a place in heaven for Christians. The Bible doesn't tell us all the details of what it will be like when Jesus comes back to earth, but the important thing is that we will be with Christ and he will take care of everything.

ASSIGNMENT

- Assign the memory verses, John 14:2,3, to be learned.
- Return the worksheets which you collected and checked last week. Take time to discuss any questions with which pupils may have had difficulty.

UNIT II THE CHRISTIAN'S GROWTH

UNIT AIM

To create within the pupil a desire to grow spiritually and to show him ways in which he can grow.

UNIT AT A GLANCE

Lesson 6, the first lesson of Unit II, will provide op-

portunity for the pupil to make a personal decision for Christ as he learns how to become a member of God's family. Lessons 7 through 10 will deal with such areas as: Growing through Bible study, learning to pray, learning to talk about God and learning to give to God. Use the large colorful visual aid book to build up the lessons of this unit.

LESSON 6

BECOMING A MEMBER OF GOD'S FAMILY

PREPARATION

TEACHING AIMS

Teach so pupil will
KNOW who Jesus Christ is and why he died on the cross;
RESPOND with a desire to accept Jesus Christ as his personal Saviour.

MEMORY VERSE

For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: not of works, lest any man should boast. Ephesians 2:8,9

SCRIPTURE

John 3:1-21; Acts 16:16-34

THINK ON THESE THINGS

Spiritual life is a vital relationship with God through Jesus Christ. Jesus made this very plain to Nicodemus in John 3:6. The Scriptures tell us that this spiritual life is born within all who believe that Jesus Christ is God incarnate, who came as a man to provide salvation for all who will receive it (John 1:10-12; I John 5:1). Becoming a Christian, then, is not a process but an occasion of personal decision. Being born into God's family takes place at the moment when, by faith, one believes that Jesus Christ is his personal Saviour from the penalty and power of sin. Until this decision takes place in each life, each of us is under the condemnation of God (John 3:17,18). We become children of God only when we are born into God's family through faith in Jesus Christ. This is confirmed by John 3:3; James 1:18; I Peter 1:23; I John 5:4,5. Have you experienced this spiritual birth? If so, thank God for this great gift that is yours through faith in Christ (John 3:36). If not, read carefully John 5:24 and ask Christ right now to make you a member of God's family.

(Before teaching this lesson read "Leading a Pupil to Christ," page 25.)

TEACHING TOOLS

- Visual aid book, wordstrips 31-35. (See inside front cover of visual aid book for instructions.)
- Projector and screen to show S/35 filmstrip.
- Memory verse cards 1-5 (remove cards from page 9 in visual aid book by cutting along lines), pocket chart.
- 3"x5" cards and two boxes for matching review of Unit I.
- Materials for 3-D folder: 12"x18" lightweight cardboard, construction paper (blue, green, white, black), ruler, scissors, paste.
- Materials to continue tabletop project (see page 4).



EARLY TEACHING TIME

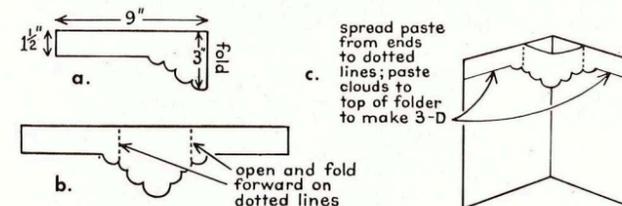
CHOOSE what is best for your class.

- Have pupils review memory verses for first unit. Place cards 1-5 in pocket chart with reference side out. Let pupil choose a reference, recite verse and turn card around in the pocket chart. If it is recited correctly the card may be left in place and the pupil may proceed to the next card. If it is recited incorrectly the pupil must turn it back to reference side and allow another pupil to take his turn. Repeat in reverse order.
- To review Unit I, select familiar statements made by various people in Lessons 1-5. Write statements on cards and place in a box; write who made each statement on other cards and place in a box. Let pupils draw cards from each

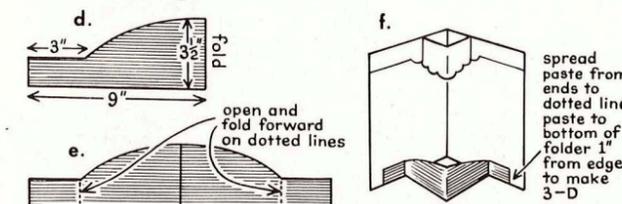
box and match them. Suggested statements and who said them:

- "Woman, I know him not"—Peter
- "I find in him no fault at all"—Pilate
- "Crucify him, crucify him"—The people
- "Father, forgive them"—Jesus
- "Master"—Mary Magdalene
- "My Lord, and my God"—Thomas

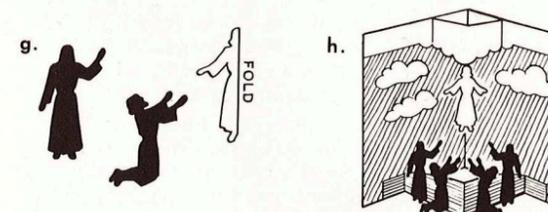
- Have several pupils make a 3-D folder of the ascension. Let one pupil paste a piece of 12"x18" blue construction paper to cardboard; measure and fold cardboard in half. Let another pupil cut out and fold the upper clouds from white paper as shown in steps a to c.



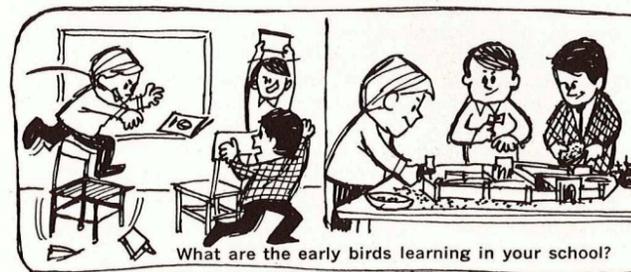
- Let one pupil cut out and fold mountain from green paper as shown in steps d to f.



- Let several pupils cut out silhouettes of the disciples from black paper and the silhouette of Jesus from folded white paper (step g). Paste disciples to mountaintop and paste head of Jesus just entering the clouds. Cut out several small clouds and paste to blue background (step h).



- Have pupils complete any unfinished details of the tabletop project, making sure all colored signs are in place. Spread paste on entire ground area (a small area at a time); sprinkle fine sand to cover.



CLASS TIME

PRAYER

Pray that the Lord Jesus might be more real to each of the pupils and that they might be drawn to Christ.

REVIEW

(To review Unit I, project frames 1-11 of the S/35 filmstrip, LF-51. This is the same filmstrip used for Lesson 1. If you made a list of the pupils' questions have these in view. The purpose is to look at the filmstrip in the light of the questions that were asked during its first showing. The pupils will now be able to review and discuss the answers.)

(Collect worksheets from those who have completed their homework.) How many of you can tell one thing that the Lord Jesus Christ did after the Resurrection? Why is it important for us to know where Christ is now? Yes, since we know he is in heaven, we know that he is able to understand all our problems and that he has power to help us.

POINT OF CONTACT

As you came to Sunday School this morning you may have noticed street signs which said, "Speed Limit 35 miles per hour." Why are there laws which fix speed limits? (For our safety and protection) Who makes our laws? (Lead pupils to mention that city laws are made by a city council; state laws by a state legislature, and federal laws by the Congress of the United States.)

Who punishes you when you break the laws? (Courts decide how much a fine shall be, or for how long a person should go to jail.)

In our government there are many courts. The most important court in our land is one that is over all the others. What is it called? (Supreme Court of the United States. Show picture of Supreme Court Building in Washington, D.C., or the chief court of your own country.) The members of the Supreme Court tell the courts of the states, counties and cities what kind of laws can and cannot be made according to our Constitution.

When Jesus was on earth, the religious laws for the Jews were made by a group of men called the Sanhedrin. The Sanhedrin was something like a Supreme Court. The Sanhedrin was made up of seventy of the most important leaders of the land, plus the high priest who served as president of the group. The men who were members of the Sanhedrin were called the rulers of the Jews. They were very important people. Some of them were worried about what they saw Jesus doing.

BIBLE LESSON

The miracles which Jesus did while he was here on earth created quite a stir among the people. The sick and the lame were filled with joy. The disciples were constantly amazed and surprised. The ruler and religious leaders were annoyed and some were fearful. The Pharisees, one of the leading religious groups of that day, constantly tried to trick Jesus because his teaching was so different from the truths as they knew them from the Old Testament. They did not understand that God sent Jesus Christ into the world to die on the cross and to be raised from the dead for our sins.

In the past weeks we have studied about the Lord Jesus Christ. (Refer to the first statement on page 6 of the visual aid book.) We have learned that he is God's only Son and that he was sent to earth by God. All the events of the last week of Christ's life here on earth remind us that Jesus came to give his life willingly for the sins of people everywhere. The Bible teaches that he came to give his life for you and for me and to make us children of God. (Refer to second statement on page 6 of visual aid book.)

Many people at that time did not understand this, just as numerous people today do not understand. Questions popped into their minds such as, "Who is this Jesus?" "Is

he a prophet?" Questions which each one of us face are, "What do you think of Jesus?" "How does one become a member of God's Family?"

Nicodemus Has Questions

One of the rulers of the Sanhedrin named Nicodemus seemed to be especially troubled with what he heard about Jesus. One night, quite some time before Jesus was crucified, Nicodemus went to talk personally with this new teacher named Jesus. He wanted to find out for himself what this strange teaching was all about.

The Bible doesn't tell us why Nicodemus came by night. Perhaps he felt there would be more time to talk to Jesus. Jesus was busy during the day. Maybe Nicodemus did not want anyone to know that he, a leader in the Sanhedrin, was talking to Jesus. Jesus had just cleansed the Temple (John 2:13-25) and the feelings toward him were not friendly.

Nicodemus found the place where Jesus was staying. He probably walked quietly up the steps at the side of the house to the rooftop or the guest room. (Refer to picture A in visual aid book.) Nicodemus was a well-educated man and well-mannered. As he began to speak to Jesus he called him "Rabbi" which means teacher. It was a great honor to be called Rabbi at that time, for only the most important religious teachers were called by that name. Nicodemus began the conversation by telling Jesus that he believed Jesus was a teacher sent from God. Do you wonder what it was that made Nicodemus so sure that Jesus was sent from God? Look at John 3:2. (He felt certain that Jesus' miracles were done in the power of God.)

Nicodemus Needed to Be Born Again

Even though Nicodemus said he knew that Jesus was a teacher come from God, he did not really understand that Jesus was God's Son. Jesus knew that even though Nicodemus was a Pharisee he did not understand. Nicodemus like all Pharisees tried to keep the whole law of God just as God had given it to Moses. Besides that, these Jews had added more rules of their own. They felt that no man was as good as they were, for they thought of themselves as God's chosen people. They were sure that no one could be saved without keeping every one of their laws and rules.

Jesus did not reply to Nicodemus' first words. Before Nicodemus could ask any questions Jesus perhaps surprised him by giving an answer. Jesus said, *Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God* (John 3:3). Jesus wanted Nicodemus to understand that all efforts to keep the law and to do good works could not save one.

This was a new idea to Nicodemus. He could not understand what Jesus was talking about. For many years Nicodemus had been taught that all descendants of Abraham (all Jews) would inherit the promises of God (Genesis 22:17, 18). It would be easy for them to please God because they were Jews, God's chosen people. Imagine Nicodemus' amazement when Jesus said, *Ye must be born again*. Nicodemus thought Jesus was talking about being born a second time as a baby. He did not understand that being born again meant accepting the Lord Jesus as his personal Saviour and becoming a member of God's family.

How can a man be born when he is old? Nicodemus asked (John 3:4). Jesus explained that he was talking about a person being born into God's family. One must have a changed heart, and follow Jesus as Saviour to enter the kingdom of heaven. One must receive a new life from Christ. Perhaps there was a look of confusion on the face of Nicodemus as he tried to understand what Jesus was saying. Jesus admitted that this truth is very difficult to understand for it is a mystery. Perhaps a soft evening breeze was blowing around Jesus and Nicodemus there on the flat rooftop. To help Nicodemus understand a bit better Jesus used the breeze as an example and said, *Marvel not—do not be surprised, astonished—at My telling you, You must all be born*

anew (from above). The wind blows . . . where it will; and though you hear its sound, yet you neither know where it comes from nor where it goes. So it is with every one who is born of the Spirit (John 3:7,8, Amplified). We really know very little about the wind. We know what causes it. We see what it is able to do. We see it move kites and sailboats. We can feel it but we can't see it. We see only the effects of the wind. The work of God's Spirit in our hearts is like that. We know that the Spirit of God is powerful because we have seen the great changes he makes in the lives of people but we can't understand him.

Although Nicodemus was well trained, Jesus' teaching completely amazed him. He had never heard anything like that before, so he asked, "How can these things be?" (Attach wordstrip 31 above Nicodemus in the visual aid book.) Jesus told Nicodemus that God loved the world so much that he sent his only Son into the world, so that whoever believes in him would be saved from their sin and have everlasting life. You no doubt recognize these words as a Bible verse you know very well. What is the reference? (John 3:16) Although this is a verse which you have perhaps been able to quote from memory since you were very young, it is one of the most important verses in the Bible. It tells us how we can become a member of God's family.

The Bible does not tell us what Nicodemus decided to do that night. He may have told the Lord that he wanted to be born again right then, or he may have gone out to think more about what Christ said. Remember in our lesson when Jesus died on the cross it was Nicodemus who went with Joseph of Arimathea to bury Christ. Earlier when the Sanhedrin discussed arresting Jesus because he claimed to be God's Son, Nicodemus spoke up and said, *Does our Law convict a man without giving him a hearing and finding out what he has done* (John 7:51, Amplified)? Perhaps Nicodemus did become a follower of Christ but it was a decision he had to make.

A Jailer Becomes a Member of God's Family

Many years after Nicodemus went to see Jesus, a jailer asked an important question. He got much the same answer that Nicodemus received from the Lord Jesus. The jailer did not go to see Jesus as Nicodemus did, but he met two missionaries who told him about Christ.

The jailer lived in the city of Philippi in the country known today as Greece. One day two missionaries, Paul and Silas, came to Philippi. As the missionaries preached to the people they told them about the Lord. A slave girl, who was controlled by an evil spirit, followed Paul and Silas. The girl worked as a fortuneteller for the men who owned her and made money for them. The men believed the girl had power to tell what would happen in the future. As she followed Paul and Silas the girl would bother them. Paul knew an evil spirit was in control.

One day Paul spoke to the evil spirit and said, "I command you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her." At once the girl became well but her owners became very angry. The girl lost her power to tell fortunes, so the men could no longer depend on her to make money for them. They were so angry they had Paul and Silas arrested. By this time a great mob of people had gathered and watched as the two men were dragged before the rulers of the city.

There in a public place Paul and Silas were beaten by soldiers. Each soldier carried a bundle of rods. The clothing was stripped off the backs of the two prisoners and they were beaten with the rods. From there they were taken to the jail and turned over to the jailer.

The soldiers gave the jailer orders to make sure the prisoners did not get away. He knew what would happen to him if the prisoners escaped. By Roman law the jailer had to take the same punishment his prisoners had to take if they escaped because of his neglect.

Paul and Silas were taken into the inner prison, possibly

a dungeon, by the jailer. Their feet were fastened in stocks. A stock is a heavy piece of wood with holes into which the feet were placed in such a way that the prisoners were very uncomfortable and often in pain. Making sure that the prisoners were securely fastened was no doubt routine work for the jailer. But he was to have a great surprise before the night had passed! Although the instructions were the same for these prisoners as for other prisoners, these two men were different!

That night even the other prisoners were to be surprised by the two missionaries. Paul and Silas were very uncomfortable with their feet in stocks. Their backs were cut and bleeding from the beatings which they had received. Imagine the surprise of the other prisoners when during the night these two men began to sing! They were not humming softly to themselves, they were singing so loud the other prisoners could hear them. In spite of their painful situation, they were singing praises to God. The other prisoners were so amazed and surprised they hardly knew what to think.

Suddenly at midnight there was a violent earthquake. The walls in the prison began to shake, the doors of the prison were thrown open and the stocks were instantly loosed from the feet of all prisoners.

The earthquake awakened the jailer who immediately went to check on his prisoners. When he saw the open doors he must have thought, "Surely all the prisoners have escaped!" The poor man knew what lay ahead for him, and rather than face the punishment he decided to take his own life. Suddenly above the confusion and darkness came a clear loud voice which said, "Do not harm yourself for we are all here!" It was the voice of Paul. No doubt he had seen the jailer through an open doorway and saw what the jailer was about to do.

The jailer called for lights and quickly entered the dungeon where the prisoners were kept. In fear and trembling he rushed in and fell down before Paul and Silas, and asked, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?" (Refer to picture B; attach wordstrip 32.) Let's turn to Acts 16:31 to see what the answer was.

A Roman jailer was free to treat his prisoners in any way he wanted to as long as he had them ready to present to the officials when they called for them. Now the jailer took Paul and Silas out of the dungeon and into his own home as guests. The Bible says that Paul and Silas taught the jailer from the Word of God. That night the man and his family became Christians and members of God's family because they believed and trusted Christ. What a change came into the jailer's life. He took the two men into his home, bathed the bloody wounds and gave them food.

Becoming a Member of God's Family

Both Nicodemus and the jailer had an important decision to make. Both had to decide whether they wanted to become members of God's family by believing in Christ. Each of us must also make that choice. How does one become a member of God's family? The Bible says, *Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved* (Acts 16:31). You become a member of God's family when you believe you are a sinner (Romans 3:23) and ask Jesus Christ to become your Saviour. (Attach wordstrip 33.)

We cannot understand how God saves us by our believing in his Son, the Lord Jesus Christ, any more than Nicodemus could understand it. It is a miracle but we believe it is true because God's Word tells us.

There is nothing we can do to earn badges or merits to become members of God's family. God gives us a free gift by letting us become members of his family. (Refer to the memory verse in the visual aid book.) The Bible says it this way, *For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: not of works, lest any man should boast* (Ephesians 2:8,9).

There are several words in this verse that are hard to

understand or to define. One of the words is "grace." It is such a big word that one cannot define it with just a one word definition. It means that God loves you very much but that isn't all. Grace means that you and I don't deserve the gift of salvation or being saved from our sins, but grace means still more than that. It also means that we can't earn the new life in Christ, not even a little bit, but that still doesn't define the word grace. The word is so big that we cannot understand it completely.

Another word in the verse which is difficult to understand is "faith." One way to explain it is to say faith is believing in something we can't see or understand. You can believe that Christ loves you and died for you even when you can't see him or understand how he saves you.

Faith is also trusting someone because of who the person is. If you had to do an experiment in science class you would probably feel much safer to have your teacher instead of your friend explain how to do it. You believe in your teacher and have faith in him because of who he is. You know the teacher knows more about the experiment than your friends. You have faith in the teachers. We can trust God and have faith in him because he is God.

How does one become a member of God's family? By believing or having faith in Christ to save us from our sins. It is a gift of God, not something we earn. When someone gives you a gift you must take it to make it your own. Only you know whether you have ever accepted Jesus Christ and if you are a member of God's family. (Attach wordstrip 34 to visual aid book.)

When you ask the Lord to save you from your sin you can trust him to do just that. The Bible says, *But as many as received him, [Christ] to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name* (John 1:12). That means that we become God's children. (Attach wordstrip 35 to visual aid book.) God is our heavenly Father who loves us more than we can imagine. We can trust him to take care of us, to forgive our sins, and we can go to him with our troubles.

If you want to become a member of God's family, you can do so today by believing in Christ and accepting God's gift of salvation. (Be on the alert for any pupil who might be ready to make a decision for Christ. Talk to him individually after class. See "Leading a Pupil to Christ," page 25.)

PRAYER

Thank God for the free gift of salvation.

MEMORY WORK

Have pupils find Ephesians 2:8,9 in their Bibles. Be sure that pupils understand that these verses teach that we can do nothing to earn salvation. God provides it as a gift for all who have faith in the Lord Jesus Christ.

ASSIGNMENT

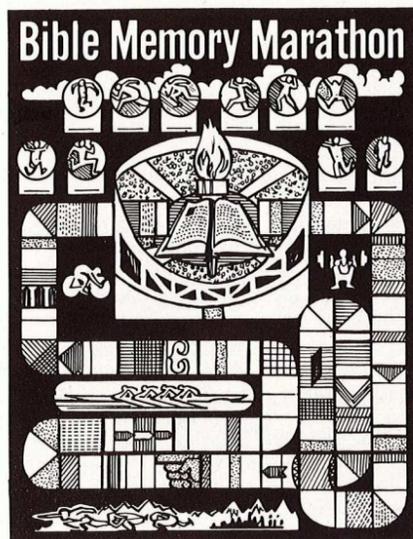
- Assign the memory verse to be learned this week.
- Show worksheets in the pupils' books to be completed at home this week.
- Return the corrected worksheets which were handed in last week. Have pupils file them with other worksheets.

LOOKING AHEAD

Encourage pupils to bring several translations and paraphrases of the New Testament, as *Living Letters, Good News for Modern Man* (American Bible Society); *Phillips, New English Bible*. These books will be used next Sunday.

FIFTH GRADE MEMORY COURSE — BIBLE MEMORY MARATHON

Use an Olympic theme to interest your pupils in "pressing toward the mark" in a memory work marathon. As assignments are completed, individual runners move certain distances on the marathon course. Display a Bible Memory Marathon poster in each classroom on which the pupils can visualize their individual progress by placement of runners and by adding colored coding dots and pennants to the poster. Write each pupil's name in the space provided below a numbered runner. Each marathon runner will be identified by his number throughout the course. (See sketch.)



The required memory work assignment is the memory verse for each week's lesson. These assignments are given in both the teacher's and pupil's books, as well as on the memory list cards (two sets of memory list cards provide a simple reference and record system, one card for each pupil and one for his department file. Extra honor assignments, including four songs, and completed pupils' books will also earn credit for advancement in the marathon. All the work can be easily completed if the assignments are done regularly. It is important to encourage your pupils to make rapid and consistent progress in the memory course. Get them off to a good start! (See the poster kit instructions for complete information.)

POSTER KIT

Each kit contains materials to supply ten pupils for an entire year's Bible memory course. Complete instructions are included for displaying and using the poster.

PROCEDURE

Select an adult to be memory work chairman (if necessary, organize a memory work committee of several people) to hear the pupils recite each week. Those chosen for this task may be people who wish to serve in some way but who cannot take the responsibility of a class. The memory work should be recited before and/or after class time so there are no interruptions during the lesson period. It may be feasible to have a pupil learn several verses before reciting to a "listener."

The chairman will be responsible for keeping an accurate permanent file of memory list cards for the department. When the pupil has memorized an assignment, he will report to a member of the memory work committee. This person must insist that the passage be recited perfectly with the reference. When a pupil has completed an assignment satisfactorily, it is indicated on the department file card and on the pupil's card.

Distances are gained in the marathon as follows:

- Required verse— $\frac{1}{4}$ mile
- Song (extra honor)— $\frac{1}{4}$ mile
- Scripture (extra honor)— $\frac{1}{2}$ mile
- One completed pupil's book—1 mile

Colored coding dots and pennants will be added to the poster in recognition of quarterly achievement. The coding dots (to be attached beside appropriate runner at top of poster) will be awarded as follows:

- red coding dot—13 required verses
- yellow coding dot—one extra honor (Scripture)
- blue coding dot—completed pupil's book

For each pupil who earns all three coding dots in a quarter, a colored pennant numbered to correspond to his runner will be attached to the poster stadium as follows:

- green—first quarter
- blue—second quarter
- yellow—third quarter
- red—fourth quarter

Each teacher should be responsible for keeping his poster up-to-date. The pupil's runner may be moved the distance gained each week, or the accumulated distance gained each month. In order to assure an accurate record, the memory work chairman should prepare a monthly progress report for each class.

WATCH FOR SLACKENED PACE

The teacher's genuine enthusiasm and helpful encouragement will be key factors in sustaining the pupil's interest throughout the year's memory course. Be on the lookout for the slower learner and give whatever assistance is needed. Spend some extra "memorization minutes" in class time and think of new ways to teach the assignments. Make a special occasion of adding the coding dots and pennants at the end of the quarter. Keep the marathon runners moving!

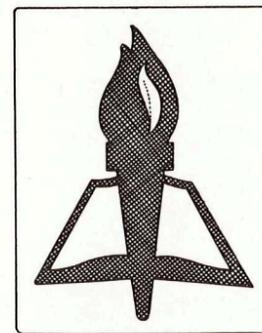
MEMORY WORK FOR FIRST QUARTER

- Memory verses: Lesson 1 Isaiah 55:8,9
Lesson 2 Luke 22:19; I Cor. 11:26
Lesson 3 Matthew 27:22
Lesson 4 I Peter 3:18
Lesson 5 John 14:2,3
Lesson 6 Ephesians 2:8,9
Lesson 7 I Peter 2:2
Lesson 8 Philippians 4:6
Lesson 9 Isaiah 63:7
Lesson 10 I Corinthians 16:2
Lesson 11 Luke 10:27
Lesson 12 Colossians 3:13
Lesson 13 II Timothy 2:24

- Extra honor: Salvation verses—Isaiah 53:5,6
Romans 3:23
Romans 10:9,10
John 14:1-6
I Corinthians 13:1-6
I Corinthians 13:7-13
Song—"He Lives"

ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

Department "finish" and "extra honor" awards will be given at the end of the fifth grade year. The "finish" award is a beautiful blue and white emblem* bearing the Bible Memory Marathon symbols of the open Bible and a torch (sketch a). The "extra honor" award is a gold-plated pin* which may be worn proudly on the clothing or attached to the "finish" award emblem (sketch b).



"Finish Award"



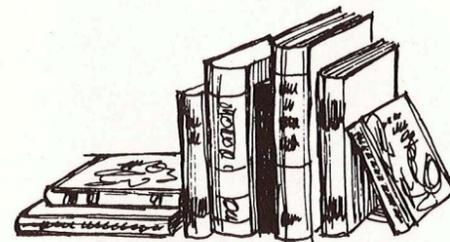
Extra Honor Award

Achievements required for the "finish" award:

- Fifty-two required verses—13 miles
- Extra honor assignments—2 miles
- Four completed pupil's books—4 miles
- Total—19 miles

Achievements required for the "extra honor" award:

- Fifty-two required verses—13 miles
- Extra honor assignments—9 miles
- Four completed pupil's books—4 miles
- Total—26 miles



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- CALDWELL, IRENE SMITH. *Teaching That Makes a Difference*. Anderson, Indiana: The Warner Press, 1962.
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Everyone Sings. Mound, Minnesota: Praise Book Publications, 1966.

*Available at your Sunday School supplier.

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LEADING A PUPIL TO CHRIST

The age at which a boy or girl grasps the meaning of personal salvation depends somewhat on his training and background. Some boys and girls, especially from Christian homes, will be ready to receive Jesus Christ as Saviour and Lord earlier than others. Pray that the Holy Spirit will give you wisdom and will make you sensitive to every pupil's spiritual need. Remember that salvation is a supernatural work of the Holy Spirit. Unless God himself is speaking to the child, he cannot become a child of God.

Boys and girls can be easily influenced to follow the group. Therefore, avoid group decisions. Rather, plan for personal counseling and pray individually with any child who is ready to trust the Lord Jesus Christ as his Saviour.



Follow these basic steps in talking with the pupil:

1. Explain simply how to ask Christ to become his personal Saviour. Show him what God says in his Word.
 - a. God loves you so much that he wants you to be with him now and always (John 3:16).
 - b. Those who do wrong do not please God, for God is perfect and good. God's Word for wrongdoing is "sin." God says you have sinned (Romans 3:23), that sin will destroy your life and sin must be punished (Romans 6:23).
 - c. God loves you so much he sent his Son the Lord Jesus Christ to be punished in your place—to die on the cross for your sin (I Cor. 15:3) so that you can do the things that please God.
 - d. When you are really sorry you have sinned and you want to stop doing wrong and you believe Jesus Christ died on the cross for your sin, God forgives you. You become a member of God's family (John 1:12) because Christ is your Saviour.
2. When the pupil in simple faith trusts Christ and believes that Jesus Christ took the punishment for his sin, encourage him to thank God in his own words that Jesus did this for him.
3. Explain further that when a Christian (the name of those who are God's children) sins, he should tell God of the sin and ask God to forgive him for Jesus' sake (I John 1:9).
4. Encourage the pupil to tell others that he trusts Jesus Christ as his Saviour and has become a Christian.
5. Explain to the pupil that he may grow spiritually
 - a. by reading the Bible—Psalm 119:11
 - b. by praying—Philippians 4:6
 - c. by obeying God—James 1:22

As soon as possible, visit the pupil's parents and explain to them the child's decision. Talk with them about how they can guide him in his spiritual growth.

GROWING THROUGH BIBLE STUDY

PREPARATION

TEACHING AIMS

Teach so pupil may
KNOW that new Christians need to grow spiritually;
RESPOND with a conviction to study God's Word to grow.

MEMORY VERSE

As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby. I Peter 2:2

SCRIPTURE

Matthew 4:3-11; Colossians 3:16; II Timothy 2:15; 3:15-17; I Peter 2:1-3

THINK ON THESE THINGS

The adequate teacher must be thoroughly steeped in the Scriptures. II Timothy 3:17 tells why God gave us the Bible and states as one of the reasons *That the man of God may be . . . thoroughly furnished unto all good works.* In order to be an effective teacher you need to know, to memorize and understand the Scriptures. Just preparing a lesson weekly for juniors is not enough Bible study to "thoroughly furnish you for all good works." Do you have a plan of Bible study for yourself apart from your lesson preparation? In your own study have you tried these methods: a word study, for example, study the word "life"; a paragraph study; study of a chapter or passage; a book study; a topical study, as "faith"; or a biographical study, as of Peter.

Do you have a regular plan of Scripture memorization? God wants us to hide his Word in our hearts (Deuteronomy 6:6; 11:18; Colossians 3:16). Select now a passage of Scripture and begin this week to commit it to memory.

TEACHING TOOLS

- Visual aid book, wordstrips 36-40. (See inside front cover of visual aid book for instructions.)
- Various translations and paraphrases of the New Testament, as *Living Letters, Good News for Modern Man* (American Bible Society), *The New Testament in Modern English* (Phillips), *The New English Bible*.
- A book display from your church library for juniors' spiritual growth. (If possible, include *The Living Story of Jesus*, a Regal book published by G/L.)
- Materials for making a poster: Several Christian magazines or *National Geographic* magazines, construction paper, paste, scissors, felt pen.
- A concordance.

EARLY TEACHING TIME

CHOOSE what is best for your class.

- Let pupils examine the kinds of helps in their own Bible. Explain purposes of concordances, marginal notes, glossary, index, and cross references. Show them how to

find cross references and how to use the marginal notes as given in their Bible with Ephesians 2:8,9.

- Let pupils examine various translations and paraphrases of the New Testament. Let pupils find Ephesians 2:8,9 in these versions and compare them with the King James Version.

- Let pupils browse through the book display. Encourage them to check out one to read. Make sure pupils know location of your church library and how to borrow a book.



- Have pupils make a poster with an open Bible or picture of Christ in center. Let several pupils look through magazines and find pictures of people from various lands and races. Arrange and paste pictures around center. Let a pupil letter title, "All Are Invited to Be Members of God's Family," at the top of poster.



CLASS TIME

PRAYER

Open the class period with prayer. Encourage pupils to participate.

REVIEW

(Collect worksheets from those who have completed their homework.) Many people refer to our country as "a Christian country." Does that make everyone in this country a Christian? Last Sunday we talked about how to become a Christian. If someone asked you how to become a Christian what would you say? (Lead pupils to mention both believing in Christ and receiving him as Saviour.)

POINT OF CONTACT

How many of you have flown in a plane? Do you know what a pilot has to do to obtain a pilot's license? (Wait for comments. Point out that in addition to a knowledge of how to use controls, a pilot must have studied cross-country navigation, barometric pressure, tolerances for wind velocity and radio communication, differences between day-time and night flying, safety rules and regulations of what to do in case of emergency. The Federal Aviation Agency requires all licensed pilots to attend school, studying theory for six months. Then 20 hours must be spent actually

flying with an instructor and 20 hours solo flying before a pilot can apply for a license.)

No one can just go out and climb in an airplane and fly. They might manage to start the motor, they might even manage to get the plane off the ground, but that is not all there is to flying.

BIBLE LESSON

Bible Study Helps Us Grow Spiritually

When we become Christians we are like a man approaching an airplane for the first time. We hardly know what to do first, or how to do it. We need a guide. The Bible, God's message to us, is our guide. In the Bible we learn what God wants us to do and how God wants us to live.

Many thousands of years ago, God spoke to men in different ways. God spoke aloud to Samuel one night after Samuel had gone to bed. He could hear God's voice. (I Samuel 3:5-10) How did God speak to Moses? (Burning bush) God speaks to people now as he did to Samuel and Moses—not in words that can be heard aloud, but through the Bible and through his Spirit.

The Bible tells us that when we are first born into God's family we are like babies. Turn to I Peter 2:2 in your Bibles. What does this verse tell us we need to do? (Just as babies want milk, we want to know God's Word so we can grow as Christians.)

Human babies drink milk from the time they are born. Milk makes them grow. They are fed four or five times a day. Mothers and dads even have to get up during the night to feed them. (Show picture of a newborn baby in visual aid book, page 7. Let pupils compare the other pictures to it to determine growth changes during the first year of life. Help them point out such changes as, the baby is able to sit up at six months, at nine months it can stand and has several teeth, at twelve months it is able to walk and is beginning to speak.)

We know that milk is the food that babies need for growth. I Peter 2:2 compares the Word of God to milk for Christians. The study of God's Word is as important to those who trust in Christ as milk is to babies.

When you become a Christian you are responsible for feeding yourself spiritual food. Parents can feed babies milk, but no one can study and memorize God's Word for you except you yourself. If you are not to suffer from spiritual starvation, you must study the Bible every day. A baby would not grow if he were fed once a week or only on Sunday morning! He must be fed several times each day.

Our rate of spiritual growth increases when we spend time in studying and obeying God's Word. In writing to the Thessalonian Christians Paul says, *We . . . thank God always for you . . . because that your faith groweth exceedingly* (II Thessalonians 1:3). In an earlier letter to the Thessalonians, Paul gives us a clue as to why their faith grew so rapidly. The people received the Word with joy and it made a difference in their lives. (See I Thessalonians 2:13.)

Early Christians Knew God's Word Well

The Bible tells us that early Christians spent much time studying the Scriptures. When the Ethiopian eunuch asked Philip to explain the Scriptures, Philip knew them and understood them well enough to show the Ethiopian how the Old Testament Scriptures referred to Christ. The Bible tells us that he *began at the same scripture, and preached unto him Jesus* (Acts 8:35). Apparently Philip knew God's Word so well that he could explain it to others.

As a young man, Paul spent much time studying God's Word. Even before Paul was a Christian he studied the Scriptures under one of the greatest teachers of his day.

The teacher's name was Gamaliel. Although Paul studied God's Word all his life, he never tired of studying it. When he was in prison in Rome during the last days of his life, Paul wrote to Timothy asking him to bring his books and *especially the parchments* (II Timothy 4:13). "The parchments" refer to Paul's copies of the Scripture.

Why You Need to Study the Bible

Paul knew that it was important for others to study God's Word. He said it is profitable, or good, to study God's Word. Let's try to find reasons why it is good to study the Scriptures. (Refer to the statement, "It is important to study God's Word because:" in the visual aid book.) There are two Bible verses which are especially good and will help us. Find II Timothy 3:16,17 in your Bible. (Have a pupil read these verses aloud. Discuss them. Lead pupils to discover that the first part of verse 16 says Scripture [the Bible] is given by God. Emphasize that if this is so, God surely must want us to know and understand it. Attach wordstrip 36, "The Bible is given by God," to visual aid book.)

Look at verse 16 again. It says that Scripture is profitable for doctrine. What do you think "profitable" means? (Useful) The verse tells us that the Bible is our guide and that it is useful to understand what we should believe. It helps us understand God's instructions. The Bible word for instruction is "doctrine." (Attach wordstrip 37, "It helps us understand what we believe.")

Next the verse says the Bible is for our reproof and correction. One way to define the word "reproof" is judgment or warning. How does the Scripture do that? Yes, it warns us about sins in our life. The Bible also shows us what to do about sins. It tells us to confess our sins to Christ who will faithfully forgive us (I John 1:9). (Attach wordstrip 38, "It is for our correction," to visual aid book.)

What do you think "instruction in righteousness" means? We might say the Word of God instructs or trains us in holy living, or living as God wants us to live. Through the Bible we receive encouragement to give ourselves to God's will in our thoughts, our goals and our actions. So we might say, the Bible shows us what we ought to do. (Attach wordstrip 39 to visual aid book.)

Now look at verse 17. Who is the "man of God"? Yes, that refers to those who believe in the Lord Jesus Christ. This verse gives us still another reason why we should study the Bible. What is it? (That Christians should be well prepared to do the work God has for them) (Attach wordstrip 40 to visual aid book.) The Lord Jesus came to save us from our sins so that we might walk and talk with the Lord each day. He saved us so that we might serve him in whatever he has for us to do.

The Bible may seem like a hard book for you to understand. The language of the Bible is language that was used long ago. Some of the words are not familiar to us and this makes it harder for us to read. (You may want to have pupils show some of the recent translations suggested in "Early Teaching Time." Some translations are available in paperback editions at a cost under \$1.00. You may want to order copies of a paperback edition for those pupils who would like to purchase a copy. These editions are available in your Christian bookstore.)

Ways in Which to Know Your Bible

The way to know the Bible is to read it and study it. Since it is God's message to us, it is well worth knowing. There are several ways to study the Bible.

Bible Reading

Use the Bible Reading suggestions given in your pupil's book, plan to read the Bible each day. (Have pupils locate

them in their books.) Make it a habit to pray before you read, asking God to guide you as you read. Ask him to help you think about what you read. Look for a specific message from God to you. As you read you might ask yourself such questions as, "What do these verses tell me about God? About Jesus? What do the verses say about me? What command, if any, does God have for me in this verse? When you find a command, ask the Lord to help you obey it. When you find something about yourself which points to sin in your life, ask God to forgive you of that sin.

How many of you will try this week to read the Bible each day? Decide what time of day is best for your Bible reading; then read it each day at that time.

Using a Concordance

(If possible, use a concordance as you explain its use.)

You have often heard that the Bible is a library of books. Sometimes it is hard to find just the verse you want. A tool to help you is a concordance. The concordance is something like a dictionary. It contains words which are arranged in alphabetical order. To find a verse with a concordance you need to know part of the verse, or just a word of the verse or even a particular topic the verse might refer to such as the topic of giving, kindness, etc.

For example, suppose you had learned the verse, *Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you.* You would like to read the verse again but you can't remember where it is found in the Bible. Turn in a concordance to the words which begin with the letter "C." Now find the word "casting." Underneath the word, you will see a number of references containing the word. Notice that the word is represented by a small letter c. Look down the list of references until you come to words which you recognize as being in the verse you want, as "c. all your cares upon him." You will find that the reference is I Peter 5:7.

Who would like to use the concordance and find the verse, "Do all things without murmurings?" Look for the word "murmurings." (Let pupils work with a concordance.) Now find the story of Naaman. What do you know about him? Yes, he was a leper. You could look either under the name, "Naaman" or under the word "leper."

Memorize God's Word

Have you ever stopped to think how many times a day you nibble on food or have a snack? Perhaps you have heard your parents say to you, "You are a growing boy/girl and you need your food."

You need to read the Bible often, too. You need to memorize it so that you can think about it even when you are at school and at play. Moses told the Israelites that they should know the Word of God. It should be in their hearts so that they could think about the Scriptures often. Turn in your Bibles to Deuteronomy 6:6,7. When did Moses tell the people they should teach or talk about God's Word?

(As pupils discuss this write on chalkboard: "When you sit in your house," "when you walk by the way," "when you lie down and when you rise up." Ask pupils how these might compare to their own pattern of life. Make another list of when such a time might be in their daily routine, as:

- during mealtime or time for relaxation
- at playtime, or on the way to and from school
- before bedtime
- the first thing in the morning.)

When the Lord Jesus was on earth people often asked him questions and he answered by quoting Scripture. Do you recall what Jesus did when he was tempted by Satan? Yes, he quoted the Scriptures. (Have pupils turn to Matthew 4:3-11. Let them count the number of times they find the words, *It is written*, in this passage. [Three] Explain that these words refer to what is written in the Scriptures. Note that Jesus knew the Scriptures so well he quoted them.)

What does the Bible tell us to use when we need to fight temptation? Find Ephesians 6:17. (When pupils have read the verse let them answer in their own words.) God's Word is the weapon God provides for us to use to fight temptations. We cannot use God's Word unless we know it. We need to study the Bible each day so that our minds will be filled with God's Word.

Attend Sunday School and Church

By attending Sunday School and church you have another opportunity to study the Bible. The Lord uses ministers, teachers and leaders to help you understand God's message a bit better. Come to Sunday School and church with an attitude that you want to receive more training in what God wants you to do. What will you do in your home this week to study the Bible?

PRAYER

Let us each ask God to help us be faithful in reading his Word each day and to make our hearts hungry to know more about the Bible. (Give opportunity for sentence prayers.)

MEMORY WORK

Have pupils turn to I Peter 2:2. As verse has been thoroughly explained during lesson, little explanation should be needed here.

ASSIGNMENT

Be sure that pupils understand which pages are to be done for this week. Encourage pupils to complete any work that has not yet been done. Return corrected worksheet from last week's lesson.

LEARNING TO PRAY

PREPARATION

TEACHING AIMS

Teach so pupil may
KNOW that Jesus Christ spent much time in prayer and taught his disciples to pray;
RESPOND with a determination to pray to God each day.

MEMORY VERSE

Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. Philippians 4:6

SCRIPTURE

Matthew 6:5-15; Luke 11:1-10; 18:10-14

THINK ON THESE THINGS

Are you too busy to pray? Often we accept so many responsibilities in our church and community that we have no time for the really important things. To the Christian, nothing should be more important than prayer. In John 15:5, Jesus teaches our utter dependence upon him—*for without me ye can do nothing.* Good organization and modern teaching techniques are important in reaching boys and girls for Christ, but they are not, in and of themselves, sufficient. Without Christ our work is fruitless. Thorough preparation is important in teaching juniors, but preparation without prayer is inadequate. Are you praying daily for each pupil in your class, or are you trying to bring them to Christ in your own strength?

Perhaps you feel that there are such demands on your time that there is just no time to pray. Compare your own life with the life of Christ. Who had more demands on his time than our Lord? Yet, he took time to pray—time apart and alone from all others. See Mark 1:35-37; 6:46,47; Luke 5:16; 6:12,13; 9:18; 22:29-46. As Christ took time for secret prayer so must we, for prayer in the Spirit is our power.

TEACHING TOOLS

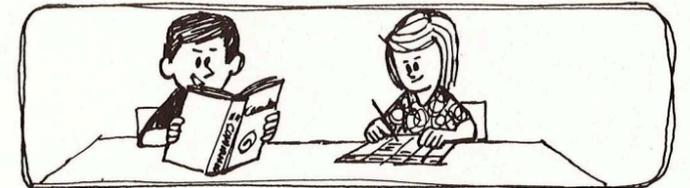
- Visual aid book, wordstrips 41-44. (See inside front cover of visual aid book for instructions.)
- Chalkboard and chalk.
- Pictures of a rosary and Buddha prayer wheels. If possible, obtain a rosary to be examined in class.
- Paper and pencils.
- Concordance (several, if necessary); large sheet of paper.

EARLY TEACHING TIME

CHOOSE what is best for your class.

Let pupils write a poem or psalm of thanksgiving. Suggest that they read Psalm 100 or 150 and then write their own thoughts of thanksgiving for what God has done for them.

Have pupils look up the following references and write on slips of paper the various times that Jesus prayed: Mark 1:35; 6:46-48; Luke 5:16; 6:12; 24:30 and John 6:11. Refer to answers in class.



Have pupils work together by pairs in using a concordance. Have them find references under the word "prayed." Write the following headings on a large sheet of paper and have pupils chart information in appropriate columns.

Reference	Who prayed	Prayed for what	How answered
Example: Gen. 20:17	Abraham	Abimelech	He was healed



CLASS TIME

PRAYER

Open the class period with prayer. Ask for specific prayer requests.

REVIEW

(Collect worksheets for last week.) Last week we found that we need to study the Bible often. Why is it important to read God's Word every day? It was suggested that you choose a certain time each day for daily Bible study. Would some of you like to share with us the time you chose to read God's Word, and tell us why you think this is a good time for you to study the Bible?

POINT OF CONTACT

Have you ever tried to turn on a transistor radio only to find that it would not play because the batteries were dead? Why does a transistor radio need batteries? (Batteries are its only source of power.)

Men have found other kinds of power that will work for them. Can you name some of these types of power? (Pupils may suggest wind power for sailboats and electricity; water power, solar power, atomic power. Refer to pictures of wind power and water power in visual aid book, page 8.) Notice one way in which solar power was used. The spacecraft, "Mariner IV," was launched toward Mars on November 29, 1964. Its winglike solar panels provided electrical power from the rays of the sun.

The submarine, "Nautilus," was the first vessel to be driven by atomic power. It traveled under ice across the North Pole in 1958, staying under water for weeks at a time.*

The Bible tells us about a power that is far greater than any of the powers we have mentioned. That power is through prayer. Prayer is one important source of power for Christians. (Point to statement in visual aid book.) Just as a transistor radio is powerless without batteries, so a Christian is powerless without prayer. As we go into the Bible study let's look for ways to use this power.

BIBLE LESSON

Jesus Set the Example in Prayer

When Jesus lived on this earth he was often surrounded by a crowd. People came to him from early morning until late at night bringing their sick or lame friends and relatives to be healed. Others came to him with personal problems to discuss. Even when he tried to get away from people by crossing the Sea of Galilee in a boat, he found a crowd when he got to the other side.

There were many demands for Jesus' time. Although Jesus was very busy and many people needed his help, he knew that there was one thing that was very important. He knew that he must go apart from the people and spend time alone in prayer. It was undoubtedly hard for Jesus to find time to pray when people would not bother him, but he managed to do so. Let's discover different times and places when Jesus prayed. (To help them, have pupils find Mark 1:35; 6:46; Luke 5:16; 6:12; 24:30. If pupils worked on this activity in early time let them share their findings from the above references.)

Sometimes Christ got up very early in the morning and went off by himself to pray. At other times he prayed in the evening, and sometimes he prayed all night. He prayed before feeding the multitudes and before he ate. Sometimes we find it hard to pray for five minutes, but Christ spent hours in prayer.

Jesus Gave a Pattern for Prayer

Perhaps his disciples were puzzled at Jesus' need for prayer. Perhaps they wondered why Jesus prayed so often. The disciples may even have wondered what prayer is. If someone were to ask you, "What is prayer?" what would you say? (Wait for comments. Help pupils understand that prayer is talking to God and having fellowship with him.)

One day when Jesus had been praying some of the disciples came to him and said, *Lord, teach us to pray* (Luke 11:1). Jesus said, "When you pray, pray in this manner," and he gave them a prayer pattern. (Have pupils find Matthew 6:9-13 in their Bibles.) What is this prayer called? (Lord's Prayer) Let's read it together.

Now look at the prayer again. How can this prayer pattern help us? What are some things we can include in our prayers? (As each aspect of the Lord's Prayer is discussed, list it on the chalkboard.)

1. Praise to God

"Hallowed" means holy. We are to think of God's name with deep reverence.

2. Prayer to Do God's Will

When Jesus was here on earth he came to do God's will (John 6:38). God's will is done in heaven without a delay. We are to pray to be as obedient as the angels in heaven. Jesus taught that it is no use praying that God's will be done unless we are willing to do God's will.

3. Ask for our daily needs.

4. Ask for forgiveness.

Jesus said that when we ask for forgiveness we must be willing to forgive others who may have hurt us. An unforgiving spirit is sin and we should ask God to forgive us.

5. Ask for God's help in doing right.

We are to ask God to lead us out of temptations.

How does Christ begin the Lord's Prayer? (*Our Father which art in heaven.*) Jesus wanted us to know that we should talk to God just as we talk to our earthly father. We know that good fathers love and care for their children. Jesus wanted us to understand that God loves and cares for us as a heavenly father.

When to Pray

Jesus told his disciples some other things about prayer. Turn to Matthew 6:5,6 in your Bibles. What do you think Jesus was trying to teach us in verse five? He is not saying it is wrong to pray in public. He is saying that we are not to show off or try to word our prayers so that people who hear us will be impressed. We must remember that we are speaking to God when we pray. The Pharisees of that day were often guilty of praying long beautiful prayers without giving much thought to their meaning.

Look at verse six. Praying in a closet is another way of saying the disciples should spend time all by themselves talking with God, just as Jesus did. One of the recent translations of the New Testament says it this way, *But when you pray, go into your most private room, and closing the door, pray* (Matthew 6:6, Amplified).

To use the power of prayer, it is very important that each one of us go off by himself and talk to God when no one else is around to hear. (Attach wordstrip 41.) We need to do this each day. The power to live according to God's will can only be ours through prayer. Jesus said, *Without me ye can do nothing* (John 15:5).

When Jesus was on earth he had no home of his own, or a private room to which he could go to pray. He went off by himself into the mountains or to a garden.

Perhaps you share a room with your brother or sister and it is hard for you to get alone to pray. What could you do so that you could have a private prayer time? (Pupils may suggest a special hiding place like climbing a tree to be alone, going for a walk, or waiting until younger brothers and sisters are asleep.)

Repetition in Prayer

Look at Matthew 6:7. What else did Jesus teach about prayer? (Jesus said we are not to use vain repetitions.) "Vain repetitions" means to repeat the same words over and over. Jesus said the heathens say the same things over and over because they think their gods will respond to much talking. In the Orient, those who worship Buddha write out their prayers and put them on wheels that spin. They carry their prayer wheels with them and turn them many times a day. They believe that every time the prayer wheel revolves it is like praying the same prayer over again. This type of praying is vain repetition.

Perhaps you have a friend who uses rosary beads to pray. For each bead a prayer is repeated; often the same prayer is said over and over. That is not the way Christ taught the disciples to pray. He told them to talk to God as a child would talk to his father. (If you have access to a picture of a prayer wheel or a rosary, show it.)

Sometimes we are guilty of vain repetition, too. We say words without really thinking about what we are saying. Perhaps some of you memorized little prayers when you were very young. For a long time you may have used a memorized prayer when you prayed. It is hard to really pray when you use a memorized prayer because the familiar words come to you so automatically you do not have to

think about what you are saying. Memorized prayers are good to help little children learn how to pray, but now that you are older God does not want to always hear the same memorized words. Think about the words you use in prayer. (Attach wordstrip 42.) He wants you to spend time in prayer silently listening as he speaks to your heart.

Pray About Everything

Our memory verse, too, teaches us something about prayer. (Refer to it in the visual aid book.) It says, *Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God* (Philippians 4:6).

The words, "Be careful for nothing," are another way of saying, "Don't worry." Rather than worrying, this verse tells you to pray.

What can we pray about? This verse invites us to pray about *every thing!* Nothing is too small or too great for the Lord to be concerned about. God is always ready to hear us when we pray. (Attach wordstrip 43.)

When some people in Japan enter a shrine to worship idols they often clap their hands to awaken their gods. Our God is living and ready to hear us at any time. The Bible says it this way, *And it shall come to pass, that before they call, I [God] will answer; and while they are yet speaking, I will hear* (Isaiah 65:24). God will answer our prayers in the way which is best for us.

We can pray before we read the Bible and the Lord will guide us in understanding his Word. Turn to Psalm 119:33, 34. This is a brief prayer asking God to help us understand his Word.

We like to talk over our problems and plans with someone. It is good to talk to your parents about your plans and problems because they really care about you. God invites us to talk to him also about our problems and plans.

The memory verse says, *by prayer and supplication [definite requests] . . . let your requests be made known unto God*. But there are two more important words in the last part of the verse: *with thanksgiving*. When we tell God about our needs and make requests to him, God wants us also to remember to praise and thank him for all that he has done and is doing for us now. Very early in your life your parents no doubt taught you to say, "Thank you," when someone gave you something or did something for you. So in all of our prayers and requests we should remember to pray with thanksgiving. (Attach wordstrip 44.)

Prayer Works

We have talked about the importance of prayer in our life. We have mentioned that Jesus invites and even urges us to pray. We've said prayer is talking to God; that we need to spend time in prayer that God's power might work through us. We've said God is always ready to hear us and will answer as he knows what is best for us.

Now, let's see how Jesus' teaching on prayer worked for one of the disciples. Peter prayed about many things. When he had a difficult job to do he prayed. One time Peter was called to a home in Joppa where Dorcas had lived.

Do you remember the story of Dorcas? She was a kind woman who made coats and clothing for her friends and neighbors. But one day Dorcas died. Her friends were so sad they called Peter. They showed Peter the beautiful things she had made. Peter was faced with a job which he could not do unless God gave him power. Peter asked all of the friends and neighbors to leave the room. Then, the Bible says, *Peter . . . kneeled down, and prayed* (Acts 9:40). When he had prayed, Peter said, "Dorcas, arise." Look at the end of verse 40 to see what happened. Prayer worked!

There was a time when Peter's mind and attitude were changed through prayer. Peter believed that the Word of God was for the Jewish people only. One day at noon when he was by himself praying the Lord sent a vision through which Peter learned that God loved all people regardless of race. At once he went to a man by the name of Cornelius and his friends who were not Jewish and preached to them. Peter learned that through prayer our attitudes can be changed.

When Peter was thrown into prison for preaching the Word of God, his Christian friends prayed for him. In fact, they spent many hours in prayer for Peter. Do you remember what happened? Yes, the Lord sent an angel to bring Peter out of prison.

What did Peter's friends do when Peter escaped from prison? Turn to Acts 12:13,14. The people had been praying but they were very surprised when the Lord heard and answered their prayers! They just couldn't believe their eyes when they saw Peter standing at the gate. I wonder if sometimes when we pray we really expect God to answer or whether we just use words over and over again without expecting results. Prayer really works. As suggested in "Early Teaching Time," let pupils share their findings on persons who prayed.

The Lord invites us to pray for he says, *Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God* (Philippians 4:6).

PRAYER

Let us close our class with prayer. God has given us a wonderful privilege of talking to him at any time. What are some of the things that we might talk to him about today? (Let pupils suggest prayer requests. Be sure that they include prayers of thanksgiving.)

MEMORY WORK

Have pupils find Philippians 4:6 in their Bibles. This verse has been thoroughly discussed earlier.

ASSIGNMENT

- Assign the memory verse to be learned.
- Return the worksheets which you collected last Sunday.
- Be sure pupils understand the assignment in the pupil's book for next week.

*For further information see: *The World Book Year Book, 1965; The Golden Book, No. 14.*

LEARNING TO TALK ABOUT CHRIST

PREPARATION

TEACHING AIMS

Teach so pupil may
KNOW that it is the responsibility of every Christian to witness for Christ;
UNDERSTAND ways in which he can be a witness.

MEMORY VERSE

I will mention the lovingkindnesses of the LORD, and the praises of the LORD, according to all that the LORD hath bestowed on us. Isaiah 63:7

SCRIPTURE

Matthew 28:16-20; Acts 1:8; 4:13-22; 11:19-26

THINK ON THESE THINGS

One of Satan's most clever devices is to make it difficult for us to talk to others about our faith in Jesus Christ. We can easily ramble on by the hour about things of lesser importance, but we hesitate to discuss something so personal and vital as Jesus Christ. Many times we hesitate because we do not know how to talk about Jesus. Our Lord gave a good pattern for a testimony. After healing the demoniac of Gadara Jesus said, *Go home to thy friends, and tell them how great things the Lord hath done for thee* (Mark 5:19). This pattern of witnessing is also set forth in Psalm 66:16, *I will declare what he hath done for my soul.*

Have you used this pattern of sharing with others what faith in Christ means to your own life? Avoid the mistake that Paul made in his early ministry of trying to argue others into faith in Christ (Acts 9:29). Instead, witness to the things that the Lord has done for you. About that there can be no dispute.

Juniors may hesitate to witness if they feel that witnessing means they must press a friend for a decision. Many juniors do not have enough spiritual maturity to know just how to do this. Help your pupils understand that talking about how the Lord helps them and praising him for answered prayer are also ways to witness for Christ.

TEACHING TOOLS

- Visual aid book, wordstrips 45 and 46. (See inside front cover of visual aid book for instructions.)
- Everyone Sings* or other hymnbook with songs of testimony.
- White poster board (desired size); magazines, scissors, paste, felt pen, to make collage.
- Large sheet white butcher paper or newsprint; colored pencils or crayons, rulers, to make map mural.

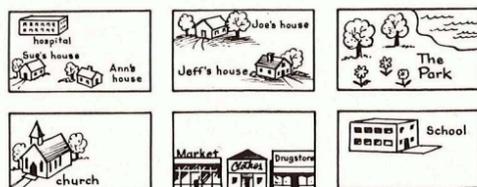
EARLY TEACHING TIME

CHOOSE what is best for your class.

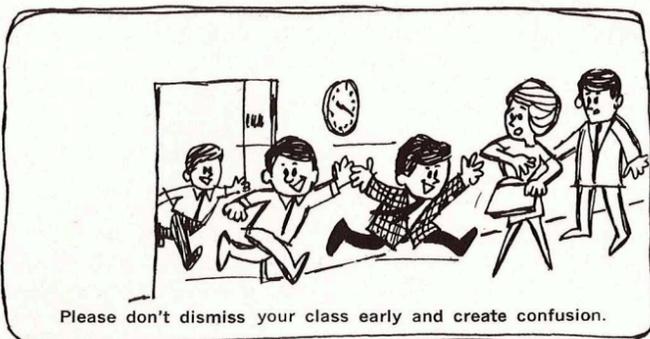
- Have pupils gather around the piano and sing songs such as: "Oh, How I Love Jesus," "Why Do I Sing About Jesus?" and "I Will Sing." Encourage pupils to sing these songs throughout the week as a witness of a happy Christian.



Have pupils define the word "thankfulness" that expresses their own feelings and experiences. For example, "Thankfulness is a warm home and a happy family." Have pupils make a collage on poster board; cut out magazine picture to illustrate the definition, arrange and paste in place. Write definition at top (see sketch).



Have pupils make a map mural of your neighborhood. Let them sketch their own homes and fill in some familiar details, such as a school, church, hospital, park, etc. If your area is large, do not name the streets; simply sketch buildings in a similar location within blocks (see sketch). Let each pupil think of ways he can be a witness in his home or neighborhood this week. Explain that you will refer to the completed mural next week. Encourage pupils to be ready at that time to tell what they tried to do to witness, or things they noticed other Christians do to witness.



CLASS TIME

PRAYER

Thank God for the privilege of prayer and for his Word. Pray that he will speak to your pupils as you study together.

REVIEW

When we accept the Lord Jesus Christ as our Saviour we are born into God's family. After this we need to grow spiritually. What are some things God wants us to do that will help us know more about his plan and God's Son? (Lead pupils to suggest Bible study and prayer.) About what things should we pray? Part of each prayer should be praise and thanksgiving and part should be petition, or asking God for his help and guidance. Has God answered a prayer for any of you this week? Tell us about it.

POINT OF CONTACT

Do you like surprises? One day Ann came home from school and when she opened the door, she could hardly believe her eyes. There in a big carton was a tiny brown and black puppy. She had wanted a dog of her own for a long time. The puppy was stretching its short stubby legs trying to get out of the box. Ann dropped her books, knelt down and gently lifted the puppy to her cheek. "Are you really mine?" she asked.

Mother heard Ann and said, "Yes, the puppy is yours. Daddy knew you wanted a puppy and he brought one for you."

Ann played with the puppy a few minutes longer. She laughed at its wobbly walk. Then she put it back in the box and exclaimed, "Oh, I have to tell Sue! Mother, may I go over to Sue's right now?" The news was too good to keep—Ann just had to share it.

We like to tell our friends about the fun things we do and the surprises we have. We talk about puppies and trips, school, games and family fun. The Bible tells us that there is something else we should talk about, too. We should talk about the good things God does for us.

BIBLE LESSON

When Jesus was here on earth the twelve disciples were constantly amazed and surprised at the things Jesus did. Never before had they seen anyone do such things. The twelve saw that Jesus is all powerful; nothing is too hard for him. Jesus is God. The most startling event, of course, was when Jesus arose from the dead. They had seen him raise others, but when Jesus was crucified all of them felt this was the end—that perhaps Jesus was not the promised Saviour after all. You will recall that he appeared to more than five hundred people after he arose. Then you remember that Jesus took the twelve out to the Mount of Olives where he left them and went back to heaven. Before he left, Jesus gave a message and a job to the disciples. Turn to Matthew 28:19,20 to see what it was.

Today, the job of witnessing is ours. Those of us who are followers of the Lord, who have accepted him as our personal Saviour, are to tell others about him and what he does for us.

The Disciples Learn to Talk About Christ

Remember when we studied about the arrest and trial of Christ we found that the disciples were very frightened. They were afraid of the Jewish leaders. What did the disciples do when Jesus was arrested? (They ran away and left Jesus.) Where were the disciples when Christ appeared to the eleven after he arose? (Shut up in a room, John 20:19.) There were many things the disciples had to learn to do, one of which was to talk about Jesus without fear.

When Jesus left the disciples to go back to heaven, they went back to Jerusalem. Within a very short time they received power to witness and talk about the Lord, just as Jesus promised (Acts 1:8). Whenever they could the disciples spoke of Christ. Through the power of the Holy Spirit they were eager to share the message of God with others. They had seen him crucified but they had seen him alive again. Truly he was the Son of God and the disciples were eager to tell others that all who believed in Jesus could have their sins forgiven. Not all people were ready to believe their message and it was not easy to witness. But even when it was difficult, the disciples were good witnesses.

At one time Peter and John were teaching on Solomon's porch in the Temple area. There they were arrested because they had not only been preaching but they healed a lame man in the name of Christ (Acts 4). Peter and John were kept in prison one night. The next day they were brought before the Sanhedrin and questioned. Then they were threat-

ened if they did not stop preaching. Do you think that stopped them? Find Acts 4:20 to see what Peter and John said. Through the power of the Holy Spirit of God, Peter and John could face the rulers of the Sanhedrin with great courage.

The disciples faithfully obeyed Christ's last command, *Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature* (Mark 16:15). More and more people believed in the Lord and they, too, became witnesses. Some of the early believers were persecuted. Some, like Stephen, were killed or forced to leave their homes and they were scattered across the land of Phoenicia, Cyprus and to Antioch. (Locate on map, page 10.) As time went by the Bible says, *A great number believed, and turned unto the Lord* (Acts 11:21).

When news reached Jerusalem that many people were turning to the Lord, the church in Jerusalem sent Barnabas to Antioch to help the Christians. Soon Paul joined Barnabas and they taught and preached in Antioch for over a year. As the people learned about God they went out and told others and their group of believers became larger. It was in Antioch that the followers of Christ were first called "Christians" which means "Christ's people." This name was perhaps meant to insult the believers but instead they were, no doubt, very pleased. They wanted very much to be known as "Christ's people."

If you are a Christian, that name means that you, too, are "Christ's people." The name marks you as a follower of Christ just as it marked the early Christians. Your actions and attitudes will reflect back on the Lord Jesus Christ, just as what you do reflects back on your family. Suppose you race around, wildly running through the church building. People might say, "That is the Jones boy—you would surely think his parents would train him better—and they are such nice people, too." No doubt, your parents had often reminded you not to misbehave in church but, of course, people do not know that. In this case, they judge your parents by your actions. So when people see your actions they might say, "He is a Christian. Is that the way Christians act?"

During the year that Paul and Barnabas were in Antioch a man named Agabus predicted that a great famine would sweep the Roman world. Here was another way the Christians could show their love to the Lord and witness for him. Immediately all of them brought gifts of money for their friends in Jerusalem. When the famine came they sent their gifts to Jerusalem with Paul and Barnabas. Like the early Christians, we too can witness by showing kindness in what we do as well as in what we say.

A Bible Pattern for Witnessing

When we want to talk about God, sometimes we don't know what to say or where to begin. The Bible is our guidebook for witnessing. (Refer to the visual aid book, page 12.) The Bible pattern for witnessing is to share what God has done for us. The Lord Jesus' command to the disciples and to his followers was, *and ye shall be witnesses unto me* (Acts 1:8).

We find this same pattern in the Old Testament also. In the Psalms David wrote, *I will declare what he hath done for my soul* (Psalm 66:16). (Read from the visual aid book.) What are some things God did for David? In another verse David tells us: *He [God] hath attended to the voice of my prayer* (Psalm 66:19). David told how God answered his prayer. He talked about how the Lord helped him.

Look at our memory verse, Isaiah 63:7. Isaiah, the man of God who wrote this verse, followed much the same pattern that David did when talking about the Lord. Read the verse silently and then tell us what Isaiah said he would talk about. (Let pupils read from the visual aid book.) *The praises of the LORD* is another way of saying,

"I will list all the things the Lord has done for me that makes me want to praise him."

God had been loving and kind to Isaiah and he felt he wanted everyone to know what God had done.

You Can Learn to Witness

Following the Bible pattern, you too can learn to witness for Christ. Let's think of ways you can witness. To help us discover different ways, it might help us to think what witnessing is.

Witnessing is telling the good news of Christ. It is telling what the Lord has done for you. It is something like wanting to tell some exciting news which has happened in your family. When your father comes home from work and announces that you are all taking an exciting trip, that is good news. You can hardly wait to tell your friends about it.

There are times when the Lord does something wonderful for you like answering your prayer, forgiving your sins, or helping you solve a problem. When that happens you can hardly wait to tell someone what the Lord has done. The good news just comes bubbling out, doesn't it?

Jesus did a wonderful thing for the man of Gadara when he cast out the demons who controlled the wild man. The man was so thankful he wanted to be with Jesus all the time. But Jesus would not permit him to leave. Jesus had a job for the man to do. Do you remember what Jesus wanted him to do? (If pupils cannot recall, have them look up Mark 5:19.)

Witnessing is telling how the Lord helped you. Suppose you and your friends were swimming. Suddenly one of the poorer swimmers got into the deep end of the pool and became very frightened and almost drowned. You were frightened, too, but you breathed a prayer for the Lord to help you, then went to rescue him. (Refer to picture A in the visual aid book.) Later all of your friends might talk about how brave you were. What could you say to witness to the Lord? (Help pupils mention such things as God answered my prayer, the Lord helped me remember what to do.)

Or suppose you were at school. (Refer to picture B.) Your friend might say, "I always worry and become upset when we have our six-weeks' tests at school. How come you never seem to worry?" What could you say to witness to the Lord? (Response might be something like, "Oh, I worry, too, but I pray and ask the Lord to help me take the tests.")

Both of the above situations give you examples of how to tell others what God has done for you.

Witnessing is letting our actions speak for Christ. Just as the early Christians showed that they were "Christ's people" by bringing their gifts to needy people, so our actions can tell others we are Christians. When the apostle Paul spoke to young Christians he said it this way, *Ye are*

our epistle [letter] written in our hearts, known and read of all men (II Corinthians 3:2).

Oftentimes it is more difficult to witness to Christ by our actions than by words because sometimes it means being different. Suppose your friends decided to skip school one day and wanted you to join them. If you went you would be acting a lie because your parents would think you were in school. Your actions would reflect back on the Lord Jesus as well as on your family. How could you witness in this case? What could you do or say? In what ways could your actions influence the actions of others? (Help pupils understand that by refusing to go along with the crowd they are witnessing. Their actions might influence their friends who might otherwise not have the courage to be different.)

When to Witness

As soon as you accept the Lord Jesus Christ as your personal Saviour you become a follower of Christ and take on his name. As a follower of Christ you can look for times when you can talk to others about him. You do not need to wait until you are older to share what God has done.

When Christ told his disciples they were to be witnesses for him he also promised to give them the power to do so. The Holy Spirit gives us power to know what to say, how to say it, and when to speak. Ask the Lord to remind you to witness for him at just the right time. As you talk about Christ remember the pattern for witnessing as it is described in our memory verse. Talk about the things the Lord has done for you. (Add wordstrip 45 to visual aid book.) Tell others how thankful you are for the ways the Lord has helped you. (Add wordstrip 46.)

PRAYER

Let us pray that God will show us those to whom we should witness this week. Ask him to help you know how to share your praise and thankfulness to the Lord with others. (Provide opportunity for sentence prayers.)

MEMORY WORK

The memory verse, Isaiah 63:7, has already been discussed in the Bible study. Be sure that pupils understand that "lovingkindnesses" are the good things the Lord has done for us. Sometimes we use the word "blessings" instead of lovingkindnesses. Explain that "bestowed" means has given.

ASSIGNMENT

- Assign the memory verse to be learned.
- Return the worksheets which you collected last week. Discuss the corrections which were made, if necessary, so that pupils will understand any problems they might have had.

LESSON 10 LEARNING TO GIVE TO GOD

PREPARATION

TEACHING AIMS

- Teach so pupil will
- KNOW what God says about giving;
- RESPOND with a desire to give regularly of his money because he loves Jesus Christ.

MEMORY VERSE

Upon the first day of the week let every one of you lay by him in store, as God hath prospered him.
I Corinthians 16:2

SCRIPTURE

Matthew 22:15-22; Mark 12:41-44; Luke 21:1-4; Acts 4:32-5:10

THINK ON THESE THINGS

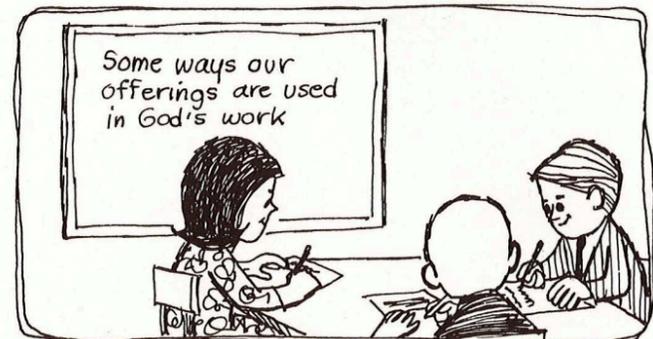
For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also (Luke 12:34). When our hearts are filled with love for God, we naturally want to give to the Lord and to his work. Jesus taught that the attitude of the heart is an important aspect of giving. As Christ told of the poor widow who loved the Lord so much that she gave all she had, he taught that it is not the amount of the gift that is important to God, but the amount retained. When we evaluate our own giving in this way it takes on a different perspective.

The Bible teaches that we should not give grudgingly, or because we feel that it is a duty, but that we should give cheerfully (II Corinthians 9:7) and freely from a heart of gratitude and love (Matthew 10:8).

No matter how much we give we can never outgive God, for he has promised wonderful blessings to those who honor him (Matthew 19:29 and Luke 6:38).

TEACHING TOOLS

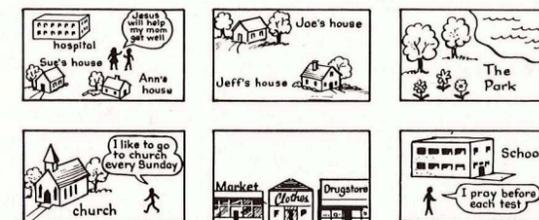
- Visual aid book, wordstrips 47-50. (See inside front cover of visual aid book for instructions.)
- Projector and screen for viewing the S/35 filmstrip, LF-51. (Preview and study the script. It will be most effective if the story can be told conversationally as the pupils view the pictures.)
- Picture of your church.
- Materials to complete map mural (see page 32).
- Magazines, construction paper, scissors, paste.



EARLY TEACHING TIME

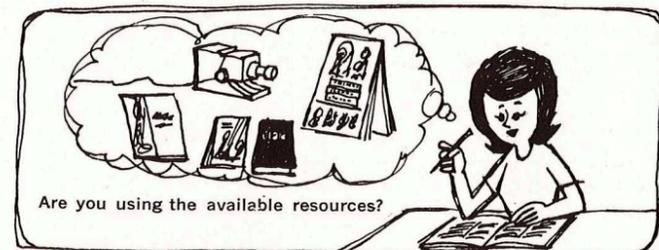
CHOOSE what is best for your class.

- Let pupils illustrate ways to witness in their neighborhoods on the map mural started last week. They may draw stick figures and write a short sentence such as shown in sketch.



- Have pupils find in magazines pictures to illustrate services provided in your community by local or state governments, as police, fire protection, schools, highways. Trim and mount on construction paper, if desired. Refer to pictures in class.

- On the chalkboard write, "Some Ways Our Offerings Are Used in God's Work." Let pupils list the various materials used in their department and classes that are Sunday School expenditures such as pupils' books, teachers' books, visual aids, envelopes for reporting attendance, etc. Show pupils how their careful handling of materials and equipment can increase the use of our offerings.



CLASS TIME

PRAYER

Thank God for the opportunity of having a church in which to worship and a Bible available to study.

REVIEW

(Collect worksheets that have been completed.) Last week we learned ways we can talk to others about the Lord. (Refer to the neighborhood map pupils made in early time last week. Let them tell ways of how they tried to witness for Christ during the week. If any illustrated the map make reference to it.)

POINT OF CONTACT

(Show several pictures of public employees or facilities which render a service to your community, as firemen, police, public school, highways, etc. Use pictures pupils mounted as suggested in "Early Teaching Time.") How are the services of these people and facilities paid for in our

community? (Help pupils conclude that they are paid by taxes.) Do your parents have the opportunity of deciding whether or not they want to pay taxes? What happens if taxes are not paid? (The government can legally take the wages a person earns, or sell his property to get money for past due taxes.)

(Now show picture of your church, if available.) How does our church get money to pay for the services it provides for those who come to our church? (Through offerings) Do we have to bring money for an offering when we come to church? No one has to bring an offering and no one is forced to give. As we go into our Bible study today let's try to find reason why we bring an offering.

BIBLE LESSON

Last week we discussed the Bible pattern for witnessing. Today we want to look at another Bible pattern—the pattern for giving. Jesus taught that the attitude in our heart is important when we give gifts of money to God. God does not want us to give an offering just because we think it will please our teachers or friends. He does not want us to give just because we feel it is our duty to give.

Jesus had been busy teaching in the beautiful Temple in Jerusalem. After a time he went to the Temple area known as the Court of the Women. (See map of Jerusalem in visual aid book, page 4.) The Bible says Jesus sat down near the part of the court which is called "the treasury." Along the walls were thirteen large trumpet-shaped chests into which people dropped their gifts of money and the temple tax as they came to the Temple.

As Jesus sat there he watched the people. Although it was not the time of the sacrifice, many people who wanted to give special gifts to God came into the area bringing gifts. Many rich people came to the Temple that day. They were probably dressed in the beautiful silk garments which wealthy people customarily wore. One after another the rich people walked up to the offering boxes. They dropped in large sums of money. Perhaps they held their hands up high as they put in their offerings so that everyone around could see how much money they were giving. (Turn to page 13 of visual aid book and refer to picture of rich men.) Those who were nearby may have been impressed with the number of coins some of the rich people gave. As they heard the clink of coin after coin, they may have thought to themselves, "What a generous man! I wish I were rich so I could give as much to God as that man does."

After a while Jesus saw a very poor widow come by to give her offering. Probably her clothing was rough and coarse like that usually worn by the very poor. This woman probably saw the rich people give large sums of money. She may have walked up to the offering box very shyly, almost hoping that no one would see her give her small gift. Maybe she was embarrassed that she could not give more to God, for the offering she brought was the smallest amount that the leaders of the Temple allowed anyone to give. She brought as her offering only two mites. A mite was the smallest of all the coins of that day. The Bible says that the two mites together equaled only a farthing, which was of less value than our penny. The poor widow dropped the two mites into the offering box and quickly went her way. She may not have known that Jesus saw her give this gift to God. If other people had seen her they would not have been impressed at all. But because Jesus was the Son of God, he knew that the two mites were all that she had. She had given her last coin to God! She gave money that she might have used to buy food for herself. The Bible says it this way, *but she of her want did cast in all that she had, even all her living* (Mark 12:44). (Show picture in visual aid book.)

After Jesus saw the woman bring her gift, he called his disciples to him and told them what he had seen. Then he taught them a lesson on giving which contains many valu-

able truths for you and me today. Jesus told his disciples that even though the widow's gift was small it was more pleasing to God than the large gifts the rich people had given that day. Does that sound strange? Jesus pointed out that after the rich had given their offering they still had an abundance of money left over. They would not really miss the money they had given. The Bible says it this way, *For all they [the rich people] did cast in of their abundance* (Mark 12:44). This poor widow's gift was greater because, although she had little, she gave willingly to God all that she had. Jesus measured the greatness of the gift not so much by the amount of money she gave as by the amount that she kept for herself. Jesus knew that she gave her offering willingly because her heart was filled with thanksgiving and love for God. She loved God so much that she wanted to give everything she had to him.

What is the Bible truth you and I can learn concerning giving? God's Word tells us that the Lord considers our gifts to him in the same way as Jesus measured the widow's gift. The Bible says it this way, *For if there be first a willing mind, it is accepted according to that a man hath, and not according to that he hath not* (II Corinthians 8:12). The size of our offering is not important to God. It is important to him that when we give to him that we do it because we love the Lord. God knows that if we really love him we will want to think first how much we can give to him rather than how much we will have left. (Attach wordstrip 47 to visual aid book.)

God Loves a Cheerful Giver

When we give our offering God wants us to give it willingly and cheerfully. The Bible says, *Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver* (II Corinthians 9:7). The Lord does not want you to give money in Sunday School if you give it grudgingly. If you bring an offering only because you think you have to, but in your heart you really wish that you could keep your money for a doughnut or some candy, God knows how you feel. God is pleased with our offering only when we give it willingly and cheerfully. Money that is given grudgingly will mean very little. (Attach wordstrip 48.)

Two People Pretend to Give

After Jesus went back to heaven the early Christians banded together and formed a church in Jerusalem. They had one desire and that was to serve and follow the Lord Jesus and his teaching. Because they loved the Lord, they also loved one another and wanted to help one another. They believed that all they had, their land and their homes, came from God. The members of the church in Jerusalem shared all that they had so that there were no families in need. The wealthy people who owned homes or land voluntarily sold them and brought the money to the church. There the apostles, or leaders of the church, saw to it that the Christians who were in need received money. The people did this because they loved God and wanted to obey him to the best of their ability. No one was forced to give or even asked to give. They believed God wanted them to take care of the poor. It was their feeling that they could help carry on the Lord's work through their offerings. This is another reason that we, too, bring an offering to God—to help to carry on his work. (Attach wordstrips 49.)

One Christian man who was particularly generous was Barnabas. He was from Cyprus. He saw that there was a need for money among the Christians and he sold a piece of land which he had. The money which he received for the land, Barnabas brought to the apostles, or leaders of the church. Undoubtedly, Barnabas' friends were very thankful for his gift to God, but no doubt the one to receive the greatest blessing was Barnabas. He gave the money because he loved the Lord. He did not have to give all of it but he did.

Now there were two other people in the church named Ananias and his wife Sapphira. They too owned some land. Perhaps they saw how the church received the gift that Barnabas gave. Maybe they were jealous of the way the people received Barnabas' gift. They decided that they too wanted to give. But their gift was different from Barnabas' gift. Ananias and Sapphira dreamed up a scheme which was far from honest. They wanted to give the impression that they too were giving the entire price of their land to the church. But this was not true. Together they decided that they would keep part of the money they received from the sale of the land. They would tell the church leaders, however, that they had given all the money to the poor. Now it was perfectly all right to keep part of the money. There was no rule that said they had to give all the money they had received. The very grave sin they committed is that they lied.

When the land was sold Ananias told Peter, one of the leaders of the church, that he had brought all the money he had received from his land. Peter knew that Ananias was not telling the truth. Several hours later Sapphira came in and Peter asked her, *Tell me whether ye sold the land for so much? And she said, Yea, for so much* (Acts 5:8).

How foolish these two people were. Their program for giving was entirely voluntary. After all, the land belonged to Ananias and Sapphira and they could certainly do with it as they pleased. They were not requested to sell it. The big sin was not in keeping back the money but in pretending that they loved the Lord so much that they too, like Barnabas, gave all the money they had. Just as the Lord Jesus knew that the poor widow gave all that she had because she loved God, so the Lord knew the hearts of Ananias and Sapphira. Because Ananias and Sapphira lied to God they were both punished and had to give their lives.

Was the offering Barnabas gave more like that of the rich people in the Temple or like the offering the widow gave? Why? (He gave freely because he loved God.) How was the gift of Ananias and Sapphira like that of the rich people in the Temple?

God Wants Us to Bring Gifts

People are always concerned about how to use their money. One day a group of Pharisees who disliked Jesus tried to trick him into saying something about the use of money that would make him unpopular with either the people of Palestine or the Roman rulers. They asked Jesus whether it was right for them to pay taxes to the Roman government which they hated. They said, *Tell us therefore, What thinkest thou? It is lawful to give tribute [taxes] unto Caesar, or not?* (Matthew 22:17).

Jesus knew these men planned their question to trick him. He said, "Why are you trying to tempt (or trick) me? Show me a coin." Someone brought a coin to Jesus and he asked, "Whose image (picture) and whose superscription (name) is on this coin?" The Pharisees answered, "Caesar's." Then Jesus said, *Render [give] therefore unto Caesar the things which are Caesar's; and unto God the things that are God's* (Matthew 22:21). Jesus pointed out that the people received their coins from Caesar's government, and they enjoyed the benefits which that government provided. Jesus taught that the people had a responsibility to pay taxes to the government. But he added a thought that the Pharisees had not expected when he said, *Render . . . unto God the things that are God's*. God gives each of us many blessings. We have a responsibility to give back to God a portion of what he has so freely given to us.

Bring an Offering and Worship God

We should give cheerfully because all that we have comes from God. The Bible says it this way, *The earth is the LORD'S, and the fulness thereof; the world, and they that dwell therein* (Psalm 24:1). In another place in his

Word, the Lord said, *Every beast of the forest is mine, and the fulness thereof* (Psalm 50:10-12).

All things belong to God but he gave them to us to use. Think for a moment of some of the things God has provided for us. How many can you name? (Lead pupils to mention such things as plants and animals from which we get our food and clothing. Let them find Haggai 2:8. The gold, silver, and iron ore hidden in the earth from which we get wealth is provided by God; air, sunshine and rain provide growth for man and animals.) Man would be completely helpless without our great God and Creator.

When we are thankful to someone we naturally want to do something for that person to show our gratitude. When we are thankful to God for all he has given us we, too, want to show our love and gratitude to him. The Bible again is our guide to help us know how to show our gratitude to God. Listen to the instruction from the Bible, *Give unto the LORD the glory due unto his name; bring an offering, and come into his courts* (Psalm 96:8). The first part of the verse tells us to give the Lord our praise or to worship God. When we go to God's house God wants us to bring an offering as an expression of thanksgiving and gratitude. The first Christians in the church in Jerusalem found great happiness in their willingness to carry on God's work and to share with one another. The Bible says it this way, *Praising God, and having favor with all people. And the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved* (Acts 2:47). Giving to the Lord can be one way to worship him and to show our love to him. (Attach wordstrip 50.)

The Bible teaches us even more about giving. God is pleased when we give to him in a regular manner. The Bible says it this way, *Upon the first day of the week let every one of you lay by him in store, as God hath prospered him* (I Cor. 16:2). When is the first day of the week?

The more the Lord blesses the more we should want to give.

We Give to Help Carry On the Lord's Work

The money which the Christians of the Jerusalem church brought was used to carry on the Lord's work. The money was not divided equally among themselves but was given only to those in need. (See Acts 4:35.)

We say that when we bring our offering to church we give this money to the Lord. What does that really mean? (The money is used for the Lord's work.) Can you name some ways in which your money is used to carry on God's work? (Ask pupils who may have prepared a list of these ways as suggested in "Early Teaching Time" to share them now. Lead pupils to mention such areas as building upkeep, heat, light, salaries for pastor and custodian, Sunday School lesson materials. Mention specific projects your local church may have such as home and foreign missions.)

Giving money to the Lord's work or bringing an offering to the Lord is not limited to adults. It is just as important for boys and girls to give as it is for adults. Let's think of different ways fifth graders can give, or become able to give. It is important to think about this because sometimes we want to give but we don't know where to get the money. Perhaps you have discovered a way to secure extra money to give to the Lord to show your love to him. Will you share what you have done? Let's try to think of as many ideas as possible for ways to give money to the Lord that we might have a part in spreading the news that Christ came to save sinners and wants to be the center of our lives as our Saviour. (Wait for comments then lead pupils to mention such things as: money gifts and allowances, money saved by going without something like a hamburger or comic book; money which is earned. Ask for ideas of how money can be earned at their age. Mention such things as baby-sitting, cutting grass, raking leaves, shoveling snowy walks, running errands, doing odd jobs.)

Introduce the S/35 filmstrip, LF-51, frames 12-22, "Learning to Give to God." (If available)

Explain that this part of the filmstrip tells about a boy who had to face the problem of "Learning to Give to God." After you show the filmstrip and tell the story, here are some questions you may want to ask:

1. What do you think Bob will do? Why?
2. What temptation do you think Bob will face if he uses all the money now and waits until later to give the Lord an offering?
3. Should Bob be kept to the promise he made to God?
4. Bob used his own energy and time, why should he give to the Lord?

After discussing these questions, go directly to the "Summary of Unit" section.

Questions for Discussion

(This is your alternate plan if you cannot use the filmstrip.)

Suppose your neighbor gave you \$1.25 for shoveling snow from his walk. Since you earned the money by using your time and muscles why should you give a part of it to God? (Wait for comments then have pupils find Deuteronomy 8:18.) What danger is there in saying, "I agree we should give an offering to the Lord, but I want to wait until I'm older and my allowance is larger?" (Help pupils understand that they are forming habits each day. It will be more difficult to break the selfish habit of keeping all the money for self.)

Summary of Unit

As we come to the end of this unit we find that the most

important step for any person to take is to become a member of God's family. (Use the visual aid book to summarize the unit.) Each of us must recognize that we were born as sinners and that there is only one way to become a member of God's family—to ask the Lord Jesus Christ to become our Saviour (Romans 3:23, John 1:12). Then as a Christian it is important that we grow in Christ, that we develop and become mature followers of Christ. We can grow by studying the Bible each day and make it a guide for our lives. We grow by talking to the Lord in prayer, telling him our joys and our problems. We grow by telling others about the Lord and what he does for us each day. And we grow by giving back to the Lord a part of our money to show that we love him.

PRAYER

Let us thank God for his great love. Let's pray that the Lord will really teach us to give freely to him.

MEMORY WORK

Have pupils find I Corinthians 16:2 in their Bibles. Point out that "every one" makes this a personal command to each one. "Lay by him in store" is another way of saying to put aside something for the Lord. The word "prospered" reminds us of how freely God has given.

ASSIGNMENT

- Return worksheets from preceding lesson which you have checked.
- Make sure pupils understand that the worksheet is to be handed in next week.

KNOW YOUR PUPILS

Do you think of your pupils as individuals or as a class? Knowing pupils as individuals leads to understanding. Understanding makes teaching and learning more effective. Keep a *confidential* notebook or file for each pupil. Jot down information gained from such contacts as visiting in the home, informal talks and the class sessions. A sample notebook page might include:

NAME IN FULL _____	ADDRESS _____	PHONE _____
BIRTHDATE _____	SCHOOL GRADE _____	
FATHER'S NAME _____	OCCUPATION _____	
MOTHER'S NAME _____	OCCUPATION _____	
ARE BOTH PARENTS CHURCH MEMBERS? <u>No</u> WHICH? <u>Neither</u>		
HOME CONDITIONS <u>Youngest of 3 children—all children in Sunday School. Parents do not attend Sunday School or church.</u>		
SPECIAL INTERESTS <u>Sports, doesn't like to read.</u>		
SPECIAL ABILITIES <u>Loves to sing, a bit shy.</u>		
SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT <u>Talked with Chris about being a Christian.</u>		
<u>Doesn't seem to understand as yet.</u>		
OTHER COMMENTS <u>Receives encouragement from home to do workbook.</u>		
<u>Parents showed greater interest on last visit.</u>		

UNIT III

WHAT KIND OF CHRISTIAN DOES GOD WANT ME TO BE?

UNIT AIM

To teach that those who call Christ Saviour need to develop a Christlike character.

UNIT AT A GLANCE

The question, "What kind of Christian does God

want me to be?" is presented to the pupils in each lesson. Through the use of such Bible lessons as the parable of the Good Samaritan, the Prodigal Son and the story of Mary and Martha, the pupil finds answers to this question. The unit contains three lessons.

LESSON 11

GOD WANTS ME TO SHOW KINDNESS AND LOVE

PREPARATION

TEACHING AIMS

Teach so pupil may **KNOW** that because Christ loves us we should love one another;

UNDERSTAND the meaning of the word "neighbor."

MEMORY VERSE

Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy strength, and with all thy mind; and thy neighbor as thyself. Luke 10:27

SCRIPTURE

Luke 10:25-37; John 13:34,35

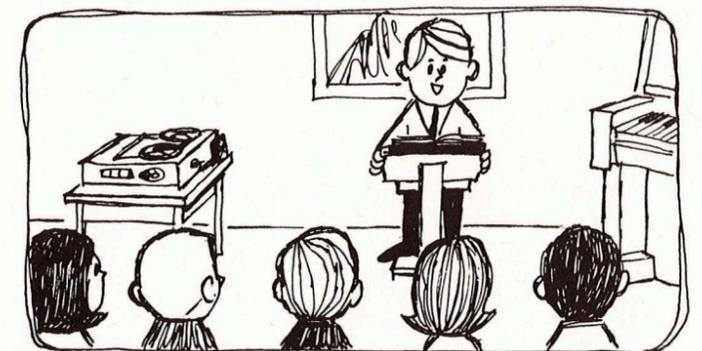
THINK ON THESE THINGS

The relevance of the Scriptures to modern problem is particularly illustrated in the story of the good Samaritan. Many times as we meditate on this we forget that Samaritans were objects of Jewish discrimination and contempt. The Samaritan woman with whom Jesus spoke at the well shows the problem as she asks, *How is it that thou, being a Jew, askest drink of me, which am a woman of Samaria? for the Jews have no dealings with the Samaritans* (John 4:9). Unfortunately, discrimination is not peculiar to one nation or one generation. It was a problem in Christ's time as well as today. In his relationship with the woman of Samaria, Christ emphasized the worth of the individual regardless of racial or cultural differences. Each soul is of infinite value in the eyes of the Lord. (Read Galatians 5:6.) The love for one's neighbor that Christ taught is more than mere tolerance. It encompasses concern, compassion, acceptance and involvement in ministering to needs.

We should constantly remind ourselves that God has a place in his divine plan for each individual. Consider those who differ from you in the light of I Corinthians 4:7. What attitude do you have toward those in your community or church whose racial and cultural background differs from your own? Pray that you may look at each individual through the eyes of Christ and respond with his love.

TEACHING TOOLS

- Visual aid book, figures 51-54. (See inside front cover of visual aid book for instructions.)
- Magazines, construction paper, scissors, paste.
- Used greeting cards, ribbon, artificial flowers, 5" to 6" paper lace doilies to make favors.
- Pinking scissors, crepe paper, gospel tracts, Bible pictures or verses, small toys or favors (as found in gumball machines) to make "joy balls."
- Tape recorder.



EARLY TEACHING TIME

CHOOSE what is best for your class.

- From magazines have pupils cut pictures of people of various racial and cultural groups. These may be trimmed and mounted on construction paper to use during class time.
- Have pupils make favors for hospital trays or for old people's home. (Check with institution for permission ahead of time.) Cut pictures or Scripture verses from greeting cards; arrange and paste on doily, adding pieces of ribbon or artificial flowers as decoration. Fold second doily to make 2" width; fold in center and paste one side to back of decorated doily to enable it to stand upright. See sketches. (If possible, arrange time this week when several class members can go with you to deliver the favors or one of the projects suggested on next page.)



decorate doily as desired



fold second doily to 2" width

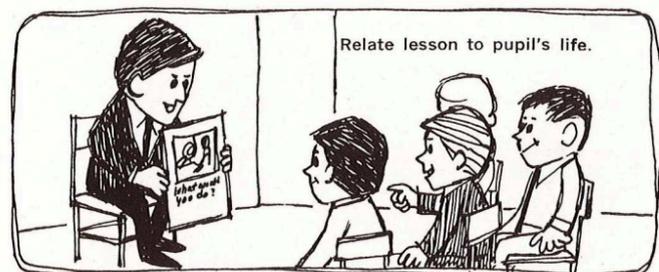


fold in center; paste one side to back of first doily



completed doily will stand upright

- Have pupils make "joy balls" for children of your church who are ill, or for children's ward of a hospital. Cut crepe paper into 1½" strips. Fold a children's gospel tract, Bible picture or verse until about ¾" square. Wrap with crepe paper strips to form ball. Place a small toy or favor against side of ball; wrap with several layers of paper strips. Continue in this manner including several small objects until ball becomes 3½" to 4" in diameter. The joy ball is to be unwrapped so that one object is removed at hourly intervals.
- Make a tape recording of a worship service to take to old people's home or to a member of the church who is unable to attend. Let pupils participate in group singing, special numbers, praying and reading the Scripture.
- Have pupils make a short story scrapbook for a hospital ward. Let them cut out pictures from magazines and write imaginary stories for each; paste a picture and story on a sheet of 8½"x11" paper and fasten together into a scrapbook. Decorate construction paper cover to complete the scrapbook.



CLASS TIME

PRAYER

Pray for God's guidance in your study time together.

REVIEW

(Collect worksheets from those who have completed homework.) Why was God so pleased with the offering of the poor widow? How was her gift different from the gift of Ananias and Sapphira? What are some of the things that we should remember when we bring our gifts of money and time to God? (Use the visual aid book, page 13 to help pupils review.)

POINT OF CONTACT

Are you familiar with Hans Christian Anderson's story of the Ugly Duckling? Why did the other barnyard animals hiss and peck at the poor little duckling? It was because it looked different from the others, wasn't it? Sometimes we meet people who do things differently from the way we do them, or whose skins are a different color. Often we tend to react just as those unkind barnyard animals reacted. We make fun of their speech, or the way that they do things, or the way in which they differ from us.

Each one of us might ask himself, "What kind of Christian does God want me to be?" (If possible write this question on chalkboard or newsprint so that it may be referred to for the next two weeks.) We won't try to answer the question just now, but let's look for clues to help us answer it as we study the Bible today.

BIBLE LESSON

Jesus spent a great deal of time teaching when he was here on earth. People came to him to listen and many came to ask questions. Some questions were to trick Jesus and to make him say something which would create trouble. Other questions were asked because the person wanted to know the truth.

The Greatest Commandment

One day Jesus had been talking to some of the religious groups when the Pharisees came to him. Among the Pharisees was a lawyer who had a question for Jesus. "Master, which is the greatest commandment in the law?" he asked. Do you know which commandment is the greatest? Turn in your Bible to Matthew 22:37 to see what Jesus answered: *Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind.*

Do you know what the second great commandment is? Look at verse 39: *Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself.*

At another time Jesus was teaching when a certain lawyer stood up and asked a question to try to trick Jesus. How foolish these men were to try to trick Jesus with questions when he knew what they were thinking before they ever spoke. He knew why they were asking, whether they were trying to trick him or whether they were asking because they wanted to know the truth. This man asked, *Master, what shall I do to inherit eternal life* (Luke 10:25)? Instead of answering at once, Jesus asked the lawyer a question. The lawyer was well trained in the Law so Jesus asked, *What is written in the law? how readest thou* (verse 26)?

Look at verse 27 to see what the lawyer answered, *Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy strength, and with all thy mind; and thy neighbor as thyself.*

The lawyer knew the answer well because the words were part of a prayer the Jews prayed each day. These words are also very much like the ones Jesus used to answer the first lawyer. Since the words are part of the Law (found in Deuteronomy 6:5) and since Jesus used them, let's think about them a moment. The verse says, we are first to love the Lord with all our being and that we are to love our neighbor as we would love ourselves. Can you think of some ways in which these commandments would make every day happier and better if we obeyed them? (Lead pupils to mention such truths as, loving God with all our being keeps us near him and helps us depend on him for help. Loving our neighbor means fair play, being helpful, kind, expressing appreciation when someone has been kind.)

What are some ways that we can keep the first part of the commandment and show our love to God? (Let pupils recall from previous lessons such things as praying or talking to God, worshiping him, obeying him, giving ourselves to him.)

It is easy to read these two great commandments and to talk about what God wants us to do. Do you think it is as easy to do what they say? Why not? The commandment says that we are to love our neighbor as ourselves. If your neighbor includes your best friends, then the commandment isn't so hard, is it? Is that what the word "neighbor" means? The lawyer who asked Jesus the question became concerned, too, so he asked Jesus, "Who is my neighbor?" To answer the question Jesus told a story which may have really happened. (Refer to pictures of Bible story in visual aid book, page 14.)

The Good Samaritan

Jesus said that one day a man was traveling along the road from Jerusalem to Jericho. The distance was about seventeen miles downhill, for Jerusalem is 2500 feet above sea level and Jericho is nearly 825 feet below sea level. Everyone who heard Jesus refer to that road knew at once what a dangerous road it was. It curved back and forth

with hairpinlike curves through the rocky, barren mountains that lay between Jerusalem and Jericho. Many rich people had homes in the beautiful resort area of Jericho. Because rich people and traders frequently went back and forth from Jerusalem to Jericho robbers often hid among the rocky areas along the road between the two cities. When a traveler or traders came by, the robbers would swoop down from their hiding place, seize and search the travelers and rob them of all that they had.

Jesus said that as this man traveled on the Jericho road a band of thieves attacked him. They beat him, robbed him of his money, took his clothes, and left him lying half dead at the side of the road.

Later that day a priest came along that same road. He was probably on his way up to Jerusalem to serve in the Temple. The priest saw the wounded man lying on the roadside in the hot sun. Did the priest stop and help? No, perhaps he was afraid if he stopped to help this poor man the robbers would attack him. He may also have decided that the man was half dead anyway and beyond help. In any event, the priest crossed to the other side of the road and went right past without making any effort to help the man.

After a while Jesus said a Levite passed along this same road. The Levite was a Jewish man who served in the Temple and sang praises to God. He, also, saw the injured man. Perhaps he decided he was in too much of a hurry to stop to help a stranger. He, too, crossed to the other side of the road and went on his way without stopping.

Later on, while this poor injured man still lay on the roadside in the hot sun, another man came down the road. This man was a Samaritan. The Samaritan people were looked down upon by the Jewish people, because they were of a different nationality and because they worshiped God in a different way. The Jewish people would have nothing to do with them. They discriminated against them in much the same way the Negro or Mexican people are discriminated against in some places. This Samaritan might have thought to himself as he saw the helpless man lying there—"Well there's one Jew who won't cause my people any more trouble." But instead the Samaritan saw the poor man and felt sorry for him. He stopped the little burro on which he was riding and went over to the injured man. If the robbers were still hiding in the hills the Samaritan was risking his life. From his saddlebag he took out some oil and some wine. He poured these into the man's wounds to clean them. Then he helped the man and set him upon his own burro. Since two could not ride the small animal, the Samaritan walked along the hot, dusty road, leading the burro, until they came to a roadside inn. There he stopped. He helped the injured man into the inn and rented space for him to rest. He stayed with him and took care of him.

The next morning the Samaritan went on his way. Before he left he paid the innkeeper two pence. That was quite a sum of money because it amounted to two days' wages. Then he asked the innkeeper to continue to care for the injured man until the man was able to care for himself. The Samaritan promised that when he returned he would pay the innkeeper for any expenses for this stranger. The Samaritan did all this to a perfect stranger to show his kindness.

Who Is My Neighbor?

After Jesus had told this story he asked the lawyer, *Which of these three, do you think, proved himself neighbor to him who fell among the robbers? He [the lawyer] answered, The one who showed pity and mercy to him* (Luke 10: 36,37, Amplified). Then Jesus said, "Go and do likewise."

The lawyer must have been astonished at Jesus' words. Instead of finding an excuse for not being kind to one he wished to ignore, Jesus taught that one must go out of

his way to help a person in need. Jesus meant that all those we come in contact with are our neighbors, including those we do not know, those we dislike, those who have hurt our feelings, those who may be members of a different nationality or culture. Jesus used this story to teach that the word "neighbor" is a big word.

Think about the story of the Samaritan again and see if you can answer these questions. What do you think was the one big problem both the priest and the Levite had? Remember, the problem wasn't that they didn't follow after God. Both of them knew God and served him in the Temple. Can you see their problem? (Their first concern was for themselves. They weren't good neighbors because they were selfish.)

If someone asked you to define the word "neighbor" what would you say now that you have heard the story Jesus told? (Refer to question in visual aid book. Wait for comments.) Jesus taught that the word includes everyone. Your neighbor then could include your enemies, or people you dislike, couldn't it? Did you know that if you pray for a person you dislike and tell the Lord how you feel that you will find your feelings will change? The person will perhaps not change, but your attitude will change if your love and prayers are sincere. Of course, you will know, too, that your prayers are pleasing to the Lord for you are doing what God wants you to do.

Being a Good Neighbor

It is easy to see what the priest and the Levite should have done concerning the injured man. Do you think you might ever find yourself in the place of these two men? You won't be traveling down the road from Jerusalem to Jericho, it's true, but are there times when you too might walk by someone who is different? Who are some people you might meet who you feel are different? (Be alert to needs in your own local area.)

People of different nationalities may appear different. (Show pictures mounted during early time, and attach figure 51 to visual aid book. If pupils know children of various cultural backgrounds they may discuss ways that these people do things differently, as holiday celebrations, language differences, etc. Then ask them to tell ways these people are like we are. Lead pupils to mention that they like to have good times, they have the same needs and desires, etc. Emphasize especially that their feelings are similar to ours in that they want acceptance, respect and friendship, just as we do.)

Regardless of the nationality or color of skin, all people are equal in God's sight. He wants us to love them because we love Christ.

People who are strangers to you may appear different. (Attach figure 52.) Sometimes visitors come to our Sunday School. Our church is strange to them. They do not know their way around the church. They do not understand the routine way we do things. Suppose that a visitor comes into our class. Perhaps you would be courteous to him in class, but after class you might go off with your old friends and ignore the visitor. How do you think he might feel? How could you show love to someone who visits our Sunday School?

People whose clothing is different from yours may appear to be different. (Attach figure 53.) No one likes to be different. When there is a new fad in your school and everyone wears a certain kind of shoes, or a certain kind of dress or shirt you all like to have what other boys and girls have, right? How do you feel toward the boy or girl who doesn't follow the fad? Do you join in with those who might tease him because of his dress? Perhaps he would like to follow the fad as much as anyone. Maybe his parents feel they can't afford it. If you fail to have anything to do with the person whose dress is different from yours, are you like the priest and the Levite or like the good Samaritan? Can you

think of ways by which you could be a good neighbor to this person?

Boys and girls who happen to be in a slower or an accelerated class at school may appear to be different. (Attach figure 54.) Do you ignore the pupils who are in the other group? (Let pupils discuss this situation but help them understand that our mental abilities are a gift from God. Some pupils may excel in one thing, others in another.)

Jesus Wants Us to Show Love

Just before Jesus was crucified he talked to his disciples about loving others. He said, *A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; as I have loved you* (John 13:34). It was a new commandment, for they were to love others not because they were of the same nation but because they belonged to Christ. It was new because by loving others Christ's followers would show their love to Christ.

When Jesus said that we are to love others, this does not mean that we must make everyone our best friend. It does mean that we are to treat each person with whom we come in contact with kindness and thoughtfulness. Jesus said that when we show love to others for Jesus' sake, then we show love to the Lord Jesus. (See Matthew 25:40.)

(Have pupils read I John 3:18 silently. Ask meaning of verse, leading pupils to mention that sometimes our words and actions may be contradictory.)

Jesus also said, *By this shall all men know that ye are my*

disciples, if ye have love one to another (John 13:35). Our actions and words must correspond. It is hard to always show love and kindness, especially to those we do not like, or to those who do not like us. But Jesus tells us that if we love him as our Lord and Saviour we should always show love to others, just as he showed his love to us. Now do you have some answers to the question, "What kind of Christian does God want me to be?" (Take several minutes for pupils' answers. They might mention accepting people of different nationalities, strangers, pupils in a slower or an accelerated class at school.)

PRAYER

Let us ask God to help us to be more kind and loving. Let us pray that when he shows us the kind things we should do we will be willing to do them. (Give opportunity for sentence prayers.)

MEMORY WORK

(Have pupils find Luke 10:27 in their Bibles. The verse has been discussed in the Bible study time, therefore needs little other explanation.)

Since Jesus taught these two commandments of love and kindness were so very important, all of us should learn them by heart this week. If we learn them we will be reminded to follow them.

USE YOUR SUNDAY SCHOOL HOUR EFFECTIVELY

Plan carefully and make every minute worthwhile. The following schedule may be adapted for your local needs.

TIME		ACTIVITY
60 min.	75 min.	
(15-20)	(15-20)	Early Teaching Time Begins when the first pupil arrives. Choose activities most suited to your group.
15	15-20	Worship Class Time Prayer—encourage pupil participation with sentence prayers and specific requests.
4	5	Review—use visual aid book, Lesson Strips, or ideas suggested in Early Teaching Time. Point of Contact.
35	40-45	Bible Lesson—know your lesson aim. Make plans to involve pupils. Think of problems your pupils face and relate lesson to life.
3	5	Memory Work—make sure pupils understand the words in the message.
3	5	Assignments—make sure pupils understand assignment in pupil's book.

GOD WANTS ME TO BE UNSELFISH AND FORGIVING

PREPARATION

TEACHING AIMS

Teach so pupil will
KNOW that selfishness and quarrelling are not pleasing to God;
RESPOND with a desire to be unselfish and forgiving in his daily living for the sake of the Lord Jesus Christ.

MEMORY VERSE

Forbearing one another, and forgiving one another, if any man have a quarrel against any: even as Christ forgave you, so also do ye. Colossians 3:13

SCRIPTURE

Matthew 18:21,22; Luke 15:11-32

THINK ON THESE THINGS

The evidence of discipleship is love (John 13:35). In the parable of the prodigal, the loving father forgave his reprobate son, even before his forgiveness was asked. He forgave so readily because he loved so much. Injured by the rejection of his son, the father's pride might have stood in the way when his son returned. An unforgiving spirit is one that dwells more on an injury to one's pride than on love for the wrongdoer. Love never considers self first. *Love vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up* (I Corinthians 13:4).

This verse also reminds us that love *envieth not*. Envy was the problem of the prodigal's brother. Self-love was the root of his envy. He felt that he had not been treated with proper respect and gratitude. He had behaved better than his brother; did he not deserve special treatment?

The big "I" is often the root of sin in our lives. Examine your attitude toward your own family, friends and fellow workers in your church. Is pride or self-love creating envy or resentment in your heart? If so, confess this sin. Pray that you may set aside self and love others with the selfless, forgiving love of Christ. When we love others as Christ loves us, envy and an unforgiving spirit have no place in our lives.

TEACHING TOOLS

- Visual aid book, wordstrips 55-59. (See inside front cover of visual aid book for instructions.)
- Memory verse cards 1-11 from visual aid kit, page 9; pocket chart.
- Chalkboard and chalk.
- Materials to make a panel picture: Felt pens or crayons, scissors, black construction paper, 13"x48" piece shelf paper, Plasti-Tak or cellophane tape.

EARLY TEACHING TIME

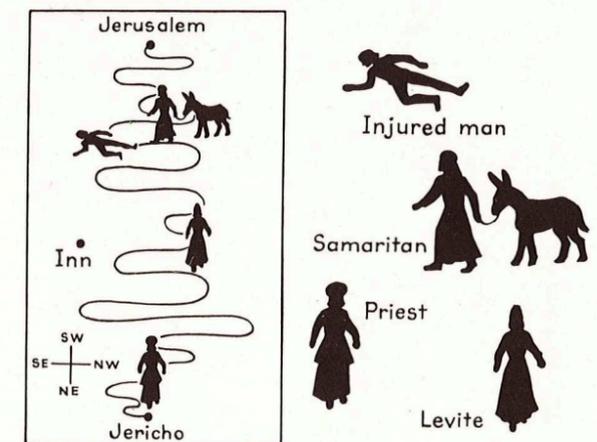
- CHOOSE** what is best for your class.
- Have pupils review previous memory verses using the printed cards 1-11 in the visual aid book. Place cards in

pocket chart with reference side out. Let pupil choose a reference, recite verse and turn the card around in the pocket chart. If it is recited correctly the card may be left in place; if it is recited incorrectly the pupil must turn it back to reference side and let another pupil try it. Repeat the above in reverse order.



- Let pupils unscramble phrases of this week's memory verse. On the chalkboard write the following: (1) another forbearing one, (2) and another one forgiving, (3) have a quarrel against any man if any, (4) as Christ forgave even you, (5) so do ye also (Colossians 3:13). Let each pupil choose a numbered phrase to look up and unscramble. When they have finished ask them to stand and repeat the verse in order.

- Have pupils make a panel picture to review last week's lesson. Tape a piece of 13"x18" shelf paper to a bulletin board or tabletop. Let pupils make a red dot and write "Jerusalem" at top of panel; make a red dot and write "Jericho" at bottom of panel. Draw a winding road to connect the two cities. From a map of Palestine, have pupils find what directions Jerusalem is from Jericho; indicate directions on the panel. Make a red dot for the roadside inn. Let other pupils cut silhouettes from black paper depicting the characters in the story. Let pupils review the story by moving the silhouettes along the road as the events are recalled. (Plasti-Tak or cellophane tape may be used to attach figures to the panel.)



- Let pupils write a modern story of the good Samaritan telling how a person was a good neighbor to someone who was different.



CLASS TIME

PRAYER

Pray that God will help each pupil know how to show more love to others.

REVIEW

(Collect worksheets from those who have completed homework. If pupils took favors to a hospital, an old people's home or to a sick pupil, let them tell about it. See "Early Teaching Time," Lesson 11.)

How do you define the word "neighbor"? Who was the best neighbor in the story of the good Samaritan?

Last week we talked about the question, "What kind of Christian does God want me to be?" What clues did you find last week to help answer the question? Let's be alert again today for clues from our Bible study which will help us further answer this question.

POINT OF CONTACT

Suppose your father told you and your brother or sister to rake up the leaves and sweep the walks and porches on a Saturday morning. Perhaps you both wasted time and did not accomplish much at the beginning of the morning. Then your father said, "If you two do not finish that work by noon you cannot go with me to the football game this afternoon." You both decided to divide up the work so that you could finish in time to go. You were to rake the leaves and he/she was to sweep the porches and walks. Soon a friend came by. Your brother/sister stopped work and spent a long time talking to the friend. All the time they talked you kept working hard because you didn't want to miss that game. At noon your father came out and saw that you had raked the leaves but that the sweeping was not done. Instead of scolding anyone your father said, "Well, it is time to get ready for the game." Not one word was said about your work being completed and the other work being undone. In fact your father said, "You two can finish this job later."

You would no doubt be very unhappy if that were to happen, wouldn't you? Often things happen that seem to be unfair. Today in our Bible study we will talk about two brothers. One of the brothers felt he was being treated very unfairly.

BIBLE LESSON

(Since the story of the prodigal son is so familiar, let the pupils take turns in helping you tell the first part of the story.)

Jesus told a story about a man who had two sons. The younger son was eager to go away from home and see the world. One day he went to his father and said, "Father,

give me the part of the money which will someday be mine. I don't like having you tell me what to do all the time. I want to travel and see the world. I want to really enjoy life."

According to the custom of that day the older son would someday receive two-thirds of all that the father owned. This was part of the birthright for the older son. The younger son was entitled to only one-third.

The young man's father loved his two sons very much. No doubt the younger son's request saddened the father. Nevertheless, the father gave part of his wealth to his younger son. The son left home as soon as he had the money for which he had asked.

Do you remember where he went? (Into a far country) What happened to him there? Yes, he spent his money recklessly. He made friends among bad companions and wasted away his money in what the Bible calls "riotous living." There came a time when his money was gone, his friends left him and he was all alone.

About that time there was a famine in the land. What is a famine? (A time when food is scarce) The young man was hungry, friendless and lonely. He became so desperate for food that he decided to find a job. Finally a farmer who raised pigs hired the young man to feed the pigs. Now the young man was a Jew and according to the Mosaic Law or code, pigs were unclean. (See Leviticus 11:7.) What a blow to the young man's pride to take a job like that. It was considered the lowest possible job for a Jew! As he fed the pigs he would gladly have eaten the husks which were fed to the swine. Husks were pods of the carob tree or locust tree. They were long beans, sweet to the taste.

Then, the Bible tells us, he came to himself. He realized how foolish he had been to leave his comfortable home. He thought of his father's servants. He knew they had plenty to eat. He decided to go home. He would tell his father that he had done wrong and ask to be taken back as a hired servant. He knew he no longer deserved to be treated as a son. So he left at once and started the long trip home.

A Loving Father Forgives

No doubt as the young man neared home, he became more and more concerned about what his father would say and how his father would receive him. He rehearsed what he would say to his father. But he need not have worried, for a great reception awaited him.

Perhaps the father had spent many hours since his son left looking down that dusty road waiting for his son to come home. Then one day the father saw someone coming slowly down the road. The father recognized him at once! He ran as fast as he could to meet his son. He threw his arms around him and kissed him. As the young man felt his father's love he probably wept. Turn to Luke 15:21 to see what the son said. He didn't even get to finish all that he had planned and rehearsed all the way home. It was as though the father didn't hear what his son said. He was too happy to care about anything but that his long lost son was home. The father called to his servants, *Bring forth the best robe, and put it on him; and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet; and bring hither the fatted calf, and kill it; and let us eat, and be merry: for this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found* (Luke 15:22-24).

What a welcome the son received! It was the custom to have a fine robe in the home which was reserved for the honored guest. This robe was now to be put on the son. The shoes would mark the young man as free man instead of a slave, for slaves went barefoot. The ring was a sign that his father wanted the young man to know that he was considered his son. Although the son planned to come home and become one of his father's hired servants, the father did everything possible to give his son the place of honor. There was food and music and the home was

filled with sounds of a big happy celebration. The son had returned!

A Brother Is Selfish

This sounds like the end of a good story. The son is home and both the son and father are happy. But this is only half of the story. The sin of selfishness crept in to spoil the happy picture.

The older son had been out in the fields working when his brother arrived. In that day many of the fields in Palestine belonging to a certain man were often located several miles away from the village or the owner's home. By the time the older son came home the feast was all prepared and underway. Can't you imagine the look of puzzlement which must have crossed the brother's face as he neared the house and heard the music and the merriment. He just could not imagine what was happening. He called a servant and asked, "What is the meaning of all this merriment?" No doubt the servant's face broke into a huge smile as he said, *Thy brother is come; and thy father hath killed the fatted calf, because he hath received him safe and sound* (Luke 15:27).

How do you suppose the older brother felt about the news and the big celebration? Do you think he was happy about it? Turn to verse 28 and see what he did. (After pupils find the answer in their Bibles refer to page 15 of the visual aid book. Attach wordstrip 55.) What do you think was the real reason why the older brother became so angry? (Wait for comments. Help pupils see that the sin of selfishness was involved. Attach wordstrip 56 to visual aid.) The brother was so angry he pouted and wouldn't even go into the house to greet his brother.

When the father heard that his older son was angry he went outside to talk to him. The father loved both sons very much. (Refer to visual aid book.) Notice how one sin led to another in the life of the older son. First, he was angry, he was selfish, then he began to boast of his own goodness! (Attach wordstrip 57.) He said to his father, *These many years I have served you, and I have never disobeyed your command; yet you never gave me [so much as] a little kid, that I might . . . be happy and make merry with my friends* (Luke 15:29, Amplified). Now the sin of jealousy had crept in. (Attach wordstrip 58.)

The older son went on expressing his feelings. Notice he was so angry he didn't even want to call the other person his brother. He said, "Yet as soon as this thy son comes home, even though he has wasted all your money on sinful companions, you give a big feast in his honor!"

The father was sad that this son was jealous of his younger brother. "Why, Son," he said, "you have been with me all the time. I have given you much of my love and attention. All that I have is yours."

We can understand how the older brother could think that this big celebration on behalf of his brother was not fair if he looked at things from a selfish point of view. He was angry because he was jealous. He thought only of himself. He was not glad that his brother had come home. He only thought about how hard he had worked all the time his brother was gone. His thoughts were all selfish ones.

The younger son had mistreated his father. He had done wrong. But because the father loved his son so much, he was willing to forgive him. If the older son had loved his brother, how do you think he would have felt? However, the older brother had an unforgiving spirit. (Attach wordstrip 59.)

God Wants Us to Be Unselfish and Forgiving

The Bible tells us that we should forgive one another. (Refer to the memory verse in the visual aid book.) We cannot love others as Christ loves us if we selfishly think only of ourselves. God knows that it is sometimes hard for us to put up with what other people do, yet the Bible says that we are to be kind and loving to everyone, *Forbearing one another, and forgiving one another, if any man have a quarrel against any: even as Christ forgave you, so also do ye* (Colossians 3:13).

If you are to obey the teaching of our memory verse, Colossians 3:13, what would you do in this situation? (Refer to picture in visual aid book.)

Suppose that you have been making a jigsaw puzzle. It is on a table in the corner of the room you and your younger sister (or brother) share. Your mother punished your sister for something and sent her to your room. When you came in the room you found that because your sister was angry about the punishment, she had deliberately messed up the puzzle you had worked on for so long. How would you feel? (Help pupils understand that anger would be natural. Point out the importance of not permitting anger to grow and turn into other sins.) It is not easy to forgive others when we feel we have not been treated fairly, but this is what God wants us to do. Why do you think your sister messed up the puzzle? How could you help your sister? (If you have had experience in role playing, let the pupils role play this situation.)

One day Jesus was talking with the disciples about forgiving those who did things they did not like. Peter had a question about forgiving. He wanted to know how often and how much he had to forgive. The Jewish law taught that it was only necessary to forgive someone three times for the same wrong or mistake. Peter thought he was being quite generous when he said, "If someone sins against me how often do I have to forgive him? Is seven times enough?" Jesus must have looked kindly at Peter as he answered, "No, Peter, seven times is not enough." Turn to Matthew 18:22 to find what Jesus told Peter. Raise your hand when you know what Jesus said. (Seventy times seven) By seventy times seven Jesus meant that we are to forgive others so many times that we cannot count them. Look at the last part of the memory verse, *even as Christ forgave you, so also do ye*. The Lord Jesus forgave us, so we also should show our love to him by forgiving others who wrong us.

PRAYER

Thank God for forgiving our sins. Ask him to help us be more forgiving and kind to others.

MEMORY WORK

The verse, Colossians 3:13, has already been discussed during the Bible study. Make sure pupils understand that "forbearing" means to control yourself or put up with others.

ASSIGNMENT

Assign the memory verse, Colossians 3:13.

Call attention to the 3-D pictures pupils are asked to make on page 47 of pupil's book. You may want to discuss this with pupils in class. Tell them that you will be looking forward to seeing their pictures next Sunday.

GOD WANTS ME TO BE PATIENT WITH OTHERS

PREPARATION

TEACHING AIMS

Teach so pupil may
KNOW that God wants us to be patient with others and
UNDERSTAND the Bible pattern for patience;
RESPOND with a desire to be patient because he loves God.

MEMORY VERSE

And the servant of the Lord must not strive; but be gentle unto all men, . . . patient. II Timothy 2:24

SCRIPTURE

Luke 10:38-42; John 15:1-14

THINK ON THESE THINGS

Patience is a virtue that is difficult to practice in our pattern of living. James indicates that patience is but a step away from perfection. (Read James 1:4.) So often because of differences in personality and abilities we become impatient with others. The root of impatience is self. *I* am in a hurry! Why doesn't someone else do things the way *I* do them? The big "I" is the problem of an impatient disposition.

Patience is not a natural trait. It is the fruit of a Spirit-filled life. One translation says it this way, *But the fruit of the (Holy) Spirit, [the work which His presence within accomplishes]—is love, joy (gladness), peace, patience (an even temper, forbearance), kindness, goodness (benevolence), faithfulness; (Meekness, humility) gentleness, self-control (self-restraint, continence)* (Galatians 5:22,23, Amplified). See also Colossians 1:9-12. It is interesting to note in the Scripture how frequently the admonishment to be patient is accompanied by an admonishment to pray. See Romans 12:12; I Thessalonians 5:14,17; II Timothy 2:22,24; James 1:4,5. Patience can be ours when we are *Strengthened with all might, according to his glorious power* (Colossians 1:11).

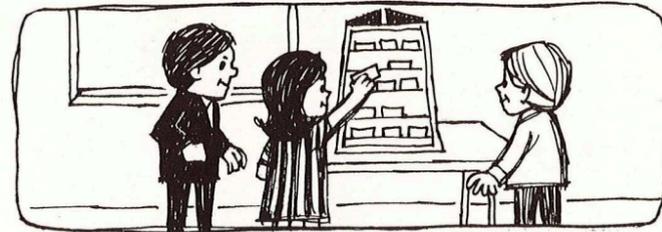
TEACHING TOOLS

- Visual aid book, wordstrips 60-68. (See inside front cover of visual aid book for instructions.)
- White construction or newsprint paper, pencils, crayons.
- Memory verse cards 1-13 from visual aid kit, pocket chart.
- Materials to make diorama scenes: diorama box (prepared in Lesson 2, page 8), pipe cleaners, scraps of cloth, construction paper, lightweight cardboard, paper Easter grass, twigs, toothpicks, clay.

EARLY TEACHING TIME

CHOOSE what is best for your class.

- Have pupils write their own definitions for the word "patience" across the bottom of a sheet of paper. Examples: "Patience is waiting for your little brother to tie his shoe";



"Patience is waiting for cookies to be taken from the oven." Let them illustrate definitions with crayons.

- Have pupils review memory verses for quarter (see "Early Teaching Time," page 20.)

Let pupils make diorama scenes of the prodigal son. On chalkboard write: Luke 15:12,13 Son Leaves Home; Luke 15:20 Son Returns Home. Let one group make figures to illustrate first scene; let second group make figures to illustrate second scene. Figures may be made from pipe cleaners and dressed with scraps of cloth, or drawn on paper and mounted on lightweight cardboard. If paper is used, cut out figures leaving a tab at the bottom of each to fold and paste in place in diorama box. Use box prepared in Lesson 2. If desired, add trees, shrubbery, grass. (See sketches.)

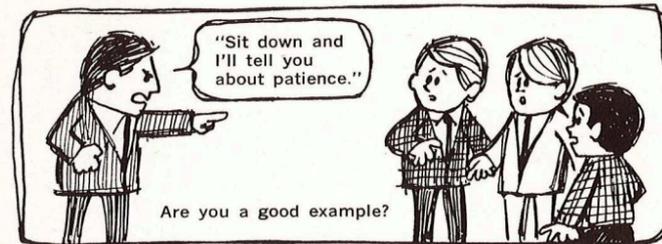


Son leaves home



Son returns home

- Assign the following references to several pupils and let them be prepared to read them in class and tell what the verse says about "patience": Ecclesiastes 7:8; Romans 5:3,4; I Thessalonians 5:14; I Timothy 6:11; II Timothy 2:24.



CLASS TIME

PRAYER

Pray that your pupils may learn to depend upon God to help them become strong Christians.

REVIEW

(Collect worksheets for last week. Let pupils who have made dioramas share these with the class as you review the story of the prodigal son.) How did the older son feel when his brother came home? What were some of the sins in the life of the older son? When we find that we are

jealous, selfish or unforgiving to others, we should confess these sins to the Lord and ask him to forgive us.

POINT OF CONTACT

Have you ever tried to build a treehouse, or a fort, or to make some school project with someone who did not want to do things just the way you wanted to do them? Maybe you had a good idea that the other person did not like at all. Or perhaps you worked very neatly and carefully and your partner was messy and careless in his work. If you have worked with someone who works differently from the way you do, it is hard to keep from becoming disgusted or angry with your friend, isn't it?

Perhaps some of you have younger brothers or sisters at home. Many times younger children want to help older brothers and sisters. They want to play the same games, but they just can't do things as well. Have you ever had an experience like that with a younger child? (Let pupils tell some of their experiences.) It is hard not to get cross when you play ball with someone who cannot play as well as you, or when (relate experiences those in your class have shared). It seems especially hard not to become cross with those in our own family when they do things that do not please us. But we need to forgive them and be patient with them.

One day Jesus visited two sisters who did not always please each other. They came very close to having an argument while Jesus was right there in their house.

BIBLE LESSON

Jesus Visits Friends in Bethany

When Jesus lived on this earth he had no home of his own, but he was welcomed in the homes of many of his friends. One home that he especially liked to visit was not very far from Jerusalem in a little town called Bethany. (Locate on map.) Bethany was only about a half hour's walk from Jerusalem. Jesus probably often stayed with his friends Mary and Martha when he went to Jerusalem for the religious holidays. Perhaps some of you remember what Jesus did one time when these two sisters were very sad. (Let pupils recall that Jesus raised Lazarus from the dead.)

Jesus raised Lazarus from the dead only a short time before Jesus was crucified. But he had gone to his home many times before that day. Mary and Martha were always happy to have Jesus visit them. The family was probably wealthy, so their home was no doubt large and comfortable.

Although Mary and Martha were sisters they had very different personalities. One day when Jesus paid a visit Martha thought that the best way to make Jesus feel welcome was to treat him as an honored guest. She may have brought water for Jesus' feet. Travelers wore sandals in that day and it was the custom for a good hostess to provide water for guests to wash the dust from their feet. Then Martha wanted to prepare a delicious meal for him. She wanted everything to be just right.

Mary, also, was happy to have Jesus come to visit. She probably had worked with Martha getting ready for his coming, but after the Lord arrived Mary liked to spend all her time with him. She wanted to hear as much as she could about God. She was eager to learn more about the Scriptures. Mary did not want to be busy in the kitchen when Jesus was in their home.

Martha Is Impatient with Her Sister

All the time Mary sat at Jesus' feet listening to the things he said about the heavenly Father, Martha was scurrying around preparing the meal. Perhaps she wished that Mary would come and help her. (Attach wordstrip 60 to page 16 of the visual aid book.) The Bible says *Martha*

was cumbered about much serving (Luke 10:40). Martha was worrying about how she was going to get everything done that she planned to do. She saw Mary still sitting quietly at Jesus' feet. As she darted by, first on one errand and then another, Martha became more impatient with her sister. To herself Martha may have thought, "Why doesn't she come and help me? She knows there is much to be done, yet she leaves me to do all this work alone." (Attach wordstrip 61.) Martha wanted to call Mary and tell her she was not being fair. Finally she became so impatient that she could not keep quiet any longer. It just didn't seem right that she should have to do all the work alone! (Attach wordstrip 62 to visual aid book.) Martha went to Jesus and said, *Lord, dost thou not care that my sister hath left me to serve alone? bid her therefore that she help me* (Luke 10:40).

But Jesus did not tell Mary to go help Martha. Instead he said, *Martha, Martha, thou art careful and troubled about many things: but one thing is needful: and Mary hath chosen that good part, which shall not be taken away from her* (verses 41,42). (Attach wordstrip 63 to visual aid book.)

Jesus wanted Martha to understand that the important thing was that Mary was spending time to listen to the Word of God, and the message about God. He wanted Martha to know that if she too would come and listen, this would mean more to him than her cooking.

Martha became impatient because she did not understand Mary. She did not understand that Mary was eager just to be near the Lord. The things that seemed important to Martha were not as important to Mary. Jesus did not tell Martha not to work so hard. He knew she was trying to please him, but he tried to help her understand that her company was more important to him than her cooking.

God Wants Us to Be Patient

God wants us to be patient with others. How would you define patience? (Let pupils who wrote out definitions of patience as suggested in "Early Teaching Time" share their ideas now.)

Now let's turn in our Bibles and see what God's Word says about patience. We have several Bible references which those pupils who came early today are ready to share with us. (Let pupils read the references assigned to them and tell what the verse says about patience.) (Attach wordstrips 64-68.)

Ecclesiastes 7:8—A person who is proud of himself will be tempted to be selfish and will not be very patient with others.

Romans 5:3,4—Trouble can help develop our patience. I Thessalonians 5:14—Be patient to all people.

I Timothy 6:11—Aim and work to be patient.

II Timothy 2:24—Patience is a mark of a Christian.

This last verse is our memory verse for this week. Since it reminds us that patience is the mark of the servant of the Lord, or of a Christian, it's an important verse for us to learn and practice.

Many times the Bible tells us that we need to be patient with others. It tells us about people who had patience and it urges us to have more. It tells us about the patience of Abraham who waited so many years for his son Isaac to be born, of Job who had so many problems and difficulties but he waited patiently upon God. The Bible tells of the patience of Paul and the patience of Christ.

We've said the Bible teaches us to be patient when troubles and hardships come. Glen was only eight years old when the school building where he attended caught fire. Before the children all got out of the building Glen was badly burned. At first the doctors said Glen would never walk again. He, however, patiently struggled through months of treatments and exercises to make his muscles function again. After years of patiently exercising, Glen not only

walked again, but he went out for track. When he was twenty-five years old he set a world mile record of 4 minutes, 6.7 seconds and he became famous as a field and track champion. Sports fans everywhere now knew him as Glen Cunningham. Still he did not give up. Four years later he ran the mile on an indoor track in a record 4 minutes, 4.4 seconds. Glen had patience.

You need patience when you are playing a game and you see that you are losing. Or when you are working math problems and it seems you will never understand them. You need to be patient with yourself. The easiest thing to do when we face difficulties is to quit. But with patience, if you continue, you no doubt will succeed.

We need patience with others. Don't be impatient with those who think or act differently from the way you do. Perhaps you, like Martha, just do not understand the person. The other person no doubt has a reason for thinking and acting as he does. And who knows?—he may be right and you wrong, just as Martha was. The Lord Jesus said that Mary had chosen the most important part by listening to God's Word.

Forgiveness and patience are very closely related, aren't they? As we learn to be patient with others we also find that we must forgive them for the things they have done to hurt or annoy us.

Depend on Christ

In the last two lessons we have talked about the question, "What kind of Christian does God want me to be?" We have mentioned that God wants us to love others, to show kindness, to be unselfish, forgiving and patient. However, the feelings which naturally come to us are just the opposite. By nature we are selfish, we are concerned in seeing that we get the best for ourselves. When someone treats us unfairly or unkindly our first reaction is to become angry and to lash out at the person who has hurt us. The way that we become the kind of Christian that God wants us to be is to allow the Lord Jesus to direct our lives.

God created you with a free will. He does not force you to become a member of God's family; neither does he force you to be kind or unselfish. The choice is up to you. If you choose to follow him, you can ask the Lord to forgive your sins and to become your personal Saviour. After you are a Christian it is important that you make it a habit to ask the Lord to guide you each day. You cannot be the kind of Christian God wants you to be without him. In our own power we will only fail. Jesus said it this way, *for without me ye can do nothing* (John 15:5).

When Jesus was here on earth he often used simple objects such as the wind, flowers, or birds to illustrate the truths he wanted to teach. When Jesus taught that it was important for his followers to depend on him, he used a tree and its branches to illustrate. The people knew that a branch cut from a tree would wilt and die. The branch is dependent upon the tree, for it is through the tree trunk that the branch receives its food to grow. Jesus said we are like the branch of a tree. If we want to grow as Christians we must depend upon Christ for power to become the kind of Christians we should be. (Refer to statement in visual aid book.)

The Bible says it this way, *Just as no branch can bear fruit of itself without abiding in (vitality united to) the*

vine, neither can you bear fruit unless you abide in Me (John 15:4, Amplified). If we choose to go our own way we will not be the kind of Christian God wants us to be. We will be more concerned that we have our own way than we are to please God. Jesus went on to say that he was the vine, or the tree trunk, and that we his followers are the branches. If we remain close to him, we will see Christian growth or fruit in our lives. Look at John 15:5 and follow as I read it, *I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing.*

Jesus wants us to abide in him. One way to define the word "abide" is the place where you stay or live. Or the place where you are at home. When you go to visit in someone's home you act like a guest, don't you? You go only to those areas of the home where your host takes you, but you wouldn't think of digging into their closets or drawers, would you? In your own home, however, you go wherever you please. When you abide in the Lord you are at home with him. Nothing is hidden from God in your life. There is nothing in your life that the Lord doesn't know.

In your home you are free to talk to any member of your family and you feel free to talk about anything. When you abide in the Lord you can talk everything over with him also. Nothing is too small or simple concerning your life for the Lord to be interested.

In your own home you feel free to be relaxed and make yourself comfortable. You can do just about anything you please as long as you stay within the rules of your family, right? When you abide in the Lord, you have freedom too. You can be comfortable and do anything as long as you stay within the standards which God has set for you.

Jesus said that when we bear fruit, or are the kind of Christian God wants us to be, then we are pleasing to God and we will show ourselves as real followers of his.

How do we stay close to the Lord? (Refer to statements in the visual aid book as you mention each one.) By talking to him in prayer, by listening as he talks to us through his Word, by obeying his commandments because we love him. Jesus said, *If you keep My commandments—if you continue to obey My instructions—you will abide in My love and live on in it; just as I have obeyed My Father's commandments and live on in His love* (John 15:10, Amplified).

PRAYER

Let's pray that he will be more patient and kind to those around us. Pray that we will learn to depend on God.

MEMORY WORK

As you teach II Timothy 2:24, be sure that pupils understand that "strive" means to quarrel or connive to get your own way. Emphasize that "gentleness" is kindness.

ASSIGNMENT

- Assign II Timothy 2:24 to be memorized this week.
- Return the corrected worksheets to the pupils.

ANSWERS TO PUPILS' WORKSHEET QUESTIONS

(Pupils should be encouraged to think through the answers as much as possible. Be ready to accept reasonable answers.)

LESSON 1

Jesus Goes to Bethany: Lazarus, Mary, Martha; raised him from the dead; came to Bethany

The People Hail Jesus as King: go and get a young colt and bring it to him; he sat upon it; Hosanna, Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord; save now; made him see; made him walk; made him alive; 1—make the blind see; 2—make the deaf hear; 3—make the lame walk; King of Israel

Jesus Had a Better Plan: He had to suffer and die and be raised from the dead

God's Ways Are Not Our Ways: our ways are not God's ways or our thoughts his thoughts; nothing is too hard for him; all power is given unto me in heaven and in earth; he will hear and answer

LESSON 2

Behavior In God's House: moneychangers, people buying and selling doves; he drove the people out of the Temple; my house shall be called the house of prayer, but ye have made it a den of thieves; whispering, writing notes, kicking the pew, playing with a bracelet; pupil's own words

Judas Betrays Jesus: Judas; 30 pieces of silver

Getting Ready for Passover: b,e,a,d

The Lord's Supper: communion; this is my body which is given for you; this cup is the new testament in my blood which is shed for you; the Lord Jesus; he comes

LESSON 3

Jesus Prepares for Trouble: to the Mount of Olives; knelt down, and prayed; my, thine; call upon the Lord

Jesus Is Arrested: Judas, a band of men, officers from the chief priests; lanterns, torches, weapons; he went forth to meet them; they stepped backward and fell to the ground; they bound him 1—Caiaphas, 2—Judas, 3—Pilate, 4—Annas, 5—Malchus, 6—Peter

Jesus Is Tried: he found no fault in him; whip; you have no power over me except it be given from above; crucify him; sons of God

LESSON 4

Jesus Is Crucified: Jesus of Nazareth the King of the Jews; they stripped him, put on a scarlet robe, put on a crown of thorns, bowed before him, mocked him, spit on him, hit him on the head; he loves me; darkness covered the earth; 3 hours; Father forgive them

Jesus Gave His Life Willingly: I have power to lay it down and take it up again; that he might bring us to God; certainly this was a righteous man; truly this man was the Son of God; Joseph of Arimathea and Nicodemus

Christ Arose: 1—the stone was rolled away, 2—they saw two men in shining garments, 3—Jesus' body was gone; pupil's own words

LESSON 5

Jesus' Followers See Him Alive: Mary Magdalene; to tell the disciples Jesus is risen; to Emmaus; they knew Jesus and then he vanished; they went back to Jerusalem; pupil's own words; 1,3,6,7

Thomas Didn't Believe: he did not believe them; 8 days later; he told him to touch his hands and his side; My Lord and My God; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed

Jesus Goes Back to Heaven: he was taken up into heaven; two men in white clothing; why stand here looking into heaven, Jesus will come again just as you have seen him go; prepare a place for us

LESSON 6

Nicodemus Comes to Christ: ruler; pupil's own words; he must be born again; 1—Jews, 2—teacher, 3—wind, 4—old, 5—again

A Jailor Becomes a Member of God's Family: Paul and Silas; sang hymns and prayed; an earthquake opened the prison doors; what must I do to be saved; believe on the Lord Jesus Christ

Do You Want to Become a Member of God's Family: receive and believe; gift, God, because he loves me

LESSON 7

Early Christians Knew God's Word Well: he used the verses to tell the man about Jesus; believed and was baptized; 1—cloak, 2—books, 3—parchments; scrolls; Scripture

You Need to Study the Bible, Too: new babies; milk; spiritually; often

You Need to Memorize God's Word: 1—when they sit in their house, 2—when they walk by the way, 3—when they lie down, 4—when they rise up; 1—during mealtime, 2—at playtime or on way to and from school, 3—before bedtime, 4—first thing in the morning; it is written; the sword of the Spirit which is God's Word

LESSON 8

Jesus Spent Much Time in Prayer: c,b,d,a,e

Jesus Gave a Pattern for Prayer: useless; act of repeating

What Is Prayer: prayer is talking to God; talk to God alone and often

Where Should You Pray: pupil's own words for two answers; desire; pupil's own words

LESSON 9

Jesus Wants His Disciples to Witness: witnesses; to tell about; all who believe in him

The Disciples Learn to Talk About Christ: to stop talking about Jesus; we can't help talking about him; Christ's people

Ways You Can Witness: 1—world, 2—friends, 3—Peter, 4—things, 5—prayer, 6—praises, 7—Jesus

LESSON 10

Our Attitude Is Important in Giving: rich men and a poor widow; the rich men; the widow's; she gave all that she had; the widow's; more, less, more, less, more, more, less

Giving an Offering Is a Part of Worship: 1—the glory due his name, 2—an offering; parents tell us, other kids do it; 1—grudgingly, 2—of necessity; cheerfully; grumbling

God Wants Us to Give Ourselves to Him: pupil's own words for two answers; Caesar's; time and talents

God Blesses Those Who Give to Him: give and it shall be given to you

LESSON 11

Jesus Gives the Great Commandment: pupil's own words for two questions; a parable

The Story of the Good Samaritan: Jesus; Jericho; Jerusalem; he was attacked by thieves; 1—wounds, 2—priest, 3—Levite, 4—other, 5—Samaritan, 6—oil, 7—wine, 8—inn, 9—care, 10—pay, 11—neighbor, 12—go, 13—same

Jesus Wants Us to Show Love: show kindness and love; we are his disciples; treat others as you want to be treated; love others as Jesus loves us

LESSON 12

Trouble in a Family: 1—younger, 2—far, 3—hunger, 4—ran, 5—sinned, 6—robe, 7—fatted calf, 8—older, 9—angry, 10—found, 11—alive; he loved his son; he was too angry; himself

God Wants Us to Be Unselfish and Forgiving: when he died for us; forbearing, forgiving; putting up with; during a quarrel; one another; myself; be kind, tenderhearted, forgiving; because God has forgiven us

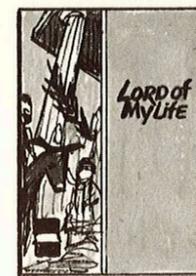
LESSON 13

One Sister Is Impatient with Another: Mary, Martha, Lazarus; prepared a meal for him; sitting at Jesus' feet and listening to him; to tell Mary to help her; one thing; Mary's

Peter Learns What Patience Is: he cut off the right ear of the high priest's servant; shall I forgive seven times; seventy times seven; pupil's own words; pray

God Wants Us to Be Patient: strive; quarrel; tribulation; trouble

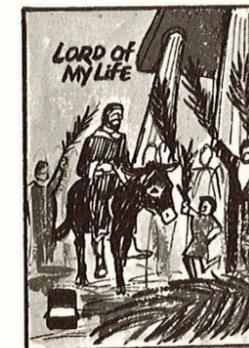
CORRELATED TEACHING MATERIALS



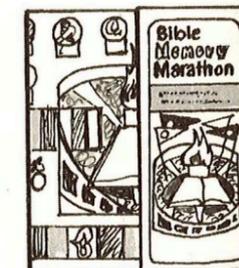
TEACHER'S BOOK



STUDENT'S BOOK



VISUAL AID



MEMORY COURSE

