

THEME I
LED TO THE HIGHEST POWER THROUGH LOVE
But, beloved, we are persuaded better things of you,
and things that accompany salvation, though we thus speak.
Hebrew 6:9
LESSONS 1 - 15

LESSON 1

AUGUST 7, 2022

FAMILY SUNDAY
FAMILY UNITY

MOTTO TEXT: Ephesians 3:14-15 For this cause I bow my knees unto the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, Of whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named.

ENTIRE LESSON: Colossians 3:8-21

8. But now ye also put off all these; anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy communication out of your mouth.
9. Lie not one to another, seeing that ye have put off the old man with his deeds;
10. And have put on the new *man*, which is renewed in knowledge after the image of him that created him:
11. Where there is neither Greek nor Jew, circumcision nor uncircumcision, Barbarian, Scythian, bond *nor* free: but Christ *is* all, and in all.
12. Put on therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, bowels of mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, longsuffering;
13. Forbearing one another, and forgiving one another, if any man have a quarrel against any: even as Christ forgave you, so also *do* ye.
14. And above all these things *put on* charity, which is the bond of perfectness.
15. And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to the which also ye are called in one body; and be ye thankful.
16. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.
17. And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, *do* all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him.
18. Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as it is fit in the Lord.
19. Husbands, love *your* wives, and be not bitter against them.
20. Children, obey *your* parents in all things: for this is well pleasing unto the Lord.
21. Fathers, provoke not your children *to anger*, lest they be discouraged.

PURPOSE – To demonstrate the Christian view to family unity.

PRACTICAL POINT – The home is a social institution created by God. If the home is to be united, there must be a head (Eph. 5:23).

GLOSSARY/COMMENTARY

1. Blasphemy – profanity, wickedness, irreverence, desecration, cussword; every definition stinks in God's nostrils. They are to be avoided at all costs.

2. Bitter – resentful angry indignant; husbands should never treat their wives in this manner.
3. Forbearing – saints should hold back and control themselves from taking part in controversies that cause divisions.
4. Grace – love that is freely given by God which is not earned. Let us do all things with grace in our hearts.
5. Provoke – fathers must not aggravate, irritate, or enflame wrath in their children, but lead them in holy living as the head of the household.

DISCUSSION AND LESSON APPLICATIONS

1. Unity means joined as a whole. What are some attributes that keep the unity in a family?
2. According to this lesson, name those things we, as a family, should put off.
3. Too many times Filthy Communication is acceptable as norm today. Since you are in God's family, should it be difficult to put it off Filthy Communication?
4. The fourteenth (14th) verse of the lesson says that 'charity is the bond of perfectness'. What does that mean to you and how is it achieved?
5. Allow students to volunteer and summarize their understanding of "Family Unity" according to the final four (4) verses of the lesson.

MEMORY VERSE: Ephesians 5:33 Nevertheless let every one of you in particular so love his wife even as himself; and the wife *see* that she reverence *her* husband.

LESSON 2

AUGUST 14, 2022

THE AUTHORITATIVE POWERS OF GOD IN BELIEVERS

MOTTO TEXT: 1 Corinthians 15:24 Then *cometh* the end, when he shall have delivered up the kingdom to God, even the Father; when he shall have put down all rule and all authority and power.

ENTIRE LESSON: Matthew 10:1-20

1. And when he had called unto *him* his twelve disciples, he gave them power *against* unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal all manner of sickness and all manner of disease.
2. Now the names of the twelve apostles are these; The first, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother; James *the son of* Zebedee, and John his brother;
3. Philip, and Bartholomew; Thomas, and Matthew the publican; James *the son of* Alphaeus, and Lebbaeus, whose surname was Thaddaeus;
4. Simon the Canaanite, and Judas Iscariot, who also betrayed him.
5. These twelve Jesus sent forth, and commanded them, saying, Go not into the way of the Gentiles, and into *any* city of the Samaritans enter ye not:
6. But go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.
7. And as ye go, preach, saying, The kingdom of heaven is at hand.
8. Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out devils: freely ye have received, freely give.

9. Provide neither gold, nor silver, nor brass in your purses,
10. Nor scrip for *your* journey, neither two coats, neither shoes, nor yet staves: for the workman is worthy of his meat.
11. And into whatsoever city or town ye shall enter, inquire who in it is worthy; and there abide till ye go thence.
12. And when ye come into an house, salute it.
13. And if the house be worthy, let your peace come upon it: but if it be not worthy, let your peace return to you.
14. And whosoever shall not receive you, nor hear your words, when ye depart out of that house or city, shake off the dust of your feet.
15. Verily I say unto you, It shall be more tolerable for the land of Sodom and Gomorrha in the day of judgment, than for that city.
16. Behold, I send you forth as sheep in the midst of wolves: be ye therefore wise as serpents, and harmless as doves.
17. But beware of men: for they will deliver you up to the councils, and they will scourge you in their synagogues;
18. And ye shall be brought before governors and kings for my sake, for a testimony against them and the Gentiles.
19. But when they deliver you up, take no thought how or what ye shall speak: for it shall be given you in that same hour what ye shall speak.
20. For it is not ye that speak, but the Spirit of your Father which speaketh in you.

PURPOSE – To declare that the Son of man (*Jesus*) has power on earth to forgive sins.

PRACTICAL POINT – All the tribes of the earth shall mourn, when we see the Son of man coming in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory.

GLOSSARY/COMMENTARY

1. Authoritative – able to be trusted as being accurate or true, reliable, commanding. Jesus had the authority to command all evil spirits to be cast out and to forgive sins.
2. Gentiles – not belonging to the Jewish people or faith. The gospel was first sent to the lost sheep of Israel and not to the Gentiles who were not of the Jewish nation.
3. Samaritans – A nation of people from Samaria. Paul was sent to preach the gospel to non-Jewish nations which included those from Samaria. Since God's people rejected Jesus as His Son, other nations were given the opportunity for salvation.
4. Scrip – a wallet or small satchel or bag. The disciples were told not to take scrip with them as they traveled from place to place with the gospel. God would provide their needs as they did the work they were assigned to do.
5. Brass – money, "they wanted to spend their newly acquired brass" Jesus told His disciples not to take any brass in their purses. There should be no charge for teaching/preaching the gospel.
6. Kingdom of heaven – a state or people ruled over by a king (God). God will reign over the domain or territory when he has put down all sin and evil, then Jesus will have all rule over the land.
7. Apostles – followers, devotees, believers, supporters of Jesus Christ. Jesus chose these men because they were workers and sent them forth to spread the gospel.

DISCUSSION AND LESSON APPLICATIONS

1. How many disciples/apostles had Jesus chosen and what authority were they given?
2. Have you been chosen by God for any special reason? Explain.
3. The disciples were told not to take certain things for their journey; what were they? Why do you believe these instructions were important to be obeyed?
4. Jesus said, “Behold I send you forth as sheep in the midst of wolves.” In your opinion, discuss what he meant by this statement? Have you ever been in a situation that made you feel you was in the presence of a wolf?
5. The disciples were warned to beware of some trials they would endure. They were also told not to think ahead of time what they would say.
6. How, then would they be able to respond to these situations? Explain your responses.

MEMORY VERSE: Matthew 10:1 And when he had called unto *him* his twelve disciples, he gave them power *against* unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal all manner of sickness and all manner of disease.

LESSON 3

AUGUST 21, 2022

A PASTOR ACCORDING TO GOD’S HEART

MOTTO TEXT: Jeremiah 3:15 And I will give you **pastors according to mine heart**, which shall feed you with knowledge and understanding.

ENTIRE LESSON: 1 Samuel 16:7-13

7. But the LORD said unto Samuel, Look not on his countenance, or on the height of his stature; because I have refused him: for *the LORD seeth* not as man seeth; for man looketh on the outward appearance, but the LORD looketh on the heart.
8. Then Jesse called Abinadab, and made him pass before Samuel. And he said, Neither hath the LORD chosen this.
9. Then Jesse made Shammah to pass by. And he said, Neither hath the LORD chosen this.
10. Again, Jesse made seven of his sons to pass before Samuel. And Samuel said unto Jesse, The LORD hath not chosen these.
11. And Samuel said unto Jesse, Are here all *thy* children? And he said, There remaineth yet the youngest, and, behold, he keepeth the sheep. And Samuel said unto Jesse, Send and fetch him: for we will not sit down till he come hither.
12. And he sent, and brought him in. Now he *was* ruddy, *and* withal of a beautiful countenance, and goodly to look to. And the LORD said, Arise, anoint him: for this *is* he.
13. Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the midst of his brethren: and the Spirit of the LORD came upon David from that day forward. So Samuel rose up, and went to Ramah.

PURPOSE – To demonstrate that the pastor, the shepherd of the flock, is to lead and protect them from seen and unseen dangers. The pastor is to mark the perfect man (Jesus) and behold the upright, because the end of that man is peace.

PRACTICAL POINT – Pastors, the Holy Ghost has made you overseers [*to oversee, supervise, manage*] over your local congregations, to feed the church of God, which He has purchased with His own blood.

GLOSSARY/COMMENTARY

1. Cunning – skilled, Expert, Creative: skillful, ingenuity or grace in doing something
2. Prudent – careful, wise, far-sighted, cautious, using good judgment to consider likely consequences and act accordingly.
3. Ruddy – rosy, with a healthy reddish glow.
4. Troubleth – concerned, worried. exhibiting emotional or behavioral problems. Saul had an evil spirit that continuously troubled him.
5. Valiant – brave, courageous, fearless, and gallant, a brave and steadfast person. David was very courageous and fearless in watching over his father's sheep.

DISCUSSION AND LESSON APPLICATIONS

The Lord God has anointed certain of His flock as overseers over His people.

1. They are called pastors. They must have oversight in leading the believers. What are the primary functions of pastors?
2. Talk about pastors you know or have been under (no names, please) that showed the anointing of the Holy Ghost in their leadership.
3. What did God send Samuel to do and where did he go?
4. As Samuel proceeded to determine which son was to be anointed king, on what was he focusing? We tend to make assumptions about others by the way they appear to us.
5. Talk about the fact that man cannot judge the hearts of others.
6. David was chosen by God as the anointed as king of the Children of Israel. Think about some of the work he had done as a shepherd over his father's sheep.
7. The best and most qualified leaders are those who are anointed by God. Teacher, lead the Class in giving their comments about this.

MEMORY VERSE: Mark 6:34 And Jesus, when he came out, saw much people, and was moved with compassion toward them, because they were as sheep not having a shepherd: and he began to teach them many things.

LESSON 4

AUGUST 28, 2022

WALKING WITH GOD

MOTTO TEXT: Luke 24:32 And they said one to another, Did not our heart burn within us, while he talked with us by the way, and while he opened to us the scriptures?

ENTIRE LESSON: Luke 24:13-32

13. And, behold, two of them went that same day to a village called Emmaus, which was from Jerusalem *about* threescore furlongs.
14. And they talked together of all these things which had happened.
15. And it came to pass, that, while they communed *together* and reasoned, Jesus himself drew near, and went with them.

16. But their eyes were holden that they should not know him.
17. And he said unto them, What manner of communications *are* these that ye have one to another, as ye walk, and are sad?
18. 18 And the one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answering said unto him, Art thou only a stranger in Jerusalem, and hast not known the things which are come to pass there in these days?
19. 19 And he said unto them, What things? And they said unto him, Concerning Jesus of Nazareth, which was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people:
20. 20 And how the chief priests and our rulers delivered him to be condemned to death, and have crucified him.
21. 21 But we trusted that it had been he which should have redeemed Israel: and beside all this, to day is the third day since these things were done.
22. 22 Yea, and certain women also of our company made us astonished, which were early at the sepulchre;
23. 23 And when they found not his body, they came, saying, that they had also seen a vision of angels, which said that he was alive.
24. 24 And certain of them which were with us went to the sepulchre, and found *it* even so as the women had said: but him they saw not.
25. 25 Then he said unto them, O fools, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken:
26. 26 Ought not Christ to have suffered these things, and to enter into his glory?
27. 27 And beginning at Moses and all the prophets, he expounded unto them in all the scriptures the things concerning himself.
28. 28 And they drew nigh unto the village, whither they went: and he made as though he would have gone further.
29. 29 But they constrained him, saying, Abide with us: for it is toward evening, and the day is far spent. And he went in to tarry with them.
30. 30 And it came to pass, as he sat at meat with them, he took bread, and blessed *it*, and brake, and gave to them.
31. 31 And their eyes were opened, and they knew him; and he vanished out of their sight.
32. 32 And they said one to another, Did not our heart burn within us, while he talked with us by the way, and while he opened to us the scriptures?

PURPOSE – To fulfill that which the Lord requires of us: to do justice, to love kindness, and to walk humbly with Him.

PRACTICAL POINT – Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you James 4:8. Walk with God and he will walk with you..

GLOSSARY/COMMENTARY

1. Commune – To communicate, converse and to experience a deep emotional or spiritual relationship. Believers often talk about the Word of God with other believers.
2. Condemnation – There is no condemnation to those who walk after the Spirit and not after the flesh. How is this done?
3. Constrained – compelled, persuaded Jesus to stay with them for a while.
4. Expound – Jesus expounded on the scriptures to remind the disciples what had been taught and prophesied down through the ages. They should have remembered them.
5. Furlong – In measurement: distance equal to 220 yards (approximately 201 meters)

6. Holden – Restrained: As Jesus walked with the disciples, their eyes were holden, so they did not know who He was. They thought he was a stranger.

DISCUSSION AND LESSON APPLICATIONS

1. Jesus' disciples were told that He was risen from the dead, but they did not believe it. Discuss the reason/s you believe they did not accept the message.
2. Should Jesus' resurrection from the dead have been a surprise to His disciples? Define your position.
4. What prompted Jesus to question those two disciples that He encountered?
5. Do you answer questions when you are asked about the fact that you are a Christian?
6. How did the disciples respond when they finally recognized Jesus? What are your thoughts about that?
7. When you study and meditate on the Scriptures do you gain more understanding? If you do, why do you think this is so? If you do not, why not?
8. Read verses 28-29 again. Would you have felt the need to have Jesus spend some time with you? Expound on your answers.

MEMORY VERSE: Psalm 23:4 Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou *art* with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.

LESSON 5

SEPTEMBER 4, 2022

EVANGELISM SUNDAY DO THE WORK OF AN EVANGELIST MAKE FULL PROOF OF YOUR MINISTRY

MOTTO TEXT: 2 Timothy 4:5 But watch thou in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, make full proof of thy ministry.

ENTIRE LESSON: Exodus 4:1-18

1. And Moses answered and said, But, behold, they will not believe me, nor hearken unto my voice: for they will say, The Lord hath not appeared unto thee.
2. And the Lord said unto him, What *is* that in thine hand? And he said, A rod.
3. And he said, Cast it on the ground. And he cast it on the ground, and it became a serpent; and Moses fled from before it.
4. And the Lord said unto Moses, Put forth thine hand, and take it by the tail. And he put forth his hand, and caught it, and it became a rod in his hand:
5. That they may believe that the Lord God of their fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, hath appeared unto thee.
6. And the Lord said furthermore unto him, Put now thine hand into thy bosom. And he put his hand into his bosom: and when he took it out, behold, his hand was leprous as snow.
7. And he said, Put thine hand into thy bosom again. And he put his hand into his bosom again; and plucked it out of his bosom, and, behold, it was turned again as his *other* flesh.

8. And it shall come to pass, if they will not believe thee, neither hearken to the voice of the first sign, that they will believe the voice of the latter sign.
9. And it shall come to pass, if they will not believe also these two signs, neither hearken unto thy voice, that thou shalt take of the water of the river, and pour it upon the dry *land*: and the water which thou takest out of the river shall become blood upon the dry *land*.
10. And Moses said unto the Lord, O my Lord, I am not eloquent, neither heretofore, nor since thou hast spoken unto thy servant: but I *am* slow of speech, and of a slow tongue.
11. And the Lord said unto him, Who hath made man's mouth? or who maketh the dumb, or deaf, or the seeing, or the blind? have not I the Lord?
12. Now therefore go, and I will be with thy mouth, and teach thee what thou shalt say.
13. And he said, O my Lord, send, I pray thee, by the hand of *him whom* thou wilt send.
14. And the anger of the Lord was kindled against Moses, and he said, *Is* not Aaron the Levite thy brother? I know that he can speak well. And also, behold, he cometh forth to meet thee: and when he seeth thee, he will be glad in his heart.
15. And thou shalt speak unto him, and put words in his mouth: and I will be with thy mouth, and with his mouth, and will teach you what ye shall do.
16. And he shall be thy spokesman unto the people: and he shall be, *even* he shall be to thee instead of a mouth, and thou shalt be to him instead of God.
17. And thou shalt take this rod in thine hand, wherewith thou shalt do signs.
18. And Moses went and returned to Jethro his father in law, and said unto him, Let me go, I pray thee, and return unto my brethren which *are* in Egypt, and see whether they be yet alive. And Jethro said to Moses, Go in peace.

PURPOSE – To inspire each pastor to do the work of an evangelist, making full proof of their ministry, in order that the church might continue to grow.

PRACTICAL POINT – Cry aloud, spare not, lift up your voice like a trumpet, and show God's people their transgressions.

GLOSSARY/COMMENTARY

1. Eloquent – expressing a feeling or thought clearly, memorably, or movingly. Aaron was a wonderful orator who was appointed to speak for Moses before Pharaoh. God will always provide help when we need it the most.
2. Evangelism – great enthusiasm, fervor, or zeal for a particular cause. Are you ready to evangelize for the cause of Christ? Tell about it!
3. Endure afflictions – to experience exertion, pain, or hardship without giving up. The Lord promised to strengthen His people so they can withstand all hardships they will encounter. Are you able to hold out?
4. Full-proof – to the greatest or complete extent. When the Lord has chosen you to be a witness, how do you show full proof of your calling?
5. Rod – Stick, a narrow, usually cylindrical length of wood, metal, plastic, or other material. Moses had a rod that God used to demonstrate his miracles before Pharaoh.

DISCUSSION AND LESSON APPLICATIONS

1. Moses told God that he was slow of tongue. Do you think that was a valid excuse?
2. Slow of tongue could mean to stutter. Demonstrate how that sounds and talk about the feelings of people who stutter. Would you be embarrassed?

3. God knew that Moses was using his weaknesses to refuse his assignment. Share times you have been guilty of doing the same.
4. Do you believe God will tell you to do something that you are not able to do?
5. How did God resolve each of the worries that Moses had? Were any of his weaknesses unknown by God?
6. What has this lesson taught you about evangelizing? Share your thoughts.

MEMORY VERSE: Jeremiah 1:8 Be not afraid of their faces: for I *am* with thee to deliver thee, saith the Lord.

LESSON 6

SEPTEMBER 11, 2022

GRANDPARENTS' DAY TEACH YOUR GRANDCHILDREN THE POWER AND THE NEED OF PRAYER

MOTTO TEXT: Deuteronomy 6:6-7 And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart: And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up.

ENTIRE LESSON: Deuteronomy 6:1-9

1. Now these *are* the commandments, the statutes, and the judgments, which the LORD your God commanded to teach you, that ye might do *them* in the land whither ye go to possess it:
2. That thou mightest fear the LORD thy God, to keep all his statutes and his commandments, which I command thee, thou, and thy son, and thy son's son, all the days of thy life; and that thy days may be prolonged.
3. Hear therefore, O Israel, and observe to do *it*; that it may be well with thee, and that ye may increase mightily, as the LORD God of thy fathers hath promised thee, in the land that floweth with milk and honey.
4. Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God *is* one LORD:
5. And thou shalt love the LORD thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might.
6. And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart:
7. And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up.
8. And thou shalt bind them for a sign upon thine hand, and they shall be as frontlets between thine eyes.
9. And thou shalt write them upon the posts of thy house, and on thy gates.

PURPOSE – To be a light unto your grandchildren, teaching them the power and the need for prayer.

PRACTICAL POINT – Do not be afraid to teach and preach truth to your grandchildren. Sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and *be* ready to *give* an answer to every man that ask you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear. 1 Peter 3:15

GLOSSARY/COMMENTARY

1. Diligently – Meticulously, thoroughly, and carefully. God’s Commandments, statutes and judgments should be taught from early childhood from generation to generation.
2. Frontlets – a decorative band worn on the forehead with scriptures written on it. What a way to take the Word of God with you everywhere you go.
3. Judgments – decisions, conclusions, decrees, discernments, opinions; the ability to form sound opinions and make sensible decisions. We will be judged for the deeds done in our bodies.
4. Prayer – entreaty, request, meditation, appeal; a spoken or unspoken address to God. It may express praise, thanksgiving, confession, or a request for something such as help or someone’s well-being.
5. Statutes – laws/decrees, the will or purpose of God, interpreted through events considered to be God’s doing. God’s Commandments, statutes and judgments are all for our good.

DISCUSSION AND LESSON APPLICATIONS

1. Grandchildren are the most precious children to their grandparents. Express the relationship that exists between you and your grandparents.
2. In the days of Moses, God’s Commandments, statutes, and judgments were to be taught to the children. Differentiate between a commandment, a statute and judgment. Are they similar or different?
3. Why do you suppose the law was to be written in so many places? That is, on the wrist, between the eyes, on the door posts, etc.
4. Today we have Bibles on cell phones, hardback, softback, digital, computers and other places. Shouldn’t this make reading Scriptures easy? Will this assist you in scheduling Bible study times and remembering Scriptures?
5. The more often you read, see, observe a written lesson the greater the chance you are apt to remember it. Is this a true statement? Talk about it!

MEMORY VERSE: Matthew 6:9-13 After this manner therefore pray ye: Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as *it is* in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

LET US GO ON UNTO PERFECTION

MOTTO TEXT: Hebrews 6:1 Therefore leaving the principles of the doctrine of Christ, let us go on unto perfection; not laying again the foundation of repentance from dead works, and of faith toward God.

ENTIRE LESSON: Psalm 119:1-16

1. Blessed *are* the undefiled in the way, who walk in the law of the LORD. Blessed *are* they that keep his testimonies, *and that* seek him with the whole heart.
2. They also do no iniquity: they walk in his ways.
3. Thou hast commanded *us* to keep thy precepts diligently.
4. O that my ways were directed to keep thy statutes! Then shall I not be ashamed, when I have respect unto all thy commandments.
5. I will praise thee with uprightness of heart, when I shall have learned thy righteous judgments.
6. I will keep thy statutes: O forsake me not utterly.
7. Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way? by taking heed *thereto* according to thy word.
8. With my whole heart have I sought thee: O let me not wander from thy commandments.
9. Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee.
10. Blessed *art* thou, O LORD: teach me thy statutes.
11. With my lips have I declared all the judgments of thy mouth.
12. I have rejoiced in the way of thy testimonies, as *much as* in all riches.
13. I will meditate in thy precepts, and have respect unto thy ways.
14. I have rejoiced in the way of thy testimonies, as *much as* in all riches.
15. I will meditate in thy precepts, and have respect unto thy ways.
16. I will delight myself in thy statutes: I will not forget thy word.

PURPOSE – To make us aware that if we are a tattler, do not love and forgive others, a confusion maker, a liar, covetous, fornicator an extortioner, we shall not inherit the kingdom of God and we are far from being perfect.

PRACTICAL POINT – Leaving the principles of the doctrine of Christ, let us go on unto perfection; not laying again the foundation of repentance from dead works, and of faith toward God. Hebrews 6:1

GLOSSARY/COMMENTARY

1. Iniquity – gross injustice, wickedness, sin; continuous sinning.
2. Perfection – lacking nothing necessary to completion.
3. Precepts – a commandment, instruction, or order intended as an authoritative rule of action.

DISCUSSION AND LESSON APPLICATIONS

Guide the class in their responses.

1. Do you meditate daily on the ways of the Lord, and if so, what time of day is most effective for you?

2. If you answered no to #1, after studying this lesson, do you plan to begin immediately studying God's word daily?
3. What precepts are most important to you?
4. How does one keep self-undefiled?
5. In what ways do you consider yourself blessed.

MEMORY VERSE: Titus 2:11-13 For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men, teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world; Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Savior Jesus Christ.

LESSON 8

SEPTEMBER 25, 2022

GO

MOTTO TEXT: Matthew 20:3-4 And he went out about the third hour, and saw others standing idle in the marketplace, and said unto them; Go ye also into the vineyard, and whatsoever is right I will give you. And they went their way.

ENTIRE LESSON: Luke 14:12-24

12. Then said he also to him that bade him, when thou makest a dinner or a supper, call not thy friends, nor thy brethren, neither thy kinsmen, nor *thy* rich neighbors; lest they also bid thee again, and a recompence be made thee.
13. But when thou makest a feast, call the poor, the maimed, the lame, the blind:
14. And thou shalt be blessed; for they cannot recompense thee: for thou shalt be recompensed at the resurrection of the just.
15. And when one of them that sat at meat with him heard these things, he said unto him, Blessed *is* he that shall eat bread in the kingdom of God.
16. Then said he unto him, A certain man made a great supper, and bade many:
17. And sent his servant at supper time to say to them that were bidden, Come; for all things are now ready.
18. And they all with one *consent* began to make excuse. The first said unto him, I have bought a piece of ground, and I must needs go and see it: I pray thee have me excused.
19. And another said, I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I go to prove them: I pray thee have me excused.
20. And another said, I have married a wife, and therefore I cannot come.
21. So that servant came and shewed his lord these things. Then the master of the house being angry said to his servant, Go out quickly into the streets and lanes of the city, and bring in hither the poor, and the maimed, and the halt, and the blind.
22. And the servant said, Lord, it is done as thou hast commanded, and yet there is room.
23. And the lord said unto the servant, Go out into the highways and hedges, and compel *them* to come in, that my house may be filled.
24. For I say unto you, that none of those men which were bidden shall taste of my supper.

PURPOSE – To evangelize and fill God’s house.

PRACTICAL POINT – Do not stand around idle all day. Go into the vineyard and work. Whatsoever is right, God will give you.

GLOSSARY/COMMENTARY

1. Evangelize – the act of preaching the gospel with the intention of sharing the message of Jesus Christ as our Lord and Savior.
2. Recompence – to give back in return.

DISCUSSION AND LESSON APPLICATIONS

Guide the class in their responses:

1. What are the advantages of inviting a stranger to dinner over a friend or family member?
2. Define and explain the Kingdom of God stated in Romans 14:17.
3. What excuses do people give when you invite them to your church?
4. How would you feel if Christ rejected you? To help with your response, refer to John 15:16, “Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you.”
5. What are some of your works in the Church?

MEMORY VERSE: Isaiah 6:8 Also I heard the voice of the Lord, saying, whom shall I send, and who will go for us? Then said I, here *am* I; send me.

LESSON 9

OCTOBER 2, 2022

ABOUND IN GRACE

MOTTO TEXT: 2 Corinthians 8:7 Therefore, as ye abound in every thing, in faith, and utterance, and knowledge, and in all diligence, and in your love to us, see that ye abound in this grace also

ENTIRE LESSON: Ephesians 2:1-10

1. And you *hath he quickened*, who were dead in trespasses and sins;
2. Wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience:
3. Among whom also we all had our conversation in times past in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind; and were by nature the children of wrath, even as others.
4. But God, who is rich in mercy, for his great love wherewith he loved us,
5. Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved;)
6. And hath raised *us* up together, and made *us* sit together in heavenly *places* in Christ Jesus:
7. That in the ages to come he might shew the exceeding riches of his grace in *his* kindness toward us through Christ Jesus.

8. For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: *it is* the gift of God:
9. Not of works, lest any man should boast.
10. For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.

PURPOSE – To show that God will make you abound in prosperity. He will bestow His riches on all who call on Him.

PRACTICAL POINT – Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound? God forbid? (Rom. 6:1-2). I will sing unto the LORD, because he hath dealt bountifully with me (Psa. 13:6).

GLOSSARY/COMMENTARY

1. Faith – the assurance of things hoped for; you know, and trust God will bring it to pass
2. Quickened – to make alive; revive

DISCUSSION AND LESSON APPLICATIONS

1. Explain the happiness you experience with your natural and church families. Are there any differences?
2. How does faith add to you having a peaceful day?
3. What does God mean when He says, “My grace is sufficient”?
4. What is a disadvantage of having an abundance of riches?
5. What one thing in the world of which you would rather have an abundance?

MEMORY VERSE: 1 Corinthians 15:58 Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye stedfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord.

LESSON 10

OCTOBER 9, 2022

FEED MY LAMBS, FEED MY SHEEP

MOTTO TEXT: Acts 20:28 Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood.

ENTIRE LESSON: John 21:1-17

1. After these things Jesus shewed himself again to the disciples at the sea of Tiberias; and on this wise shewed he *himself*.
2. There were together Simon Peter, and Thomas called Didymus, and Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, and the *sons* of Zebedee, and two other of his disciples.
3. Simon Peter saith unto them, I go a fishing. They say unto him, We also go with thee. They went forth, and entered into a ship immediately; and that night they caught nothing.
4. But when the morning was now come, Jesus stood on the shore: but the disciples knew not that it was Jesus.

5. Then Jesus saith unto them, Children, have ye any meat? They answered him, No.
6. And he said unto them, Cast the net on the right side of the ship, and ye shall find. They cast therefore, and now they were not able to draw it for the multitude of fishes.
7. Therefore that disciple whom Jesus loved saith unto Peter, It is the Lord. Now when Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he girt *his* fisher's coat *unto him*, (for he was naked,) and did cast himself into the sea.
8. And the other disciples came in a little ship; (for they were not far from land, but as it were two hundred cubits,) dragging the net with fishes.
9. As soon then as they were come to land, they saw a fire of coals there, and fish laid thereon, and bread.
10. Jesus saith unto them, Bring of the fish which ye have now caught.
11. Simon Peter went up, and drew the net to land full of great fishes, a hundred and fifty and three: and for all there were so many, yet was not the net broken.
12. Jesus saith unto them, Come *and* dine. And none of the disciples durst ask him, Who art thou? knowing that it was the Lord.
13. Jesus then cometh, and taketh bread, and giveth them, and fish likewise.
14. This is now the third time that Jesus shewed himself to his disciples, after that he was risen from the dead.
15. So when they had dined, Jesus saith to Simon Peter, Simon, *son* of Jonas, lovest thou me more than these? He saith unto him, Yea, Lord; thou knowest that I love thee. He saith unto him, Feed my lambs.
16. He saith to him again the second time, Simon, *son* of Jonas, lovest thou me? He saith unto him, Yea, Lord; thou knowest that I love thee. He saith unto him, Feed my sheep.
17. He saith unto him the third time, Simon, *son* of Jonas, lovest thou me? Peter was grieved because he said unto him the third time, Lovest thou me? And he said unto him, Lord, thou knowest all things; thou knowest that I love thee. Jesus saith unto him, Feed my sheep.

PURPOSE — To show love and care for the flock of God, and supply God's lambs and sheep with spiritual nourishment.

PRACTICAL POINT — Love God with all your heart, for the Lord knows the sincerity of your heart and every thought of your mind.

GLOSSARY/COMMENTARY

1. Cast – throw, fling, or toss. Jesus showed himself to his disciples who did not recognize him, but they followed his request to cast (throw) their nets into the sea in order to catch fish which they had not previously caught.
2. Girt – is to encircle or fasten with a band or belt. Peter fastened a coat about himself to cover his nakedness.
3. Lovest thou me? God's children must love him more than anything or anyone. This love will lead us to obedience of his commandments.
4. Take heed – give attention to, take note of, and listen to the voice of Jesus. He is concerned about his lambs and his sheep.
5. Spiritual nourishment: God's word is essential for the health of our spirit.

DISCUSSION AND LESSON APPLICATIONS

1. Just as natural food sustains the health of our natural bodies, spiritual food is vital to our spiritual bodies. Explain your ideas on how this is achieved.
2. If you are appointed as a president, chairperson or in any other leadership position in the church, are you given the charge to feed the lambs and sheep of God? Let us talk.
3. Jesus showed himself to his disciples and ate with them. Do you believe he was feeding his lambs and sheep at this time? Expound on your answer.
4. Is it important to love Jesus more than anything or anyone else? Why?
5. Jesus told Peter twice (2 times) to feed his sheep. Do you think there was a major reason for this? Discussion should follow by the students.

MEMORY VERSE: Matthew 5:6 Blessed *are* they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled.

LESSON 11

OCTOBER 16, 2022

SELFISH KINGDOM SEEKERS

MOTTO TEXT: Philippians 3:18-19 For many walk, of whom I have told you often, and now tell you even weeping, *that they are* the enemies of the cross of Christ: Whose end *is* destruction, whose God *is* their belly, and *whose* glory *is* in their shame, who mind earthly things.

ENTIRE LESSON: 2 Peter 2:1-22

1. But there were false prophets also among the people, even as there shall be false teachers among you, who privily shall bring in damnable heresies, even denying the Lord that bought them, and bring upon themselves swift destruction.
2. And many shall follow their pernicious ways; by reason of whom the way of truth shall be evil spoken of.
3. And through covetousness shall they with feigned words make merchandise of you: whose judgment now of a long time lingereth not, and their damnation slumbereth not.
4. For if God spared not the angels that sinned, but cast them down to hell, and delivered them into chains of darkness, to be reserved unto judgment;
5. And spared not the old world, but saved Noah the *eighth* person, a preacher of righteousness, bringing in the flood upon the world of the ungodly;
6. And turning the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah into ashes condemned *them* with an overthrow, making *them* an ensample unto those that after should live ungodly;
7. And delivered just Lot, vexed with the filthy conversation of the wicked:
8. (For that righteous man dwelling among them, in seeing and hearing, vexed *his* righteous soul from day to day with *their* unlawful deeds;)
9. The Lord knoweth how to deliver the godly out of temptations, and to reserve the unjust unto the day of judgment to be punished:
10. But chiefly them that walk after the flesh in the lust of uncleanness, and despise government. Presumptuous *are* they, selfwilled, they are not afraid to speak evil of dignities.

11. Whereas angels, which are greater in power and might, bring not railing accusation against them before the Lord.
12. But these, as natural brute beasts, made to be taken and destroyed, speak evil of the things that they understand not; and shall utterly perish in their own corruption;
13. And shall receive the reward of unrighteousness, *as* they that count it pleasure to riot in the daytime. Spots *they are* and blemishes, sporting themselves with their own deceivings while they feast with you;
14. Having eyes full of adultery, and that cannot cease from sin; beguiling unstable souls: an heart they have exercised with covetous practices; cursed children:
15. Which have forsaken the right way, and are gone astray, following the way of Balaam the *son* of Bosor, who loved the wages of unrighteousness;
16. But was rebuked for his iniquity: the dumb ass speaking with man's voice forbad the madness of the prophet.
17. These are wells without water, clouds that are carried with a tempest; to whom the mist of darkness is reserved for ever.
18. For when they speak great swelling *words* of vanity, they allure through the lusts of the flesh, *through much* wantonness, those that were clean escaped from them who live in error.
19. While they promise them liberty, they themselves are the servants of corruption: for of whom a man is overcome, of the same is he brought in bondage.
20. For if after they have escaped the pollutions of the world through the knowledge of the Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, they are again entangled therein, and overcome, the latter end is worse with them than the beginning.
21. For it had been better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, than, after they have known *it*, to turn from the holy commandment delivered unto them.
22. But it is happened unto them according to the true proverb, The dog *is* turned to his own vomit again; and the sow that was washed to her wallowing in the mire.

PURPOSE – To show that we should not believe every spirit but try the spirits whether they are of God: for many selfish kingdom seekers are gone out into the world.

PRACTICAL POINT – Woe be unto the pastors (*those who are selfish kingdom seekers*) that destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture! saith the Lord. Jeremiah 23:1

GLOSSARY/COMMENTARY

What is a selfish kingdom seeker? A self-centered individual who thinks only of themselves, what they can gain and how much they can take from others to build themselves up. Ordinarily, you would not think this type of individual would be a part of a church setting, but to be honest, this is probably where one would find most of them. They come in the form of false prophets.

1. Adultery – infidelity; sexual relations between a married person and somebody other than his or her spouse.
2. Feigned – artificial, manufactured, fake, to make up or fabricate something.
3. Heresies – profanations, an opinion or belief that contradicts established religious teaching, especially one that is officially condemned by a religious authority.
4. Lust – yearning, longing, the strong physical desire to have sex with somebody, usually without associated feelings of love or affection
5. Presumptuous – arrogant, rude, rash, inconsiderate, disrespectful, or overconfident, especially in doing something when not entitled or qualified to do it.

DISCUSSION AND LESSON APPLICATIONS

1. What are some signs of a selfish kingdom seeker? Class discussion.
2. If you encountered an individual who appeared to be a selfish kingdom seeker, or had the character of such, what should be your course of action (If any)?
3. Name some of the characteristics you feel demonstrates a false prophet.
Have a Class discussion.

MEMORY VERSE: Acts 20:29-31 For I know this, that after my departing shall grievous wolves enter in among you, not sparing the flock. Also of your own selves shall men arise, speaking perverse things, to draw away disciples after them. Therefore watch, and remember, that by the space of three years I ceased not to warn every one night and day with tears.

LESSON 12

OCTOBER 23, 2022

TEMPERANCE SUNDAY I NEED GOD'S ENDURING WORD TO DELIVER ME

MOTTO TEXT: Psalm 34:4 I sought the LORD, and he heard me, and delivered me from all my fears.

ENTIRE LESSON: Psalm 91:1-16

1. He that dwelleth in the secret place of the most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty.
2. I will say of the LORD, *He is* my refuge and my fortress: my God; in him will I trust.
3. Surely he shall deliver thee from the snare of the fowler, *and* from the noisome pestilence.
4. He shall cover thee with his feathers, and under his wings shalt thou trust: his truth *shall be thy* shield and buckler.
5. Thou shalt not be afraid for the terror by night; *nor* for the arrow *that* flieth by day;
6. *Nor* for the pestilence *that* walketh in darkness; *nor* for the destruction *that* wasteth at noonday.
7. A thousand shall fall at thy side, and ten thousand at thy right hand; *but* it shall not come nigh thee.
8. Only with thine eyes shalt thou behold and see the reward of the wicked.
9. Because thou hast made the LORD, *which is* my refuge, *even* the most High, thy habitation;
10. There shall no evil befall thee, neither shall any plague come nigh thy dwelling.
11. For he shall give his angels charge over thee, to keep thee in all thy ways.
12. They shall bear thee up in *their* hands, lest thou dash thy foot against a stone.
13. Thou shalt tread upon the lion and adder: the young lion and the dragon shalt thou trample under feet.
14. Because he hath set his love upon me, therefore will I deliver him: I will set him on high, because he hath known my name.
15. He shall call upon me, and I will answer him: *I will be* with him in trouble; I will deliver him, and honour him.
16. With long life will I satisfy him, and show him my salvation.

PURPOSE – To cry out for help. Psalm 34:17, The righteous cry, and the LORD hears, and delivers them out of all their troubles.

PRACTICAL POINT – Let us not sleep, as *do* others; but let us watch and be sober. For they that sleep...sleep in the night; and they that be drunken are drunken in the night.

GLOSSARY/COMMENTARY

1. Deliverance – the state of being liberated or rescued.
2. Temperance – maintaining self-control.

DISCUSSION AND LESSON APPLICATIONS

1. Do you have a secret place that you go to talk to the Lord?
2. Name a time that God protected you from harm.
3. What methods do you use to maintain self-control to avoid sinning?
4. If you need help to be delivered from something, to whom do you go? Explain why.
5. To reach God you must talk to him daily, read and study your Bible, and fast when possible.

MEMORY VERSE: 1 Timothy 3:8-9 Likewise *must* the deacons *be* grave, not doubletongued, not given to much wine, not greedy of filthy lucre; Holding the mystery of the faith in a pure conscience.

LESSON 13

OCTOBER 30, 2022

SATAN WILL DO AN INSIDE JOB ON YOU

MOTTO TEXT: 2 Corinthians 4:8-9 *We are* troubled on every side, yet not distressed; *we are* perplexed, but not in despair; Persecuted, but not forsaken; cast down, but not destroyed.

ENTIRE LESSON: Ephesians 6:10-20

10. Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might.
11. Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.
12. For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.
13. Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.
14. Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness;
15. And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace;
16. Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked.
17. And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God:

18. Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints;
19. And for me, that utterance may be given unto me, that I may open my mouth boldly, to make known the mystery of the gospel,
20. For which I am an ambassador in bonds: that therein I may speak boldly, as I ought to speak.

PURPOSE – To encourage the saints that as God built a hedge around Job, God can and will build a hedge around you to protect you in time of trouble.

PRACTICAL POINT – Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour. 1 Peter 5:8

GLOSSARY/COMMENTARY

1. Flesh and blood – a human being, a real person and not a ghost
2. Power – a characteristic of God’s authority to rule and control and to empower others under His rule

DISCUSSION AND LESSON APPLICATIONS

Give an example and then allow the students to respond.

1. How does God’s armour (*armor*) protect the Saints?
2. How does one’s feet prepares them to evangelize?
3. What is the shield of faith?
4. How does the helmet of salvation protect an individual?
5. As a youth, how can you be an ambassador for the Lord?

MEMORY VERSE: Job 1:7 And the LORD said unto Satan, Whence comest thou? Then Satan answered the LORD, and said, From going to and fro in the earth, and from walking up and down in it.

LESSON 14

NOVEMBER 6, 2022

BE WISE MY SON

MOTTO TEXT: Proverbs 13:1 A wise son *heareth* his father's instruction; but a scorner heareth not rebuke.

ENTIRE LESSON: Proverbs 2:1-22

1. My son, if thou wilt receive my words, and hide my commandments with thee;
2. So that thou incline thine ear unto wisdom, and apply thine heart to understanding;
3. Yea, if thou criest after knowledge, and liftest up thy voice for understanding;
4. If thou seekest her as silver, and searchest for her as for hid treasures;
5. Then shalt thou understand the fear of the Lord, and find the knowledge of God.
6. For the Lord giveth wisdom: out of his mouth cometh knowledge and understanding.
7. He layeth up sound wisdom for the righteous: he is a buckler to them that walk uprightly.
8. He keepeth the paths of judgment, and preserveth the way of his saints.

9. Then shalt thou understand righteousness, and judgment, and equity; yea, every good path.
10. When wisdom entereth into thine heart, and knowledge is pleasant unto thy soul;
11. Discretion shall preserve thee, understanding shall keep thee:
12. To deliver thee from the way of the evil man, from the man that speaketh froward things;
13. Who leave the paths of uprightness, to walk in the ways of darkness;
14. Who rejoice to do evil, and delight in the frowardness of the wicked;
15. Whose ways are crooked, and they froward in their paths:
16. To deliver thee from the strange woman, even from the stranger which flattereth with her words;
17. Which forsaketh the guide of her youth, and forgetteth the covenant of her God.
18. For her house inclineth unto death, and her paths unto the dead.
19. None that go unto her return again, neither take they hold of the paths of life.
20. That thou mayest walk in the way of good men, and keep the paths of the righteous.
21. For the upright shall dwell in the land, and the perfect shall remain in it.
22. But the wicked shall be cut off from the earth, and the transgressors shall be rooted out of it.

PURPOSE – To teach that it is better to get wisdom than gold, and to get an understanding in all things.

PRACTICAL POINT – Wisdom is the principal thing; therefore get wisdom: and with all thy getting get understanding. Proverbs 4:7

GLOSSARY/COMMENTARY

1. Buckler – one that shields and protects.
2. Humility – freedom from pride or arrogance.
3. Insight – the capacity to gain an accurate and deep intuitive understanding of a person or thing.
4. Upright – Having or showing a strict regard for what is morally right. Upright implies a strict adherence to moral principles.
5. Wise – the ability to contemplate and act using knowledge, experience, understanding, common sense and insight.

DISCUSSION AND LESSON APPLICATIONS

“Happy is the man that findeth wisdom, and the man that getteth understanding.” Proverbs 3:13. In this verse Solomon describes the one who finds wisdom as “blessed.” The word “blessed” means happy. Wisdom is the ability to act according to true knowledge and the ability to know something well enough to pass its value on to others. Wisdom and Understanding produces happiness. Being a follower of Christ, we can find happiness in knowing God’s will for our life.

Wisdom can give us the insight to determine how we should respond to a fallen world.

Steps to developing wisdom:

1. Think before you speak: In the lips of him that hath understanding wisdom is found: But a rod is for the back of him that is void of understanding. Proverbs 10:13.
2. Ask questions; never assume: If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God that giveth to all me liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him. James 1:5

3. Humility: By humility and the fear of the LORD are riches, and honor, and life. Proverbs 22:4.
4. Knowledge is gained through studying new information, but wisdom deals primarily with insight, understanding and experience.

MEMORY VERSE: Proverbs 3:13 Happy is the man that findeth wisdom, and the man that getteth understanding.

LESSON 15

NOVEMBER 13, 2022

ANOINT ME LORD WITH THE HOLY GHOST

MOTTO TEXT: Acts 10:38 How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with power: who went about doing good, and healing all that were oppressed of the devil; for God was with him.

ENTIRE LESSON: Acts 10:34-48

34. Then Peter opened *his* mouth, and said, Of a truth I perceive that God is no respecter of persons:
35. But in every nation he that feareth him, and worketh righteousness, is accepted with him.
36. The word which *God* sent unto the children of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ: (he is Lord of all:)
37. That word, *I say*, ye know, which was published throughout all Judaea, and began from Galilee, after the baptism which John preached;
38. How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with power: who went about doing good, and healing all that were oppressed of the devil; for God was with him.
39. And we are witnesses of all things which he did both in the land of the Jews, and in Jerusalem; whom they slew and hanged on a tree:
40. Him God raised up the third day, and shewed him openly;
41. Not to all the people, but unto witnesses chosen before of God, *even* to us, who did eat and drink with him after he rose from the dead.
42. And he commanded us to preach unto the people, and to testify that it is he which was ordained of God *to be* the Judge of quick and dead.
43. To him give all the prophets witness, that through his name whosoever believeth in him shall receive remission of sins.
44. While Peter yet spake these words, the Holy Ghost fell on all them which heard the word.
45. And they of the circumcision which believed were astonished, as many as came with Peter, because that on the Gentiles also was poured out the gift of the Holy Ghost.
46. For they heard them speak with tongues, and magnify God. Then answered Peter,
47. Can any man forbid water, that these should not be baptized, which have received the Holy Ghost as well as we?
48. And he commanded them to be baptized in the name of the Lord. Then prayed they him to tarry certain days.

PURPOSE – To feel the power of the Holy Ghost under the anointing of God.

PRACTICAL POINT – Truly lift up Jesus under the anointing.

GLOSSARY/COMMENTARY

1. Anoint – An Individual or object set apart for Divine use.
2. Faith – Complete trust or confidence in someone or something.
3. Guidance – Advice or information aimed at resolving a problem or difficulty.
4. Rejoice – Feel or show great joy or delight.
5. Understanding – The ability to understand something; comprehension, having insight or good judgment.

DISCUSSION AND LESSON APPLICATIONS

Anoint me Lord with the Holy Ghost. The subject is a personal petition to the Lord. By asking in faith, the anointing power of God will make us rejoice in HIM, and we're His witness through the power of the anointing of the Holy Ghost. Now that we have the anointing of the Holy Ghost, how do we keep it; by fasting, praying, studying and meditating on God's Word. Fasting and Praying is another weapon you can use in your warfare to defeat the Devil, which God has given you to sustain your anointing.

The anointing power from God is mighty to the tearing down of strongholds. The anointing will make you feel and look good. It brings about a new way of life that you walk and talk as a new person in Christ. The anointing of the Holy Ghost activates your strength in times of weaknesses and it will guide you to all truth. The Holy Ghost in you will give you understanding when things seem to be unclear. The anointing of the Holy Ghost will give you wise counseling. When a person has sunk to the lowest point of their lives, oftentimes they turn to God to keep them from falling back into the world.

The anointing of the Holy Ghost provides spiritual protection to help you overcome the traps of Satan's devices and attack. 1 John 2:27 says: But the anointing which ye have received of him abideth in you, and ye need not that any man teach you: but as the same anointing teacheth you of all things, and is truth, and is no lie, and even as it hath taught you, ye shall abide in him: What a powerful verse; knowing that you have the assurance that you're under the protection of the anointing of the Holy Ghost. Let us allow the anointing of Holy Spirit to dwell with you and in you forever. Amen!

MEMORY VERSE: 2 Corinthians 1:21-22 Now he which stablisheth us with you in Christ, and hath anointed us, is God; Who hath also sealed us, and given the earnest of the Spirit in our hearts.

THEME II
THE QUEST FOR GREATER HUNGER OF RIGTEOUSNESS
And Jesus said unto them, I am the bread of life: he that cometh to me shall
never hunger; and he that believeth on me shall never thirst.
John 6:35
LESSONS 16-30

LESSON 16

NOVEMBER 20, 2022

THANKSGIVING LESSON
RECEIVE THE BLESSINGS OF GOD WITH THANKSGIVING

MOTTO TEXT: Psalm 107:1 O give thanks unto the LORD, for he is good: for his mercy endureth for ever.

ENTIRE LESSON: Psalm 100:1-5

1. Make a joyful noise unto the LORD, all ye lands.
2. Serve the LORD with gladness: come before his presence with singing.
3. Know ye that the LORD *he is* God: *it is* he *that* hath made us, and not we ourselves; *we are* his people, and the sheep of his pasture.
4. Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, *and* into his courts with praise: be thankful unto him, *and* bless his name.
5. For the LORD *is* good; his mercy *is* everlasting; and his truth *endureth* to all generations.

PURPOSE – To give to the Lord all the praises, all the glory and honor, for they belong to Him.

PRACTICAL POINT – Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God (Phil. 4:6).

GLOSSARY/COMMENTARY

1. Gratitude – The quality of being thankful; to show appreciation for and to return kindness
2. Joyful – Feeling, expressing, or causing great pleasure and happiness.
3. Pasture – Land covered with grass and other low plants suitable for grazing animals.
4. Praise – Express warm approval or admiration of.
5. Worthy – Having or showing the qualities or abilities that merit recognition in a specified way:

DISCUSSION AND LESSON APPLICATIONS

Giving thanks to God for the many blessings that He has granted us must be a part of our daily routine. We should thank Him for His goodness and mercy and for the amazing power and the work He is doing in our lives. He is certainly worthy of the Praise.

The entire lesson is a Psalm of praise and can also be used as a prayer. In the beginning of the verse, it tells us to make a joyful noise unto the Lord. The words “Joyful noise” is an energetic expressions that comes straight from the heart. Shouting, dancing and the clapping of the hands are ways of expressing gratitude to the Lord. We are commanded to

serve and worship God with gladness and joyfully. It is important to praise God for who He is and not for selfish motives. If you find yourself just going through the motions, it is time to evaluate your heart.

Praise ye the Lord. O give thanks unto the Lord; for he is good: for his mercy endureth for ever. Psalm 106:1

MEMORY VERSE: Hebrews 13:15 By him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of *our* lips giving thanks to his name.

LESSON 17

NOVEMBER 27, 2022

ALL OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS ARE AS FILTHY RAGS

MOTTO TEXT: Isaiah 64:6 But we are all as an unclean *thing*, and all our righteousnesses *are* as filthy rags; and we all do fade as a leaf; and our iniquities, like the wind, have taken us away.

ENTIRE LESSON: Romans 3:9-31

9. What then? are we better *than they*? No, in no wise: for we have before proved both Jews and Gentiles, that they are all under sin;
10. As it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one:
11. There is none that understandeth, there is none that seeketh after God.
12. They are all gone out of the way, they are together become unprofitable; there is none that doeth good, no, not one.
13. Their throat *is* an open sepulchre; with their tongues they have used deceit; the poison of asps *is* under their lips:
14. Whose mouth *is* full of cursing and bitterness:
15. Their feet *are* swift to shed blood:
16. Destruction and misery *are* in their ways:
17. And the way of peace have they not known:
18. There is no fear of God before their eyes.
19. Now we know that what things soever the law saith, it saith to them who are under the law: that every mouth may be stopped, and all the world may become guilty before God.
20. Therefore by the deeds of the law there shall no flesh be justified in his sight: for by the law *is* the knowledge of sin.
21. But now the righteousness of God without the law is manifested, being witnessed by the law and the prophets;
22. Even the righteousness of God *which is* by faith of Jesus Christ unto all and upon all them that believe: for there is no difference:
23. For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;
24. Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus:
25. Whom God hath set forth *to be* a propitiation through faith in his blood, to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God;
26. To declare, *I say*, at this time his righteousness: that he might be just, and the justifier of him which believeth in Jesus.

27. Where *is* boasting then? It is excluded. By what law? of works? Nay; but by the law of faith.
28. Therefore we conclude that a man is justified by faith without the deeds of the law.
29. *Is he* the God of the Jews only? *is he* not also of the Gentiles? Yes, of the Gentiles also:
30. Seeing *it is* one God, which shall justify the circumcision by faith, and uncircumcision through faith.
31. Do we then make void the law through faith? God forbid: yea, we establish the law.

PURPOSE – To show that all have sinned and come short of the glory of God.

PRACTICAL POINT – While we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.

GLOSSARY/COMMENTARY

1. Bitterness – Sharpness of taste; lack of sweetness. Someone who is angry and unhappy.
2. Cleanse – Make (something, especially the skin) thoroughly clean. To remove guilt.
3. Filthy – Covered or smeared with filth; disgustingly dirty.
4. Grace – (In Christian belief) the free and unmerited favor of God, as manifested in the salvation of sinners and the bestowal of blessings.
5. Misery – A state or feeling of great distress or discomfort of mind or body:
6. Peace – Freedom from disturbance; tranquility:

DISCUSSION AND LESSON APPLICATIONS

The term “filthy rags” is relatively strong and offensive words. God sees our righteousness, which is self-righteousness as filthy rags. The question is how do you see yourself? Is it self-righteousness or God’s righteousness? Is your righteousness being through the eyes of God? Does your righteousness line up with God’s righteousness? Filthy is regarded as being dirty, grimy and messy, and rags is viewed as scrap. Romans 3:23 states: for all have sinned and come short of the glory of God. Paul has declare that no one is right with God because of their unrighteousness. But thanks be to God, a person has a way to escape the penalty of death by taken on the righteousness of God through His son. It is by the grace of God that makes us right in His sight. It was God, that “commendeth His love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. Much more then, being now justified by his blood, we shall be save from wrath through Him. ”If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just to forgive us our sin, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

We must remember it was God, who freed you through His son from the penalty from your sins. The Lord God being rich in mercy did what we could not do for ourselves. Romans 2:4 says: But God, who is rich in mercy, for his great love wherewith he loved us. Therefore, being justified by faith, we have peace. Amen!

MEMORY VERSE: Isaiah 28:7-8 But they also have erred through wine, and through strong drink are out of the way; the priest and the prophet have erred through strong drink, they are swallowed up of wine, they are out of the way through strong drink; they err in vision, they stumble *in* judgment. For all tables are full of vomit *and* filthiness, *so that there is no place clean.*

ASK WHAT YOU WILL

MOTTO TEXT: John 14:13-14 And whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If ye shall ask any thing in my name, I will do *it*.

ENTIRE LESSON: Matthew 7:7-11 and Matthew 6: 5-13**Matthew 7:7-11**

7. Ask and it shall be given you; seek and ye shall find; knock and it shall be opened unto you:
8. For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened.
9. Or what man is there of you, whom if his son ask bread, will he give him a stone?
10. Or if he ask a fish, will he give him a serpent?
11. If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children, how much more shall your Father which is in heaven give good things to them that ask him?

Matthew 6: 5-13

5. And when thou prayest, thou shalt not be as the hypocrites *are*: for they love to pray standing in the synagogues and in the corners of the streets, that they may be seen of men. Verily I say unto you, They have their reward.
6. But thou, when thou prayest, enter into thy closet, and when thou hast shut thy door, pray to thy Father which is in secret; and thy Father which seeth in secret shall reward thee openly.
7. But when ye pray, use not vain repetitions, as the heathen *do*: for they think that they shall be heard for their much speaking.
8. Be not ye therefore like unto them: for your Father knoweth what things ye have need of, before ye ask him.
9. After this manner therefore pray ye: Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name.
10. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as *it is* in heaven.
11. Give us this day our daily bread.
12. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.
13. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.

PURPOSE – To acknowledge the confidence that we have in God that if we ask anything according to His will, He will hear and answer us.

PRACTICAL POINT – God shall supply all your needs according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus.

GLOSSARY/COMMENTARY

1. Ask – Say something in order to obtain an answer or some information.
2. Seek – Attempt to find (something).
3. Find - Discover or perceive by chance or unexpectedly.
4. Knock – Strike a surface noisily to attract attention.
5. Will - The power of control the mind has over its own actions.

DISCUSSION AND LESSON APPLICATIONS

In this lesson today, Jesus is teaching His disciples how to approach God when asking for something.

The motto text states, “And whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If ye shall ask any thing in my name, I will do it. John 14:13-14. There is power in the name of Jesus. Therefore, Jesus told His disciples to ask in His name. The Father recognizes the son because of the work He did on the cross. If you want God to answer your prayer, you must follow the instructions in which Jesus gave His disciples. Most people do not receive anything from God because they seek God in error by not asking in the name of Jesus.

Jesus encourages His disciples to pray in three phases. First, if we ask, we will receive. Second, if we seek, we will find. Third, if we knock, it will be opened. The commands are followed by promises. God delights in the prayer of faith, and He promises to give us what we need. Be confidence that God will reply if you ask according to His will.

MEMORY VERSE: Job 6:8 Oh that I might have my request; and that God would grant *me* the thing that I long for!

LESSON 19

DECEMBER 11, 2022

WHAT’S WRONG WITH MY MIND?

MOTTO TEXT: Romans 7:24-25 O wretched man that I am! who shall deliver me from the body of this death? I thank God through Jesus Christ our Lord. So then with the mind I myself serve the law of God; but with the flesh the law of sin.

ENTIRE LESSON: Romans 7:7-25

7. What shall we say then? *Is* the law sin? God forbid. Nay, I had not known sin, but by the law: for I had not known lust, except the law had said, Thou shalt not covet.
8. But sin, taking occasion by the commandment, wrought in me all manner of concupiscence. For without the law sin *was* dead.
9. For I was alive without the law once: but when the commandment came, sin revived, and I died.
10. And the commandment, which *was ordained* to life, I found *to be* unto death.
11. For sin, taking occasion by the commandment, deceived me, and by it slew *me*.
12. Wherefore the law *is* holy, and the commandment holy, and just, and good.
13. Was then that which is good made death unto me? God forbid. But sin, that it might appear sin, working death in me by that which is good; that sin by the commandment might become exceeding sinful.
14. For we know that the law is spiritual: but I am carnal, sold under sin.
15. For that which I do I allow not: for what I would, that do I not; but what I hate, that do I.
16. If then I do that which I would not, I consent unto the law that *it is* good.
17. Now then it is no more I that do it, but sin that dwelleth in me.

18. For I know that in me (that is, in my flesh,) dwelleth no good thing: for to will is present with me; but *how* to perform that which is good I find not.
19. For the good that I would I do not: but the evil which I would not, that I do.
20. Now if I do that I would not, it is no more I that do it, but sin that dwelleth in me.
21. I find then a law, that, when I would do good, evil is present with me.
22. For I delight in the law of God after the inward man:
23. But I see another law in my members, warring against the law of my mind, and bringing me into captivity to the law of sin which is in my members.
24. O wretched man that I am! who shall deliver me from the body of this death?
25. I thank God through Jesus Christ our Lord. So then with the mind I myself serve the law of God; but with the flesh the law of sin.

PURPOSE – To show that our minds are being destroyed when we forsake the Lord, and provoke Him to anger; it's time to fight your war of a 'Must Return' to God.

PRACTICAL POINT – Do not allow Satan to destroy your mind. Yield not to temptation.

GLOSSARY/COMMENTARY

1. Ten Commandments-Decalogue – a set of Biblical principles relating to ethics and worship that plays a vital role in Judaism and Christianity.
2. Converted – transformed; to change in form, appearance, or use.
3. Obsolete – no longer produced or used; out of date.
4. Ordain – to officially make someone a leader in a religious ceremony, such as a priest or minister. We have an ordination ceremony each year during the General Assembly.
5. Wretched man – very unhappy or unfortunate state. The devil will try to capture your mind just as he did Eve's in the Garden of Eden. Do not give him that chance. Resist him, run away from him, and keep your mind on Jesus.

DISCUSSION AND LESSON APPLICATIONS

1. There is hope for the wretched man. He can change through the power of the Holy Ghost. It is now time to make up your mind and change.
2. The wages of sin is death. However, you have an opportunity to void that check and begin working for the Lord. Eternal life awaits you if you are faithful to the laws of God.
3. The law is spiritual, but we are carnal. However, we can achieve a spiritual mind by crucifying the flesh and allowing the mind of Christ to dwell in us.
4. Shall you continue in sin, or will you discontinue the battle for your mind, make the devil's ways obsolete, and become an example of a soul winner?

MEMORY VERSE: Ephesians 4:22-24 That ye put off concerning the former conversation the old man, which is corrupt according to the deceitful lusts; And be renewed in the spirit of your mind; And that ye put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness.

A PERFECT MAN

MOTTO TEXT: James 3:2 For in many things we offend all. If any man offend not in word, the same *is* a perfect man, *and* able also to bridle the whole body.

ENTIRE LESSON: Genesis 6:1-13

1. And it came to pass, when men began to multiply on the face of the earth, and daughters were born unto them,
2. That the sons of God saw the daughters of men that they *were* fair; and they took them wives of all which they chose.
3. And the Lord said, My spirit shall not always strive with man, for that he also is flesh: yet his days shall be an hundred and twenty years.
4. There were giants in the earth in those days; and also after that, when the sons of God came in unto the daughters of men, and they bare *children* to them, the same *became* mighty men which were of old, men of renown.
5. And God saw that the wickedness of man *was* great in the earth, and *that* every imagination of the thoughts of his heart *was* only evil continually.
6. And it repented the Lord that he had made man on the earth, and it grieved him at his heart.
7. And the Lord said, I will destroy man whom I have created from the face of the earth; both man, and beast, and the creeping thing, and the fowls of the air; for it repenteth me that I have made them.
8. But Noah found grace in the eyes of the Lord.
9. These *are* the generations of Noah: Noah was a just man *and* perfect in his generations, *and* Noah walked with God.
10. And Noah begat three sons, Shem, Ham, and Japheth.
11. The earth also was corrupt before God, and the earth was filled with violence.
12. And God looked upon the earth, and, behold, it was corrupt; for all flesh had corrupted his way upon the earth.
13. And God said unto Noah, The end of all flesh is come before me; for the earth is filled with violence through them; and, behold, I will destroy them with the earth.

PURPOSE – To encourage the Saints to go on unto perfection, that our love toward God and our faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ, may be made perfect.

PRACTICAL POINT – Mark the perfect *man*, and behold the upright: for the end of *that* man *is* peace (Psa. 37:37).

GLOSSARY/COMMENTARY

1. Wickedness – a profound evil committed consciously and of free will.
2. Blameless – Being blameless means to be innocent of wrongdoing and to be without guilt.
3. Commitment – the state or quality of being dedicated to a cause or activity.
4. Faith – strong belief in God or in the doctrines of a religion; complete trust and confidence.
5. Obedience – to be in full compliance with an order, request of law or submission to another's authority.

DISCUSSION AND LESSON APPLICATIONS

As the population on earth increased, so did sin. The wickedness and corruption of man gripped the entire universe, and it grieved God that He made man. The iniquity was so great on the earth that the very imagination of the thoughts of his heart was continually. In other words, the evilness never stopped. But there is one man that had favor in the eyes of the Lord and that was Noah. He was righteous and blameless who walked with God. This proves that we can live holy in an unholy world and perfect in an imperfect world. How is this possible? Let's explore:

1. Obedience – Noah was obedient to the Lord. He followed His commandments and He had no desire to deviate from God's instructions. We too must be submissive and follow the laws of God so we can move on to perfection.
2. Faith–Noah had faith in the Lord and moved with confidence and with commitment. We have to demonstrate the same attitude as Noah did in today's lesson. Proverbs 3:5-6 says, Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and He shall direct thy paths. At times you may not understand where God is taking you but you have to trust Him to see you through. Start trusting God today.
3. Holy Ghost – the Holy Spirit will work in, around and upon you. The Holy Spirit will lead, guide and direct you as long as you allow it to dwell within you. The Holy Spirit gives us power, love and self-discipline which will allow our lives to be transformed. However, people tend to override the Holy Spirit leaving them vulnerable to sin.

Do not allow anyone to deceive you into thinking you cannot live a holy and blameless life before God, because you can.

MEMORY VERSE: Matthew 19:21 Jesus said unto him, If thou wilt be perfect, go and *sell* that thou hast, and give to the poor, and thou shalt have treasure in heaven: and come *and* follow me.

LESSON 21

DECEMBER 25, 2022

CHRISTMAS LESSON WE HAVE COME TO WORSHIP HIM

MOTTO TEXT: Matthew 2:1-2 Now when Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judaea in the days of Herod the king, behold, there came wise men from the east to Jerusalem, **saying**, where is he that is born King of the Jews? for we have seen his star in the east, and are come to worship him.

ENTIRE LESSON: Matthew 2:1-15

1. Now when Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judaea in the days of Herod the king, behold, there came wise men from the east to Jerusalem,
2. Saying, where is he that is born King of the Jews? for we have seen his star in the east and are come to worship him.
3. When Herod the king had heard *these things*, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him.

4. And when he had gathered all the chief priests and scribes of the people together, he demanded of them where Christ should be born.
5. And they said unto him, In Bethlehem of Judaea: for thus it is written by the prophet,
6. And thou Bethlehem, *in* the land of Juda, art not the least among the princes of Juda: for out of thee shall come a Governor, that shall rule my people Israel.
7. Then Herod, when he had privily called the wise men, enquired of them diligently what time the star appeared.
8. And he sent them to Bethlehem, and said, Go and search diligently for the young child; and when ye have found *him*, bring me word again, that I may come and worship him also.
9. When they had heard the king, they departed; and, lo, the star, which they saw in the east, went before them, till it came and stood over where the young child was.
10. When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceeding great joy.
11. And when they were come into the house, they saw the young child with Mary his mother, and fell down, and worshipped him: and when they had opened their treasures, they presented unto him gifts; gold, and frankincense, and myrrh.
12. And being warned of God in a dream that they should not return to Herod, they departed into their own country another way.
13. And when they were departed, behold, the angel of the Lord appeareth to Joseph in a dream, saying, Arise, and take the young child and his mother, and flee into Egypt, and be thou there until I bring thee word: for Herod will seek the young child to destroy him.
14. When he arose, he took the young child and his mother by night, and departed into Egypt:
15. And was there until the death of Herod: that it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet, saying, Out of Egypt have I called my son.

PURPOSE – To stress mankind’s priority worship of Jesus Christ as King of Kings and Lord of Lords.

PRACTICAL POINT – God *is* a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship *him* in spirit and in truth (John 4:24).

GLOSSARY/COMMENTARY

1. Deceitful – guilty of or involving deceit; deceiving or misleading others.
2. Diligently – having care and conscientiousness in one’s work or duty.
3. Exceeding joy – extreme enthusiasm; happiness.
4. Reign – to hold a royal office.
5. Worship – to honor or respect as a divine being.

DISCUSSION AND LESSON APPLICATIONS

1. This is the season of adoration, joy, and praise. Take time to honor and worship the Messiah.
2. Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea during the reign of Herod the king. Herod was jealous, deceitful, and thirsty for power. This led him to seek Jesus for the wrong reasons.
3. King Herod was so troubled that he sent for the chief priests and scribes and demanded them to tell him where the Christ Child would be born. They told him what the prophets had said.

4. Herod also called privately for the wise men who were following the star to find the Messiah. He told them to go and find the Child and bring him the news so that he might go and worship Jesus.
5. The wise men continued on their journey. When they saw the star in Bethlehem they rejoiced. When they found the Child with His mother, Mary, the wise men worshipped Him and presented gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.
6. The wise men were warned by God in a dream not to return to Herod. So they went back to their homes another way.
7. Young people, it is time to seek Jesus for yourselves, no matter the obstacles. When you find Him, keep Him in your lives. Worship Him sincerely, study His word, and be an example to lead others to Him.

MEMORY VERSE: Matthew 1:18-19 Now the birth of Jesus Christ was on this wise: When as his mother Mary was espoused to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with child of the Holy Ghost. Then Joseph her husband, being a just *man*, and not willing to make her a public example, was minded to put her away privily.

LESSON 22

JANUARY 1, 2023

NEW YEAR'S LESSON A FRESH ANOINTING

MOTTO TEXT: Psalm 92:10 But my horn shalt thou exalt like *the horn* of an unicorn: I shall be anointed with fresh oil.

ENTIRE LESSON: Isaiah 61:1-11

1. The Spirit of the Lord GOD *is* upon me; because the LORD hath anointed me to preach good tidings unto the meek; he hath sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison *to them that are bound*;
2. To proclaim the acceptable year of the LORD, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all that mourn;
3. To appoint unto them that mourn in Zion, to give unto them beauty for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning, the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness; that they might be called trees of righteousness, the planting of the LORD, that he might be glorified.
4. And they shall build the old wastes, they shall raise up the former desolations, and they shall repair the waste cities, the desolations of many generations.
5. And strangers shall stand and feed your flocks, and the sons of the alien *shall be* your plowmen and your vinedressers.
6. But ye shall be named the Priests of the LORD: *men* shall call you the Ministers of our God: ye shall eat the riches of the Gentiles, and in their glory shall ye boast yourselves.
7. For your shame *ye shall have* double; and *for* confusion they shall rejoice in their portion: therefore, in their land they shall possess the double: everlasting joy shall be unto them.
8. For I the LORD love judgment, I hate robbery for burnt offering; and I will direct their work in truth, and I will make an everlasting covenant with them.

9. And their seed shall be known among the Gentiles, and their offspring among the people: all that see them shall acknowledge them, that they *are* the seed *which* the LORD hath blessed.
10. I will greatly rejoice in the LORD, my soul shall be joyful in my God; for he hath clothed me with the garments of salvation, he hath covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decketh *himself* with ornaments, and as a bride adorneth *herself* with her jewels.
11. For as the earth bringeth forth her bud, and as the garden causeth the things that are sown in it to spring forth; so, the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise to spring forth before all the nations.

PURPOSE – To begin the New Year with a fresh anointing and a new attitude to glorify God.

PRACTICAL POINT – Anoint my head with oil; that my cup runs over.

GLOSSARY/COMMENTARY

1. Anointing – the burden-removing and yoke-breaking power of God.
2. Commitment – state or quality of being dedicated to a cause or activity.
3. Holy Spirit – the divine force, quality and influence of God over the universe or His creatures; the third person of the Trinity; the comforter.
4. Salvation – preservation or deliverance from harm, ruin, or loss.
5. Transform – to make a thorough or dramatic change in form, appearance, or character.
6. Vengeance – punishment inflicted or retribution given for an injury or wrong.

DISCUSSION AND LESSON APPLICATIONS

1. Isaiah references the experiences which Christ Jesus would have as a result of the Spirit of the Lord coming upon Him.
2. There is a “fresh anointing” awaiting each of you, not just as you approach this new year but when you come to know the joy of the Lord. Just seek Him and you will find Him and receive the fresh anointing of the Holy Ghost.
3. The “Fresh Anointing” enabled Jesus to accomplish many positive life-changing things. He became the object of salvation for mankind.
4. Isaiah gives a vivid account of the supreme effects of the “Fresh Anointing” on Jesus. Observation of Jesus’ example should inspire each of you to pattern your lives after His and lead others to salvation.
5. It is true that the anointing breaks the yoke and releases the gifts and talents that are within you. In the end, you will be blessed in every aspect of your life when you receive and maintain that fresh anointing.

MEMORY VERSE: Mark 14:8-9 She hath done what she could: she is come aforehand to anoint my body to the burying. Verily I say unto you, Whosoever this gospel shall be preached throughout the whole world, *this* also that she hath done shall be spoken of for a memorial of her.

HOW SHALL WE SERVE THE LORD?

MOTTO TEXT: Psalm 2:11 Serve the Lord with fear, and rejoice with trembling.

ENTIRE LESSON: Joshua 24:14-24

14. Now therefore fear the LORD, and serve him in sincerity and in truth: and put away the gods which your fathers served on the other side of the flood, and in Egypt; and serve ye the LORD.
15. And if it seem evil unto you to serve the LORD, choose you this day whom ye will serve; whether the gods which your fathers served that *were* on the other side of the flood, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell: but as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD.
16. And the people answered and said, God forbid that we should forsake the LORD, to serve other gods;
17. For the LORD our God, he *it is* that brought us up and our fathers out of the land of Egypt, from the house of bondage, and which did those great signs in our sight, and preserved us in all the way wherein we went, and among all the people through whom we passed:
18. And the LORD drave out from before us all the people, even the Amorites which dwelt in the land: *therefore* will we also serve the LORD; for he *is* our God.
19. And Joshua said unto the people, Ye cannot serve the LORD: for he *is* an holy God; he *is* a jealous God; he will not forgive your transgressions nor your sins.
20. If ye forsake the LORD, and serve strange gods, then he will turn and do you hurt, and consume you, after that he hath done you good.
21. And the people said unto Joshua, Nay; but we will serve the LORD.
22. And Joshua said unto the people, Ye *are* witnesses against yourselves that ye have chosen you the LORD, to serve him. And they said, *We are* witnesses.
23. Now therefore put away, *said he*, the strange gods which *are* among you, and incline your heart unto the LORD God of Israel.
24. And the people said unto Joshua, The LORD our God will we serve, and his voice will we obey.

PURPOSE – To reaffirm that we must fear the Lord, walk in His ways, love Him, and serve Him with all our heart and soul.

PRACTICAL POINT – Fear the Lord thy God and walk in all His ways. Serve the Lord gladness.

GLOSSARY/COMMENTARY

1. Dedicated – devoted to a task of purpose; having single-minded loyalty or integrity. It is a commitment we make towards achieving a goal.
2. Communication – talking to God through Prayer. God also speaks to us through His Word and the Holy Spirit within us.
3. Fervent – to be fervent is to be sincere, enthusiastic and showing great warmth or intensity in spirit.
4. Commandments – a rule that must be obeyed, especially one handed down by god.

5. Serving the Lord – to acknowledge Him and obey Him according to His Word. Get to know the Word of God and apply it daily to every phase of your life.

DISCUSSION AND LESSON APPLICATIONS

We serve the Lord by the way in which we live our lives, the work that we do, our actions towards others and by keeping His commandments. First we must develop an intimate relationship with God by communicating with Him on a **daily** basis and not just in a time of trouble. One **must** be dedicated, diligent and fervent when it comes to serving the Lord as Joshua proclaimed in this lesson. We must stand firm regardless of how this world views the Bible and religion.

Serving God also requires us to be obedient. In the 24th verse of this lesson, the people said unto Joshua, the LORD our God will we serve, love Him, and serve Him with all our heart and soul. This requires a listening ear, trust and willingness to obey His voice. In the Ten Commandments we see how important it is to be obedient to God. It was written for our learning and if we deviate from these commandments there will be consequences. So it is imperative that we serve Him by keeping all of His commandments, with joy and love in our hearts for others.

MEMORY VERSE: Hebrews 12:28 Wherefore we receiving a kingdom which cannot be moved, let us have grace, whereby we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear.

LESSON 24

JANUARY 15, 2023

DO YOU KNOW HIM? DO YOU KNOW JESUS?

MOTTO TEXT: Matthew 16:13 When Jesus came into the coasts of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, saying, Whom do men say that I the Son of man am?

ENTIRE LESSON: Matthew 16:13-28

13. When Jesus came into the coasts of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, saying, Whom do men say that I the Son of man am?
14. And they said, Some *say that thou art* John the Baptist: some, Elias; and others, Jeremias, or one of the prophets.
15. He saith unto them, But whom say ye that I am?
16. And Simon Peter answered and said, Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God.
17. And Jesus answered and said unto him, Blessed art thou, Simon Barjona: for flesh and blood hath not revealed *it* unto thee, but my Father which is in heaven.
18. And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.
19. And I will give unto thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.
20. Then charged he his disciples that they should tell no man that he was Jesus the Christ.

21. From that time forth began Jesus to shew unto his disciples, how that he must go unto Jerusalem, and suffer many things of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and be raised again the third day.
22. Then Peter took him, and began to rebuke him, saying, Be it far from thee, Lord: this shall not be unto thee.
23. But he turned, and said unto Peter, Get thee behind me, Satan: thou art an offence unto me: for thou savourest not the things that be of God, but those that be of men.
24. Then said Jesus unto his disciples, If any *man* will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me.
25. For whosoever will save his life shall lose it: and whosoever will lose his life for my sake shall find it.
26. For what is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?
27. For the Son of man shall come in the glory of his Father with his angels; and then he shall reward every man according to his works.
28. Verily I say unto you, There be some standing here, which shall not taste of death, till they see the Son of man coming in his kingdom.

PURPOSE – To be able to say, “Yes I Know Him,” with infallible proof.

PRACTICAL POINT – We believe and know that Jesus Christ is the Son of the living God and that He died and rose again. We believe that He has power on earth to forgive sins, to heal the sick and to raise the dead.

GLOSSARY/COMMENTARY

1. Deny – Refuse to admit or allow someone to do something
2. Infallible – Absolutely trustworthy or sure.
3. Offence – Disregard for oneself or one’s standards or principles
4. Prevail – To be or prove superior in strength, power, or influence; to succeed; take over

DISCUSSION AND LESSON APPLICATIONS

1. Today’s lesson wants you to say, “Yes I know Him,” with infallible proof. You must be sure without a shadow of doubt that you really know Jesus. Many Christians say they know Jesus, they say they are saved sanctified Holy Ghost filled and fire baptize, yet they sin against Him and His word by doing unrighteous things, hanging with the wrong people and going to unholy places. The people of Caesarea Philippi worshipped idols and false gods. As stated in Numbers 32:23b, your sin will find you out. Let us discuss the infallible proof you have for saying, “Yes, I know Him (Jesus)”.
2. In denying self, you must take off the old man and put on the new man. How can this be done?
3. Jesus blessed Peter for answering his question in verse 15, in verse 23 Jesus told Peter he was an offence to him. Why? Class discussion.
4. Why did Jesus charge his disciples with telling no man that he was Jesus Christ?

MEMORY VERSE: **John 11:24-25** Martha saith unto him, I know that he shall rise again in the resurrection at the last day. Jesus said unto her, I am the resurrection and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live.

**SUCH WERE SOME OF YOU,
BUT YE ARE WASHED, BUT YE ARE SANCTIFIED,
BUT YE ARE JUSTIFIED**

MOTTO TEXT: 1 Corinthians 6:11 And such were some of you: but ye are washed, but ye are sanctified, but ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of our God.

ENTIRE LESSON: 1 Corinthians 6:1-19

1. Dare any of you, having a matter against another, go to law before the unjust, and not before the saints?
2. Do ye not know that the saints shall judge the world? and if the world shall be judged by you, are ye unworthy to judge the smallest matters?
3. Know ye not that we shall judge angels? how much more things that pertain to this life?
4. If then ye have judgments of things pertaining to this life, set them to judge who are least esteemed in the church.
5. I speak to your shame. Is it so, that there is not a wise man among you? no, not one that shall be able to judge between his brethren?
6. But brother goeth to law with brother, and that before the unbelievers.
7. Now therefore there is utterly a fault among you, because ye go to law one with another. Why do ye not rather take wrong? why do ye not rather *suffer yourselves to be defrauded*?
8. Nay, ye do wrong, and defraud, and that your brethren.
9. Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God? Be not deceived: neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with mankind,
10. Nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners, shall inherit the kingdom of God.
11. And such were some of you: but ye are washed, but ye are sanctified, but ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of our God.
12. All things are lawful unto me, but all things are not expedient: all things are lawful for me, but I will not be brought under the power of any.
13. Meats for the belly, and the belly for meats: but God shall destroy both it and them. Now the body *is* not for fornication, but for the Lord; and the Lord for the body.
14. And God hath both raised up the Lord, and will also raise up us by his own power.
15. Know ye not that your bodies are the members of Christ? shall I then take the members of Christ, and make *them* the members of an harlot? God forbid.
16. What? know ye not that he which is joined to an harlot is one body? for two, saith he, shall be one flesh.
17. But he that is joined unto the Lord is one spirit.
18. Flee fornication. Every sin that a man doeth is without the body; but he that committeth fornication sinneth against his own body.
19. What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost *which is* in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own?

PURPOSE – To warn against being deceived by man into falsely believing that we can live an ungodly life and still inherit the kingdom of God.

PRACTICAL POINT – We were sometimes foolish, disobedient, and deceived.

GLOSSARY/COMMENTARY

This lesson indicates that at one time or another all of us WERE sinners. At this age, what sins are you guilty of? The lesson clearly outlines that sin is completely against the Word of God. However because of God's love for mankind, you can be justified and set free from sin and sinning.

1. Deceive – mislead, cheat, to mislead or deliberately hide the truth from somebody.
2. Fornication – sexual intercourse between a man and woman who are not married, or any form of sexual behavior considered to be immoral.
3. Judge – justice, authority, to assess the quality of something or estimate probabilities.
4. Sanctified – consecrated, Holy, to perform a ritual or other act intended to free somebody from sin; set apart; separated from worldly living.
5. Justified – the rightness within the body that illustrates the soul; right conduct; vindicated.

DISCUSSION AND LESSON APPLICATIONS

1. When something that is burdensome to carry with you on your journey to eternal life is it best to leave it behind?
2. Is it better to forget those things that are behind and reach forward to the better way and view to live with God now so that we will live with Him forever?
3. Is it easier for one to jump over one hurdle than to attempt to simultaneously jump over many?
4. What does it mean to you to be sanctified? Explain why.
5. What does it mean to you to be justified? Explain why.

MEMORY VERSE: Leviticus 20:10 And the man that committeth adultery with *another* man's wife, *even he* that committeth adultery with his neighbour's wife, the adulterer and the adulteress shall surely be put to death.

LESSON 25

JANUARY 29, 2023

STAGES OF SANCTIFICATION

MOTTO TEXT: 1 Thessalonians 4:3-4 For this is the will of God, *even* your sanctification, that ye should abstain from fornication: That every one of you should know how to possess his vessel in sanctification and honor.

ENTIRE LESSON: 1 Thessalonians 4:1-12

1. Furthermore then we beseech you, brethren, and exhort *you* by the Lord Jesus, that as ye have received of us how ye ought to walk and to please God, *so* ye would abound more and more.
2. For ye know what commandments we gave you by the Lord Jesus.
3. For this is the will of God, *even* your sanctification, that ye should abstain from fornication:

4. That every one of you should know how to possess his vessel in sanctification and honour;
5. Not in the lust of concupiscence, even as the Gentiles which know not God:
6. That no *man* go beyond and defraud his brother in *any* matter: because that the Lord is the avenger of all such, as we also have forewarned you and testified.
7. For God hath not called us unto uncleanness, but unto holiness.
8. He therefore that despiseth, despiseth not man, but God, who hath also given unto us his holy Spirit.
9. But as touching brotherly love ye need not that I write unto you: for ye yourselves are taught of God to love one another.
10. And indeed ye do it toward all the brethren which are in all Macedonia: but we beseech you, brethren, that ye increase more and more;
11. And that ye study to be quiet, and to do your own business, and to work with your own hands, as we commanded you;
12. That ye may walk honestly toward them that are without, and *that* ye may have lack of nothing.

PURPOSE – To identify the various stages of sanctification which includes, but is not limited to: 1) your sanctification, 2) wholly sanctification, 3) the begotten of God stage, and 4) the born of God stage.

PRACTICAL POINT – The *begotten stage* in holiness is without sin if we abide down in the body of Christ. We believe that you are to remain carefully in this stage until you have developed strength and the time to be born of God. In *The born of God stage* you shall have attained the highest height of perfection in God and Christ possible for the church on earth. Whosoever is born of God does not commit sin. 1 John 3:9

GLOSSARY/COMMENTARY

1. Abstain – choosing to stop or hold back from doing something.
2. Concupiscence – strong sexual desire, lust.
3. Immorality – wickedness.
4. Promiscuous – having or involving many sexual partners.
5. Sanctification – to set apart for a sacred purpose or religious use: consecrate; to free from sin: purify

DISCUSSION AND LESSON APPLICATIONS

God wants his people to live Holy and separated from the world. Although we live in this world we do not have to be of the world. We do not have to live unclean lives. If the world fornicates, kill, lie, steal, worship idol gods, and do other unclean things, we do not have to follow in their footsteps as the Thessalonians did. God created us in his image and likeness, pure and holiness was in our original DNA. Adam and Eve corrupted our DNA by eating from the Tree of Knowledge.

1. Why it is important to keep your vessel clean for the Lord?
2. List ways in which you can keep your vessel clean.
3. How do Romans 12:1-2 tie in with our lesson? Romans 12:1-2 “I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.” Class Discussion.

4. Decree book page 64 talks about two stages of sanctification, “your sanctification” and “wholly sanctification”. What is the difference between the two stages. Class Discussion.

MEMORY VERSE: 1 Corinthians 1:2 Unto the church of God which is at Corinth, to them that are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called *to be* saints, with all that in every place call upon the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, both theirs and ours.

LESSON 26

FEBRUARY 19, 2023

HOW CAN WE MAKE PEACE?

MOTTO TEXT: Hebrews 12:14 Follow peace with all *men*, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord.

ENTIRE LESSON: James 3:8-18

8. But the tongue can no man tame; *it is* an unruly evil, full of deadly poison.
9. Therewith bless we God, even the Father; and therewith curse we men, which are made after the similitude of God.
10. Out of the same mouth proceedeth blessing and cursing. My brethren, these things ought not so to be.
11. Doth a fountain send forth at the same place sweet *water* and bitter?
12. Can the fig tree, my brethren, bear olive berries? either a vine, figs? so *can* no fountain both yield salt water and fresh.
13. Who *is* a wise man and endued with knowledge among you? let him shew out of a good conversation his works with meekness of wisdom.
14. But if ye have bitter envying and strife in your hearts, glory not, and lie not against the truth.
15. This wisdom descendeth not from above, but *is* earthly, sensual, devilish.
16. For where envying and strife *is*, there *is* confusion and every evil work.
17. But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, *and* easy to be intreated, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality, and without hypocrisy.
18. And the fruit of righteousness is sown in peace of them that make peace.

PURPOSE – To obey God’s command and live in peace with everyone.

PRACTICAL POINT – For he is our peace. Let brotherly love continue. In the world you will have tribulation. Because Jesus overcame, you can overcome.

GLOSSARY/COMMENTARY

1. Eschew evil – to incline away from evil; run away from evil.
2. Holiness – a state of being holy; sanctification; living a righteous life.
3. Peace – freedom from disturbance; tranquility; a state of calmness.
4. Peacemaker – one who strives for peace and harmony at any cost; a person who brings about peace, especially by reconciling adversaries.
5. Wisdom – quality of having experience, knowledge, and good judgment; soundness of an action.

DISCUSSION AND LESSON APPLICATIONS

1. Meekness of wisdom is the backbone of promoting peace among the saints.
2. Make sure you have a peaceful heart and peaceful spirit. "Let your speech be always with grace, seasoned with salt, that ye may know how ye ought to answer every man" (Colossians 4:6). Learn to control your tongue.
3. Do not get confused. A fountain cannot give sweet and bitter water at the same time. You cannot be on the Lord's side and keep doing the devil's work.
4. Stay faithful to the call of God and you will know the peace of God.
5. Let brotherly love continue.

MEMORY VERSE: Leviticus 19:18 Thou shalt not avenge, nor bear any grudge against the children of thy people, but thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself: I *am* the LORD.

LESSON 27

FEBRUARY 12, 2023

THE CHURCH BUILT ON A SURE FOUNDATION

MOTTO TEXT: 1 Corinthians 3:11 For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ.

ENTIRE LESSON: 2 Chronicles 2:1-10

1. And Solomon determined to build an house for the name of the LORD, and an house for his kingdom.
2. And Solomon told out threescore and ten thousand men to bear burdens, and fourscore thousand to hew in the mountain, and three thousand and six hundred to oversee them.
3. And Solomon sent to Hiram the king of Tyre, saying, as thou didst deal with David my father, and didst send him cedars to build him an house to dwell therein, *even so deal with me*.
4. Behold, I build an house to the name of the LORD my God, to dedicate *it* to him, *and* to burn before him sweet incense, and for the continual shewbread, and for the burnt offerings morning and evening, on the sabbaths, and on the new moons, and on the solemn feasts of the LORD our God. This *is an ordinance* for ever to Israel.
5. And the house which I build *is* great: for great *is* our God above all gods.
6. But who is able to build him an house, seeing the heaven and heaven of heavens cannot contain him? who *am* I then, that I should build him an house, save only to burn sacrifice before him?
7. Send me now therefore a man cunning to work in gold, and in silver, and in brass, and in iron, and in purple, and crimson, and blue, and that can skill to grave with the cunning men that *are* with me in Judah and in Jerusalem, whom David my father did provide.
8. Send me also cedar trees, fir trees, and algum trees, out of Lebanon: for I know that thy servants can skill to cut timber in Lebanon; and behold, my servants *shall be* with thy servants,
9. Even to prepare me timber in abundance: for the house which I am about to build *shall be* wonderful great.

10. And, behold, I will give to thy servants, the hewers that cut timber, twenty thousand measures of beaten wheat, and twenty thousand measures of barley, and twenty thousand baths of wine, and twenty thousand baths of oil.

PURPOSE – To make known to all that the time has come, that the Lord’s house shall be built, but only on a sure foundation.

PRACTICAL POINT – The pastor cannot build the church alone. God has set others in the church, first apostles, secondarily prophets, thirdly teachers, after that miracles, then gifts of healings, helps, governments, diversities of tongues. For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ.

GLOSSARY/COMMENTARY

1. Cornerstone – symbolizes the “seeds” from which buildings would germinate and rise.
2. Consistency – staying on tasks until they are completed.
3. Determination – firmness of purpose; resoluteness; the strength to keep going no matter what.
4. Foundation – the lowest load-bearing part of a building; typically below ground; at the core.
5. Ordinance – rules, laws given by authority of the territory or group.
6. Venture – a daring and difficult journey or job.

DISCUSSION AND LESSON APPLICATIONS

1. Building a sure foundation requires a unified labor force.
2. Solomon, David’s son, was determined to build this magnificent temple, the house of the Lord.
3. Solomon followed the specific orders in building the temple according to the instructions that God had given David.
4. The sure foundation of the church is Jesus Christ, referred to as the Chief Cornerstone and the stone that was rejected.
5. Strive to obey God’s commandments, and everything will be provided for you just as it was for Solomon.
6. Now is the acceptable time for you to rest on that solid foundation which is Jesus. His word and His promises are true forever unto eternal life.

MEMORY VERSE: 2 Chronicles 2:4 Behold, I build a house to the name of the LORD my God, to dedicate *it* to him, *and* to burn before him sweet incense, and for the continual shewbread, and for the burnt offering’s morning and evening, on the sabbaths, and on the new moons, and on the solemn feasts of the LORD our God. This *is an ordinance* for ever to Israel.

LESSON 28

FEBRUARY 19, 2023

REPENT AND TURN TO GOD

MOTTO TEXT: Acts 26:19-20 Whereupon, O king Agrippa, I was not disobedient unto the heavenly vision: But shewed first unto them of Damascus, and at Jerusalem, and

throughout all the coasts of Judaea, and *then* to the Gentiles, that they should repent and turn to God, and do works meet for repentance.

ENTIRE LESSON: Acts 26:12-32

12. Whereupon as I went to Damascus with authority and commission from the chief priests,
13. At midday, O king, I saw in the way a light from heaven, above the brightness of the sun, shining round about me and them which journeyed with me.
14. And when we were all fallen to the earth, I heard a voice speaking unto me, and saying in the Hebrew tongue, Saul, Saul, why persecutest thou me? *it is* hard for thee to kick against the pricks.
15. And I said, Who art thou, Lord? And he said, I am Jesus whom thou persecutest.
16. But rise, and stand upon thy feet: for I have appeared unto thee for this purpose, to make thee a minister and a witness both things which thou hast seen, and of those things in the which I will appear unto thee;
17. Delivering thee from the people, and *from* the Gentiles, unto whom now I send thee,
18. To open their eyes, *and* to turn *them* from darkness to light, and *from* the power of Satan unto God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins, and inheritance among them which are sanctified by faith that is in me.
19. Whereupon, O king Agrippa, I was not disobedient unto the heavenly vision:
20. But shewed first unto them of Damascus, and at Jerusalem, and throughout all the coasts of Judaea, and *then* to the Gentiles, that they should repent and turn to God, and do works meet for repentance.
21. For these causes the Jews caught me in the temple and went about to kill *me*.
22. Having therefore obtained help of God, I continue unto this day, witnessing both to small and great, saying none other things than those which the prophets and Moses did say should come:
23. That Christ should suffer, *and* that he should be the first that should rise from the dead, and should shew light unto the people, and to the Gentiles.
24. And as he thus spake for himself, Festus said with a loud voice, Paul, thou art beside thyself; much learning doth make thee mad.
25. But he said, I am not mad, most noble Festus; but speak forth the words of truth and soberness.
26. For the king knoweth of these things, before whom also I speak freely: for I am persuaded that none of these things are hidden from him; for this thing was not done in a corner.
27. King Agrippa, believest thou the prophets? I know that thou believest.
28. Then Agrippa said unto Paul, almost thou persuadest me to be a Christian.
29. And Paul said, I would to God, that not only thou, but also all that hear me this day, were both almost, and altogether such as I am, except these bonds.
30. And when he had thus spoken, the king rose up, and the governor, and Bernice, and they that sat with them:
31. And when they were gone aside, they talked between themselves, saying, This man doeth nothing worthy of death or of bonds.
32. Then said Agrippa unto Festus, this man might have been set at liberty, if he had not appealed unto Caesar.

PURPOSE – To turn to God by confessing, believing, and receiving Him; knowing that you will be filled with the Holy Ghost.

PRACTICAL POINT – Repent therefore of this thy wickedness, and pray God, if perhaps the thought of thine heart may be forgiven thee. For I perceive that thou art in the gall of bitterness, and *in* the bond of iniquity” (Acts 8:22-23).

GLOSSARY/COMMENTARY

1. Confession – A formal statement admitting that one is guilty of a crime
2. Iniquity – Immoral or grossly unfair behavior
3. Perceive – Become aware or conscious of; come to realize or understand
4. Persecute – To subject someone to hostility and ill-treatment, especially because of their race or political or religious beliefs
5. Repentance – The action of repenting; Sincere regret or remorse; Having a changed mind to resolve to be fully committed to God to never repeat the act or offense again

DISCUSSION AND LESSON APPLICATIONS

Repentance is the act of repenting, which is sincere regret or remorse. God desires for all mankind to be saved. If we confess our sins, turn from our wicked and sinful ways, and receive Christ as our personal Savior, we will be able to live a life of joy and happiness in Him. This is exactly what Apostle Paul did in our lesson today. II Chronicles 7:14 says, “If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land”.

1. Have you confessed your sins, repented, and turned to God? What are some of the benefits of turning to God? Answer individually
2. In today’s society are you willing to stand up for God and encourage others to forsake their sinful habits and turn to Him?

Allow a Class Discussion.

MEMORY VERSE: 2 Chronicles 7:14 If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land.

LESSON 29

FEBRUARY 26, 2023

MY DOCTRINE

MOTTO TEXT: Deuteronomy 32:2 My doctrine shall drop as the rain, my speech shall distil as the dew, as the small rain upon the tender herb, and as the showers upon the grass.

ENTIRE LESSON: Matthew 7:13-29

13. Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide *is* the gate, and broad *is* the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat:
14. Because strait *is* the gate, and narrow *is* the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it.

15. Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves.
16. Ye shall know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes of thorns, or figs of thistles?
17. Even so every good tree bringeth forth good fruit; but a corrupt tree bringeth forth evil fruit.
18. A good tree cannot bring forth evil fruit, neither *can* a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit.
19. Every tree that bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down and cast into the fire.
20. Wherefore by their fruits ye shall know them.
21. Not everyone that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven.
22. Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works?
23. And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity.
24. Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock:
25. And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell not: for it was founded upon a rock.
26. And everyone that heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them not, shall be likened unto a foolish man, which built his house upon the sand:
27. And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell: and great was the fall of it.
28. And it came to pass, when Jesus had ended these sayings, the people were astonished at his doctrine:
29. For he taught them as *one* having authority, and not as the scribes.

PURPOSE – To show that the doctrine of Jesus Christ was not only good; it was also a sound doctrine, and we must accept the doctrine of Jesus Christ that He received of His Father, the only True God.

PRACTICAL POINT – Hold the tradition that you have been taught. Do not be tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine.

GLOSSARY/COMMENTARY

1. Doctrine – Christian truths of teachings of what one believes that is passed from generation to generation.
2. Parable – A parable makes a comparison between an earthly real-life event with the heavenly meaning of the same illustration.
3. Tradition – teaching the process used in establishing church structure and practices teachings of House of God Churches- Keith Dominion rituals and Sacraments.

DISCUSSION AND LESSON APPLICATIONS

Discuss within your group the following:

1. Explain what it means to enter the strait gate.
2. Why does false prophets have the appearance of wearing sheep clothes?
3. Explain what it means to bring forth good fruit and bad fruit.
4. Using the analogy of a tree, how can individuals produce good or bad fruit.
5. How can you relate House of God doctrine to this parable?

6. Name some traditions in the House of God Church- Keith Dominion. For example, communion with feet washing, and our tradition of devotional services with testimonies and praise and worship songs.

MEMORY VERSE: Romans 6:17 But God be thanked, that ye were the servants of sin, but ye have obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine which was delivered you.

LESSON 30

MARCH 5, 2023

YOUTH DAY
LORD HELP ME TO SEE MYSELF

MOTTO TEXT: Luke 15:17 And when he came to himself, he said, How many hired servants of my father's have bread enough and to spare, and I perish with hunger!

ENTIRE LESSON: Luke 15:11-32

11. And he said, A certain man had two sons:
12. And the younger of them said to *his* father, Father, give me the portion of goods that falleth *to me*. And he divided unto them *his* living.
13. And not many days after the younger son gathered all together, and took his journey into a far country, and there wasted his substance with riotous living.
14. And when he had spent all, there arose a mighty famine in that land; and he began to be in want.
15. And he went and joined himself to a citizen of that country; and he sent him into his fields to feed swine.
16. And he would fain have filled his belly with the husks that the swine did eat: and no man gave unto him.
17. And when he came to himself, he said, How many hired servants of my father's have bread enough and to spare, and I perish with hunger!
18. I will arise and go to my father, and will say unto him, Father, I have sinned against heaven, and before thee,
19. And am no more worthy to be called thy son: make me as one of thy hired servants.
20. And he arose, and came to his father. But when he was yet a great way off, his father saw him, and had compassion, and ran, and fell on his neck, and kissed him.
21. And the son said unto him, Father, I have sinned against heaven, and in thy sight, and am no more worthy to be called thy son.
22. But the father said 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:
23. And bring hither the fatted calf, and kill *it*; and let us eat, and be merry:
24. For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found. And they began to be merry.
25. Now his elder son was in the field: and as he came and drew nigh to the house, he heard musick and dancing.
26. And he called one of the servants, and asked what these things meant.
27. And he said unto him, Thy brother is come; and thy father hath killed the fatted calf, because he hath received him safe and sound.

28. And he was angry, and would not go in: therefore came his father out, and intreated him.
29. And he answering said to *his* father, Lo, these many years do I serve thee, neither transgressed I at any time thy commandment: and yet thou never gavest me a kid, that I might make merry with my friends:
30. But as soon as this thy son was come, which hath devoured thy living with harlots, thou hast killed for him the fatted calf.
31. And he said unto him, Son, thou art ever with me, and all that I have is thine.
32. It was meet that we should make merry, and be glad: for this thy brother was dead, and is alive again; and was lost, and is found.

PURPOSE – To show how God loves us and will forgive us, if we would only repent and turn to God, for while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.

PRACTICAL POINT-The parable of the prodigal son can help us to see ourselves. When the prodigal son came to himself, he realized that he was hungry broke and naked. A son or daughter may not understand that your parents are trying to protect you from danger until you hit rock bottom.

GLOSSARY/COMMENTARY

1. Fault – An unattractive or unsatisfactory feature in one’s character.
2. Hope – A feeling of expectation and desire for a certain thing to happen.
3. Judge – To form an opinion or conclusion about.
4. See – To perceive or detect as if by sight; To be aware of; Recognize one’s faults.

DISCUSSION AND LESSON APPLICATIONS

As young adults, it is crucial that we ask God to help us daily to see ourselves. Many times, it is easier to see the faults and shortcomings of others; but it is difficult to see or to accept that we ourselves may have flaws and faults. Let’s follow the example of the Prodigal son who one day “came to himself”. He fell to his lowest point in life. He lost his finances, he lost his so-ca. d friends, he lost his self-esteem to the point where he stooped to feeding and eating with swine (something that was disdained by a Jewish person). He did not blame his father, his brother, or his friends; but saw himself. Once we see ourselves, confess and admit our wrong doings, God will be just to forgive us of our sins. (I John 1:9).

1. Discuss a time when you felt that you were at your lowest and your refused to blame others, but you searched yourself. Did you feel that you were judged, or did you receive compassion?
2. True or False... God loves us and will forgive us if we repent and turn to him.
3. Have you looked in the mirror (of your life/character) lately? What did you see?
Answer individually.

MEMORY VERSE: James 1:23-24 For if any be a hearer of the word, and not a doer, he is like unto a man beholding his natural face in a glass: For he beholdeth himself, and goeth his way, and straightway forgetteth what manner of man he was.

THEME III

GOD'S LOVING WORD CANNOT BE ALTERED

For this *is* my covenant unto them, when I shall take away their sins.

As concerning the gospel, *they are* enemies for your sakes: but as touching the election, *they are* beloved for the fathers' sakes. For God hath concluded them all in unbelief, that he might have mercy upon all.

Forever, O LORD, thy word is settled in heaven

Romans 11:27-28, 32; Psalm 119:89

LESSONS 31-45

LESSON 31

MARCH 12, 2023

A PITCHER OF WATER, NOT WINE

MOTTO TEXT: Mark 14:13-15 And he sendeth forth two of his disciples, and saith unto them, Go ye into the city, and there shall meet you a man bearing a pitcher of water: follow him. And wheresoever he shall go in, say ye to the goodman of the house, The Master saith, Where is the guestchamber, where I shall eat the passover with my disciples? And he will shew you a large upper room furnished *and* prepared: there make ready for us.

ENTIRE LESSON: Mark 14:10-26

10. And Judas Iscariot, one of the twelve, went unto the chief priests, to betray him unto them.
11. And when they heard *it*, they were glad, and promised to give him money. And he sought how he might conveniently betray him.
12. And the first day of unleavened bread, when they killed the passover, his disciples said unto him, Where wilt thou that we go and prepare that thou mayest eat the passover?
13. And he sendeth forth two of his disciples, and saith unto them, Go ye into the city, and there shall meet you a man bearing a pitcher of water: follow him.
14. And wheresoever he shall go in, say ye to the goodman of the house, The Master saith, Where is the guestchamber, where I shall eat the passover with my disciples?
15. And he will shew you a large upper room furnished *and* prepared: there make ready for us.
16. And his disciples went forth, and came into the city, and found as he had said unto them: and they made ready the passover.
17. And in the evening he cometh with the twelve.
18. And as they sat and did eat, Jesus said, Verily I say unto you, One of you which eateth with me shall betray me.
19. And they began to be sorrowful, and to say unto him one by one, *Is it I?* and another *said, Is it I?*
20. And he answered and said unto them, *It* is one of the twelve, that dippeth with me in the dish.
21. The Son of man indeed goeth, as it is written of him: but woe to that man by whom the Son of man is betrayed! good were it for that man if he had never been born.
22. And as they did eat, Jesus took bread, and blessed, and brake it, and gave to them, and said, Take, eat: this is my body.

23. And he took the cup, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them: and they all drank of it.
24. And he said unto them, This is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for many.
25. Verily I say unto you, I will drink no more of the fruit of the vine, until that day that I drink it new in the kingdom of God.
26. And when they had sung an hymn, they went out into the mount of Olives.

PURPOSE – To teach that drinking wine is not wise and that many preachers have erred by drinking wine. They have erred in vision and in judgment.

PRACTICAL POINT – Wine takes away the heart.

GLOSSARY/COMMENTARY

1. Drunkard – A person who is habitually drunk
2. Mockers – Something or someone that make a fool of someone
3. Unleavened – Bread made without yeast or other leavening agent (no seasoning or additive; plain)
4. Winebibber – A habitual drinker of Alcoholic beverages.

DISCUSSION AND LESSON APPLICATIONS

In the House of God Church, we believe in using pure unadulterated water and unleavened bread for communion. Our lesson shows how Jesus instructed His disciples when preparing for the Lord's Supper. We must be careful and not be deceived by every wind of Doctrine. Nothing but water agrees with the Blood of Jesus. When the soldiers pierced Him in his side, there came out blood and water (I John 5:6).

The Bible says that "wine is a mocker, strong drink is raging: and whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise" (Proverbs 20:1). If your peers encourage you to drink wine and participate in other ungodly habits, remember who and whose you are! You are a child of God. Don't disappoint Him. He will provide a way of escape. Trust Him.

1. Give two (2) supporting scriptures concerning why wine is forbidden? See Decree Page 32)
2. Give two (2) supporting scriptures showing that water is approved for communion. (Decree Page 32)
3. Are you willing and able to stand up to your peers and let them know the truth about drinking wine, and why you do not engage in this or any other sinful habits? Explain and discuss your answer.

MEMORY VERSE: Leviticus 10:9 Do not drink wine nor strong drink, thou, nor thy sons with thee, when ye go into the tabernacle of the congregation, lest ye die: *it shall be* a statute for ever throughout your generations.

A TIME OF TRIBULATION

MOTTO TEXT: Revelation 7:14 And I said unto him, Sir, thou knowest. And he said to me, these are they which came out of great tribulation, and have washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

ENTIRE LESSON: Matthew 24:4-14

4. And Jesus answered and said unto them, Take heed that no man deceive you.
5. For many shall come in my name, saying, I am Christ; and shall deceive many.
6. And ye shall hear of wars and rumours of wars: see that ye be not troubled: for all these things must come to pass, but the end is not yet.
7. For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom: and there shall be famines, and pestilences, and earthquakes, in divers places.
8. All these are the beginning of sorrows.
9. Then shall they deliver you up to be afflicted, and shall kill you: and ye shall be hated of all nations for my name's sake.
10. And then shall many be offended, and shall betray one another, and shall hate one another.
11. And many false prophets shall rise, and shall deceive many.
12. And because iniquity shall abound, the love of many shall wax cold.
13. But he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved.
14. And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come.

PURPOSE – To demonstrate that the great tribulation in the 24th chapter of Matthew is the same tribulation that will precede the coming of Christ.

PRACTICAL POINT – The way to heaven is through many tribulations. In the end, God will wipe away all tears.

GLOSSARY/COMMENTARY

1. Deceive – Trick. To cause someone to believe something that is not true.
2. Pestilence – a fatal epidemic disease.
3. Tribulation – A cause of great trouble or suffering.

DISCUSSION AND LESSON APPLICATIONS

With everything that is going on in the world today, we can certainly see that we are living in time of tribulation. There are wars, there are famines, there are earthquakes, there are pestilences, there is sickness and disease, inflation is at an all time high. The Bible says that these are the beginning of sorrows.

As children of God, we have no need to worry or spend time wringing our hands! Remember, God is in full control, and We believe the House of God Which Is the Church of the Living God, the Pillar and Ground of the Truth is the waiting or preparing bride of Christ, and that when she is sufficiently prepared and made glorious without spot or wrinkle Christ will catch His bride away to the marriage supper of the Lamb to live and reign with Him for a period of a thousand years and that in this all the dead in Christ will rise first at the sounding of the first trumpet (Decree Book page 32).

1. True or False... Many false prophets shall rise, and shall deceive many
 2. True or False....” We believe there is a final judgment Day in store for all, both the good and the bad”
 3. Are you prepared to go through times of tribulation?
- Engage in a Class Discussion.

MEMORY VERSE: Revelation 6:9-11 And when he had opened the fifth seal, I saw under the altar the souls of them that were slain for the word of God, and for the testimony which they held: And they cried with a loud voice, saying, How long, O Lord, holy and true, dost thou not judge and avenge our blood on them that dwell on the earth? And white robes were given unto every one of them; and it was said unto them, that they should rest yet for a little season, until their fellowservants also and their brethren, that should be killed as they *were*, should be fulfilled.

LESSON 33

MARCH 26, 2023

THE MYSTERY OF DEATH

MOTTO TEXT: 1 Corinthians 15:51-52 Behold, I shew you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed. In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.

ENTIRE LESSON: 1 Corinthians 15:50-58

50. Now this I say, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; neither doth corruption inherit incorruption.
51. Behold, I shew you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed,
52. In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.
53. For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal *must* put on immortality.
54. So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory.
55. O death, where *is* thy sting? O grave, where *is* thy victory?
56. The sting of death *is* sin; and the strength of sin *is* the law.
57. But thanks *be* to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.
58. Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye stedfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord.

PURPOSE – To enlighten our knowledge about the mysteries surrounding death, and to broaden our understanding about what happens when we die.

PRACTICAL POINT – Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou *art* with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me. Psalm 23:4

GLOSSARY/COMMENTARY

1. Death – the end of life; a permanent end of all vital functions.

2. Incorruption – not subject to decay or dissolution.
3. Mortal – subject to death.
4. Mystery – a religious truth that one can know only by revelation and cannot fully understand.
5. Steadfast – firmly fixed in place; not subject to change; firm in belief and teachings.
6. Victory – achievement of mastery or success in a struggle or endeavor against odds or difficulties; the overcoming of an enemy.

DISCUSSION AND LESSON APPLICATIONS

In today's passage, Paul is speaking to the Corinthian church, and he shares with them a mystery, that "flesh and blood" cannot inherit the kingdom. We eat, sleep, drink, walk, run, learn, play etc. All of these are all natural activities we participate in; and when we die, this natural body will go back to dust of the earth and our Spirit will return unto God. Please read Ecclesiastes 12:7. Will you be ready when Jesus "cracks the sky?" Where will you spend eternity when death comes knocking at your door? What will you be doing, saying? Who will you be spending time together with? Where will you be? Will you be ready?

Engage in a Class discussion:

- 1) What is the mystery of Jesus Christ?
- 2) Do we have victory over sin and death? Please explain your answer.
- 3) Will we all die prior to Jesus' 2nd Coming? Please explain your answer.
- 4) Why must we remain "steadfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord as stated in I Corinthians 15:58?
- 5) Is there anything in this earth more important than reigning with Jesus Christ for eternity? Please explain your answer.

MEMORY VERSE: Psalm 90:10 The days of our years *are* threescore years and ten; and if by reason of strength *they be* fourscore years, yet *is* their strength labour and sorrow; for it is soon cut off, and we fly away.

LESSON 34

APRIL 2, 2023

PALM SUNDAY THE KING IS COMING

MOTTO TEXT: Acts 4:33 And with great power gave the apostles witness of the resurrection of the Lord Jesus: and great grace was upon them all.

ENTIRE LESSON: Matthew 21:1-11

1. And when they drew nigh unto Jerusalem, and were come to Bethphage, unto the mount of Olives, then sent Jesus two disciples,
2. Saying unto them, Go into the village over against you, and straightway ye shall find an ass tied, and a colt with her: loose *them*, and bring *them* unto me.
3. And if any *man* say ought unto you, ye shall say, The Lord hath need of them; and straightway he will send them.
4. All this was done, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophet, saying,

5. Tell ye the daughter of Sion, Behold, thy King cometh unto thee, meek, and sitting upon an ass, and a colt the foal of an ass.
6. And the disciples went, and did as Jesus commanded them,
7. And brought the ass, and the colt, and put on them their clothes, and they set *him* thereon.
8. And a very great multitude spread their garments in the way; others cut down branches from the trees, and strawed *them* in the way.
9. And the multitudes that went before, and that followed, cried, saying, Hosanna to the Son of David: Blessed *is* he that cometh in the name of the Lord; Hosanna in the highest.
10. And when he was come into Jerusalem, all the city was moved, saying, Who is this?
11. And the multitude said, This is Jesus the prophet of Nazareth of Galilee.

PURPOSE – To show that Jesus Christ was set apart to be sacrificed for the whole world.

PRACTICAL POINT – Just as Jesus prepared for his triumphal entry into Jerusalem, we also must make preparation to meet Jesus.

GLOSSARY/COMMENTARY

1. Hosanna – Used to express adoration, praise or joy.
2. Triumph – A great victory of achievement.
3. Victory – An act of defeating an enemy or opponent in a battle, game, or other competition.

DISCUSSION AND LESSON APPLICATIONS

Today we celebrate Palm Sunday, which is the Sunday before Easter. This is the day Christians commemorate Christ's triumphant entry into Jerusalem. Palm Sunday marks the first day of Holy Week. As followers of Christ, we take this time to commemorate His suffering, death, burial and resurrection.

As Jesus entered the city, he came humbly riding on a colt. The people were so excited that the King was coming! They began to spread their garments in they way, they waved palm branches and cried, "Hosanna to the Son of David, blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord, Hosanna in the Highest. He is the King of kings and Lord of lords! Jesus is our example of perfection. He demonstrates how people of all ages, young and old alike, should strive to live daily. We as sinners need Jesus. The King is cooing! Youth, why do not you let Him in today.

1. Who is the King of kings and Lord of lords?
Jesus is the King of kings and Lord of lords
2. One week, the people praised Jesus for his mighty entry into Jerusalem. The next week, the cried "crucify him!" What does this tell us about the temporary praise of men?

Allow the Class to discuss temporary valueless praise of men.

MEMORY VERSE: Zechariah 9:9 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.

**EASTER SUNDAY
THE RESURRECTION OF JESUS CHRIST**

MOTTO TEXT: John 11:25 Jesus said unto her, I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live.

ENTIRE LESSON: John 20:1-17

1. The first *day* of the week cometh Mary Magdalene early, when it was yet dark, unto the sepulchre, and seeth the stone taken away from the sepulchre.
2. Then she runneth, and cometh to Simon Peter, and to the other disciple, whom Jesus loved, and saith unto them, they have taken away the Lord out of the sepulchre, and we know not where they have laid him.
3. Peter therefore went forth, and that other disciple, and came to the sepulchre.
4. So, they ran both together: and the other disciple did outrun Peter and came first to the sepulchre.
5. And he stooping down, *and looking in*, saw the linen clothes lying; yet went he not in.
6. Then cometh Simon Peter following him, and went into the sepulchre, and seeth the linen clothes lie,
7. And the napkin, that was about his head, not lying with the linen clothes, but wrapped together in a place by itself.
8. Then went in also that other disciple, which came first to the sepulchre, and he saw, and believed.
9. For as yet they knew not the scripture, that he must rise again from the dead.
10. Then the disciples went away again unto their own home.
11. But Mary stood without at the sepulchre weeping: and as she wept, she stooped down, *and looked* into the sepulchre,
12. And seeth two angels in white sitting, the one at the head, and the other at the feet, where the body of Jesus had lain.
13. And they say unto her, Woman, why weepest thou? She saith unto them, because they have taken away my Lord, and I know not where they have laid him.
14. And when she had thus said, she turned herself back, and saw Jesus standing, and knew not that it was Jesus.
15. Jesus saith unto her, Woman, why weepest thou? whom seekest thou? She, supposing him to be the gardener, saith unto him, Sir, if thou have borne him, hence, tell me where thou hast laid him, and I will take him away.
16. Jesus saith unto her, Mary. She turned herself, and saith unto him, Rabboni; which is to say, Master.
17. Jesus saith unto her, touch me not; for I am not yet ascended to my Father: but go to my brethren, and say unto them, I ascend unto my Father, and your Father; and *to my God*, and your God.

PURPOSE – To show that God the Father is real and that He has power to raise the dead. If He does not possess this power, our faith is in vain.

PRACTICAL POINT – The Resurrection of Jesus Christ gives us hope of inheriting eternal life. Jesus shed His blood for the sins of all mankind. His shed blood has redeemed all.

GLOSSARY/COMMENTARY

1. Altered – change or cause to change in character or make-up.
2. Resurrection – the rising of the dead at the last judgement
3. Sepulchre – a small room or monument cut in rock or built of stone for the dead.
4. Ascended – to go up; to rise through the air.
5. Inherit – something received after the death of the previous owner.

DISCUSSION AND LESSON APPLICATIONS

1. The theme Scripture states, “God’s loving word cannot be altered.” From the Scripture, why would God’s Word be considered “loving”?
Have a Group discussion.
2. Why is God’s Word unable to be altered?
Refer to Psalm 119:89.
3. What role does faith have in the Resurrection of Jesus Christ?
Answer individually.
4. Do you believe God the Father is real? Why? Why not?
Lead the Class in answering individually.
5. What hope do Christians have in the Resurrection of Jesus Christ?
Have a Group Discussion.

MEMORY VERSE: Acts 12:4 And when he had apprehended him, he put *him* in prison, and delivered *him* to four quaternions of soldiers to keep him; intending after Easter to bring him forth to the people.

LESSON 36

APRIL 16, 2023

GOD’S PLAN FOR MARRIAGE

MOTTO TEXT: Matthew 19:6 Wherefore they are no more twain, but one flesh. What therefore God hath joined together, let not man put asunder.

ENTIRE LESSON: Genesis 2:7-25

7. And the Lord God formed man *of* the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul.
8. And the Lord God planted a garden eastward in Eden; and there he put the man whom he had formed.
9. And out of the ground made the Lord God to grow every tree that is pleasant to the sight, and good for food; the tree of life also in the midst of the garden, and the tree of knowledge of good and evil.
10. And a river went out of Eden to water the garden; and from thence it was parted, and became into four heads.
11. The name of the first *is* Pison: that *is* it which compasseth the whole land of Havilah, where *there is* gold;
12. And the gold of that land is good: there is bdellium and the onyx stone.
13. And the name of the second river *is* Gihon: the same is it that compasseth the whole land of Ethiopia.

14. And the name of the third river *is* Hiddekel: that *is* it which goeth toward the east of Assyria. And the fourth river *is* Euphrates.
15. And the Lord God took the man, and put him into the garden of Eden to dress it and to keep it.
16. And the Lord God commanded the man, saying, Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat:
17. But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die.
18. And the Lord God said, *It is* not good that the man should be alone; I will make him an help meet for him.
19. And out of the ground the Lord God formed every beast of the field, and every fowl of the air; and brought *them* unto Adam to see what he would call them: and whatsoever Adam called every living creature, that *was* the name thereof.
20. And Adam gave names to all cattle, and to the fowl of the air, and to every beast of the field; but for Adam there was not found an help meet for him.
21. And the Lord God caused a deep sleep to fall upon Adam and he slept: and he took one of his ribs, and closed up the flesh instead thereof;
22. And the rib, which the Lord God had taken from man, made he a woman, and brought her unto the man.
23. And Adam said, This *is* now bone of my bones, and flesh of my flesh: she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man.
24. Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh.
25. And they were both naked, the man and his wife, and were not ashamed.

PURPOSE – To show that God has a divine plan for marriage, and to discourage any changes man desires to make to alter God’s divine plan, and to prove that man knows not how bones grow in the womb of a women (Eccl. 11:5).

PRACTICAL POINT – We believe in Christians marrying Christians and Saints marrying Saints, and sinners and unbelievers marrying (Decree Book page 39).

GLOSSARY/COMMENTARY

1. Asunder – To separate, divided into two (2) pieces. Marriage is ordained by God. Marriages are never to be taken lightly. Marriage is a binding agreement between the one male and one female partner. Outside intrusion within any marriage is forbidden. There is never an excuse to dissolve a marriage by stating, ‘It was not ordained by God’. **MARRIAGE is real WORK!**
2. Cleave – To cling closely, steadfastly, or faithfully to somebody or something.
3. Formed – Created, developed, bring into being. God formed man from the dust of the ground. Describe something you formed; tell what it is and how you formed it.
4. Marriage – the union between a man and a woman made with vows before God and man. After God formed the woman, he brought her to the man to be a helpmate. Therefore marriage is the joining together in wedlock of two people, one man and one female.
5. Nostrils – Either of the two openings at the end of the nose of a person or animal. Man was not a living soul until God breathe into his nostrils (nose).

DISCUSSION AND LESSON APPLICATIONS

1. God planted the Garden of Eden as home for the man he formed. What instructions were given to him?
Adam was told that he could eat from any of the trees except one. Talk about what it's like to be told to leave just one thing alone.
2. Man was placed in the Garden of Eden to dress it and keep it. Do you believe that mankind is yet required to take care of the land?
Discuss your answers.
3. How did the woman come into being?
God put Adam into a deep sleep and performed an operation. Describe what you think that looked like.
4. What kind of tree do you think the "tree of Knowledge of good and evil"?
A lively discussion should follow.
5. God instituted the first marriage. How was it carried out?
Students should find the process in the Entire Lesson.
6. How will you know that the mate you're preparing to marry is the one that God has chosen for you?
*Separate the **girls** from the **boys** if you have sufficient students, and let each group submit their ideas about the question,*

MEMORY VERSE: 2 Corinthians 6:14 Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness?

LESSON 37

APRIL 23, 2023

DO NOT ERR MY BELOVED BRETHREN

MOTTO TEXT: Hebrews 3:10; James 1:16 Wherefore I was grieved with that generation, and said, They do alway err in *their* heart; and they have not known my ways. Do not err, my beloved brethren.

ENTIRE LESSON: James 1:1-16

1. James, a servant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ, to the twelve tribes which are scattered abroad, greeting.
2. My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations;
3. Knowing *this*, that the trying of your faith worketh patience.
4. But let patience have *her* perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing.
5. If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all *men* liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him.
6. But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering. For he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed.
7. For let not that man think that he shall receive any thing of the Lord.
8. A double minded man is unstable in all his ways.
9. Let the brother of low degree rejoice in that he is exalted:

10. But the rich, in that he is made low: because as the flower of the grass he shall pass away.
11. For the sun is no sooner risen with a burning heat, but it withereth the grass, and the flower thereof falleth, and the grace of the fashion of it perisheth: so also shall the rich man fade away in his ways.
12. Blessed is the man that endureth temptation: for when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life, which the Lord hath promised to them that love him.
13. Let no man say when he is tempted, I am tempted of God: for God cannot be tempted with evil, neither tempteth he any man:
14. But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed.
15. Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death.
16. Do not err, my beloved brethren.

PURPOSE – To warn the true saints of God not to be led away with the error of the wicked and fall from the grace of God.

PRACTICAL POINT – If any of you do err from the truth, he which convert the sinner from the error of his ways shall save a soul from death, and shall hide a multitude of sins (James 5:19-20).

GLOSSARY/COMMENTARY

1. Beware – To be on one's guard; To be cautious.
2. Deceive – To lead astray; Mislead or frustrate by underhandedness.
3. Entice – To seduce; To persuade; Pull or draw; Captivate.
4. Err – To go astray morally; sin.
5. Grieved – Great distress with regret.
6. Lust – Passion; Longing; Desire; Craving; Uncontrollable desire or unbridle sexual desire.
7. Temptation – Enticement; Something that provokes, arouse or stimulate; to try; to prove.
8. Witchcraft – The spirit of defiance (I Samuel 15:23).

DISCUSSION AND LESSON APPLICATIONS

In today's lesson, we see that it is not God's will for His children to be deceived and err from the truth. We grieve the heart of God when we conceive lust and it bringeth forth sin, being double minded and unstable in all our ways. God wants us to endure temptation, so when we are tried, we shall receive a crown of life, which the Lord hath promised to them that love Him (James 1:12).

Be encouraged, "There has no temptation taken you, but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it" (I Corinthians 10:13). Moreover, if you lack any wisdom, and are not sure how to resist temptation, let "him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him" (James 1:6). Don't doubt! Just believe and ask in faith, nothing wavering.

Beloved brethren, do not err, please beware of the company you keep, the clothing you wear, the secular music you may hear, for seductive spirits are everywhere. Guard your eye gates, your ear gates, your mouth gates, for these are openings for Satan to come

in. Fast and pray and read God's Word daily. Meditate therein day and night that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein (Joshua 1:9). **Put on the whole armour of God that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil (Ephesians 6:11).**

1. What is today's subject, and to whom is the lesson addressed to?
Our subject is, "DO NOT ERR MY BELOVED BRETHREN". The lesson is addressed to the beloved brethren (the Saints)
2. What do you see in the word BELOVED?
BELOVED, Please explain and discuss.
3. True or False... Every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust and enticed (James 1:14).
4. Explain and discuss verse 7 of the lesson
5. Explain the steps of sin that results in death according to verse 15 of the lesson
Class discussion. Who all have the Holy Ghost?
6. What is the benefit of having the Holy Ghost?
Decree Page 38 #34... We believe that the Holy Ghost sanctifies, justifies, and frees from all sins and sinning, and plants us down into Christ where there is no sin and enables us to grow on unto perfection.

MEMORY VERSE: Galatians 6:8 For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting.

LESSON 38

APRIL 30, 2023

THE BIBLE'S DOCTRINE ON PERFECTION

MOTTO TEXT: **Matthew 5:48** Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect.

ENTIRE LESSON: **Philippians 3:8-21**

8. Yea doubtless, and I count all things *but* loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord: for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and do count them *but* dung, that I may win Christ,
9. And be found in him, not having mine own righteousness, which is of the law, but that which is through the faith of Christ, the righteousness which is of God by faith:
10. That I may know him, and the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings, being made conformable unto his death;
11. If by any means I might attain unto the resurrection of the dead.
12. Not as though I had already attained, either were already perfect: but I follow after, if that I may apprehend that for which also I am apprehended of Christ Jesus.
13. Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but *this* one thing *I do*, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before,
14. I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.
15. Let us therefore, as many as be perfect, be thus minded: and if in any thing ye be otherwise minded, God shall reveal even this unto you.

16. Nevertheless, whereto we have already attained, let us walk by the same rule, let us mind the same thing.
17. Brethren, be followers together of me, and mark them which walk so as ye have us for an ensample.
18. (For many walk, of whom I have told you often, and now tell you even weeping, *that they are* the enemies of the cross of Christ:
19. Whose end *is* destruction, whose God *is their* belly, and *whose* glory *is* in their shame, who mind earthly things.)
20. For our conversation is in heaven; from whence also we look for the Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ:
21. Who shall change our vile body, that it may be fashioned like unto his glorious body, according to the working whereby he is able even to subdue all things unto himself.

PURPOSE – To acknowledge that even if you have not attained to the highest level of perfection, the Bible’s doctrine on perfection is a true doctrine.

PRACTICAL POINT – Let us go on to perfection.

GLOSSARY/COMMENTARY

1. Attained – to reach as an end, to progress to, to come into possession of
2. Perfection – to be whole or complete according to the ways of God’s word. It indicates the maturity of oneself in Christian growth.
3. Vile – despised, morally despicable, degrading.

DISCUSSION AND LESSON APPLICATIONS

Discuss within your group the following:

1. Does a person really lose anything when they accept Christ as their personal Lord and Savior?
2. Explain verse ten in your own words.
3. What are some things an individual would like to forget and leave behind once they are saved.?
4. Do you find it hard to strive unto perfection? Why or why not?
5. What aspirations do you have in attaining to perfection in your ministry in your local church?

MEMORY VERSE: 2 Corinthians 7:1 Having therefore these promises, dearly beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God.

**NATIONAL PRAYER DAY
PRAYER CHANGES THINGS**

MOTTO TEXT: Acts 16:25-26 And at midnight Paul and Silas prayed, and sang praises unto God: and the prisoners heard them. And suddenly there was a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken: and immediately all the doors were opened, and every one's bands were loosed.

ENTIRE LESSON: Acts 16:16-34

1. And it came to pass, as we went to prayer, a certain damsel possessed with a spirit of divination met us, which brought her masters much gain by soothsaying:
2. The same followed Paul and us, and cried, saying, These men are the servants of the most high God, which shew unto us the way of salvation.
3. And this did she many days. But Paul, being grieved, turned and said to the spirit, I command thee in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her. And he came out the same hour.
4. And when her masters saw that the hope of their gains was gone, they caught Paul and Silas, and drew *them* into the marketplace unto the rulers,
5. And brought them to the magistrates, saying, These men, being Jews, do exceedingly trouble our city,
6. And teach customs, which are not lawful for us to receive, neither to observe, being Romans.
7. And the multitude rose up together against them: and the magistrates rent off their clothes, and commanded to beat *them*.
8. And when they had laid many stripes upon them, they cast *them* into prison, charging the jailor to keep them safely:
9. Who, having received such a charge, thrust them into the inner prison, and made their feet fast in the stocks.
10. And at midnight Paul and Silas prayed, and sang praises unto God: and the prisoners heard them.
11. And suddenly there was a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken: and immediately all the doors were opened, and every one's bands were loosed.
12. And the keeper of the prison awaking out of his sleep, and seeing the prison doors open, he drew out his sword, and would have killed himself, supposing that the prisoners had been fled.
13. . But Paul cried with a loud voice, saying, Do thyself no harm: for we are all here.
14. Then he called for a light, and sprang in, and came trembling, and fell down before Paul and Silas,
15. And brought them out, and said, Sirs, what must I do to be saved?
16. And they said, Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house.
17. And they spake unto him the word of the Lord, and to all that were in his house.
18. And he took them the same hour of the night, and washed *their* stripes; and was baptized, he and all his, straightway.
19. And when he had brought them into his house, he set meat before them, and rejoiced, believing in God with all his house.

PURPOSE – To acknowledge our sins, get right with God and be ready when Jesus returns.

PRACTICAL POINT – Take us back to Pentecost, when every Wednesday night was prayer night, everywhere in the House of God. Lord give us a Revival.

GLOSSARY/COMMENTARY

1. Believer – a person who professes absolute belief in something. A zealous supporter and ready to be taught the things of Christ.
2. Confident – feeling or showing confidence in oneself.
3. Escape – to break free from confinement or control.
4. Loosed – to be set free or released.
5. Prayer – the addressing and petitioning of God or an offering up of our desires unto God.

DISCUSSION AND LESSON APPLICATIONS

Today's lesson is proof that Prayer can and will change any situation no matter how it may look in the eyes of man. Paul and Silas' surroundings seemed hopeless with no chance to escape, but their prayer changed their circumstances in a mighty way!

Paul and Silas did not anticipate that they would be beaten, thrown into jail, and shackled for doing a good deed, but instead of fearing, they seized the opportunity and prayed and sung praises unto God. The Lord God heard their prayer and shook the foundations of the prison, in which the doors came open, and loosed the bands of Paul and Silas! The mighty move of God caused the keeper of the jail and his family to become believers in God.

You should never give up on your hopes and dreams just because you are faced with initial setbacks. Lean on your faith and you will soon come to realize why having unwavering faith is so important in life. You must believe, trust, and rejoice in knowing that your Heavenly Father hears and will respond to your petitions. Pray and watch God turn it around.

MEMORY VERSE: Psalm 34:17 *The righteous cry, and the LORD heareth, and delivereth them out of all their troubles.*

LESSON 40

MAY 14, 2023

MOTHER'S DAY THERE IS NO LOVE LIKE A MOTHER'S LOVE

MOTTO TEXT: John 19:25-27 Now there stood by the cross of Jesus his mother, and his mother's sister, Mary the *wife* of Cleophas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus therefore saw his mother, and the disciple standing by, whom he loved, he saith unto his mother, Woman, behold thy son! Then saith he to the disciple, Behold thy mother! And from that hour that disciple took her unto his own *home*.

ENTIRE LESSON: Luke 1:26-41

26. And in the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God unto a city of Galilee, named Nazareth,
27. To a virgin espoused to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David; and the virgin's name *was* Mary.
28. And the angel came in unto her, and said, Hail, *thou that art* highly favoured, the Lord *is* with thee: blessed *art* thou among women.
29. And when she saw *him*, she was troubled at his saying, and cast in her mind what manner of salutation this should be.
30. And the angel said unto her, Fear not, Mary: for thou hast found favour with God.
31. And, behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shalt call his name JESUS.
32. He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest: and the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David:
33. And he shall reign over the house of Jacob for ever; and of his kingdom there shall be no end.
34. Then said Mary unto the angel, How shall this be, seeing I know not a man?
35. And the angel answered and said unto her, The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee: therefore also that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God.
36. And, behold, thy cousin Elisabeth, she hath also conceived a son in her old age: and this is the sixth month with her, who was called barren.
37. For with God nothing shall be impossible.
38. And Mary said, Behold the handmaid of the Lord; be it unto me according to thy word. And the angel departed from her.
39. And Mary arose in those days, and went into the hill country with haste, into a city of Juda;
40. And entered into the house of Zacharias, and saluted Elisabeth.
41. And it came to pass, that, when Elisabeth heard the salutation of Mary, the babe leaped in her womb; and Elisabeth was filled with the Holy Ghost.

PURPOSE – To honor mothers, the bearers of life as ordained by God.

PRACTICAL POINT – Honor your mother especially on today. Exodus 20:12 explains why: Exodus 20:12 Honour thy father and thy mother that thy days may be long upon the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee.

GLOSSARY/COMMENTARY

1. Conceive – to become pregnant with a child.
2. Espoused – adopt, embrace, support.
3. Honor – to regard or treat with admiration and respect. *Example:* We are told in the Scriptures to honor our mothers and fathers.
4. Ordain – to confer holy orders on.
5. Reign – to hold office, as a chief of state. *Example:* Gabriel told Mary that Jesus would reign over the house of Jacob and that His kingdom would never end.
6. Salutation – a gesture or utterance made as a greeting or acknowledge of another's arrival or departure. *Example:* When Elisabeth heard the salutation of Mary, the baby leaped in her womb, and she was filled with the Holy Ghost.

DISCUSSION AND LESSON APPLICATIONS

1. The news of Elizabeth's conception prompted Mary, her cousin, to go and visit her, which resulted in Elizabeth receiving the Holy Ghost.
2. Mary was a virgin at the time of her conception with Jesus. This gives us hope that nothing is impossible with God, but we must believe.
3. When Mary saw the angel, she was troubled by what he said. She began to think about the message from God. It is especially important to keep the Commandments as Mary did.
4. The House of God Church has outstanding mothers like those that we studied today.
5. We should honor our mothers, not just on Mother's Day, but every day of the year.

MEMORY VERSE: Ephesians 6:4 And, ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath: but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.

LESSON 41

MAY 21, 2023

CHOOSE YOUR WORDS CAREFULLY

MOTTO TEXT: James 3:2 For in many things we offend all. If any man offend not in word, the same *is* a perfect man, *and* able also to bridle the whole body.

ENTIRE LESSON: James 3:1-12

1. My brethren, be not many masters, knowing that we shall receive the greater condemnation.
2. For in many things we offend all. If any man offend not in word, the same *is* a perfect man, *and* able also to bridle the whole body.
3. Behold, we put bits in the horses' mouths, that they may obey us; and we turn about their whole body.
4. Behold also the ships, which though *they* be so great, and *are* driven of fierce winds, yet are they turned about with a very small helm, whithersoever the governor listeth.
5. Even so the tongue is a little member, and boasteth great things. Behold, how great a matter a little fire kindleth!
6. And the tongue *is* a fire, a world of iniquity: so is the tongue among our members, that it defileth the whole body, and setteth on fire the course of nature; and it is set on fire of hell.
7. For every kind of beasts, and of birds, and of serpents, and of things in the sea, is tamed, and hath been tamed of mankind:
8. But the tongue can no man tame; *it is* an unruly evil, full of deadly poison.
9. Therewith bless we God, even the Father; and therewith curse we men, which are made after the similitude of God.
10. Out of the same mouth proceedeth blessing and cursing. My brethren, these things ought not so to be.
11. Doth a fountain send forth at the same place sweet water and bitter?
12. Can the fig tree, my brethren, bear olive berries? either a vine, figs? so *can* no fountain both yield salt water and fresh.

PURPOSE – To challenge all Christians to choose their words very carefully, keeping their tongue from evil and their lips from speaking guile.

PRACTICAL POINT – Remember that a soft answer will turn away wrath; but grievous words will stir up anger.

GLOSSARY/COMMENTARY

1. Bit – something bitten or held with the teeth: the usually steel part of a bridle inserted in the mouth of a horse.
2. Condemnation – to pronounce guilty: convict.
3. Helm - a lever or wheel controlling the rudder of a ship for steering.
4. Offend – to violate a law or rule: do wrong.

DISCUSSION AND LESSON APPLICATIONS

1. How much power do you think the tongue holds?
2. What image would you use to describe the power of your tongue?
3. How would you feel if your conversations this week were recorded and broadcast for everyone to hear? What would you want to erase? What would you be proud of saying?
4. How does what we say reveal what is in our hearts?
5. Why can't we tame our tongue on our own?
6. How will memorizing scripture help you to control your tongue?

MEMORY VERSE: Psalm 5:9 For *there* is no faithfulness in their mouth; their inward part *is* very wickedness; their throat *is* an open sepulchre; they flatter with their tongue.

LESSON 42

MAY 28, 2023

FALSE PROPHETS AND FALSE TEACHERS

MOTTO TEXT: 2 Peter 2:1 But there were false prophets also among the people, even as there shall be false teachers among you, who privily shall bring in damnable heresies, even denying the Lord that bought them, and bring upon themselves swift destruction.

ENTIRE LESSON: 2 Peter 2:1-22

1. But there were false prophets also among the people, even as there shall be false teachers among you, who privily shall bring in damnable heresies, even denying the Lord that bought them, and bring upon themselves swift destruction.
2. And many shall follow their pernicious ways; by reason of whom the way of truth shall be evil spoken of.
3. And through covetousness shall they with feigned words make merchandise of you: whose judgment now of a long time lingereth not, and their damnation slumbereth not.
4. For if God spared not the angels that sinned, but cast *them* down to hell, and delivered *them* into chains of darkness, to be reserved unto judgment;
5. And spared not the old world, but saved Noah the eighth *person*, a preacher of righteousness, bringing in the flood upon the world of the ungodly;

6. And turning the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah into ashes condemned *them* with an overthrow, making *them* an ensample unto those that after should live ungodly;
7. And delivered just Lot, vexed with the filthy conversation of the wicked:
8. (For that righteous man dwelling among them, in seeing and hearing, vexed *his* righteous soul from day to day with *their* unlawful deeds;)
9. The Lord knoweth how to deliver the godly out of temptations, and to reserve the unjust unto the day of judgment to be punished:
10. But chiefly them that walk after the flesh in the lust of uncleanness, and despise government. Presumptuous *are they*, selfwilled, they are not afraid to speak evil of dignities.
11. Whereas angels, which are greater in power and might, bring not railing accusation against them before the Lord.
12. But these, as natural brute beasts, made to be taken and destroyed, speak evil of the things that they understand not; and shall utterly perish in their own corruption;
13. And shall receive the reward of unrighteousness, *as* they that count it pleasure to riot in the daytime. Spots *they are* and blemishes, sporting themselves with their own deceivings while they feast with you;
14. Having eyes full of adultery, and that cannot cease from sin; beguiling unstable souls: an heart they have exercised with covetous practices; cursed children:
15. Which have forsaken the right way, and are gone astray, following the way of Balaam *the son* of Bosor, who loved the wages of unrighteousness;
16. But was rebuked for his iniquity: the dumb ass speaking with man's voice forbad the madness of the prophet.
17. These are wells without water, clouds that are carried with a tempest; to whom the mist of darkness is reserved for ever.
18. For when they speak great swelling *words* of vanity, they allure through the lusts of the flesh, *through much* wantonness, those that were clean escaped from them who live in error.
19. While they promise them liberty, they themselves are the servants of corruption: for of whom a man is overcome, of the same is he brought in bondage.
20. For if after they have escaped the pollutions of the world through the knowledge of the Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, they are again entangled therein, and overcome, the latter end is worse with them than the beginning.
21. For it had been better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, than, after they have known *it*, to turn from the holy commandment delivered unto them.
22. But it is happened unto them according to the true proverb, The dog *is* turned to his own vomit again; and the sow that was washed to her wallowing in the mire.

PURPOSE – To warn against false prophets and false teachers who serve not our Lord Jesus Christ, but their own belly.

PRACTICAL POINT – Believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because there are many false prophets and false teachers in the world (refer to 1 John 4:1).

GLOSSARY/COMMENTARY

1. Allure – to entice by charm or attraction.
2. Beguile – to lead by deception.
3. Brute – characteristic of an animal in quality, action, or instinct: such as cruel, savage.

4. Covetousness – marked by inordinate desire for wealth or possessions or for another's possessions.
5. Entangled – to involve in a perplexing or troublesome situation.
6. Feigned – not genuine or real.
7. Heresies - opinions or doctrines contrary to church dogma.
8. Pernicious – highly injurious or destructive: deadly.
9. Presumptuous – overstepping due bounds (as of propriety or courtesy): taking liberties.
10. Prophet – on one who utters divinely inspired revelations; one who foretells future events.
11. Wantonness – having no just foundation or provocation: malicious; merciless; inhumane.

DISCUSSION AND LESSON APPLICATIONS

1. What do false prophets and teachers introduce among God's people? (verse 1)
2. How did God deal with the angels that sinned? (verse 4)
3. How did the Lord deal with the ancient world and their ungodliness? (verse 5)
4. What did God do to the two ungodly cities of Sodom and Gomorrah? (verse 6)
5. Besides rescuing the righteous, what else does the Lord know how to do? (verse 9)
6. What is it that these wicked people really promise? What do they really offer? (verses 17-19)
7. What kind of person is Peter describing in verses 20-22? What is the meaning the proverb in verse 22?

MEMORY VERSE: Jeremiah 14:14 Then the LORD said unto me, the prophets prophesy lies in my name: I sent them not, neither have I commanded them, neither spake unto them: they prophesy unto you a false vision and divination, and a thing of nought, and the deceit of their heart.

LESSON 43

JUNE 4, 2023

LIFE HAS NO MEANING WITHOUT CHRIST

MOTTO TEXT: Mark 8:36 For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul?

ENTIRE LESSON: Luke 12:11-34

1. 11 And when they bring you unto the synagogues, and unto magistrates, and powers, take ye no thought how or what thing ye shall answer, or what ye shall say:
2. 12 For the Holy Ghost shall teach you in the same hour what ye ought to say.
3. 13 And one of the company said unto him, Master, speak to my brother, that he divide the inheritance with me.
4. 14 And he said unto him, Man, who made me a judge or a divider over you?
5. 15 And he said unto them, Take heed, and beware of covetousness: for a man's life consisteth not in the abundance of the things which he possesseth.
6. 16 And he spake a parable unto them, saying, The ground of a certain rich man brought forth plentifully:

7. 17 And he thought within himself, saying, What shall I do, because I have no room where to bestow my fruits?
8. 18 And he said, This will I do: I will pull down my barns, and build greater; and there will I bestow all my fruits and my goods.
9. 19 And I will say to my soul, Soul, thou hast much goods laid up for many years; take thine ease, eat, drink, *and* be merry.
10. 20 But God said unto him, *Thou* fool, this night thy soul shall be required of thee: then whose shall those things be, which thou hast provided?
11. 21 So *is* he that layeth up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God.
12. 22 And he said unto his disciples, Therefore I say unto you, Take no thought for your life, what ye shall eat; neither for the body, what ye shall put on.
13. 23 The life is more than meat, and the body *is more* than raiment.
14. 24 Consider the ravens: for they neither sow nor reap; which neither have storehouse nor barn; and God feedeth them: how much more are ye better than the fowls?
15. 25 And which of you with taking thought can add to his stature one cubit?
16. 26 If ye then be not able to do that thing which is least, why take ye thought for the rest?
17. 27 Consider the lilies how they grow: they toil not, they spin not; and yet I say unto you, that Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these.
18. 28 If then God so clothe the grass, which is to day in the field, and to morrow is cast into the oven; how much more *will he clothe* you, O ye of little faith?
19. 29 And seek not ye what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink, neither be ye of doubtful mind.
20. 30 For all these things do the nations of the world seek after: and your Father knoweth that ye have need of these things.
21. 31 But rather seek ye the kingdom of God; and all these things shall be added unto you.
22. 32 Fear not, little flock; for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom.
23. 33 Sell that ye have, and give alms; provide yourselves bags which wax not old, a treasure in the heavens that faileth not, where no thief approacheth, neither moth corrupteth.
24. 34 For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.

PURPOSE – To show that our lives have meaning today only because Jesus Christ, and that being justified by his grace we are made heirs to the Kingdom of God.

PRACTICAL POINT – The riches of this world will fade away, but he that doeth the will of God will abide forever. Seek God's will and all other things will be added unto you.

GLOSSARY/COMMENTARY

1. Covetousness – marked by inordinate desire for wealth or possessions or for another's possessions.
2. Magistrates – an official entrusted with administration of the laws: such as a principal official exercising governmental powers over a major political unit (such as a nation).

DISCUSSION AND LESSON APPLICATIONS

1. What issue did someone bring to Jesus and what impact could it have on the relationship between brothers?
2. How did Jesus respond?

3. What warning did Jesus give?
4. What plan did the rich man make and with what motive?
5. What does it mean to be rich toward God?

MEMORY VERSE: 1 Corinthians 15:19 If in this life only we have hope in Christ, we are of all men most miserable.

LESSON 44

JUNE 11, 2023

THE CHIEF HELPER MEETS THE LEADER

MOTTO TEXT: Hosea 11:1 When Israel *was* a child, then I loved him, and called my son out of Egypt.

ENTIRE LESSON: Exodus 4:18-31

18. And Moses went and returned to Jethro his father in law, and said unto him, Let me go, I pray thee, and return unto my brethren which *are* in Egypt, and see whether they be yet alive. And Jethro said to Moses, Go in peace.
19. And the LORD said unto Moses in Midian, Go, return into Egypt: for all the men are dead which sought thy life.
20. And Moses took his wife and his sons, and set them upon an ass, and he returned to the land of Egypt: and Moses took the rod of God in his hand.
21. And the LORD said unto Moses, When thou goest to return into Egypt, see that thou do all those wonders before Pharaoh, which I have put in thine hand: but I will harden his heart, that he shall not let the people go.
22. And thou shalt say unto Pharaoh, Thus saith the LORD, Israel *is* my son, *even* my firstborn:
23. And I say unto thee, Let my son go, that he may serve me: and if thou refuse to let him go, behold, I will slay thy son, *even* thy firstborn.
24. And it came to pass by the way in the inn, that the LORD met him, and sought to kill him.
25. Then Zipporah took a sharp stone, and cut off the foreskin of her son, and cast *it* at his feet, and said, Surely a bloody husband *art* thou to me.
26. So he let him go: then she said, A bloody husband *thou art*, because of the circumcision.
27. And the LORD said to Aaron, Go into the wilderness to meet Moses. And he went, and met him in the mount of God, and kissed him.
28. And Moses told Aaron all the words of the LORD who had sent him, and all the signs which he had commanded him.
29. And Moses and Aaron went and gathered together all the elders of the children of Israel:
30. And Aaron spake all the words which the LORD had spoken unto Moses, and did the signs in the sight of the people.
31. And the people believed: and when they heard that the LORD had visited the children of Israel, and that he had looked upon their affliction, then they bowed their heads and worshipped.

PURPOSE – To assist in answering the prayer of deliverance.

PRACTICAL POINT – When we obey God will come to our rescue.

GLOSSARY/COMMENTARY

1. Affliction – a cause of persistent pain or distress.
2. Circumcision – the cutting off of the foreskin of males that is practiced as a religious rite by Jews and Muslims and by others as a social custom or for potential health benefits.

DISCUSSION AND LESSON APPLICATIONS

1. To serve God effectively, we must depend on His presence and strength, be ready for difficulty, be obedient to His commands, and work with willing people.
2. To serve God effectively, be ready for the difficulties of the mission. Give a description of the three difficulties in today's lesson.
 - i) Serving God can mean cutting ties to family and moving to a new location (verses 18-20). How did this apply to Moses?
 - ii) Serving God may cause you to encounter difficulties and resistance to what you are called to do (verse 21). What were the difficulties Moses would have to encounter?
 - iii) Serving God may require you to deliver a message that people do not want to hear (verses 22-23). What was this message?
3. To serve God effectively, we must be obedient to His commandments (verses 24-26). Discuss how obedience was shown to God in today's lesson.
4. To serve God effectively, work with people who are willing to follow God's ways (verses 27-31).

MEMORY VERSE: EXODUS 12:27 That ye shall say, It is the sacrifice of the LORD'S passover, who passed over the houses of the children of Israel in Egypt, when he smote the Egyptians, and delivered our houses. And the people bowed the head and worshipped.

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LESSON 45

JUNE 18, 2023

FATHER'S DAY EVERY FATHER SHOULD MARK THE PERFECT MAN

MOTTO TEXT: Psalm 37:37 Mark the perfect *man*, and behold the upright: for the end of *that man is peace*.

ENTIRE LESSON: 1 John 3:1-12

1. Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God: therefore the world knoweth us not, because it knew him not.

2. Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is.
3. And every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself, even as he is pure.
4. Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth also the law: for sin is the transgression of the law.
5. And ye know that he was manifested to take away our sins; and in him is no sin.
6. Whosoever abideth in him sinneth not: whosoever sinneth hath not seen him, neither known him.
7. Little children, let no man deceive you: he that doeth righteousness is righteous, even as he is righteous.
8. He that committeth sin is of the devil; for the devil sinneth from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil.
9. Whosoever is born of God doth not commit sin; for his seed remaineth in him: and he cannot sin, because he is born of God.
10. In this the children of God are manifest, and the children of the devil: whosoever doeth not righteousness is not of God, neither he that loveth not his brother.
11. For this is the message that ye heard from the beginning, that we should love one another.
12. Not as Cain, who was of that wicked one, and slew his brother. And wherefore slew he him? Because his own works were evil, and his brother's righteous.

PURPOSE – To encourage every father to follow righteousness and seek the Lord in all his ways.

PRACTICAL POINT – Seek the Lord while he may be found, call ye upon him while he is near.

GLOSSARY/COMMENTARY

1. Purify – to make pure: such as to clear from material defilement or imperfection.
2. Transgression – violation of a law, command, or duty.

DISCUSSION AND LESSON APPLICATIONS

1. What kind of person purifies himself or herself?
2. What does it mean to do what is right? (Verse 7)
3. Why did the Son of God appear? (Verse 8)
4. How are the children of God and the children of the devil identified? (Verse 10)
5. How can we know that we are the children of God?

MEMORY VERSE: James 3:2 For in many things we offend all. If any man offend not in word, the same is a perfect man, and able also to bridle the whole body.

THEME IV
NO TIME TO TURN BACK FROM GOD
And he saith unto me, Seal not the sayings of the prophecy of this book:
for the time is at hand.
Revelation 22:10
LESSONS 46-60

LESSON 46

JUNE 25, 2023

ALEXANDER THE COPPERSMITH DID ME MUCH EVIL

MOTTO TEXT: 2 Timothy 4:14-15 Alexander the coppersmith did me much evil: the Lord reward him according to his works: Of whom be thou ware also; for he hath greatly withstood our words.

ENTIRE LESSON: 2 Timothy 4:6-18

6. For I am now ready to be offered, and the time of my departure is at hand.
7. I have fought a good fight, I have finished *my* course, I have kept the faith:
8. Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing.
9. Do thy diligence to come shortly unto me:
10. For Demas hath forsaken me, having loved this present world, and is departed unto Thessalonica; Crescens to Galatia, Titus unto Dalmatia.
11. Only Luke is with me. Take Mark, and bring him with thee: for he is profitable to me for the ministry.
12. And Tychicus have I sent to Ephesus.
13. The cloke that I left at Troas with Carpus, when thou comest, bring *with thee*, and the books, *but* especially the parchments.
14. Alexander the coppersmith did me much evil: the Lord reward him according to his works:
15. Of whom be thou ware also; for he hath greatly withstood our words.
16. At my first answer no man stood with me, but all *men* forsook me: *I pray God* that it may not be laid to their charge.
17. Notwithstanding the Lord stood with me, and strengthened me; that by me the preaching might be fully known, and *that* all the Gentiles might hear: and I was delivered out of the mouth of the lion.
18. And the Lord shall deliver me from every evil work, and will preserve *me* unto his heavenly kingdom: to whom *be* glory for ever and ever. Amen.

PURPOSE – To show that the Lord will deliver the righteous out of the hands of unjust and evil men, and that there will be no reward in heaven for evil men and those who oppose God’s authority.

PRACTICAL POINT – No weapon that is formed against thee shall prosper; and every tongue that shall rise against thee in judgment thou shalt condemn. Isaiah 54:17

GLOSSARY/COMMENTARY

1. Alexander – with Demetrius, made and sold artifacts of Diana, the goddess who was worshipped by the world (Acts 19); they greatly opposed and hindered the work of stalwart Apostle Paul who had confused the city of Ephesus when he taught against idol worship, for the Only True and Living God is not made by man's hands.
2. Coppersmith – a worker who forms and sells tangible objects in copper.
3. Evil – often planned, the damageable harm committed against another, especially to impede progress or success.
4. Profitable – valuable; of worth to make progress in an endeavor.
5. Withstood – resisted; fought against to stall or prevent an action or plan.

DISCUSSION AND LESSON APPLICATIONS

Our lesson portrays the lengths some will go in a joint effort to hinder any good work or deed that may bring a worthy change in life and society. Miscommunication is not unique to us. It began with Satan in the form of a serpent in the Garden of Eden (delight).

First Thessalonians 5:15 urges through instructions to, “See that none render evil for evil unto any *man*; but ever follow that which is good, both among yourselves, and to all *men*.” Proverbs 16:25 admonishes to avoid what seems to be right unto man, for the end thereof are the ways of death.

Youth, you are most precious unto God, to the church and to society. You are to be protected from the many coppersmiths of today. Like metal, they will forge/form you into beautiful instruments that are capable of destroying your whole body, mind, and soul. The youthful zeal to live your life doing good can be diverted by pretentious ones. They would mold you into their instruments of unrighteousness, joining them in not only destroying you, but all who would likewise make them an identical pattern.

1. Would you prefer being one who leads other souls to do what is good and right?
2. Name a couple of good things you have done to shun the coppersmith of evil.
3. Relate one example of an ‘Alexander the Coppersmith’ to today's society.
4. Have you noted any deceptive action to accomplish a contrary goal against any law?

MEMORY VERSE: Proverbs 24:19 Fret not thyself because of evil *men*, neither be thou envious at the wicked.

LESSON 47

JULY 2, 2023

BITTERNESS

MOTTO TEXT: Ephesians 4:31 Let all bitterness, and wrath, and anger, and clamour, and evil speaking, be put away from you, with all malice.

ENTIRE LESSON: Romans 12:9-21

9. *Let love* be without dissimulation. Abhor that which is evil; cleave to that which is good.
10. *Be* kindly affectioned one to another with brotherly love; in honour preferring one another;
11. Not slothful in business; fervent in spirit; serving the Lord;

12. Rejoicing in hope; patient in tribulation; continuing instant in prayer;
13. Distributing to the necessity of saints; given to hospitality.
14. Bless them which persecute you: bless, and curse not.
15. Rejoice with them that do rejoice, and weep with them that weep.
16. *Be* of the same mind one toward another. Mind not high things, but condescend to men of low estate. Be not wise in your own conceits.
17. Recompense to no man evil for evil. Provide things honest in the sight of all men.
18. If it be possible, as much as lieth in you, live peaceably with all men.
19. Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but *rather* give place unto wrath: for it is written, Vengeance *is* mine; I will repay, saith the Lord.
20. Therefore if thine enemy hunger, feed him; if he thirst, give him drink: for in so doing thou shalt heap coals of fire on his head.
21. Be not overcome of evil, but overcome evil with good.

PURPOSE – To remind us that bitterness, anger and malice should not be named once among the saints.

PRACTICAL POINT – Do not hold bitterness in your heart. Depart from evil and do good; seek peace and pursue it.

GLOSSARY/COMMENTARY

1. Affectioned – fond or tender feeling toward somebody or something
2. Avenge – to retaliate on behalf of yourself or someone else for a wrong done. God is the one who will take vengeance of His people.
3. Clamor – a loud noise, especially one made by people shouting together. Has this ever occurred in your life? How did you handle it?
4. Condescend – to do something regarded as unimportant or demeaning in order to appear generous toward others. Is this the way you would desire to be treated?
5. Dissimulation – to disguise or hide true feelings, thoughts or intentions. God’s children should not ever live in this manner.

DISCUSSION AND LESSON APPLICATIONS

1. What can be the source of bitterness in your heart? Class discussion of the question should follow.
2. This letter was written by Apostle Paul to the saints at Rome. Do you believe these instructions are relevant for saints of today? Explain your answer.
3. Name at least three (3) encouraging recommendations for the saints in the lesson.
4. Dissimulation is pretense; therefore, love should be real and pure. What can you do to make sure your love is without dissimulation? Allow students to give examples of how their love is pure and real, especially to those whom they know don’t like them.
5. God requires his people to live so that some things are not named among them. What things are named in today’s lesson and how can they be avoided?

MEMORY VERSE: Acts 8:23 For I perceive that thou art in the gall of bitterness, and in the bond of iniquity.

ARE YOU SAVED THE BIBLE WAY?

MOTTO TEXT: Acts 2:38 Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.

ENTIRE LESSON: Acts 2:1-21

1. And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place.
2. And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting.
3. And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them.
4. And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.
5. And there were dwelling at Jerusalem Jews, devout men, out of every nation under heaven.
6. Now when this was noised abroad, the multitude came together, and were confounded, because that every man heard them speak in his own language.
7. And they were all amazed and marvelled, saying one to another, Behold, are not all these which speak Galilaeans?
8. And how hear we every man in our own tongue, wherein we were born?
9. Parthians, and Medes, and Elamites, and the dwellers in Mesopotamia, and in Judaea, and Cappadocia, in Pontus, and Asia,
10. Phrygia, and Pamphylia, in Egypt, and in the parts of Libya about Cyrene, and strangers of Rome, Jews and proselytes,
11. Cretes and Arabians, we do hear them speak in our tongues the wonderful works of God.
12. And they were all amazed, and were in doubt, saying one to another, What meaneth this?
13. Others mocking said, these men are full of new wine.
14. But Peter, standing up with the eleven, lifted up his voice, and said unto them, Ye men of Judaea, and all ye that dwell at Jerusalem, be this known unto you, and hearken to my words:
15. For these are not drunken, as ye suppose, seeing it is but the third hour of the day.
16. But this is that which was spoken by the prophet Joel;
17. And it shall come to pass in the last days, saith God, I will pour out of my Spirit upon all flesh: and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams:
18. And on my servants and on my handmaidens, I will pour out in those days of my Spirit; and they shall prophesy:
19. And I will shew wonders in heaven above, and signs in the earth beneath; blood, and fire, and vapour of smoke:
20. The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before that great and notable day of the Lord come:

21. And it shall come to pass, that whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be saved.

PURPOSE – To let the world know that Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners and that except you are born again you cannot enter into the kingdom of God.

PRACTICAL POINT – He which converts the sinner from the error of his way shall save a soul from death and shall hide a multitude of sins. James 5:20

GLOSSARY/COMMENTARY

1. Holy Ghost – The third member of the Godhead.
2. Noised – To spread by rumor or report.
3. Repent – Feel or express sincere regret or remorse about one's wrongdoing or sin
4. Saved – The deliverance from the guilt, power, and dominion of sin.
5. Third Hour of the Day – Approximately 9:00 am.

DISCUSSION AND LESSON APPLICATIONS

1. When Pentecost was fully come, who were the people gathered together? Acts 1:13-14 “And when they were come in, they went up into the upper room, where abode Peter, and James, and John, and Andrew, Philip, and Thomas, Bartholomew, and Matthew, James the son of Alpheus, and Simon Zelotes, and Judas the brother of James. These all continued with one accord in prayer and supplication, with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus and with his brethren.”
2. What was the mindset of the people in the upper room? They were all with one accord.
3. What signified the presence of the Holy Ghost? The sudden sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind.
4. What were proofs of the indwelling of the Holy Ghost? Cloven tongues like as of fire, and speaking with other tongues as the spirit gave them utterance.
5. Why did Peter feel the need to address the crowd at Pentecost? They could not believe what they were seeing nor did they understand. Others even mocked the men that spoke in tongues saying that they were full of new wine.

MEMORY VERSE: Acts 16:31 And they said, Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house.

LESSON 49

JULY 16, 2023

DISOBEDIENCE WILL CAUSE YOU TO LOSE YOUR BLESSINGS

MOTTO TEXT: Isaiah 1:19-20 If ye be willing and obedient, ye shall eat the good of the land: but if ye refuse and rebel, ye shall be devoured with the sword: for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it.

ENTIRE LESSON: Genesis 3:1-24

1. Now the serpent was more subtle than any beast of the field which the Lord God had made. And he said unto the woman, Yea, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden?

2. And the woman said unto the serpent, We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden:
3. But of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God hath said, Ye shall not eat of it, neither shall ye touch it, lest ye die.
4. And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die:
5. For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil.
6. And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat.
7. And the eyes of them both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together, and made themselves aprons.
8. And they heard the voice of the Lord God walking in the garden in the cool of the day: and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God amongst the trees of the garden.
9. And the Lord God called unto Adam, and said unto him, Where art thou?
10. And he said, I heard thy voice in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself.
11. And he said, Who told thee that thou wast naked? Hast thou eaten of the tree, whereof I commanded thee that thou shouldest not eat?
12. And the man said, The woman whom thou gavest to be with me, she gave me of the tree, and I did eat.
13. And the Lord God said unto the woman, What is this that thou hast done? And the woman said, The serpent beguiled me, and I did eat.
14. And the Lord God said unto the serpent, Because thou hast done this, thou art cursed above all cattle, and above every beast of the field; upon thy belly shalt thou go, and dust shalt thou eat all the days of thy life:
15. And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel.
16. Unto the woman he said, I will greatly multiply thy sorrow and thy conception; in sorrow thou shalt bring forth children; and thy desire shall be to thy husband, and he shall rule over thee.
17. And unto Adam he said, Because thou hast hearkened unto the voice of thy wife, and hast eaten of the tree, of which I commanded thee, saying, Thou shalt not eat of it: cursed is the ground for thy sake; in sorrow shalt thou eat of it all the days of thy life;
18. Thorns also and thistles shall it bring forth to thee; and thou shalt eat the herb of the field;
19. In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread, till thou return unto the ground; for out of it wast thou taken: for dust thou art, and unto dust shalt thou return.
20. And Adam called his wife's name Eve; because she was the mother of all living.
21. Unto Adam also and to his wife did the Lord God make coats of skins, and clothed them.
22. And the Lord God said, Behold, the man is become as one of us, to know good and evil: and now, lest he put forth his hand, and take also of the tree of life, and eat, and live for ever:
23. Therefore the Lord God sent him forth from the garden of Eden, to till the ground from whence he was taken.
24. So he drove out the man; and he placed at the east of the garden of Eden Cherubims, and a flaming sword which turned every way, to keep the way of the tree of life.

PURPOSE – To show that there are showers of blessings for those who will keep his commandments but if we refuse and rebel we can lose our blessings.

PRACTICAL POINT – God’s word is very plain. There are blessings if we obey. There are curses if we disobey.

GLOSSARY/COMMENTARY

1. Cherubims – A celestial winged being with human, animal, or birdlike characteristics who functions as a throne bearer of the Deity.
2. Disobedience – Failure or refusal to obey.
3. Enmity – the state, feeling of being actively opposed, or hostile to someone or something.
4. Harkened – To listen.
5. Naked – Being without clothing or covering.
6. Serpent – A large snake that was a symbol of evil power and chaos from the underworld.
7. Subtle – Cunning.

DISCUSSION AND LESSON APPLICATIONS

1. Disobedience will cause you to lose your blessings. According to Isaiah 1: 19-20 how do you gain? We gain by being willing and obedient. Ye shall eat the good of the land. Allow the students to give examples.
2. When Eve told the serpent of God’s commandment concerning the fruit of the tree, which is in the midst of the garden, how did the serpent deceive her? Eve told the serpent that God said when you eat or touch the fruit, lest ye die. The serpent told Eve, Ye shall not surely die.
3. When we take our eyes off of God’s word, right will look wrong and wrong will look right. Explain how this happened in our lesson. Verse 6- And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes and a tree to be desired to make one wise. She took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her and he did eat.
4. In the cool of the day the Spirit of God walked through the garden and called unto Adam, and said, “where art thou?” Why did Adam and Eve hide themselves from the presence of the Lord God? After eating of the forbidding tree, their eyes were opened, they knew that they were naked, and they were afraid.
5. How did the curse affect Adam, Eve, and the serpent? God said to Adam, “cursed is the ground for thy sake; in sorrow shalt thou eat of it all the days of thy life.” God told Eve, “I will greatly multiply thy sorrow and thy conception; in sorrow thou shalt bring forth children.” The Lord said unto the serpent, “Because thy hast done this, thou are cursed above all cattle, and above every beast of the field. Upon thy belly shalt thou go, and dust shalt thou eat all the days of thy life.”

MEMORY VERSE: Ephesians 2:2-3 Wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience: Among whom also we all had our conversation in times past in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind; and were by nature the children of wrath, even as others.

CHOOSE THIS DAY WHOM YOU WILL SERVE

MOTTO TEXT: Joshua 24:15 And if it seem evil unto you to serve the Lord, choose you this day whom ye will serve; whether the gods which your fathers served that *were* on the other side of the flood, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell: but as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.

ENTIRE LESSON: Joshua 24:13-28

13. And I have given you a land for which ye did not labour, and cities which ye built not, and ye dwell in them; of the vineyards and oliveyards which ye planted not do ye eat.
14. Now therefore fear the Lord, and serve him in sincerity and in truth: and put away the gods which your fathers served on the other side of the flood, and in Egypt; and serve ye the Lord.
15. And if it seem evil unto you to serve the Lord, choose you this day whom ye will serve; whether the gods which your fathers served that *were* on the other side of the flood, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell: but as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.
16. And the people answered and said, God forbid that we should forsake the Lord, to serve other gods;
17. For the Lord our God, he *it is* that brought us up and our fathers out of the land of Egypt, from the house of bondage, and which did those great signs in our sight, and preserved us in all the way wherein we went, and among all the people through whom we passed:
18. And the Lord drave out from before us all the people, even the Amorites which dwelt in the land: *therefore* will we also serve the Lord; for he *is* our God.
19. And Joshua said unto the people, Ye cannot serve the Lord: for he *is* an holy God; he *is* a jealous God; he will not forgive your transgressions nor your sins.
20. If ye forsake the Lord, and serve strange gods, then he will turn and do you hurt, and consume you, after that he hath done you good.
21. And the people said unto Joshua, Nay; but we will serve the Lord.
22. And Joshua said unto the people, Ye *are* witnesses against yourselves that ye have chosen you the Lord, to serve him. And they said, *We are* witnesses.
23. Now therefore put away, *said he*, the strange gods which *are* among you, and incline your heart unto the Lord God of Israel.
24. And the people said unto Joshua, The Lord our God will we serve, and his voice will we obey.
25. So Joshua made a covenant with the people that day, and set them a statute and an ordinance in Shechem.
26. And Joshua wrote these words in the book of the law of God, and took a great stone, and set it up there under an oak, that was by the sanctuary of the Lord.
27. And Joshua said unto all the people, Behold, this stone shall be a witness unto us; for it hath heard all the words of the Lord which he spake unto us: it shall be therefore a witness unto you, lest ye deny your God.
28. So Joshua let the people depart, every man unto his inheritance.

PURPOSE – To warn believers of Christ that no one can serve two masters; one will always be loved above the other.

PRACTICAL POINT – If we obey God’s voice and keep His Commandments, we will be a peculiar treasure unto the Lord above all people.

GLOSSARY/COMMENTARY

1. Choose – To select freely and after consideration.
2. Covenant – A solemn agreement.
3. gods – A physical object (as an image or idol).
4. Serve – Perform duties or services.
5. Sincerity – The quality or state of being sincere, honesty of mind, and freedom from hypocrisy.
6. Strange – Of or relating to some other person.
7. Witnesses – One who has personal knowledge or experience of something.

DISCUSSION AND LESSON APPLICATIONS

1. Have you chosen whom you are going to serve? If not now, then when? Allow the students to individually volunteer to respond with an answer.
2. Explain some “gods” you have or may have had in your lifetime. Allow the students to individually volunteer to respond with an answer.
3. Joshua boldly proclaimed he and his house will serve the Lord. Students are you willing to stand with your household and make that same proclamation? Allow the students to individually volunteer to respond with an answer.
4. Which criteria, the Word or the world, are you using to select your master? Allow the students to individually volunteer to respond with an answer.
5. Someone composed a song and asked the question, “whose side are you leaning on”? Young people choose your side. Lead the students into a discussion on the importance of choosing today.

MEMORY VERSE: Daniel 3:17-18 If it be *so*, our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace, and he will deliver *us* out of thine hand, O king. But if not, be it known unto thee, O king, that we will not serve thy gods, nor worship the golden image which thou hast set up.

LESSON 51

JULY 30, 2023

THEY HATED ME WITHOUT A CAUSE

MOTTO TEXT: Psalm 69:4 They that hate me without a cause are more than the hairs of mine head: they that would destroy me, *being* mine enemies wrongfully, are mighty: then I restored *that* which I took not away.

ENTIRE LESSON: Isaiah 53:1-12

1. Who hath believed our report? and to whom is the arm of the Lord revealed?

2. For he shall grow up before him as a tender plant, and as a root out of a dry ground: he hath no form nor comeliness; and when we shall see him, *there is* no beauty that we should desire him.
3. He is despised and rejected of men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief: and we hid as it were *our* faces from him; he was despised, and we esteemed him not.
4. Surely he hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows: yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted.
5. But he was wounded for our transgressions, *he was* bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace *was* upon him; and with his stripes we are healed.
6. All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the Lord hath laid on him the iniquity of us all.
7. He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth: he is brought as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearers is dumb, so he openeth not his mouth.
8. He was taken from prison and from judgment: and who shall declare his generation? for he was cut off out of the land of the living: for the transgression of my people was he stricken.
9. And he made his grave with the wicked, and with the rich in his death; because he had done no violence, neither *was any* deceit in his mouth.
10. Yet it pleased the Lord to bruise him; he hath put *him* to grief: when thou shalt make his soul an offering for sin, he shall see his seed, he shall prolong *his* days, and the pleasure of the Lord shall prosper in his hand.
11. He shall see of the travail of his soul, *and* shall be satisfied: by his knowledge shall my righteous servant justify many; for he shall bear their iniquities.
12. Therefore will I divide him *a portion* with the great, and he shall divide the spoil with the strong; because he hath poured out his soul unto death: and he was numbered with the transgressors; and he bare the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors.

PURPOSE – To demonstrate how some, including church members, will hate you without a cause.

PRACTICAL POINT – Let not them that are mine enemies wrongfully rejoice over me: *neither* let them wink with the eye that hate me without a cause (Psa. 35:19).

GLOSSARY/COMMENTARY

1. Cause – A good or adequate reason.
2. Despised – To look down on with disrespect or aversion.
3. Hated – extreme dislike or disgust.
4. Rejected – To refuse to admit, believe, or receive.
5. Sorrows – A cause of grief or sadness.
6. Without – Not having; lacking

DISCUSSION AND LESSON APPLICATIONS

1. Did you ever feel like someone hated you for no reason? Allow the students to reflect on one of those times.
2. Jesus was the suffering servant; prophesy about it in this lesson. Ask the students to expound upon the things that he will endure.

3. Isaiah 53:7 stated, “He was oppressed, and he was afflicted; yet he opened not his mouth: he is brought as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearers is dumb, so he openeth not his mouth.” Point out how Jesus opened not his mouth when faced with affliction. Discuss what should their reaction be if faced with hatred without a cause.
4. Young people, within your lifetime, you will encounter people that will hate you without a cause. Some people will even say all manner of evil against you, but do not be disheartened; they hated Jesus before you, so arm yourself likewise. Remind them of the Golden Rule.
5. Marvel not my brethren if the world hate you (I John 3:13). Cain killed Abel, his brother, because of jealousy. King Saul tried to get his son, Jonathan, to kill his own friend, David. Jesus was betrayed with a kiss from one of his disciples, Judas. Discuss with the students how they would feel if they discovered a “Judas” within their inner circle.

MEMORY VERSE: Titus 3:3 For we ourselves also were sometimes foolish, disobedient, deceived, serving divers lusts and pleasures, living in malice and envy, hateful, *and* hating one another.

LESSON 52

AUGUST 6, 2023

FAMILY SUNDAY THE FAMILY OF GOD

MOTTO TEXT: Proverbs 4:20-23 My son, attend to my words; incline thine ear unto my sayings. Let them not depart from thine eyes; keep them in the midst of thine heart. For they *are* life unto those that find them, and health to all their flesh. Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it *are* the issues of life.

ENTIRE LESSON: Proverbs 4:1-15

1. Hear, ye children, the instruction of a father, and attend to know understanding.
2. For I give you good doctrine, forsake ye not my law.
3. For I was my father's son, tender and only *beloved* in the sight of my mother.
4. He taught me also, and said unto me, Let thine heart retain my words: keep my commandments, and live.
5. Get wisdom, get understanding: forget *it* not; neither decline from the words of my mouth.
6. Forsake her not, and she shall preserve thee: love her, and she shall keep thee.
7. Wisdom *is* the principal thing; *therefore* get wisdom: and with all thy getting get understanding.
8. Exalt her, and she shall promote thee: she shall bring thee to honour, when thou dost embrace her.
9. She shall give to thine head an ornament of grace: a crown of glory shall she deliver to thee.
10. Hear, O my son, and receive my sayings; and the years of thy life shall be many.
11. I have taught thee in the way of wisdom; I have led thee in right paths.

12. When thou goest, thy steps shall not be straitened; and when thou runnest, thou shalt not stumble.
13. Take fast hold of instruction; let *her* not go: keep her; for she *is* thy life.
14. Enter not into the path of the wicked, and go not in the way of evil *men*.
15. Avoid it, pass not by it, turn from it, and pass away.

PURPOSE- To strengthen the family by promoting love, fellowship and unity among family members and members of the local church congregation. To provide an atmosphere where God’s word can be taught to all.

PRACTICAL POINT- Sound the trumpet, call a solemn assembly, gather your children and all members of your family into the house of the LORD because Sunday is Family Worship Sunday, a time that your entire family can worship together in one setting.

GLOSSARY/COMMENTARY

1. Doctrine- A belief or set of beliefs held and taught by a church, political party, or other group.
2. Family – A group of two or more persons related.
3. Instruction – Detailed information telling how something should be done, operated, or assembled.
4. Understanding – The ability to understand something comprehension.
5. Wisdom – The quality of having experience, knowledge, good judgment, and the quality of being wise.

DISCUSSION AND LESSON APPLICATIONS

1. “So, God created man in his own image. In the image of God, created he him; male and female created he them. And God blessed them, and God said unto them, be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it; and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth” Genesis 1:27-28. Discuss whether the families of today are structured in the same manner as in the text.
2. In the motto text, the father admonishes the son to pay attention unto his words and listen intently, attentively, and receptively to what he was saying. Lead the class into a discussion on the importance of being taught by the people of God. That teaching will help one become a child of God.
3. We have heard the saying, “The family that prays together, stays together.” Allow the students to reflect on their earliest remembrance of assembling together for family prayer.
4. Explain the scripture Matthew 12:47-50, “Then one said unto him, Behold thy mother and thy brethren stand without, desiring to speak with thee. But he answered and said unto him that told him, who stretched forth his hand toward his disciples, and said, Behold my mother and my brethren. For whosoever shall do the will of my Father which is in heaven, the same is my brother, and sister, and mother.”
5. Establishing a Family of God is crucial in today’s society.

MEMORY VERSE: Ephesians 5:33 Nevertheless let every one of you in particular so love his wife even as himself; and the wife *see* that she reverence *her* husband.

ANOINT ME LORD WITH THE HOLY GHOST

MOTTO TEXT: Acts 10:38 How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with power: who went about doing good, and healing all that were oppressed of the devil; for God was with him.

ENTIRE LESSON: Acts 10:34-48

34. Then Peter opened *his* mouth, and said, Of a truth I perceive that God is no respecter of persons:
35. But in every nation he that feareth him, and worketh righteousness, is accepted with him.
36. The word which *God* sent unto the children of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ: (he is Lord of all:)
37. That word, *I say*, ye know, which was published throughout all Judaea, and began from Galilee, after the baptism which John preached;
38. How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with power: who went about doing good, and healing all that were oppressed of the devil; for God was with him.
39. And we are witnesses of all things which he did both in the land of the Jews, and in Jerusalem; whom they slew and hanged on a tree:
40. Him God raised up the third day, and shewed him openly;
41. Not to all the people, but unto witnesses chosen before of God, *even* to us, who did eat and drink with him after he rose from the dead.
42. And he commanded us to preach unto the people, and to testify that it is he which was ordained of God *to be* the Judge of quick and dead.
43. To him give all the prophets witness, that through his name whosoever believeth in him shall receive remission of sins.
44. While Peter yet spake these words, the Holy Ghost fell on all them which heard the word.
45. And they of the circumcision which believed were astonished, as many as came with Peter, because that on the Gentiles also was poured out the gift of the Holy Ghost.
46. For they heard them speak with tongues, and magnify God. Then answered Peter,
47. Can any man forbid water, that these should not be baptized, which have received the Holy Ghost as well as we?
48. And he commanded them to be baptized in the name of the Lord. Then prayed they him to tarry certain days.

PURPOSE – To feel the power of the Holy Ghost under the anointing of God.

PRACTICAL POINT – Truly lift up Jesus under the anointing.

GLOSSARY/COMMENTARY

1. Atonement – the sacrifice that Jesus Christ made in order to reconcile mankind back to total obedience to God.
2. Holy Ghost – the Third Person of the Godhead (the Trinity); the indwelling Power of the Spirit of God.
3. Oppressed – to keep down by severe and unjust use of force, power, or authority.

4. Partiality – unfairly favoring or a person or group over another or others
5. Remission of Sins – forgiveness for wrongdoing upon condition of repentance; (Remission of sins is made possible by the Atonement of Jesus Christ.)
6. Respector of Persons – one whose behavior toward people or a person is influenced by the people or a person’s social status, prestige, or other people’s opinion, etc.
7. Rite – a ceremony or formal act to observe a religious, custom or other procedure. An example of rite is the Sacrament of Holy Matrimony.
8. Unction – the act of anointing as a rite of consecration or healing.

DISCUSSION AND LESSON APPLICATIONS

Peter communicates his understanding that God shows no partiality. He explained that God makes himself available to anyone who reverences Him, adhere to His Commandments, and makes the right decisions. Jesus Christ is our greatest example of the importance of being filled with the Holy Ghost. He was anointed by God, His Father, with the Holy Spirit and with Power. Therefore, it is essential for each of us to have the indwelling Power of the Holy Ghost. The anointing makes the difference. The Holy Ghost empowered Him to do the work of His Father by doing good to and for others as well as healing all who were bound by the devil, for God (The Spirit) was in Him.

According to Mark 16:18, it references and let us know under the anointing of the Holy Ghost that we shall lay hands on the sick and the sick shall recover. For example, The Holy Ghost is our Keeper, which means when you are in any situation such as temptation or danger, He will provide a way of escape (1 Cor. 10:13). The Holy Ghost is also our Guide, and we should pray and ask for Him to lead us (make the right decision) in every area of our lives. For it is stated in Proverbs 3:5-6, “Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.”

Young people, let the Unction (Anointing) of God have His free course in your life and you will be a shining light to those who live in darkness. “Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven. (Matt. 5:16).

MEMORY VERSE: 2 Corinthians 1:21-22 Now he which stablisheth us with you in Christ, and hath anointed us, *is* God; Who hath also sealed us, and given the earnest of the Spirit in our hearts.

LESSON 54

AUGUST 20, 2023

WHEN YOUR BROTHER FALLS

MOTTO TEXT: 2 Peter 3:17 Ye therefore, beloved, seeing ye know *these things* before, beware lest ye also, being led away with the error of the wicked, fall from your own steadfastness.

ENTIRE LESSON: Hebrews 6:1-12

1. Therefore leaving the principles of the doctrine of Christ, let us go on unto perfection; not laying again the foundation of repentance from dead works, and of faith toward God,
2. Of the doctrine of baptisms, and of laying on of hands, and of resurrection of the dead, and of eternal judgment.
3. And this will we do, if God permit.
4. For *it is* impossible for those who were once enlightened, and have tasted of the heavenly gift, and were made partakers of the Holy Ghost,
5. And have tasted the good word of God, and the powers of the world to come,
6. If they shall fall away, to renew them again unto repentance; seeing they crucify to themselves the Son of God afresh, and put *him* to an open shame.
7. For the earth which drinketh in the rain that cometh oft upon it, and bringeth forth herbs meet for them by whom it is dressed, receiveth blessing from God:
8. But that which beareth thorns and briers *is* rejected, and *is* nigh unto cursing; whose end *is* to be burned.
9. But, beloved, we are persuaded better things of you, and things that accompany salvation, though we thus speak.
10. For God *is* not unrighteous to forget your work and labour of love, which ye have shewed toward his name, in that ye have ministered to the saints, and do minister.
11. And we desire that every one of you do shew the same diligence to the full assurance of hope unto the end:
12. That ye be not slothful, but followers of them who through faith and patience inherit the promises.

PURPOSE – To show that there is a difference between a backslider and one who falls away.

PRACTICAL POINT – Galatians 6:1 Brethren, if a man be overtaken in a fault, ye which are spiritual, restore such an one in the spirit of meekness; considering thyself, lest thou also be tempted.

GLOSSARY/COMMENTARY

1. Backslider – someone who is going the wrong way spiritually.
2. Brother – in the text it relates to male or female, any human being.
3. Charity – love.
4. Compassion – to be sympathetic, have pity, and concern for the suffering or misfortune of others.
5. Lifestyle – the way in which a person or group lives.
6. Repentance – to feel remorse and sorrow for any sin that has been committed.
7. Steadfast – to be firm and unwavering in your faith.

DISCUSSION AND LESSON APPLICATIONS

It's necessary to make progress beyond the elementary instructions regarding Christ and graduate on to spiritual maturity. Some who have been enlightened and has witness the heavenly gifts, experienced miracles and has seen the Word of God manifest are falling away. When this occurs, it is compared to crucifying Christ repeatedly on "**the cross.**" Thanks be to God; a spiritual renewal happens when an individual have a sorry heart.

When your brother or sister makes unwise choices, you should support them to get back to where they should be in the Lord. Those who are strong and righteous should

compassionately, respectfully, and unbiasedly provide assistance to get them back on the right pathway. Therefore, recognizing that the next time it might be one of you who has been overtaken in a fault. (Galatians 6:1)

Young people, be sure to always consider yourself before criticizing others.

MEMORY VERSE: 1 Corinthians 10:12-13 Wherefore let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall. There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God *is* faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear *it*.

LESSON 55

AUGUST 27, 2023

TEACH ME, O LORD

MOTTO TEXT: Psalm 119:33 Teach me, O Lord, the way of thy statutes; and I shall keep it unto the end.

ENTIRE LESSON: Psalm 119:33-48

33. Teach me, O Lord, the way of thy statutes; and I shall keep it *unto* the end.
34. Give me understanding, and I shall keep thy law; yea, I shall observe it with *my* whole heart.
35. Make me to go in the path of thy commandments; for therein do I delight.
36. Incline my heart unto thy testimonies, and not to covetousness.
37. Turn away mine eyes from beholding vanity; *and* quicken thou me in thy way.
38. Stablish thy word unto thy servant, who *is devoted* to thy fear.
39. Turn away my reproach which I fear: for thy judgments *are* good.
40. Behold, I have longed after thy precepts: quicken me in thy righteousness.
41. Let thy mercies come also unto me, O Lord, *even* thy salvation, according to thy word.
42. So shall I have wherewith to answer him that reproacheth me: for I trust in thy word.
43. And take not the word of truth utterly out of my mouth; for I have hoped in thy judgments.
44. So shall I keep thy law continually for ever and ever.
45. And I will walk at liberty: for I seek thy precepts.
46. I will speak of thy testimonies also before kings, and will not be ashamed.
47. And I will delight myself in thy commandments, which I have loved.
48. My hands also will I lift up unto thy commandments, which I have loved; and I will meditate in thy statutes.

PURPOSE – To emphasize that God will teach good judgment and knowledge to all who believe His Commandments.

PRACTICAL POINT – Lead me to the truth, and cause me to understand wherein I have erred.

GLOSSARY/COMMENTARY

1. Liberty – freedom; no bondage and limitations
2. Observe – to perceive, notice, inspect closely, regard with attention

3. Petition – make a request
4. Principle – a basic idea or rule that explains or controls how something happens or works.
5. Reproach – shame; disgrace; rebuke; condemnation.
6. Statute – a formal law or rule.

DISCUSSION AND LESSON APPLICATIONS

It is essential to make a personal request to the Lord to teach His decrees. As young people, it is necessary to petition or ask God for **wisdom, knowledge, and understanding** of His statutes, to ensure your life is pleasing unto Him.

These are strategies that can be utilized to accomplish this. You can comprehend extensively more when studying your Bible. Create small group discussions with your like-minded peers to increase your understanding of God's Will and His Word. Actively participating in Sunday Bible School and Church Services will promote **spiritual growth**.

Exhibiting courage through "**holy boldness**" is an incredible way to apply the spiritual knowledge you have obtained from being a student of the Word. It is imperative, not to just hear the Word, but let the Word become alive in you (James 1:22).

MEMORY VERSE: James 3:13 *Who is a wise man and endued with knowledge among you? let him show out of a good conversation his works with meekness of wisdom.*

LESSON 57

SEPTEMBER 3, 2023

EVANGELISM SUNDAY LIFT UP YOUR EYES, AND LOOK ON THE FIELDS FOR THEY ARE WHITE ALREADY TO HARVEST

MOTTO TEXT: John 4:14 But whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst; but the water that I shall give him shall be in him a well of water springing up into everlasting life.

ENTIRE LESSON: John 4:13-35

13. Jesus answered and said unto her, whosoever drunketh of this water shall thirst again:
14. But whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst; but the water that I shall give him shall be in him a well of water springing up into everlasting life.
15. The woman saith unto him, Sir, give me this water, that I thirst not, neither come hither to draw.
16. Jesus saith unto her, Go, call thy husband, and come hither.
17. The woman answered and said, I have no husband. Jesus said unto her, thou hast well said, I have no husband:
18. For thou hast had five husbands; and he whom thou now hast is not thy husband: in that saidst thou truly.
19. The woman saith unto him, Sir, I perceive that thou art a prophet.
20. Our fathers worshipped in this mountain; and ye say, that in Jerusalem is the place where men ought to worship.

21. Jesus saith unto her, Woman, believe me, the hour cometh, when ye shall neither in this mountain, nor yet at Jerusalem, worship the Father.
22. Ye worship ye know not what: we know what we worship: for salvation is of the Jews.
23. But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him.
24. God *is* a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship *him* in spirit and in truth.
25. The woman saith unto him, I know that Messias cometh, which is called Christ: when he is come, he will tell us all things.
26. Jesus saith unto her, I that speak unto thee am *he*.
27. And upon this came his disciples, and marvelled that he talked with the woman: yet no man said, What seekest thou? or, Why talkest thou with her?
28. The woman then left her waterpot, and went her way into the city, and saith to the men,
29. Come, see a man, which told me all things that ever I did: is not this the Christ?
30. Then they went out of the city and came unto him.
31. In the mean while his disciples prayed him, saying, Master, eat.
32. But he said unto them, I have meat to eat that ye know not of.
33. Therefore said the disciples one to another, Hath any man brought him *ought* to eat?
34. Jesus saith unto them, my meat is to do the will of him that sent me, and to finish his work.
35. Say not ye, There are yet four months, and *then* cometh harvest? behold, I say unto you, Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest.

PURPOSE – This is the true meaning of evangelism, to teach others about Jesus Christ that they may go and teach all nations baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost.

PRACTICAL POINT – Do not be afraid to teach and preach the truth. But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and *be* ready to *give* an answer to every man that ask you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear. 1 Peter 3:15

GLOSSARY/COMMENTARY

1. Connection - a relationship or bond between two entities
2. Evangelism- the preaching and spreading the gospel of Jesus Christ
3. Harvest - the process or period of gathering in crops
4. Living Water - refers to the Holy Ghost
5. Samaria - the ancient, historic, biblical name used for the central region of the Land of Israel, bordered by Judea to the south and Galilee to the north
6. White Field - refers to a sense of urgency (now) about spreading the gospel

DISCUSSION AND LESSON APPLICATIONS

It's Evangelism Sunday!!! Today God is offering the Gift of the Holy Ghost, called a Well of **Living Water** which leads into “**Everlasting Life**.” When you have the Holy Ghost, you have a connection with God through His Son. With this kind of **connection** to God through Jesus, we have the **power** to be witnesses in “Judea and in Samaria and unto the uttermost part of the Earth.” The Bible states in Acts 1:8, “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 Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.

Therefore, you should go into the highways and hedges to share the Good News of Jesus Christ and All of His Benefits to every man, woman, boy and girl that you connect with. (Luke 14:23)

The Fields are White and Ready to Harvest! (John 4:35) Evangelize! Evangelize! Evangelize!

MEMORY VERSE: John 4:10 Jesus answered and said unto her, if thou knewest the gift of God, and who it is that saith to thee, Give me to drink; thou wouldest have asked of him, and he would have given thee living water.

LESSON 58

SEPTEMBER 10, 2023

GRANDPARENTS' DAY HOLY GHOST FILLED GRANDCHILDREN

MOTTO TEXT: Acts 2:38-39 Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost. For the promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, *even* as many as the Lord our God shall call.

ENTIRE LESSON: Luke 2:40-52

40. And the child grew, and waxed strong in spirit, filled with wisdom: and the grace of God was upon him.
41. Now his parents went to Jerusalem every year at the feast of the passover.
42. And when he was twelve years old, they went up to Jerusalem after the custom of the feast.
43. And when they had fulfilled the days, as they returned, the child Jesus tarried behind in Jerusalem; and Joseph and his mother knew not of it.
44. But they, supposing him to have been in the company, went a day's journey; and they sought him among *their* kinsfolk and acquaintance.
45. And when they found him not, they turned back again to Jerusalem, seeking him.
46. And it came to pass, that after three days they found him in the temple, sitting in the midst of the doctors, both hearing them, and asking them questions.
47. And all that heard him were astonished at his understanding and answers.
48. And when they saw him, they were amazed: and his mother said unto him, Son, why hast thou thus dealt with us? behold, thy father and I have sought thee sorrowing.
49. And he said unto them, How is it that ye sought me? wist ye not that I must be about my Father's business?
50. And they understood not the saying which he spake unto them.
51. And he went down with them, and came to Nazareth, and was subject unto them: but his mother kept all these sayings in her heart.
52. And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favour with God and man.

PURPOSE – To teach and encourage our grandchildren that they too must be born again.

PRACTICAL POINT – Cry aloud, to your very own grandchildren: do not be surprised that I say unto you, you must be born again. **John 3:7**

GLOSSARY/COMMENTARY

1. Fear – reverence and respect.
2. Heritage – something that comes or belongs to one by reason of birth, legacy.
3. Holy Ghost – the third person of the Trinity, the Spirit of God.
4. Remission of Sin – forgiveness of sin.
5. Repent – to feel or express sincere regret for wrongdoing; to have remorse about one's sin.

DISCUSSION AND LESSON APPLICATIONS

Grandparents have a special love for their grandchildren. Grandchildren are a heritage from the Lord. It's important for grandparents to help their grandchildren understand the love God has for them and that His love is unconditional. It is as equally important for grandparents to teach their grandchildren to love and fear God.

Grandchildren must be taught that **God the Father** is real, **God the Son** is real, and that **God the Holy Ghost** is also real. Grandparents should instill in their grandchildren the importance of attending Sunday School and their church services, not forsaking the assembling together, as the manner of some is but encouraging one another. (Hebrews 10:25) Grandparents have a great responsibility to instill practical values, but most importantly

Christian values and respect in their grandchildren. Furthermore, grandchildren should exemplify their gratitude through obedience, respect, and behavior.

MEMORY VERSE: Acts 2:17 And it shall come to pass in the last days, saith God, I will pour out of my Spirit upon all flesh: and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams.

LESSON 59

SEPTEMBER 17, 2023

STRIVE TO ENTER IN AT THE STRAIT GATE

MOTTO TEXT: Luke 13:24 Strive to enter in at the strait gate: for many, I say unto you, will seek to enter in, and shall not be able.

ENTIRE LESSON: Luke 13:18-30

18. Then said he, Unto what is the kingdom of God like? and whereunto shall I resemble it?
19. It is like a grain of mustard seed, which a man took, and cast into his garden; and it grew, and waxed a great tree; and the fowls of the air lodged in the branches of it.
20. And again he said, Whereunto shall I liken the kingdom of God?
21. It is like leaven, which a woman took and hid in three measures of meal, till the whole was leavened.
22. And he went through the cities and villages, teaching, and journeying toward Jerusalem.
23. Then said one unto him, Lord, are there few that be saved? And he said unto them,
24. Strive to enter in at the strait gate: for many, I say unto you, will seek to enter in, and shall not be able.

25. When once the master of the house is risen up, and hath shut to the door, and ye begin to stand without, and to knock at the door, saying, Lord, Lord, open unto us; and he shall answer and say unto you, I know you not whence ye are:
26. Then shall ye begin to say, We have eaten and drunk in thy presence, and thou hast taught in our streets.
27. But he shall say, I tell you, I know you not whence ye are; depart from me, all ye workers of iniquity.
28. There shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth, when ye shall see Abraham, and Isaac, and Jacob, and all the prophets, in the kingdom of God, and you *yourselves* thrust out.
29. And they shall come from the east, and *from* the west, and from the north, and *from* the south, and shall sit down in the kingdom of God.
30. And, behold, there are last which shall be first, and there are first which shall be last.

PURPOSE – To warn everyone that the hour is coming, in the which all that are in the graves shall hear his voice, and come forth; they that have done good, unto the resurrection of life; and they that have done evil, unto the resurrection of damnation (John 5:29). Wherever your resurrection is, there will you spend eternity.

PRACTICAL POINT – Except a man be born of water and *of* the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God (John 3:5).

GLOSSARY/COMMENTARY

1. Damnation – the state of being condemned to eternal punishment.
2. Resemble – having qualities or features, especially those of appearance, in common with (someone or something).
3. Strive – make great efforts to achieve or obtain something.

DISCUSSION AND LESSON APPLICATIONS

You have a chance today to serve the Lord, don't wait until it's too late. Jesus said, strive to enter in at the strait gate. To enter in at the strait gate, one must take off the old man, (sin) and a life of disobedience to Gods commandments. As Jesus was on His way to Jerusalem, He knew what would happen to Him. According to Luke 18:31-33, "Then he took unto Him the twelve, and said unto them, behold, we go up to Jerusalem, and all things that are written by the prophets concerning the Son of man shall be accomplished. For He shall be delivered unto the Gentiles, and shall be mocked, and spitefully entreated, and spitted on. And they shall scourge Him and put Him to death; and the third day He shall rise again."

We must qualify for Heaven, not by man's standards, but by God's living word. Make sure you are not the one saying "Lord, Lord open unto me." Don't allow the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes and the pride of life to tempt you from striving to enter in at the strait gate. The way to Heaven is through the strait gate. The only way to God is through His son Jesus Christ. You cannot take the world's goods with you through this gate. It is written: the world passes away, and the lust thereof; but he who does the will of God abides forever. (Col. 3:2, I John 2:17) We want to strive to get to our heavenly home where everything there is eternal and everlasting. Enter the gate that leads to our heavenly home.

MEMORY VERSE: John 5:28-29 Marvel not at this: for the hour is coming, in the which all that are in the graves shall hear his voice, And shall come forth; they that have done good, unto the resurrection of life; and they that have done evil, unto the resurrection of damnation.

LESSON 60

SEPTEMBER 24, 2023

BLESSED

MOTTO TEXT: James 1:12 Blessed *is* the man that endureth temptation: for when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life, which the Lord hath promised to them that love him.

ENTIRE LESSON: Matthew 5:1-12

1. And seeing the multitudes, he went up into a mountain: and when he was set, his disciples came unto him:
2. And he opened his mouth, and taught them, saying,
3. Blessed *are* the poor in spirit: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
4. Blessed *are* they that mourn: for they shall be comforted.
5. Blessed *are* the meek: for they shall inherit the earth.
6. Blessed *are* they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled.
7. Blessed *are* the merciful: for they shall obtain mercy.
8. Blessed *are* the pure in heart: for they shall see God.
9. Blessed *are* the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God.
10. Blessed *are* they which are persecuted for righteousness' sake: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
11. Blessed are ye, when *men* shall revile you, and persecute *you*, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake.
12. Rejoice, and be exceeding glad: for great *is* your reward in heaven: for so persecuted they the prophets which were before you.

PURPOSE – To remind us that, Blessed *is* the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful (Psa. 1:1).

PRACTICAL POINT – If we follow Jesus, we will be blessed. Ephesians 2:8, “For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: *it is* the gift of God.” You are blessed.

GLOSSARY/COMMENTARY

1. Sermon – Sermons address a Biblical, religious or moral topic, usually expounding on a type of belief, law or behavior within both past and present contexts. Elements of preaching include exposition, exhortation and practical application.
2. Blessings – God’s favor and protection
3. Attribute – an inherent characteristic of God.
4. Promise – a declaration or assurance that one will do a particular thing or that a particular thing will happen; commitment, pledge or word of honor.
5. Rejoice – feel or show great joy delight or excitement.

DISCUSSION AND LESSON APPLICATIONS

Jesus Christ began His sermon on the mount by teaching the disciples the Beatitudes known as “The Blessings”. As He sat and began to speak, no doubt His teaching was strong and with earnest.

Each character trait mentioned in the today’s lesson should be displayed in every Christian today. Without these characteristics, one can wonder about their salvation and commitment to God. Jesus began each attribute with a promise of “Blessings.” Although the description in the beginning may appear to be sad or piteous by the human standards, but because of the Holy Spirit that dwells within the lives of Christians, they are actually considered “Blessed”

Verses 10 and 11 can be hard to comprehend if it is received in the flesh. No one wants to suffer persecution and no one wants to hear someone speaking evil against them, however the promise behind the persecution and false statements is the kingdom of heaven! This ending is so profound and encouraging to the believer who has endured affliction. Verse 12 says that we should rejoice, and be exceeding glad: for great is your reward in heaven even when you are mistreated or wronged. Of course this will take much prayer, fasting and time to achieve and to fully understand the fruitfulness of God Himself. These Beatitudes are manifested upon the person who is righteous, having hope and faith in God as He intended.

MEMORY VERSE: 2 Corinthians 9:8 And God *is* able to make all grace abound toward you; that ye, always having all sufficiency in all *things*, may abound to every good work.

THEME V
INDECISIVENESS:
WALKING AMONG MANKIND WHILE REPRESENTING GOD

When I lie down, I say, When shall I arise, and the night be gone?
And I am full of tossing to and fro unto the dawning of the day.

Job 7:4

LESSONS 61-75

LESSON 61

OCTOBER 1, 2023

YOU CAN RUN BUT YOU CANNOT HIDE

MOTTO TEXT: Jonah 1:3 But Jonah rose up to flee unto Tarshish from the presence of the LORD and went down to Joppa; and he found a ship going to Tarshish: so, he paid the fare thereof, and went down into it, to go with them unto Tarshish from the presence of the LORD.

ENTIRE LESSON: Jonah 1:1-17

1. Now the word of the LORD came unto Jonah the son of Amittai, saying,
2. Arise, go to Nineveh, that great city, and cry against it; for their wickedness is come up before me.
3. But Jonah rose up to flee unto Tarshish from the presence of the LORD and went down to Joppa; and he found a ship going to Tarshish: so, he paid the fare thereof, and went down into it, to go with them unto Tarshish from the presence of the LORD.
4. But the LORD sent out a great wind into the sea, and there was a mighty tempest in the sea, so that the ship was like to be broken.
5. Then the mariners were afraid, and cried every man unto his god, and cast forth the wares that *were* in the ship into the sea, to lighten *it* of them. But Jonah was gone down into the sides of the ship; and he lay and was fast asleep.
6. So the shipmaster came to him, and said unto him, what meanest thou, O sleeper? Arise, call upon thy God, if so, be that God will think upon us, that we perish not.
7. And they said everyone to his fellow, Come, and let us cast lots, that we may know for whose cause this evil *is* upon us. So, they cast lots, and the lot fell upon Jonah.
8. Then said they unto him, tell us, we pray thee, for whose cause this evil *is* upon us; What *is* thine occupation? And whence comest thou? What *is* thy country? And of what people *art* thou?
9. And he said unto them, I *am* an Hebrew; and I fear the LORD, the God of heaven, which hath made the sea and the dry *land*.
10. Then were the men exceedingly afraid, and said unto him, why hast thou done this? For the men knew that he fled from the presence of the LORD, because he had told them.
11. Then said they unto him, what shall we do unto thee, that the sea may be calm unto us? For the sea wrought and was tempestuous.
12. And he said unto them, take me up, and cast me forth into the sea; so, shall the sea be calm unto you: for I know that for my sake this great tempest *is* upon you.
13. Nevertheless the men rowed hard to bring *it* to the land; but they could not: for the sea wrought and was tempestuous against them.

14. Wherefore they cried unto the LORD, and said, we beseech thee, O LORD, we beseech thee, let us not perish for this man's life, and lay not upon us innocent blood: for thou, O LORD, hast done as it pleased thee.
15. So they took up Jonah and cast him forth into the sea: and the sea ceased from her raging.
16. Then the men feared the LORD exceedingly, and offered a sacrifice unto the LORD, and made vows.
17. Now the LORD had prepared a great fish to swallow up Jonah. And Jonah was in the belly of the fish three days and three nights.

PURPOSE – To make it plain and known to all that we cannot hide from God. He knows our deepest thoughts, good and evil. God knows all our ways.

PRACTICAL POINT – Do you know how much time you have? Time is running out. What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin? You can run, but you cannot hide. The end is coming.

GLOSSARY/COMMENTARY

1. Lots – making a chance decision by using lots (straws or pebbles that are thrown or drawn).
2. Shipmaster – a ship's captain.
3. Tarshish – a city in Turkey, a city of great importance.
4. Tempest – a violent windy storm.

DISCUSSION AND LESSON APPLICATIONS

God is a merciful God, full of love and compassion. God showed how much compassion He had for Nineveh, that great city, when he sent Jonah to cry against it, for their wickedness. However, when Jonah rose and went to Tarshish, he disobeyed the command of God. Jonah went in the opposite direction to hide from the presence of the Lord. You can't hide from the all-seeing eye of God. The eye of the Lord is in every place, keeping watch on the evil and the good. (Proverbs 15:3)

Psalm 139:7-12 says, Whither shall I go from thy presence? If I ascend into heaven, thou art there; If I make my bed in hell, behold, thou art there. If I take the wings of the morning, and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea; even there shall thy hand lead me, and thy right hand shall hold me. If I say surely the darkness shall cover me; even the night shall be light about me. Yea, the darkness hideth not from thee; but the night shineth as the day; the darkness and the light are both alike to thee. God knew what Jonah was going to do before he did it. God is omnipresent, omniscient, and omnipotent.

Jonah's disobedience caused the mariners to fear for their own lives. When we are disobedient, it not only affects us, but also those around us. Once the lot fell on Jonah, he asked the men to cast him overboard, which would cause the sea to be calm. God was still merciful toward Jonah and prepared a great fish to swallow him up. He was in the belly of the fish three days and three nights.

MEMORY VERSE: Revelation 6:15-17 And the kings of the earth, and the great men, and the rich men, and the chief captains, and the mighty men, and every bondman, and every free man, hid themselves in the dens and in the rocks of the mountains; And said to the mountains and rocks, fall on us, and hide us from the face of him that sitteth on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb. For the great day of his wrath is come; and who shall be able to stand?

LESSON 62

OCTOBER 8, 2023

DELIVER ME

MOTTO TEXT: Proverbs 11:8 The righteous is delivered out of trouble, and the wicked cometh in his stead.

ENTIRE LESSON: 2 Corinthians 1:1-11

1. Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ by the will of God, and Timothy *our* brother, unto the church of God which is at Corinth, with all the saints which are in all Achaia:
2. Grace be to you and peace from God our Father, and *from* the Lord Jesus Christ.
3. Blessed *be* God, even the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies, and the God of all comfort;
4. Who comforteth us in all our tribulation, that we may be able to comfort them which are in any trouble, by the comfort wherewith we ourselves are comforted of God.
5. For as the sufferings of Christ abound in us, so our consolation also aboundeth by Christ.
6. And whether we be afflicted, *it is* for your consolation and salvation, which is effectual in the enduring of the same sufferings which we also suffer: or whether we be comforted, *it is* for your consolation and salvation.
7. And our hope of you *is* stedfast, knowing, that as ye are partakers of the sufferings, so *shall ye be* also of the consolation.
8. For we would not, brethren, have you ignorant of our trouble which came to us in Asia, that we were pressed out of measure, above strength, insomuch that we despaired even of life:
9. But we had the sentence of death in ourselves, that we should not trust in ourselves, but in God which raiseth the dead:
10. Who delivered us from so great a death, and doth deliver: in whom we trust that he will yet deliver *us*;
11. Ye also helping together by prayer for us, that for the gift *bestowed* upon us by the means of many persons thanks may be given by many on our behalf.

PURPOSE – To give inspiration and show that the Lord will deliver from all trials, transgressions, and troubles.

PRACTICAL POINT – The Lord shall deliver me from evil men and from every evil work.

GLOSSARY/COMMENTARY

1. Aboundeth – present in great amounts or quantities. Jesus showed his great love for mankind by sacrificing his life for our sins. We should be like minded, willing to suffer for his name.
2. Bestowed – is to be given or granted something to another. The Holy Ghost, freely given by God is a great comforter in times of distress. We should show comfort to help console and sustain our sisters and brothers in the Lord.
3. Effectual – Powerful, able, effective; the effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.
4. Inspired – We are motivated by our faith in God for deliverance from all of our afflictions and will pray for that same deliverance of all saints.
5. Stead – this word refers to something or someone who takes the place of another. The righteous is delivered out of his troubles, but the wicked is not but suffers for wickedness.

DISCUSSION AND LESSON APPLICATIONS

1. Apostle Paul and the young minister, Timothy were giving instructions to the saints at Corinth. In your own words share some of their instructions in this lesson.
2. Have you experienced any troubling times in your life that you needed to be comforted? Explain any one or more of them.
3. Have you ever given comfort to a friend or relative? If so, briefly explain the circumstance/circumstances.
4. Do you have a willing mind to suffer as Christ suffered? If yes, why? If no, why not?
5. When God has delivered (set free, rescued) saints from their sufferings, what mind-set should they have?
Saints should glorify God and pray in supplication for others to be delivered.

MEMORY VERSE: Galatians 1:3-4 Grace *be* to you and peace from God the Father, and *from* our Lord Jesus Christ, Who gave himself for our sins, that he might deliver us from this present evil world, according to the will of God and our Father.

LESSON 63

OCTOBER 15, 2023

REBELLIOUS CHILDREN

MOTTO TEXT: Deuteronomy 21:20 And they shall say unto the elders of his city, this our son *is* stubborn and rebellious, he will not obey our voice; *he is* a glutton, and a drunkard.

ENTIRE LESSON: Isaiah 1:1-20

1. The vision of Isaiah the son of Amoz, which he saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem in the days of Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah, kings of Judah.
2. Hear, O heavens, and give ear, O earth: for the LORD hath spoken, I have nourished and brought up children, and they have rebelled against me.
3. The ox knoweth his owner, and the ass his master's crib: *but* Israel doth not know, my people doth not consider.

4. Ah sinful nation, a people laden with iniquity, a seed of evildoers, children that are corrupters: they have forsaken the LORD, they have provoked the Holy One of Israel unto anger, they are gone away backward.
5. Why should ye be stricken any more? Ye will revolt more and more: the whole head is sick, and the whole heart faint.
6. From the sole of the foot even unto the head *there is* no soundness in it; *but* wounds, and bruises, and putrifying sores: they have not been closed, neither bound up, neither mollified with ointment.
7. Your country *is* desolate, your cities *are* burned with fire: your land, strangers devour it in your presence, and *it is* desolate, as overthrown by strangers.
8. And the daughter of Zion is left as a cottage in a vineyard, as a lodge in a garden of cucumbers, as a besieged city.
9. Except the LORD of hosts had left unto us a very small remnant, we should have been as Sodom, *and* we should have been like unto Gomorrah.
10. Hear the word of the LORD, ye rulers of Sodom; give ear unto the law of our God, ye people of Gomorrah.
11. To what purpose *is* the multitude of your sacrifices unto me? Saith the LORD: I am full of the burnt offerings of rams, and the fat of fed beasts; and I delight not in the blood of bullocks, or of lambs, or of he goats.
12. When ye come to appear before me, who hath required this at your hand, to tread my courts?
13. Bring no more vain oblations; incense is an abomination unto me; the new moons and sabbaths, the calling of assemblies, I cannot away with; *it is* iniquity, even the solemn meeting.
14. Your new moons and your appointed feasts my soul hateth: they are a trouble unto me; I am weary to bear *them*.
15. And when ye spread forth your hands, I will hide mine eyes from you: yea, when ye make many prayers, I will not hear: your hands are full of blood.
16. Wash you, make you clean; put away the evil of your doings from before mine eyes; cease to do evil;
17. Learn to do well; seek judgment, relieve the oppressed, judge the fatherless, plead for the widow.
18. Come now, and let us reason together, saith the LORD: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool.
19. If ye be willing and obedient, ye shall eat the good of the land:
20. But if ye refuse and rebel, ye shall be devoured with the sword: for the mouth of the LORD hath spoken *it*.

PURPOSE – To teach to not rebel against God’s Word and true holiness.

PRACTICAL POINT – Put away the evil of your doings from before God’s eyes; cease to do evil; Learn to do well.

GLOSSARY/COMMENTARY

1. Oblation – a religious offering in devotion to God; a sacrificial offering such as money, fruit, or animal sacrifice offered to God for the forgiveness of a man’s sins.
2. Rebellious – engaged in rebellion, the act of resisting and being in defiance against one in authority or dominance
3. Soundness – showing good judgement and sense, to be stable.

DISCUSSION AND LESSON APPLICATIONS

The Prophet Isaiah is known by theologians as a Messianic Messenger of God because he prophesized the coming of Jesus the Christ throughout his book. In chapter 1, Isaiah expresses the insincerity of the children of Israel in serving God by their disregard of his existence and power as being their deliverer. They are not sound, stable, whole, or complete in their relationship with acknowledging God as the Great I Am who delivered them out of the hands of the Egyptians. Isaiah compares Israel's relationship to God as being rebellious, unlike that with clean, sacrificial animals who are obedient to their parents.

Isaiah attempts to lead the Israelites to repentance by exposing their sins against God. Isaiah presents rewards for obedience to God and punishment for disobedience. It is always better to obey the true and living God to have peace, righteousness, and joy in the Holy Ghost.

1. Describe some things today old and young alike do in rebellion towards God
2. Jesus said, if you love me, "Keep my commandments."
3. What do you do to maintain your relationship with our Savior, Jesus.

MEMORY VERSE: Deuteronomy 32:5 They have corrupted themselves, their spot is not *the spot* of his children: *they are* a perverse and crooked generation.

LESSON 64

OCTOBER 22, 2023

TEMPERANCE SUNDAY TEMPTATION AND SELF-CONTROL

MOTTO TEXT: 1 Corinthians 9:27 But I keep under my body, and bring *it* into subjection: lest that by any means, when I have preached to others, I myself should be a castaway.

ENTIRE LESSON: James 1:1-16

1. James, a servant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ, to the twelve tribes which are scattered abroad, greeting.
2. My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations;
3. Knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience.
4. But let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing.
5. If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him.
6. But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering. For he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed.
7. For let not that man think that he shall receive any thing of the Lord.
8. A double minded man is unstable in all his ways.
9. Let the brother of low degree rejoice in that he is exalted:
10. But the rich, in that he is made low: because as the flower of the grass he shall pass away.

11. For the sun is no sooner risen with a burning heat, but it withereth the grass, and the flower thereof falleth, and the grace of the fashion of it perisheth: so also shall the rich man fade away in his ways.
12. Blessed is the man that endureth temptation: for when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life, which the Lord hath promised to them that love him.
13. Let no man say when he is tempted, I am tempted of God: for God cannot be tempted with evil, neither tempteth he any man:
14. But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed.
15. Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death.
16. Do not err, my beloved brethren.

PURPOSE – To make known that temptation and lust is not of the Father but of the world, and that if any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him.

PRACTICAL POINT – Present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, *which is your reasonable service* (Rom. 12:1).

GLOSSARY/COMMENTARY

1. Castaway – thrown away, rejected
2. Condemned – to pronounce to be guilty
3. Temperance – abstinence, restraint
4. Upbraideth – to criticize severely, find fault with
5. Wavering – to fluctuate in opinion or direction

DISCUSSION AND LESSON APPLICATIONS

The Holy Ghost makes the difference. Without the Holy Ghost, self-control is hard, no matter what age you are. Proverbs 16:32 reads, He that is slow to anger is better than the mighty, and he that ruleth his spirit than he that taketh a city. You can resist the call of temptation and avoid conforming to the things of this wicked and clueless world. The Holy Ghost helps us have power over every sinful desire we are tempted with.

We believe and do **firmly preach** that Jesus Christ the Son of the Living God was possessed of the full nature and disposition of humanity, but through obedience to the Father He took on the whole armor of faith as an example to others of the same nature in order to be able, and He was thus made to resist the devil and to overcome the world. Trad Matthew 1:21, Luke 4:12, Ephesians 6:13-17, St. John 1:1-2-3, Revelation 3:21, St. John 16:33, I Peter 2:21.

We believe that all who follow in His footsteps and example will likewise do no sin but shall be able to overcome the world as He did, who is the way, the truth and the life of all men spiritually. St. John 14:6 (Decree, Page 63)

Sin will destroy us if we don't possess self-control. How much time do we spend with God, or do we spend most of our time watching TV, on our computers, playing video games or on Facebook, Tik Tok, Instagram & Twitter? We must crucify the flesh. Galatians 5:24 reads, And they that are Christ's have crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts. If we live in the spirit, let us also walk in the spirit.

MEMORY VERSE: Romans 8:3-5 For what the law could not do, in that it was weak through the flesh, God sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and for sin, condemned sin in the flesh: That the righteousness of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit. For they that are after the flesh do mind the things of the flesh; but they that are after the Spirit the things of the Spirit.

LESSON 65

OCTOBER 29, 2023

LOOSING THE BANDS OF WICKEDNESS

MOTTO TEXT: Isaiah 58:6 *Is not this the fast that I have chosen? To loose the bands of wickedness, to undo the heavy burdens, to let the oppressed go free and that ye break every yoke?*

ENTIRE LESSON: Leviticus 20:6-22

6. And the soul that turneth after such as have familiar spirits, and after wizards, to go a whoring after them, I will even set my face against that soul, and will cut him off from among his people.
7. Sanctify yourselves therefore and be ye holy: for I *am* the LORD your God.
8. And ye shall keep my statutes and do them: I *am* the LORD which sanctify you.
9. For everyone that curseth his father or his mother shall be surely put to death: he hath cursed his father or his mother; his blood *shall be* upon him.
10. And the man that committeth adultery with *another* man's wife, *even he* that committeth adultery with his neighbour's wife, the adulterer and the adulteress shall surely be put to death.
11. And the man that lieth with his father's wife hath uncovered his father's nakedness: both of them shall surely be put to death; their blood *shall be* upon them.
12. And if a man lie with his daughter in law, both of them shall surely be put to death: they have wrought confusion; their blood *shall be* upon them.
13. If a man also lie with mankind, as he lieth with a woman, both of them have committed an abomination: they shall surely be put to death; their blood *shall be* upon them.
14. And if a man take a wife and her mother, it *is* wickedness: they shall be burnt with fire, both he and they; that there be no wickedness among you.
15. And if a man lie with a beast, he shall surely be put to death: and ye shall slay the beast.
16. And if a woman approach unto any beast, and lie down thereto, thou shalt kill the woman, and the beast: they shall surely be put to death; their blood *shall be* upon them.
17. And if a man shall take his sister, his father's daughter, or his mother's daughter, and see her nakedness, and she see his nakedness; it *is* a wicked thing; and they shall be cut off in the sight of their people: he hath uncovered his sister's nakedness; he shall bear his iniquity.
18. And if a man shall lie with a woman having her sickness and shall uncover her nakedness; he hath discovered her fountain, and she hath uncovered the fountain of her blood: and both of them shall be cut off from among their people.
19. And thou shalt not uncover the nakedness of thy mother's sister, nor of thy father's sister: for he uncovereth his near kin: they shall bear their iniquity.

20. And if a man shall lie with his uncle's wife, he hath uncovered his uncle's nakedness: they shall bear their sin; they shall die childless.
21. And if a man shall take his brother's wife, it *is* an unclean thing: he hath uncovered his brother's nakedness; they shall be childless.
22. Ye shall therefore keep all my statutes, and all my judgments, and do them: that the land, whither I bring you to dwell therein, spue you not out.

PURPOSE – To plea to all who are called by God's name, to humble themselves and pray and seek His face and turn from their wicked ways.

PRACTICAL POINT – The divine laws of God are holy, and they are the rules that man must live by every day.

GLOSSARY/COMMENTARY

1. Abomination – that which is detestable or repugnant before God; atrocious
2. Bands – something that binds, ties, or encircles
3. Familiar Spirit – an individual who consults the dead for information concerning the future
4. Occult – supernatural, mystical, or magical beliefs, practices, or phenomena:
5. Wickedness – morally bad, evil, or mischievous
6. Wizard – a magician or soccer who uses supernatural powers

DISCUSSION AND LESSON APPLICATIONS

It is a sin to be involved in the occult. The 1st Commandment warns us to serve no other gods but the “true and living God.” Individuals who place personal desires before placing their trust in Almighty God is denying the ability of our all-powerful God. . This lesson addresses persons who engage in demonic worship by daily living by horoscopes, going to psychic readers to have their fortunes told, readings by tarot cards, and attending seances . Trust in familiar spirits, wizards, withes, and warlords indicates loss of faith in God.

The world has taken demonic spirits to produce movies, designer clothes, playing video games , and modeling haircuts of these demons, thereby bewitching the minds of young and old alike as they become millionaires from ill-gotten gains. We must remember to cast all your cares upon God because He cares for us. (1 Peter 5:7). Let us follow the pattern in the Word of God that teaches us how to ” loose the bands of wickedness...”

Isaiah 58:6-7, “*Is not this the fast that I have chosen? To loose the bands of wickedness, to undo the heavy burdens, and to let the oppressed go free, and that ye break every yoke? Is it not to deal thy bread to the hungry, and that thou bring the poor that are cast out to thy house? when thou seest the naked, that thou cover him; and that thou hide not thyself from thine own flesh?*”

MEMORY VERSE: Genesis 6:5 And GOD saw that the wickedness of man *was* great in the earth, and *that* every imagination of the thoughts of his heart *was* only evil continually.

IMMORALITY REBUKED

MOTTO TEXT: Proverbs 2:16 To deliver thee from the strange woman, *even* from the stranger *which* flattereth with her words

ENTIRE LESSON: Proverbs 4:1-27 and Proverbs 5:1-10**Proverbs 4:1-27**

1. I Hear, ye children, the instruction of a father, and attend to know understanding.
2. For I give you good doctrine, forsake ye not my law.
3. For I was my father's son, tender and only *beloved* in the sight of my mother.
4. He taught me also, and said unto me, Let thine heart retain my words: keep my commandments, and live.
5. Get wisdom, get understanding: forget *it* not; neither decline from the words of my mouth.
6. Forsake her not, and she shall preserve thee: love her, and she shall keep thee.
7. Wisdom *is* the principal thing; *therefore* get wisdom: and with all thy getting get understanding.
8. Exalt her, and she shall promote thee: she shall bring thee to honour, when thou dost embrace her.
9. She shall give to thine head an ornament of grace: a crown of glory shall she deliver to thee.
10. Hear, O my son, and receive my sayings; and the years of thy life shall be many.
11. I have taught thee in the way of wisdom; I have led thee in right paths.
12. When thou goest, thy steps shall not be straitened; and when thou runnest, thou shalt not stumble.
13. Take fast hold of instruction; let *her* not go: keep her; for she *is* thy life.
14. Enter not into the path of the wicked, and go not in the way of evil *men*.
15. Avoid it, pass not by it, turn from it, and pass away.
16. For they sleep not, except they have done mischief; and their sleep is taken away, unless they cause *some* to fall.
17. For they eat the bread of wickedness, and drink the wine of violence.
18. But the path of the just *is* as the shining light, that shineth more and more unto the perfect day.
19. The way of the wicked *is* as darkness: they know not at what they stumble.
20. My son, attend to my words; incline thine ear unto my sayings.
21. Let them not depart from thine eyes; keep them in the midst of thine heart.
22. For they *are* life unto those that find them, and health to all their flesh.
23. Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it *are* the issues of life.
24. Put away from thee a froward mouth, and perverse lips put far from thee.
25. Let thine eyes look right on, and let thine eyelids look straight before thee.
26. Ponder the path of thy feet, and let all thy ways be established.
27. Turn not to the right hand nor to the left: remove thy foot from evil.

Proverbs 5:1-10

1. My son, attend unto my wisdom, *and* bow thine ear to my understanding:
2. That thou mayest regard discretion, and *that* thy lips may keep knowledge.
3. For the lips of a strange woman drop *as* an honeycomb, and her mouth *is* smoother than oil:

4. But her end is bitter as wormwood, sharp as a twoedged sword.
5. Her feet go down to death; her steps take hold on hell.
6. Lest thou shouldest ponder the path of life, her ways are moveable, *that* thou canst not know *them*.
7. Hear me now therefore, O ye children, and depart not from the words of my mouth.
8. Remove thy way far from her, and come not nigh the door of her house:
9. Lest thou give thine honour unto others, and thy years unto the cruel:
10. Lest strangers be filled with thy wealth; and thy labours *be* in the house of a stranger.

PURPOSE – To give proper instructions to sons.

PRACTICAL APPLICATION – Obedience is better than sacrifice.

GLOSSARY/COMMENTARY

1. Diligence – careful and persistent work or effort
2. Embrace – to hold closely
3. Immorality – immoral quality, character, or conduct; wickedness, evilness
4. Rebuked – express sharp disapproval or criticism of (someone) because of their behavior or actions.
5. Wisdom – knowledge, and the capacity to make good use of it.

DISCUSSION AND LESSON APPLICATIONS

Proverbs has a lot to say about an important word in the English language: wisdom. It was written by the wisest man in history, King Solomon. I Kings 4:29 says, “And God gave Solomon wisdom and understanding exceeding much, and largeness of heart, even as the sand that is on the sea shore.” Wisdom does not come from the world we live in. Wisdom comes from God.

The Bible says in Proverbs 4:6-7, Forsake her not, (wisdom) and she shall preserve thee; love her, and she shall keep thee. Wisdom is the principal thing therefore get wisdom and with all thy getting get understanding. We might think our way is the right way, but we must trust in the Lord with all our heart and not our own understanding. In all of our ways, the Lord wants us to acknowledge Him, and He promised that He will direct our paths.

Remember if we walk in God’s righteousness and obey His Word our journey becomes brighter and there is no stumbling. As lesson says, attend to the father’s words, and don’t let them depart from our heart. (Verses 18,19, 20)

MEMORY VERSE: 1 Samuel 12:23 Moreover as for me, God forbid that I should sin against the LORD in ceasing to pray for you: but I will teach you the good and the right way.

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THE SPIRIT OF PROPHECY

MOTTO TEXT: Revelation 19:10 And I fell at his feet to worship him. And he said unto me, See thou do it not: I am thy fellowservant, and of thy brethren that have the testimony of Jesus: worship God: for the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.

ENTIRE LESSON: 1 Corinthians 14:23-33

23. If therefore the whole church be come together into one place, and all speak with tongues, and there come in those that are unlearned, or unbelievers, will they not say that ye are mad?
24. But if all prophesy, and there come in one that believeth not, or one unlearned, he is convinced of all, he is judged of all:
25. And thus are the secrets of his heart made manifest; and so falling down on his face he will worship God, and report that God is in you of a truth.
26. How is it then, brethren? when ye come together, every one of you hath a psalm, hath a doctrine, hath a tongue, hath a revelation, hath an interpretation. Let all things be done unto edifying.
27. If any man speak in an unknown tongue, let it be by two, or at the most by three, and that by course; and let one interpret.
28. But if there be no interpreter, let him keep silence in the church; and let him speak to himself, and to God.
29. Let the prophets speak two or three, and let the other judge.
30. If any thing be revealed to another that sitteth by, let the first hold his peace.
31. For ye may all prophesy one by one, that all may learn, and all may be comforted.
32. And the spirits of the prophets are subject to the prophets.
33. For God is not the author of confusion, but of peace, as in all churches of the saints.

PURPOSE – To teach that God is not the author of confusion, but of peace and that all things must be done decently and in order.

PRACTICAL POINT – Prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Ghost (Neh. 6:7; 2 Pet. 1:21; Luke 16:16).

GLOSSARY/COMMENTARY

Prophecy is the spoken or written Word from God that informs us. It is a forecast, a prediction or a projection. We have learned from Revelation 19:10c, that “**the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.**” The Revelation, in chapter 22, verses 18 and 19, warns not to add, neither take away from the written words that were already spoken. Ecclesiastes 1:9 already said, “There is no *new thing* under the sun.” **Fear and relate what God has already said!**

1. Prophecy – spoken or written Word from God.
2. Prophet – the messenger of God that delivers the prophecy.
3. Prognostic – prophetic, predictive as to how a given situation will develop.

DISCUSSION AND LESSON APPLICATIONS

1. What are some of the properties of a God-given prophecy?
2. Discuss some ways a prophecy can be considered negative?

3. Can you think of any prophecies in God's Word? Name and discuss prophecies of old.
4. What is the appointment given in Nehemiah 6:7?
 "And thou hast also **appointed prophets to preach** of thee at Jerusalem, saying, *There is* a king in Judah: and now shall it be reported to the king according to these words. Come now therefore, and let us take counsel together.
5. What are some ways to preach/teach that are not vocalized?
 Allow the students to list the ways of how we dress, manner of conversation, accept hurt or unkind words, etc. Emphasize being a 'living testimony' of Jesus.
6. How can a righteous lifestyle not be consumed with man's justification of living ungodly when you cannot stand still and be the example that it can be done according to God's law? Or, rather, the teaching that if it is all right with you or your leader, it is all right with the church? Refer to Genesis 19:15 and 17 to guide your answer.
7. Did you not know that God will allow a false prophet or dreamer's prophecy to happen just as a proof of our love and obedience to God when He told us to never listen? Validate your reply from Deuteronomy 13: 1-5.

MEMORY VERSE: 1 Corinthians 14:37 If any man think himself to be a prophet, or spiritual, let him acknowledge that the things that I write unto you are the commandments of the Lord.

LESSON 68

NOVEMBER 19, 2023

THANKSGIVING LESSON THANK YOU, LORD

MOTTO TEXT: 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 Rejoice evermore. Pray without ceasing. In everything give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.

ENTIRE LESSON: Luke 17:11-19

11. And it came to pass, as he went to Jerusalem, that he passed through the midst of Samaria and Galilee.
12. And as he entered into a certain village, there met him ten men that were lepers, which stood afar off:
13. And they lifted up *their* voices, and said, Jesus, Master, have mercy on us.
14. And when he saw *them*, he said unto them, Go shew yourselves unto the priests. And it came to pass, that, as they went, they were cleansed.
15. And one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, and with a loud voice glorified God,
16. And fell down on *his* face at his feet, giving him thanks: and he was a Samaritan.
17. And Jesus answering said, were there not ten cleansed? but where *are* the nine?
18. There are not found that returned to give glory to God, save this stranger.
19. And he said unto him, Arise, go thy way: thy faith hath made thee whole.

PURPOSE = To give thanks unto the Lord, for his goodness and his love endures forever.

PRACTICAL POINT = Thanksgiving means more than turkey, cranberries, and sweet potato pie. Thanksgiving Day reminds us that God is blessing us every day, not just the annual holiday.

GLOSSARY/COMMENTARY

1. Cleansed – make (something, especially the skin) thoroughly clean,
2. Glorified – to bestow honor, praise or admiration
3. Lepers – a person with a disease that ate away at a person's flesh, they were separated from people and forced to live alone, an outcast.
4. Mercy – compassion or forgiveness shown toward someone whom it is within one's power to punish.
5. Village – a group of houses and associated building, larger than a hamlet and smaller than a town, situated in a rural area.

DISCUSSION AND LESSON APPLICATIONS

Jesus shows no prejudice toward those with an infectious disease that causes them to be treated as an outcast. When they saw Jesus, they addressed Him as Master and asked Him to have mercy on them. Jesus, when He saw them, told them to go and shew yourselves unto the priests.

Only the priests, according to Jewish law, can declare a person healed of leprosy – clean and fit to re-enter society (Leviticus 14). The scripture reads, (verse 14) and it came to pass, that as they went, they were cleansed. Out of the ten that were, cleansed only one came back, fell at the feet of Jesus giving Him thanks and with a loud voice glorifying God. We all have something to be thankful for. Don't wait until November 24th to give God thanks. He blesses His people every day!

10 Reasons to Give God *THANKS*

1. When you wake up in the morning, give Him thanks!
2. When you start your morning prayers, give Him thanks!
3. When you see that your family is safe, give Him thanks!
4. When you ask God to heal your body, give Him thanks in advance!
5. When He protects you from danger seen and unseen, give Him thanks!
6. When you and your family members return home from school, give Him thanks!
7. When you have a job to go to, give Him thanks!
8. When you understand His unconditional love for you, give Him thanks!
9. When you think about His faithfulness, give Him thanks!
10. When you think about His forgiveness, give Him thanks!

MEMORY VERSE: Psalm 7:17 I will praise the LORD according to his righteousness: and will sing praise to the name of the LORD most high.

MY RESPONSIBILITY OF KEEPING MYSELF

MOTTO TEXT: Galatians 5:22-23 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law.

ENTIRE LESSON: James 3:1-18

1. My brethren, be not many masters, knowing that we shall receive the greater condemnation.
2. For in many things we offend all. If any man offend not in word, the same *is* a perfect man, *and* able also to bridle the whole body.
3. Behold, we put bits in the horses' mouths, that they may obey us; and we turn about their whole body.
4. Behold also the ships, which though *they be* so great, and *are* driven of fierce winds, yet are they turned about with a very small helm, whithersoever the governor listeth.
5. Even so the tongue is a little member, and boasteth great things. Behold, how great a matter a little fire kindleth!
6. And the tongue *is* a fire, a world of iniquity: so is the tongue among our members, that it defileth the whole body, and setteth on fire the course of nature; and it is set on fire of hell.
7. For every kind of beasts, and of birds, and of serpents, and of things in the sea, is tamed, and hath been tamed of mankind:
8. But the tongue can no man tame; *it is* an unruly evil, full of deadly poison.
9. Therewith bless we God, even the Father; and therewith curse we men, which are made after the similitude of God.
10. Out of the same mouth proceedeth blessing and cursing. My brethren, these things ought not so to be.
11. Doth a fountain send forth at the same place sweet *water* and bitter?
12. Can the fig tree, my brethren, bear olive berries? either a vine, figs? so *can* no fountain both yield salt water and fresh.
13. Who *is* a wise man and endued with knowledge among you? let him shew out of a good conversation his works with meekness of wisdom.
14. But if ye have bitter envying and strife in your hearts, glory not, and lie not against the truth.
15. This wisdom descendeth not from above, but *is* earthly, sensual, devilish.
16. For where envying and strife *is*, there *is* confusion and every evil work.
17. But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, *and* easy to be intreated, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality, and without hypocrisy.
18. And the fruit of righteousness is sown in peace of them that make peace.

PURPOSE – To show that the Holy Ghost does not behave itself unseemly. But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and *be* ready always to *give* an answer to every man that ask you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear. 1 Peter 3:15

PRACTICAL POINT – In practicing self-control let your speech *be* always with grace, seasoned with salt, that you may know how you ought to answer every man. Colossians 4:6 Remember, a soft answer turns away wrath: but grievous words stir up anger. Proverbs 15:1

GLOSSARY/COMMENTARY

1. Be careful about taking on the role of “Master”. An immature Christian will undermine God’s message.
2. Keeping myself means to do what I can do to have self-control. However, we can’t spiritually keep ourselves without the Holy Ghost.
3. The tongue can kill a person spiritually and emotionally, like deadly poison kills naturally.
4. The Holy Ghost will produce the fruit of the Spirit, which is faith, gentleness, goodness, joy, love, longsuffering, meekness, peace, and temperance. Discuss individually.

DISCUSSION AND LESSON APPLICATIONS

1. In what ways can the tongue kill a person, relationship, or country, like a deadly poison?
2. What are some good ways that God can use what we say?
3. Give examples of a conversation that is pure, peace-loving, gentle, compliant, full of mercy, and without favoritism and hypocrisy.
4. Can blessings and cursing come from the same tongue?

MEMORY VERSE: 2 Peter 1:5-6 And beside this, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue; and to virtue knowledge; And to knowledge temperance; and to temperance patience; and to patience godliness.

LESSON 70

DECEMBER 3, 2023

GOD IS NOT THE AUTHOR OF CONFUSION

MOTTO TEXT: 1 Corinthians 14:33 For God is not *the author* of confusion, but of peace, as in all churches of the saints.

ENTIRE LESSON: 1 Corinthians 1:1-18

1. Paul, called *to be* an apostle of Jesus Christ through the will of God, and Sosthenes *our* brother,
2. Unto the church of God which is at Corinth, to them that are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called *to be* saints, with all that in every place call upon the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, both theirs and ours:
3. Grace *be* unto you, and peace, from God our Father, and *from* the Lord Jesus Christ.
4. I thank my God always on your behalf, for the grace of God which is given you by Jesus Christ;
5. That in every thing ye are enriched by him, in all utterance, and *in* all knowledge;
6. Even as the testimony of Christ was confirmed in you:

7. So that ye come behind in no gift; waiting for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ:
8. Who shall also confirm you unto the end, *that ye may be* blameless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.
9. God is faithful, by whom ye were called unto the fellowship of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord.
10. Now I beseech you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye all speak the same thing, and *that* there be no divisions among you; but *that* ye be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment.
11. For it hath been declared unto me of you, my brethren, by them *which are of the house* of Chloe, that there are contentions among you.
12. Now this I say, that every one of you saith, I am of Paul; and I of Apollos; and I of Cephas; and I of Christ.
13. Is Christ divided? was Paul crucified for you? or were ye baptized in the name of Paul?
14. I thank God that I baptized none of you, but Crispus and Gaius;
15. Lest any should say that I had baptized in mine own name.
16. And I baptized also the household of Stephanas: besides, I know not whether I baptized any other.
17. For Christ sent me not to baptize, but to preach the gospel: not with wisdom of words, lest the cross of Christ should be made of none effect.
18. For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God.

PURPOSE – To bring about peace and unity in the church and free the church from confusion and division within its ranks.

PRACTICAL POINT – Where envying and strife is, there is confusion and every evil work.

GLOSSARY/COMMENTARY

1. Confusion – Difficulty in understanding or in being able to tell one thing from a similar thing; a feeling or state of uncertainty
2. Division – The act, process, or an instance of separating or keeping apart
3. Peace – Calm, quiet, free from disturbances.
4. Unity – The quality or state of being made one

DISCUSSION AND LESSON APPLICATIONS

“United we stand” and “divided we fall”. Unity promotes or brings peace, division promotes or brings confusion. Paul had to write a letter to the Church at Corinth due to confusion existing among the saints of God and within the Church. They were picking and choosing who they were followers of. Competition should not exist in God’s house. Picking and choosing your favorite preacher, leader, thinking you have the best choir, etc. should not exist amongst the saints.

Leaders and those in God’s house who have spiritual gifts should not use them to cause dissension, chaos, or confusion in the Church. God is not the author of confusion. Philippians 2:3, “Let nothing be done through strife or vainglory; but in lowliness of mind let each esteem other better than themselves.” There shall never be a Mason-Dixon Line, nor a middle wall of petition, nor any division or separation or difference of any description between the Saints and Churches, Decree book page 58.

1. Matthew 5:9 “Blessed are the peacemakers; for they shall be called the children of God. Are you a peacemaker? How can you be a peacemaker and keep confusion from hindering you from doing the will of God?”
2. God wants us to have the mind of Christ. When we have the mind of Christ, we will work together in love and unity so that God will be glorified in all that we do. “If any man speak, let him speak as the oracles of God; if any man minister, let him do it as of the ability which God giveth: that God in all things may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom be praise and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.” I Peter 4:11

MEMORY VERSE: Psalm 71:1 In thee, O LORD, do I put my trust: let me never be put to confusion.

LESSON 71

DECEMBER 10, 2023

DECISIONS, DECISIONS THE HOLY GHOST BRINGS ABOUT A GLORIOUS CHANGE PURIFYING OUR HEARTS BY FAITH

MOTTO TEXT: Joel 3:14 Multitudes, multitudes in the valley of decision: for the day of the LORD *is* near in the valley of decision.

ENTIRE LESSON: Acts 15:7-17

7. And when there had been much disputing, Peter rose up, and said unto them, Men *and* brethren, ye know how that a good while ago God made choice among us, that the Gentiles by my mouth should hear the word of the gospel and believe.
8. And God, which knoweth the hearts, bare them witness, giving them the Holy Ghost, even as *he did* unto us;
9. And put no difference between us and them, purifying their hearts by faith.
10. Now therefore why tempt ye God, to put a yoke upon the neck of the disciples, which neither our fathers nor we were able to bear?
11. But we believe that through the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ we shall be saved, even as they.
12. Then all the multitude kept silence, and gave audience to Barnabas and Paul, declaring what miracles and wonders God had wrought among the Gentiles by them.
13. And after they had held their peace, James answered, saying, Men *and* brethren, hearken unto me:
14. Simeon hath declared how God at the first did visit the Gentiles, to take out of them a people for his name.
15. And to this agree the words of the prophets; as it is written,
16. After this I will return, and will build again the tabernacle of David, which is fallen down; and I will build again the ruins thereof, and I will set it up:
17. That the residue of men might seek after the Lord, and all the Gentiles, upon whom my name is called, saith the Lord, who doeth all these things.

PURPOSE – To realize that the day of the Lord is near, but God has given us a choice to choose life or death, and to declare what we will do with the remaining days of our lives.

PRACTICAL POINT – Be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what *is* that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God (Romans 12:2).

GLOSSARY/COMMENTARY

1. Decision – A determination arrived at after consideration. (Conclusion).
2. Deliverance – The act of delivering someone or something, liberation or rescue.
3. Miracles and wonders – Performed through Barnabas and Paul through God's.
4. Divine intervention – when God has interceded in someone's behalf.
5. Purify – To clean or make new.

DISCUSSION AND LESSON APPLICATIONS

1. What kind of changes does the Holy Ghost bring and is the Holy Ghost available to all?
2. What does it mean to be conformed to this world?
3. What does it mean to be transformed by the renewing of your mind?
4. How do we purify our hearts?

MEMORY VERSE: Joel 1:15 Alas for the day! for the day of the LORD *is* at hand, and as a destruction from the Almighty shall it come.

LESSON 72

DECEMBER 17, 2023

UNWISE DECISIONS CAN BE DANGEROUS

MOTTO TEXT: Genesis 3:7 And the eyes of them both were opened, and they knew that they *were* naked; and they sewed fig leaves together, and made themselves aprons.

ENTIRE LESSON: Genesis 3:1-24

1. Now the serpent was more subtil than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made. And he said unto the woman, Yea, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden?
2. And the woman said unto the serpent, we may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden:
3. But of the fruit of the tree, which *is* in the midst of the garden, God hath said, Ye shall not eat of it, neither shall ye touch it, lest ye die.
4. And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die:
5. For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil.
6. And when the woman saw that the tree *was* good for food, and that it *was* pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make *one* wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat.
7. And the eyes of them both were opened, and they knew that they *were* naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves aprons.
8. And they heard the voice of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day: and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God amongst the trees of the garden.

9. And the LORD God called unto Adam, and said unto him, Where *art* thou?
10. And he said, I heard thy voice in the garden, and I was afraid, because I *was* naked; and I hid myself.
11. And he said, who told thee that thou *wast* naked? Hast, thou eaten of the tree, whereof I commanded thee that thou shouldest not eat?
12. And the man said, the woman whom thou gavest *to be* with me, she gave me of the tree, and I did eat.
13. And the LORD God said unto the woman, what *is* this *that* thou hast done? And the woman said, the serpent beguiled me, and I did eat.
14. And the LORD God said unto the serpent, because thou hast done this, thou *art* cursed above all cattle, and above every beast of the field; upon thy belly shalt thou go, and dust shalt thou eat all the days of thy life:
15. And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel.
16. Unto the woman he said, I will greatly multiply thy sorrow and thy conception; in sorrow thou shalt bring forth children; and thy desire *shall be* to thy husband, and he shall rule over thee.
17. And unto Adam he said, because thou hast hearkened unto the voice of thy wife, and hast eaten of the tree, of which I commanded thee, saying, Thou shalt not eat of it: cursed *is* the ground for thy sake; in sorrow shalt thou eat *of* it all the days of thy life;
18. Thorns also and thistles shall it bring forth to thee; and thou shalt eat the herb of the field;
19. In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread, till thou return unto the ground; for out of it wast thou taken: for dust thou *art*, and unto dust shalt thou return.
20. And Adam called his wife's name Eve; because she was the mother of all living.
21. Unto Adam also and to his wife did the LORD God make coats of skins, and clothed them.
22. And the LORD God said, Behold, the man is become as one of us, to know good and evil: and now, lest he put forth his hand, and take also of the tree of life, and eat, and live for ever:
23. Therefore the LORD God sent him forth from the garden of Eden, to till the ground from whence he was taken.
24. So he drove out the man; and he placed at the east of the garden of Eden Cherubims, and a flaming sword which turned every way, to keep the way of the tree of life.

PURPOSE – To show that God's Word can be a matter of life and death.

PRACTICAL POINT – One unwise decision can follow you the rest of your life.

GLOSSARY/COMMENTARY

1. Temptation means to entice.
2. Disobedience is a refusal to obey.
3. Temptation and Disobedience will always lead to unwise decisions.
4. Dangerous consequences can also occur when we decide to be disobedient due to family or peer pressure.

DISCUSSION AND LESSON APPLICATIONS

1. What are some ways people can pressure a person into being disobedient?
2. How can we avoid negative peer pressure?

3. Why did God ask Adam “Where art thou” while Adam was in the Garden of Eden?
4. What dangerous consequences occurred because of Adam’s unwise decisions?

MEMORY VERSE: Galatians 5:19-22 Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are *these*; Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness, Idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies, Envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings, and such like: of the which I tell you before, as I have also told *you* in time past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God.

LESSON 73

DECEMBER 24, 2023

CHRISTMAS LESSON
UNTO US A CHILD IS BORN, UNTO US A SON IS GIVEN

MOTTO TEXT: Isaiah 9:6 For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.

ENTIRE LESSON: Luke 2:1-20

1. And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus, that all the world should be taxed.
2. (*And this taxing was first made when Cyrenius was governor of Syria.*)
3. And all went to be taxed, every one into his own city.
4. And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judaea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem; (because he was of the house and lineage of David:)
5. To be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child.
6. And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered.
7. **7** And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn.
8. And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night.
9. And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid.
10. And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people.
11. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, which is Christ the Lord.
12. And this *shall be* a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger.
13. And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying,
14. Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.
15. And it came to pass, as the angels were gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds said one to another, let us now go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass, which the Lord hath made known unto us.

16. And they came with haste, and found Mary, and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger.
17. And when they had seen *it*, they made known abroad the saying which was told them concerning this child.
18. And all they that heard *it* wondered at those things which were told them by the shepherds.
19. But Mary kept all these things and pondered *them* in her heart.
20. And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen, as it was told unto them.

PURPOSE – To acknowledge Jesus Christ as Lord, the Anointed Savior.

PRACTICAL POINT – Even today, we still rejoice and celebrate the birth of Jesus.

GLOSSARY/COMMENTARY

1. Afflicted – When someone has caused you to feel grievous pain or suffering
2. Pondering – To think about; reflect on. Let's do like Mary and reflect on these things.
3. Rejoice – To celebrate! Let's be excited about the birth of our Lord and Savior!
4. Savior – Someone who rescues or saves another person from danger. God is the ultimate Savior in our life.
5. Transgression – Violation against God's law; Sin.

DISCUSSION AND LESSON APPLICATIONS

1. What are the names that Jesus was given in our lesson?
2. What does the birth of Jesus mean to you?
3. What would have been our fate if Jesus were not born?

MEMORY VERSE: Isaiah 9:7 Of the increase of *his* government and peace *there shall be* no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even forever. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will perform this.

LESSON 74

DECEMBER 31, 2023

COME NOW, AND LET US REASON TOGETHER

MOTTO TEXT: Isaiah 1:18 Come now, and let us reason together, saith the Lord: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool.

ENTIRE LESSON: Luke 17:1-10

1. Then said he unto the disciples, It is impossible but that offences will come: but woe *unto him*, through whom they come!
2. It were better for him that a millstone were hanged about his neck, and he cast into the sea, than that he should offend one of these little ones.
3. Take heed to yourselves: If thy brother trespass against thee, rebuke him; and if he repents, forgive him.

4. And if he trespasses against thee seven times in a day, and seven times in a day turn again to thee, saying, I repent; thou shalt forgive him.
5. And the apostles said unto the Lord, Increase our faith.
6. And the Lord said, if ye had faith as a grain of mustard seed, ye might say unto this sycamine tree, Be thou plucked up by the root, and be thou planted in the sea; and it should obey you.
7. But which of you, having a servant plowing or feeding cattle, will say unto him by and by, when he is come from the field, Go and sit down to meat?
8. And will not rather say unto him, make ready wherewith I may sup, and gird thyself, and serve me, till I have eaten and drunken; and afterward thou shalt eat and drink?
9. Doth he thank that servant because he did the things that were commanded him? I trow not.
10. So likewise ye, when ye shall have done all those things which are commanded you, say, we are unprofitable servants: we have done that which was our duty to do.

PURPOSE – To encourage the true Saints of God to all speak the same thing, and *that* there be no divisions among us; but *that* we be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment.

PRACTICAL POINT – Before we lose our salvation, let us work and reason together, for it is written I have not found thy works perfect before God.

GLOSSARY/COMMENTARY

1. Offense – Something that outrages or insults someone. A person can be offended by words spoken, unspoken, gestures, expressions, etc.
2. Reason – To talk with another to influence actions or opinions. All involved must be willing to communicate in order to come to a resolution.
3. Repent – To ask for forgiveness after you have done something wrong. Without repentance, there is no remission (forgiveness) of sins.

DISCUSSION AND LESSON APPLICATIONS

1. What should I do if I'm offended by someone?
2. What should I do if I offend someone?
3. What does the lesson say about forgiveness?
4. What are some steps to avoid division and work toward resolution?

MEMORY VERSE: James 3:2 For in many things we offend all. If any man offend not in word, the same is a perfect man, *and* able also to bridle the whole body.

NEW YEAR'S LESSON
PRAYING FOR GOD TO CHANGE MY HEART

MOTTO TEXT: Psalm 37:8 Cease from anger and forsake wrath: fret not thyself in any wise to do evil.

ENTIRE LESSON: PSALM 51:10-19

10. Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me.
11. Cast me not away from thy presence; and take not thy holy spirit from me.
12. Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation; and uphold me *with thy* free spirit.
13. *Then* will I teach transgressors thy ways; and sinners shall be converted unto thee.
14. Deliver me from bloodguiltiness, O God, thou God of my salvation: *and* my tongue shall sing aloud of thy righteousness.
15. O Lord, open thou, my lips; and my mouth shall shew forth thy praise.
16. For thou desirest not sacrifice; else would I give *it*: thou delightest not in burnt offering.
17. The sacrifices of God *are* a broken spirit: a broken and a contrite heart, O God, thou wilt not despise.
18. Do good in thy good pleasure unto Zion: build thou the walls of Jerusalem.
19. Then shalt thou be pleased with the sacrifices of righteousness, with burnt offering and whole burnt offering: then shall they offer bullocks upon thine altar.

PURPOSE – To begin the New Year with Love in our heart, and to be kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God has forgiven us.

PRACTICAL POINT – Do not begin the new year with evil thoughts. For out of the heart proceed evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, blasphemies: These are *the things* which defile a man. Matthew 15:19-20

GLOSSARY/COMMENTARY

1. Bloodguiltiness – the state or fact of being guilty of murder or bloodshed.
2. Bullocks – a young bull or steer, usually raised for beef.
3. Contrite – to show sincere remorse, regret or feeling genuinely sorry.
4. Restore – bring back to a previous state.
5. Transgressor – someone or something that violates the law; to go beyond a set boundary or limit.

DISCUSSION AND LESSON APPLICATIONS

1. Why did David asked for a clean heart and a renewed spirit? *Answer Individually*
2. What are some of the sacrifices you've made to honor God?
3. Have you ever experienced a moment where you desired God to change your heart?
4. Are there any specific things that you look to do differently this year, that you may not have accomplished last year?

MEMORY VERSE: Psalm 139:23-24 Search me, O God, and know my heart: try me, and know my thoughts: And see if *there be any* wicked way in me and lead me in the way everlasting.

THEME VI
GOD'S UNDENIABLE LOVE FOR MANKIND
For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son,
that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.
For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world;
but that the world through him might be saved.

John 3:16-17
LESSONS 76-90

LESSON 76

JANUARY 14, 2024

JESUS HAS POWER TO FORGIVE SIN

MOTTO TEXT: Luke 5:23-24 Whether is easier, to say, Thy sins be forgiven thee; or to say, Rise up and walk? But that ye may know that the Son of man hath power upon earth to forgive sins, (he said unto the sick of the palsy,) I say unto thee, Arise, and take up thy couch, and go into thine house.

ENTIRE LESSON: Luke 5:17-27

17. And it came to pass on a certain day, as he was teaching, that there were Pharisees and doctors of the law sitting by, which were come out of every town of Galilee, and Judaea, and Jerusalem: and the power of the Lord was *present* to heal them.
18. And, behold, men brought in a bed a man which was taken with a palsy: and they sought *means* to bring him in, and to lay *him* before him.
19. And when they could not find by what *way* they might bring him in because of the multitude, they went upon the housetop, and let him down through the tiling with *his* couch into the midst before Jesus.
20. And when he saw their faith, he said unto him, Man, thy sins are forgiven thee.
21. And the scribes and the Pharisees began to reason, saying, Who is this which speaketh blasphemies? Who can forgive sins, but God alone?
22. But when Jesus perceived their thoughts, he answering said unto them, What reason ye in your hearts?
23. Whether is easier, to say, Thy sins be forgiven thee; or to say, Rise up and walk?
24. But that ye may know that the Son of man hath power upon earth to forgive sins, (he said unto the sick of the palsy,) I say unto thee, Arise, and take up thy couch, and go into thine house.
25. And immediately he rose up before them, and took up that whereon he lay, and departed to his own house, glorifying God.
26. And they were all amazed, and they glorified God, and were filled with fear, saying, We have seen strange things to day.
27. And after these things he went forth, and saw a publican, named Levi, sitting at the receipt of custom: and he said unto him, Follow me.

PURPOSE – To let the world know that Jesus has all power and that he stands ready to forgive us for all our sins.

PRACTICAL POINT – Lord help me to live holy, that I may be ready when you return.

GLOSSARY/COMMENTARY

1. Condemn – to express complete disapproval of something or someone.
2. Publican – a Jewish tax collector for the ancient Romans.
3. Scribes – in biblical times, they had knowledge of the law and could draft legal documentation.
4. Undeniable – plainly true; unable to be denied or disputed.

DISCUSSION AND LESSON APPLICATIONS

1. Our subject states that, “*Jesus has the Power to Forgive Sin*” according to our Motto Text, where do the Son of man have this power?
2. What is palsy compared to in the era we now live in?
3. What is the main point that you received from the lesson today? *Answer Individually*
4. **IMPORTANT TAKE AWAY:** When you are faced with obstacles or situations, as the man sick with palsy, always remember that there is always a way to get to Jesus, surround yourself with good loyal friends that will be able to support you, pray with you and that have the same tenacity in getting you to the place of safety and healing, even if it means taking extreme measures.

MEMORY VERSE: 2 Chronicles 7:14 If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land.

LESSON 77

JANUARY 21, 2024

LOVE LIFTED ME

MOTTO TEXT: John 15:13 Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends.

ENTIRE LESSON: Romans 8:28-39

28. And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to *his* purpose.
29. For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate *to be* conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren.
30. Moreover whom he did predestinate, them he also called: and whom he called, them he also justified: and whom he justified, them he also glorified.
31. What shall we then say to these things? If God *be* for us, who *can be* against us?
32. He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not with .him also freely give us all things?
33. Who shall lay any thing to the charge of God's elect? *It is* God that justifieth.
34. Who *is* he that condemneth? *It is* Christ that died, yea rather, that is risen again, who is even at the right hand of God, who also maketh intercession for us.
35. Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? *shall* tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?
36. As it is written, for thy sake we are killed all the day long; we are accounted as sheep for the slaughter.

37. Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us.
38. For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come,
39. Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

PURPOSE – To show that the fruit of the spirit is love, and that the Lord your God will rejoice over you and lift you up with gladness and quiet you by His love.

PRACTICAL APPLICATION – Love worketh no ill to his neighbor. You shall love your neighbor as yourself and we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to *his* purpose. Love is the fulfilling of the law.

GLOSSARY/COMMENTARY

7. Predestinate – the doctrine that God has eternally chosen those whom He intends to save.
8. Justifieth – the change in a person’s condition moving from a state of sin to a state of righteousness.
9. Intercession – the act of praying on the behalf of oneself or others.
10. Tribulation – a bad event that causes trouble or suffering.
11. Persuaded – to be convinced or to believe something, especially after a sustained effort.

DISCUSSION AND LESSON APPLICATIONS

And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God. This lesson starts with the great confidence, not doubting, that we have in God *knowing* that ALL things work according to His plan and purpose. God knew and loved us before the foundation of the earth and He has chosen us to be conformed to the image of His son and Those He predestined, He also justified.

Nothing can separate us from God’s love is a verse that cannot be taken lightly. You will be faced with many challenges in this life and this lesson will help you conquer the trials and tribulations have to endure. Calamity, hurt, persecution, famine or distress does not mean that God don’t love us, it means we have to trust Him and never doubt His love for us. Many people turn away from God and run to drugs, alcohol or even suicide, thinking that this will ease the pain when in fact it is harmful to us physically and spiritually.

Verses 38 and 39 hits the ball out of the park. For I am persuaded, meaning, I am convinced, confident with no disbelief, skepticism or uncertainty that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present (fears and anxiety), nor things to come (worries about tomorrow), Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us (to be apart) from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord. Every distortion mentioned in these two verses whether it be visible or invisible, a feeling or a thought, God will, through His word combined with the confidence in Him, you shall be lifted in love.

MEMORY VERSE: Deuteronomy 7:9 Know therefore that the LORD thy God, he *is* God, the faithful God, which keepeth covenant and mercy with them that love him and keep his commandments to a thousand generations.

WHEN YOU NEED A BLESSING FROM GOD

MOTTO TEXT: Revelation 3:17-18 Because thou sayest, I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing; and knowest not that thou art wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked: I counsel thee to buy of me gold tried in the fire, that thou mayest be rich; and white raiment, that thou mayest be clothed, and *that* the shame of thy nakedness do not appear; and anoint thine eyes with eyesalve, that thou mayest see.

ENTIRE LESSON: Deuteronomy 28:1-13

1. And it shall come to pass, if thou shalt hearken diligently unto the voice of the LORD thy God, to observe *and* to do all his commandments which I command thee this day, that the LORD thy God will set thee on high above all nations of the earth:
2. And all these blessings shall come on thee, and overtake thee, if thou shalt hearken unto the voice of the LORD thy God.
3. Blessed *shalt* thou *be* in the city, and blessed *shalt* thou *be* in the field.
4. Blessed *shall be* the fruit of thy body, and the fruit of thy ground, and the fruit of thy cattle, the increase of thy kine, and the flocks of thy sheep.
5. Blessed *shall be* thy basket and thy store.
6. Blessed *shalt* thou *be* when thou comest in, and blessed *shalt* thou *be* when thou goest out.
7. The LORD shall cause thine enemies that rise up against thee to be smitten before thy face: they shall come out against thee one way, and flee before thee seven ways.
8. The LORD shall command the blessing upon thee in thy storehouses, and in all that thou settest thine hand unto; and he shall bless thee in the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee.
9. The LORD shall establish thee an holy people unto himself, as he hath sworn unto thee, if thou shalt keep the commandments of the LORD thy God, and walk in his ways.
10. And all people of the earth shall see that thou art called by the name of the LORD; and they shall be afraid of thee.
11. And the LORD shall make thee plenteous in goods, in the fruit of thy body, and in the fruit of thy cattle, and in the fruit of thy ground, in the land which the LORD sware unto thy fathers to give thee.
12. The LORD shall open unto thee his good treasure, the heaven to give the rain unto thy land in his season, and to bless all the work of thine hand: and thou shalt lend unto many nations, and thou shalt not borrow.
13. And the LORD shall make thee the head, and not the tail; and thou shalt be above only, and thou shalt not be beneath; if that thou hearken unto the commandments of the LORD thy God, which I command thee this day, to observe and to do *them*.

PURPOSE – To praise God from whom all blessings flow and recognize Him as the giver of all our blessings.

PRACTICAL POINT – Listen to the voice of God, and be blessed beyond measure and divinely favored.

GLOSSARY/COMMENTARY

1. Establish – to set up on a firm or permanent basis; (*such as a law*).
2. Kine – the old-fashioned word for cow.
3. Observe – to notice or discern someone or something, seeing it as being significant.
4. White Raiment – an article of clothing symbolizing purity and cleanliness.
5. Wretched – a miserable person, vile or in a state of great misfortune.

DISCUSSION AND LESSON APPLICATIONS

1. The prerequisite, meaning the requirement needed for something else to happen or exist in today's lesson are as follows; (a) hearken diligently; (b) observe and do all his commandments; (c) the Lord will set you higher than all the nations of the earth.
2. You will experience a windfall of blessings; these blessings are a promise to come unexpectedly and suddenly.
3. After establishing you as his own (*a holy people*) wherever you go on this earth, people will know who you belong to.
4. You will be well respected, you won't look like the things you've been through, all because of your obedience to the one from whom all blessings flow.

MEMORY VERSE: Isaiah 40:31 But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew *their* strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; *and* they shall walk, and not faint.

LESSON 79

FEBRUARY 4, 2024

SINCERE WORSHIP ACCOMPANIED BY GODLY MUSIC

MOTTO TEXT: Colossians 3:16 Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.

ENTIRE LESSON: Colossians 3:1-17

1. If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God.
2. Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth.
3. For ye are dead, and your life is hid with Christ in God.
4. When Christ, *who is* our life, shall appear, then shall ye also appear with him in glory.
5. Mortify therefore your members which are upon the earth; fornication, uncleanness, inordinate affection, evil concupiscence, and covetousness, which is idolatry:
6. For which things' sake the wrath of God cometh on the children of disobedience:
7. In the which ye also walked some time, when ye lived in them.
8. But now ye also put off all these; anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy communication out of your mouth.
9. Lie not one to another, seeing that ye have put off the old man with his deeds;
10. And have put on the new *man*, which is renewed in knowledge after the image of him that created him:

11. Where there is neither Greek nor Jew, circumcision nor uncircumcision, Barbarian, Scythian, bond *nor* free: but Christ *is* all, and in all.
12. Put on therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, bowels of mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, longsuffering;
13. Forbearing one another, and forgiving one another, if any man have a quarrel against any: even as Christ forgave you, so also *do* ye.
14. And above all these things *put on* charity, which is the bond of perfectness.
15. And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to the which also ye are called in one body; and be ye thankful.
16. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.
17. And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, *do* all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him.

PURPOSE: To encourage the saints to put difference between holy and unholy music, and to worship God in spirit and in truth.

PRACTICAL POINT: Do not compromise your music nor yourself for fame, money, popularity, and self-glory. The love of money is the root of all evil.

GLOSSARY/COMMENTARY

1. Accompanied – to be in association with something or someone.
2. Barbarian – someone perceived to be uncivilized or primitive; a thug.
3. Blasphemy – the lack of showing reverence for God; profane talk.
4. Evil Concupiscence – when humanity do evil or violate the will of God.
5. Forbearing – merciful; to restrain an impulse to do something wrong.

DISCUSSION AND LESSON APPLICATIONS

1. Colossians encourages us to examine our walk and dedication to God and to check our spiritual temperatures, to get a diagnosis of how sincere our worship really is.
2. There were many problems that the church at Colossae needed to address. We are experiencing similar problems and challenges today as believers in our church. Let us examine our lives and allow God's love to transform us.
3. When we worship the true and living God, we should always be clothed in righteousness, we can then be assured that our worship and music will be in alignment with the will of God.
4. What is the best way to know if your worship is sincere and accompanied by Godly music? (*Answer Individually*)

MEMORY VERSE: Ephesians 5:19 Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord.

A SERVANT WORTHY OF DOUBLE HONOR

MOTTO TEXT: 1 Timothy 5:17-18 Let the elders that rule well be counted worthy of double honour, especially they who labour in the word and doctrine. For the scripture saith, Thou shalt not muzzle the ox that treadeth out the corn. And, The labourer *is* worthy of his reward.

ENTIRE LESSON: 1 Timothy 5:17-25

17. Let the elders that rule well be counted worthy of double honour, especially they who labour in the word and doctrine.
18. For the scripture saith, Thou shalt not muzzle the ox that treadeth out the corn. And, The labourer *is* worthy of his reward.
19. Against an elder receive not an accusation, but before two or three witnesses.
20. Them that sin rebuke before all, that others also may fear.
21. I charge *thee* before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, and the elect angels, that thou observe these things without preferring one before another, doing nothing by partiality.
22. Lay hands suddenly on no man, neither be partaker of other men's sins: keep thyself pure.
23. Drink no longer water, but use a little wine for thy stomach's sake and thine often infirmities.
24. Some men's sins are open beforehand, going before to judgment; and some *men* they follow after.
25. Likewise also the good works *of some* are manifest beforehand; and they that are otherwise cannot be hid.

PURPOSE – To give double honor to those leaders who labor in the faith and doctrine when teaching and preaching God's Word.

PRACTICAL POINT – Go into the vineyard and work...Whatsoever is right, I'll pay.

GLOSSARY/COMMENTARY

1. Doctrine – a set of beliefs held and taught by a Church.
2. Infirmities – physical or mental weakness; the condition of being feeble.
3. Manifest – proof or the evidence of something.
4. Muzzle – preventing someone from expressing themselves freely; suppress.

DISCUSSION AND LESSON APPLICATIONS

1. According to *verse 17*, what does it mean to be worthy of double honor?
2. What is the significance of Paul's instructions to Timothy in *verse 19* mean?
3. In *verse 23*, Paul said, "Drink no longer water, but use wine," what was the reasoning for this advice?
4. Our lesson speaks of God's servants that are worthy of double honor, most importantly let us remember as aspiring leaders, we should be good and faithful stewards over the gifts that God place within us, so that we will obtain a crown of life. (Revelation 2:10)

MEMORY VERSE: Luke 14:21-23 So that servant came, and shewed his lord these things. Then the master of the house being angry said to his servant, Go out quickly into the streets and lanes of the city, and bring in hither the poor, and the maimed, and the halt, and the blind. And the servant said, Lord, it is done as thou hast commanded, and yet there is room. And the lord said unto the servant, Go out into the highways and hedges, and compel *them* to come in, that my house may be filled.

LESSON 81

FEBRUARY 18, 2024

WINE FORBIDDEN IN THE WORD OF GOD

MOTTO TEXT: Judges 13:4 Now therefore beware, I pray thee, and drink not wine nor strong drink, and eat not any unclean thing.

ENTIRE LESSON: Jeremiah 35:1-19

1. The word which came unto Jeremiah from the LORD in the days of Jehoiakim the son of Josiah king of Judah, saying,
2. Go unto the house of the Rechabites, and speak unto them, and bring them into the house of the LORD, into one of the chambers, and give them wine to drink.
3. Then I took Jaazaniah the son of Jeremiah, the son of Habaziah, and his brethren, and all his sons, and the whole house of the Rechabites;
4. And I brought them into the house of the LORD, into the chamber of the sons of Hanan, the son of Igdaliah, a man of God, which *was* by the chamber of the princes, which *was* above the chamber of Maaseiah the son of Shallum, the keeper of the door:
5. And I set before the sons of the house of the Rechabites pots full of wine, and cups, and I said unto them, Drink ye wine.
6. But they said, We will drink no wine: for Jonadab the son of Rechab our father commanded us, saying, Ye shall drink no wine, *neither ye*, nor your sons for ever:
7. Neither shall ye build house, nor sow seed, nor plant vineyard, nor have *any*: but all your days ye shall dwell in tents; that ye may live many days in the land where ye *be* strangers.
8. Thus have we obeyed the voice of Jonadab the son of Rechab our father in all that he hath charged us, to drink no wine all our days, we, our wives, our sons, nor our daughters;
9. Nor to build houses for us to dwell in: neither have we vineyard, nor field, nor seed:
10. But we have dwelt in tents, and have obeyed, and done according to all that Jonadab our father commanded us.
11. But it came to pass, when Nebuchadrezzar king of Babylon came up into the land, that we said, Come, and let us go to Jerusalem for fear of the army of the Chaldeans, and for fear of the army of the Syrians: so we dwell at Jerusalem.
12. Then came the word of the LORD unto Jeremiah, saying,
13. Thus saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel; Go and tell the men of Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem, Will ye not receive instruction to hearken to my words? Saith the LORD.

14. The words of Jonadab the son of Rechab, that he commanded his sons not to drink wine, are performed; for unto this day they drink none, but obey their father's commandment: notwithstanding I have spoken unto you, rising early and speaking; but ye hearkened not unto me.
15. I have sent also unto you all my servants the prophets, rising up early and sending *them*, saying, Return ye now every man from his evil way, and amend your doings, and go not after other gods to serve them, and ye shall dwell in the land which I have given to you and to your fathers: but ye have not inclined your ear, nor hearkened unto me.
16. Because the sons of Jonadab the son of Rechab have performed the commandment of their father, which he commanded them; but this people hath not hearkened unto me:
17. Therefore thus saith the LORD God of hosts, the God of Israel; Behold, I will bring upon Judah and upon all the inhabitants of Jerusalem all the evil that I have pronounced against them: because I have spoken unto them, but they have not heard; and I have called unto them, but they have not answered.
18. And Jeremiah said unto the house of the Rechabites, Thus saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel; Because ye have obeyed the commandment of Jonadab your father, and kept all his precepts, and done according unto all that he hath commanded you:
19. Therefore thus saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel; Jonadab the son of Rechab shall not want a man to stand before me for ever.

PURPOSE – To show that we must separate ourselves from wine and strong drink, and shall drink no vinegar of wine, or vinegar of strong drink, neither shall we drink any liquor of grapes, nor eat moist grapes, or dried (Num. 6:3).

PRACTICAL POINT – Wash and make yourself clean. Put away the evil of your doings from before my eyes; cease to do evil; Learn to do well; seek judgment, relieve the oppressed, judge the fatherless, plead for the widow (Isa. 1:16-17).

GLOSSARY/COMMENTARY

1. Forbidden-something not allowed or banned
2. Obey-to comply with a command or instruction; to submit to authority.
3. Strong drink-alcohol, especially liquor
4. Undeniable-plainly true; unquestionably excellent or genuine
5. Wine-alcoholic drink from fermented grape juice

DISCUSSION AND LESSON APPLICATIONS

When something is forbidden it is not meant for us to partake of, engage in, or have anything to do with. However, the forbidden “fruit” is often what we are drawn to. Why? God outlines many things in the Bible that are forbidden to protect us, and keep us separated from the world. In the text, the Rechabites receive instruction from their forefather that was passed down from generation to generation. Those instructions kept them, and allowed them to survive the challenges other nations fell to.

God warns and instructs us against the drinking of wine and strong drink. It is forbidden. Numbers 6:3 instructs us in the specifics of the forbidden drinks; wine, strong drink, vinegar of wine, vinegar of strong drink, as well as, the liquor of grapes, and that we are not to even eat of the grapes whether dried (raisin) or moist. God is very detailed in His instructions that we do not err, nor be confused. We must learn to obey God.

1. What prevents today's generation from listening to the warnings? Answer individually.
2. What are the benefits to listening to and paying attention to warnings? God's warnings?

MEMORY VERSE: Job 6:8 Oh that I might have my request; and that God would grant *me* the thing that I long for!

LESSON 82

FEBRUARY 25, 2024

A WARNING TO THE RIGHTEOUS AND TO THE WICKED

MOTTO TEXT: Ezekiel 3:17 Son of man, I have made thee a watchman unto the house of Israel: therefore hear the word at my mouth, **and give them warning from me.**

ENTIRE LESSON: Ezekiel 3:16-21

16. And it came to pass at the end of seven days, that the word of the LORD came unto me, saying,
17. Son of man, I have made thee a watchman unto the house of Israel: therefore hear the word at my mouth, and give them warning from me.
18. When I say unto the wicked, Thou shalt surely die; and thou givest him not warning, nor speakest to warn the wicked from his wicked way, to save his life; the same wicked *man* shall die in his iniquity; but his blood will I require at thine hand.
19. Yet if thou warn the wicked, and he turn not from his wickedness, nor from his wicked way, he shall die in his iniquity; but thou hast delivered thy soul.
20. Again, When a righteous *man* doth turn from his righteousness, and commit iniquity, and I lay a stumblingblock before him, he shall die: because thou hast not given him warning, he shall die in his sin, and his righteousness which he hath done shall not be remembered; but his blood will I require at thine hand.
21. Nevertheless if thou warn the righteous *man*, that the righteous sin not, and he doth not sin, he shall surely live, because he is warned; also thou hast delivered thy soul.

PURPOSE – To warn the wicked and the righteous against the coming judgement of God and against committing iniquity.

PRACTICAL POINT – If you warn the righteous person not to sin, and he does not commit sin, he shall surely live because he adhered to the warning. By giving him the warning, you will have delivered your own soul (Ezek. 13:21).

GLOSSARY/COMMENTARY

1. Appease – to give in or pacify someone's demand
2. Righteous – morally right, virtuous
3. Warning – give advance notice of possible or impending danger
4. Watchman – one employed to look out or spy; one directed to keep guard

DISCUSSION AND LESSON APPLICATIONS

Most people have received a warning at some time or another. Maybe a warning for talking too much in school; maybe a warning for being late; possibly warned of a future punishment. What do we do with a warning? Do we pay attention? Do we believe the person warning us? Ezekiel was a prophet tasked to warn the people of God of their pending punishment. God had appointed him as a watchman; due to their disobedience they often found themselves in trouble. Too often people hear a warning and either do not listen or get defensive, upset. Warnings are a blessing. How is a warning a blessing? If God were not so merciful, kind, and loving he could allow one to die in their sins. God does not have to warn people or send watchmen to look out for souls.

When God sends a warning, it is important to pay attention and make the needed changes. We do not want God to appease us. Appeasing us, is Gods permissive will, not his desire, but ours. We also do not want to be responsible for not giving warnings we are tasked to share one.

1. What was Ezekiel called to do according to verse seventeen in the text?
2. Who was Ezekiel told to direct this message to? A. The righteous and the wicked of Gods coming judgment.
3. Have you ever been guilty of not warning someone that you should have warned? What was the result? (Answer individually)

MEMORY VERSE: 2 Thessalonians 2:11-12 And for this cause God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie: That they all might be damned who believed not the truth, but had pleasure in unrighteousness.

LESSON 83

MARCH 3, 2024

YOUTH DAY

AVOID IT, PASS NOT BY IT, TURN FROM IT, LEAVE IT ALONE

MOTTO TEXT: Proverbs 4:14-15 Enter not into the path of the wicked, and go not in the way of evil *men*. Avoid it, pass not by it, turn from it, and pass away.

ENTIRE LESSON: Proverbs 4:1-15

1. Hear, ye children, the instruction of a father, and attend to know understanding.
2. For I give you good doctrine, forsake ye not my law.
3. For I was my father's son, tender and only *beloved* in the sight of my mother.
4. He taught me also, and said unto me, Let thine heart retain my words: keep my commandments, and live.
5. Get wisdom, get understanding: forget *it* not; neither decline from the words of my mouth.
6. Forsake her not, and she shall preserve thee: love her, and she shall keep thee.
7. Wisdom *is* the principal thing; *therefore* get wisdom: and with all thy getting get understanding.
8. Exalt her, and she shall promote thee: she shall bring thee to honour, when thou dost embrace her.

9. She shall give to thine head an ornament of grace: a crown of glory shall she deliver to thee.
10. Hear, O my son, and receive my sayings; and the years of thy life shall be many.
11. I have taught thee in the way of wisdom; I have led thee in right paths.
12. When thou goest, thy steps shall not be straitened; and when thou runnest, thou shalt not stumble.
13. Take fast hold of instruction; let *her* not go: keep her; for she *is* thy life.
14. Enter not into the path of the wicked, and go not in the way of evil *men*.
15. Avoid it, pass not by it, turn from it, and pass away.

PURPOSE – To abstain from all appearance of evil in every form.

PRACTICAL POINT – Shun (hate) the evil. Leave it alone. Love the good. (Ref. Amos 5:15). Follow righteousness, godliness, faith, love, peace, and meekness with them that call on the Lord out of a pure heart.

GLOSSARY/COMMENTARY

1. Exalt – to place at a high or powerful level; held in high regard
2. Instruction – Directions or order; detailed information telling how something should be done, operated, assembled or carried out.
3. Wicked – evil or morally wrong
4. Wisdom – the quality of having experience, knowledge and good judgement
5. Understanding – having comprehension; the power to use make experience apply to concepts

DISCUSSION AND LESSON APPLICATIONS

King Solomon is credited for writing the book of Proverbs. In the text he is highlighting wisdom, not just obtaining it, but the importance of listening and abiding by what wisdom has to offer. The text tells us to “exalt her.” Her being wisdom. Wisdom is often shared by those who have experienced a situation, they have foresight, and sound knowledge that has been acquired and applied to help in life’s journey. Wisdom should not be shunned, nor dismissed.

Wisdom from others, is important to helping us gain understanding from the Word and in our Christian walk. Solomon was called the wisest man that ever lived. That means he gained a great deal of knowledge through experience, more importantly, he learned how to apply the knowledge to his walk. That is wisdom. It is often easy to shun the instructions of others, feeling as though they cannot relate to what we may be going through. But listen, the wisdom gained from experience can and will keep one out of many ditches.

1. Make a list of places you have learned to avoid? Answer individually
2. What kind of people should you avoid? Answer individually
3. What kind of conversations should we avoid? Answer individually
4. According to the text, “_____ is the principal thing, get _____ and with all thy getting get _____.” (Verse 7)
5. How do we avoid the path of the wicked? (Verse 15)

MEMORY VERSE: 2 Peter 2:21 For it had been better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, than, after they have known *it*, to turn from the holy commandment delivered unto them.

ANOINT ME LORD WITH THE HOLY GHOST

MOTTO TEXT: Acts 10:38 How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with power: who went about doing good, and healing all that were oppressed of the devil; for God was with him.

ENTIRE LESSON: Acts 10:34-48

34. Then Peter opened *his* mouth, and said, Of a truth I perceive that God is no respecter of persons:
35. But in every nation he that feareth him, and worketh righteousness, is accepted with him.
36. The word which *God* sent unto the children of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ: (he is Lord of all:)
37. That word, *I say*, ye know, which was published throughout all Judaea, and began from Galilee, after the baptism which John preached;
38. How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with power: who went about doing good, and healing all that were oppressed of the devil; for God was with him.
39. And we are witnesses of all things which he did both in the land of the Jews, and in Jerusalem; whom they slew and hanged on a tree:
40. Him God raised up the third day, and shewed him openly;
41. Not to all the people, but unto witnesses chosen before of God, *even* to us, who did eat and drink with him after he rose from the dead.
42. And he commanded us to preach unto the people, and to testify that it is he which was ordained of God *to be* the Judge of quick and dead.
43. To him give all the prophets witness, that through his name whosoever believeth in him shall receive remission of sins.
44. While Peter yet spake these words, the Holy Ghost fell on all them which heard the word.
45. And they of the circumcision which believed were astonished, as many as came with Peter, because that on the Gentiles also was poured out the gift of the Holy Ghost.
46. For they heard them speak with tongues, and magnify God. Then answered Peter,
47. Can any man forbid water, that these should not be baptized, which have received the Holy Ghost as well as we?
48. And he commanded them to be baptized in the name of the Lord. Then prayed they him to tarry certain days.

PURPOSE: To feel the power of the Holy Ghost under the anointing of God.

PRACTICAL POINT: Only under the anointing can we truly lift up Jesus.

GLOSSARY/COMMENTARY

1. Anoint – to choose by or as if by divine election; to apply oil to as part of a religious ceremony.
2. Tarry – to wait; to delay leaving a place.
3. Witness – one having knowledge of or from personal observation or experience

DISCUSSION AND LESSON APPLICATIONS

1. God is not a respecter of persons.
2. The anointing of the Holy Ghost will empower you to be a witness of His power.
3. The anointing of the Holy Ghost will make you do “good” to others.
4. The anointing of the Holy Ghost gives one power to lift up Jesus.
5. The anointing of the Holy Ghost will release you from the oppression of the devil.
6. If you want the Holy Ghost, seek, wait (tarry), and receive. It is yours for the asking.

MEMORY VERSE: 2 Corinthians 1:21-22 Now he which stablisheth us with you in Christ, and hath anointed us, *is* God; Who hath also sealed us, and given the earnest of the Spirit in our hearts.

LESSON 85

MARCH 17, 2024

WHY CAN'T I LIVE HOLY?

MOTTO TEXT: Ecclesiastes 8:11 Because sentence against an evil work is not executed speedily, therefore the heart of the sons of men is fully set in them to do evil.

ENTIRE LESSON: Romans 8:1-14

1. *There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.*
2. For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death.
3. For what the law could not do, in that it was weak through the flesh, God sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and for sin, condemned sin in the flesh:
4. That the righteousness of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.
5. For they that are after the flesh do mind the things of the flesh; but they that are after the Spirit the things of the Spirit.
6. For to be carnally minded *is* death; but to be spiritually minded *is* life and peace.
7. Because the carnal mind *is* enmity against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be.
8. So then they that are in the flesh cannot please God.
9. But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his.
10. And if Christ *be* in you, the body *is* dead because of sin; but the Spirit *is* life because of righteousness.
11. But if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you.
12. Therefore, brethren, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live after the flesh.
13. For if ye live after the flesh, ye shall die: but if ye through the Spirit do mortify the deeds of the body, ye shall live.
14. For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God.

PURPOSE – To show that by denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we can live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world.

PRACTICAL POINT – Always strive to please God in your flesh. For I know that in me (that is, in my flesh,) dwelleth no good thing (Rom. 7:18; 2 Cor. 10:3).

GLOSSARY/COMMENTARY

1. Carnal – relating to or given to bodily and/or worldly pleasures.
2. Condemnation – the expression of very strong disapproval.
3. Debtor – a person or institution that owes a sum of money.
4. Enmity – the state of being actively opposed or hostile to someone or something.
5. Sober – serious, sensible, and solemn; to be free from alcoholism.

DISCUSSION AND LESSON APPLICATIONS

1. Living Holy requires a changed heart, “The heart of man is deceitful and desperately wicked; who can know it?” (Jer. 17: 9)
2. Should we be seeking freedom from sin? (Answer individually)
3. What does seeking freedom from sin look like according to the text? (Answer individually)
4. In order for one to be free from condemnation, who must we be in? A. (Christ Jesus)
5. What does walking after the Spirit vs. walking after the flesh look like? (Class discussion)

MEMORY VERSE: Romans 6:19 I speak after the manner of men because of the infirmity of your flesh: for as ye have yielded your members servants to uncleanness and to iniquity unto iniquity; even so now yield your members servants to righteousness unto holiness.

LESSON 86

MARCH 24, 2024

PALM SUNDAY VICTORY IN JERUSALEM

MOTTO TEXT: John 12:12-13 On the next day much people that were come to the feast, when they heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem, took branches of palm trees and went forth to meet him, and cried, Hosanna: Blessed is the King of Israel that cometh in the name of the Lord.

ENTIRE LESSON: John 12:12-33

12. On the next day much people that were come to the feast, when they heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem,
13. Took branches of palm trees, and went forth to meet him, and cried, Hosanna: Blessed is the King of Israel that cometh in the name of the Lord.
14. And Jesus, when he had found a young ass, sat thereon; as it is written,
15. Fear not, daughter of Sion: behold, thy King cometh, sitting on an ass's colt.

16. These things understood not his disciples at the first: but when Jesus was glorified, then remembered they that these things were written of him, and *that* they had done these things unto him.
17. The people therefore that was with him when he called Lazarus out of his grave, and raised him from the dead, bare record.
18. For this cause the people also met him, for that they heard that he had done this miracle.
19. The Pharisees therefore said among themselves, Perceive ye how ye prevail nothing? behold, the world is gone after him.
20. And there were certain Greeks among them that came up to worship at the feast:
21. The same came therefore to Philip, which was of Bethsaida of Galilee, and desired him, saying, Sir, we would see Jesus.
22. Philip cometh and telleth Andrew: and again Andrew and Philip tell Jesus.
23. And Jesus answered them, saying, The hour is come, that the Son of man should be glorified.
24. Verily, verily, I say unto you, Except a corn of wheat fall into the ground and die, it abideth alone: but if it die, it bringeth forth much fruit.
25. He that loveth his life shall lose it; and he that hateth his life in this world shall keep it unto life eternal.
26. If any man serve me, let him follow me; and where I am, there shall also my servant be: if any man serve me, him will *my* Father honour.
27. Now is my soul troubled; and what shall I say? Father, save me from this hour: but for this cause came I unto this hour.
28. Father, glorify thy name. Then came there a voice from heaven, *saying*, I have both glorified *it*, and will glorify *it* again.
29. The people therefore, that stood by, and heard *it*, said that it thundered: others said, An angel spake to him.
30. Jesus answered and said, This voice came not because of me, but for your sakes.
31. Now is the judgment of this world: now shall the prince of this world be cast out.
32. And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all *men* unto me.
33. This he said, signifying what death he should die.

PURPOSE – To show Victory in Jerusalem. Jesus said, I have glorified thee on earth, I have finished the work which thou sent me to do. The victory is life eternal.

PRACTICAL POINT – We must manifest His name and lift Him up. We know that He is coming again, therefore, be ready.

GLOSSARY/COMMENTARY

1. Bare record – revealed, made known. Those who were with Jesus when he raised Lazarus from the dead made known what they witnessed. We can also give testimonies and be witnesses to the works of the Lord to others.
2. Eternal: everlasting, never-ending, lasting for all time without beginning or end. As followers of Christ, our goal is life eternal, therefore, we must live holy and righteously on this earth.
3. Hosanna – used as a cry of acclamation and adoration of praise to God. As Jesus rode in triumph through the streets of Jerusalem, He was given accolades recognizing Him as deity. All glory and honor belong to Him.
4. Manifest – easily understood or recognized by the mind; All of the prophecies about Jesus were fulfilled and recognized following his passion.

5. Ought – to question or inquire; a request for information or for a reply, on a rising intonation. We ought to be ready to give an answer to those who ask us about our hope in the Lord.
6. Prevail – conquer, successful, to prove to be stronger and in the position of greater influence and power. Death and the grave will not prevail over those who are truly saved.

DISCUSSION AND LESSON APPLICATIONS

1. The citizens of Jerusalem heard that Jesus was coming through Jerusalem. What do you think prompted them to desire to see him? Would you do all that you could to see Jesus if He was coming to your city?
Allow a Class discussion.
2. **Studying** the Bible helps us to prepare for the soon coming king. How are you making preparation to meet him?
Answer: God's Word reveals to the believer all that is needed to be ready when Jesus comes. Other information can be discussed.
3. When others desired to see Jesus what do you think was their motivation?
Answer: They had heard about Jesus and wanted to see him for themselves.
4. How can we as Christians help to build the desire in others to see Jesus?
The class can make suggestions and discuss them.
5. As Jesus rode through the streets of Jerusalem, the people put their coats in the streets and waved palm branches and cried hosanna to the highest, but they also cried crucify him before his crucifixion. What thoughts go through your minds about this?
Answer: Some of the crowd could have participated in his victorious ride out of curiosity and others could have been genuinely happy to see him. However, even today there are those who will seek the Lord when in trouble but will deny him when danger arises. Talk about other reasons.

MEMORY VERSE: Matthew 21:5-7 Tell ye the daughter of Sion, Behold, thy King cometh unto thee, meek and sitting upon an ass, and a colt the foal of an ass. And the disciples went, and did as Jesus commanded them, And brought the ass and the colt and put on them their clothes, and they set *him* thereon.

LESSON 87

MARCH 31, 2024

EASTER SUNDAY JESUS IS ALIVE TODAY

MOTTO TEXT: Job 19:25 For I know *that* my redeemer liveth, and *that* he shall stand at the latter *day* upon the earth.

ENTIRE LESSON: Mark 16:1-20

1. And when the sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the *mother* of James, and Salome, had bought sweet spices, that they might come and anoint him.
2. And very early in the morning the first *day* of the week, they came unto the sepulchre at the rising of the sun.

3. And they said among themselves, Who shall roll us away the stone from the door of the sepulchre?
4. And when they looked, they saw that the stone was rolled away: for it was very great.
5. And entering into the sepulchre, they saw a young man sitting on the right side, clothed in a long white garment; and they were affrighted.
6. And he saith unto them, Be not affrighted: Ye seek Jesus of Nazareth, which was crucified: he is risen; he is not here: behold the place where they laid him.
7. But go your way, tell his disciples and Peter that he goeth before you into Galilee: there shall ye see him, as he said unto you.
8. And they went out quickly, and fled from the sepulchre; for they trembled and were amazed: neither said they any thing to any *man*; for they were afraid.
9. Now when *Jesus* was risen early the first *day* of the week, he appeared first to Mary Magdalene, out of whom he had cast seven devils.
10. *And* she went and told them that had been with him, as they mourned and wept.
11. And they, when they had heard that he was alive, and had been seen of her, believed not.
12. After that he appeared in another form unto two of them, as they walked, and went into the country.
13. And they went and told *it* unto the residue: neither believed they them.
14. Afterward he appeared unto the eleven as they sat at meat, and upbraided them with their unbelief and hardness of heart, because they believed not them which had seen him after he was risen.
15. And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature.
16. He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned.
17. And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues;
18. They shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover.
19. So then after the Lord had spoken unto them, he was received up into heaven, and sat on the right hand of God.
20. And they went forth, and preached every where, the Lord working with *them*, and confirming the word with signs following. Amen.

PURPOSE – To let the world know that Jesus is not dead. He is the risen Savior and the grace of God is upon Him.

PRACTICAL POINT – Jesus is alive and well. He has prepared a place for those who love him and keep his commandments. He will return one day.

GLOSSARY/COMMENTARY

1. Damned – Condemned or doomed, especially to eternal punishment.
2. Redeemer – Is someone who repays, recovers, saves, or exchanges something for something else. Jesus Christ is our redeemer. He is our Savior, the Savior of the world.
3. Residue – That which remains after a part is taken, separated, removed, or designated.
4. Resurrection – the state of one risen from the dead
5. Sepulchre – A grave; a tomb.

6. Upbraided - Charged with something wrong or disgraceful; to find fault with someone or something.

DISCUSSION AND LESSON APPLICATIONS

As Christian believers, today we celebrate Easter, the resurrection of Jesus Christ. Instead of saying Happy Easter, some people say Happy Resurrection Day. Resurrection referring to being resurrected, coming back to life, rising from the dead. Jesus told his disciples and all who believed and followed him that he must suffer and die for our sins, and he will rise in three days.

Jesus kept His word and did just what He said He would do. Job said he knows his redeemer liveth. Is Jesus your redeemer? If so, how do you know he is alive today?

In order to rain with Jesus one day, we must believe in his resurrection. Before going back to Heaven Jesus made sure his disciples knew what their calling was. Mark 16:15-18 “And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned. And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues; they shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover”.

Jesus has spoken, will you be a witness for the Lord?

MEMORY VERSE: Philippians 2:8-9 And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross. Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name.

LESSON 88

APRIL 7, 2024

THERE IS HOPE, BE ENCOURAGED

MOTTO TEXT: Deuteronomy 3:28 But charge Joshua, and encourage him, and strengthen him: for he shall go over before this people, and he shall cause them to inherit the land which thou shalt see.

ENTIRE LESSON: 1 Thessalonians 3:1-13

1. Wherefore when we could no longer forbear, we thought it good to be left at Athens alone;
2. And sent Timotheus, our brother, and minister of God, and our fellowlabourer in the gospel of Christ, to establish you, and to comfort you concerning your faith:
3. That no man should be moved by these afflictions: for yourselves know that we are appointed thereunto.
4. For verily, when we were with you, we told you before that we should suffer tribulation; even as it came to pass, and ye know.
5. For this cause, when I could no longer forbear, I sent to know your faith, lest by some means the tempter have tempted you, and our labour be in vain.
6. But now when Timotheus came from you unto us, and brought us good tidings of your faith and charity, and that ye have good remembrance of us always, desiring greatly to see us, as we also *to see* you:

7. Therefore, brethren, we were comforted over you in all our affliction and distress by your faith:
8. For now we live, if ye stand fast in the Lord.
9. For what thanks can we render to God again for you, for all the joy wherewith we joy for your sakes before our God;
10. Night and day praying exceedingly that we might see your face, and might perfect that which is lacking in your faith?
11. Now God himself and our Father, and our Lord Jesus Christ, direct our way unto you.
12. And the Lord make you to increase and abound in love one toward another, and toward all *men*, even as we *do* toward you:
13. To the end he may stablish your hearts unblameable in holiness before God, even our Father, at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ with all his saints.

PURPOSE – To encourage, awaken, stimulate, and inspire the believer with hope and strength.

PRACTICAL POINT – Stir up the gift of God that is within you. Do not hesitate to cry aloud, sound the alarm, blow the trumpet, lift your voice, and let the world know that now is the time to turn unto the Lord and be obedient to His voice.

GLOSSARY/COMMENTARY

1. Abound – Thrive, flourish, prosper; be plentiful, be abundant. Where the love of God dwells. to be present in large numbers or quantities. As God’s love abound so should ours.
2. Afflictions – infirmities, weaknesses, difficulties, something that causes great physical or mental distress. Our afflictions may come to strengthen us.
3. Distress – pain, concern, hardship, torment, mental suffering, e.g., that caused by grief, anxiety, or unhappiness.
4. Forbear – restrain yourself, to tolerate something or someone with patience and endurance.
5. Verily – in truth. Verily, verily, I say unto you he that heareth my word and believe on him that sent me shall have everlasting life. (John 5:24)

DISCUSSION AND LESSON APPLICATIONS

1. Joshua was the leader of the Children of Israel after Moses. What kind of encouragement do you think he needed?
Allow the class to share their ideas.
2. Timothy was a young preacher. He was exhorted by the Apostle Paul to encourage himself. Who encourages you to do your best?
Urge the students to tell who encourages them to do their best.
3. Paul had a sincere desire to visit the saints at Thessalonica. Why did he feel this way? Paul heard of their faith and charity, and he wanted to help strengthen them in their faith.
4. Do you want your family and friends to prosper as you prosper?
The Bible teaches us to love our neighbor as ourselves, therefore, if you love yourself, you also want them to prosper as well.
5. When you keep your hope alive, God will give you strength and wisdom to endure your troubles that confront you. Do you genuinely believe this statement?

Sometimes troubles cause us to begin to doubt God's promises. Relate some ways you encourage yourselves through your troubles.

MEMORY VERSE: Philippians 4:6-7 Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

LESSON 89

APRIL 14, 2024

FAILING TO YIELD THE NEW LIFE TO GOD

MOTTO TEXT: Romans 7:7 What shall we say then? Is the law sin? *Is the law sin?* God forbid. Nay, I had not known sin, but by the law: for I had not known lust, except the law had said, Thou shalt not covet.

ENTIRE LESSON: Romans 6:11-23

11. Likewise reckon ye also yourselves to be dead indeed unto sin, but alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord.
12. Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, that ye should obey it in the lusts thereof.
13. Neither yield ye your members *as* instruments of unrighteousness unto sin: but yield yourselves unto God, as those that are alive from the dead, and your members *as* instruments of righteousness unto God.
14. For sin shall not have dominion over you: for ye are not under the law, but under grace.
15. What then? shall we sin, because we are not under the law, but under grace? God forbid.
16. Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness?
17. But God be thanked, that ye were the servants of sin, but ye have obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine which was delivered you.
18. Being then made free from sin, ye became the servants of righteousness.
19. I speak after the manner of men because of the infirmity of your flesh: for as ye have yielded your members servants to uncleanness and to iniquity unto iniquity; even so now yield your members servants to righteousness unto holiness.
20. For when ye were the servants of sin, ye were free from righteousness.
21. What fruit had ye then in those things whereof ye are now ashamed? for the end of those things *is* death.
22. But now being made free from sin, and become servants to God, ye have your fruit unto holiness, and the end everlasting life.
23. For the wages of sin *is* death; but the gift of God *is* eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

PURPOSE – To explain how we should yield our members to God

PRACTICAL POINT – When Pay Day comes, your pay will come from the one you served.

GLOSSARY/COMMENTARY

1. Dominion – ruling power, authority, or control over a territory or people.
2. Form of doctrine – a fixed set or order of words or procedures that is taught in the church.
3. Infirmary – disability, ailment, any medical condition that causes a lack of strength or vitality. The saints at Rome had some infirmities in their flesh so Paul taught them to assist their understanding of the doctrine that had been sent to them.
4. Reckon – consider, count yourselves to be done with sin but to be alive in Christ.
5. Yield – surrender, give in to. Don't use the members of your body to do evil (wrong), but use them to serve and bring forth fruit of righteousness unto God.

DISCUSSION AND LESSON APPLICATIONS

1. This lesson is Paul's letter to the church at Rome. What did he tell them about the law?

Answer: Paul told them that it is the law that lets you know what sin is. Name some of the words of the law.

2. When a believer begins to worship God, he must use the members of his body to righteousness and not to evil. Why is this true?

Allow a class discussion.

3. How should God's doctrine be obeyed?

Refer to verse seventeen of the Entire Lesson.

4. The believer who has submitted his life to holiness should not yield himself unto Satan, but unto God. Whomever he obeys that is the one whom he serves.

Beware of the voice you are listening to. How will you know God's voice?

5. The wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life. Who pays the wages?

Relate this to a natural job where you might work. Who pays your salaries? Let the class discuss their answers.

MEMORY VERSE: Galatians 3:24 Wherefore the law was our schoolmaster to bring us unto Christ, that we might be justified by faith.

SELF-DISCIPLINED TO REPRESENT GOD

MOTTO TEXT: **Galatians 5:22-23** But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law.

ENTIRE LESSON: James 3:1-18

1. My brethren, be not many masters, knowing that we shall receive the greater condemnation.
2. For in many things we offend all. If any man offend not in word, the same *is* a perfect man, *and* able also to bridle the whole body.
3. Behold, we put bits in the horses' mouths, that they may obey us; and we turn about their whole body.
4. Behold also the ships, which though *they be* so great, and *are* driven of fierce winds, yet are they turned about with a very small helm, whithersoever the governor listeth.
5. Even so the tongue is a little member, and boasteth great things. Behold, how great a matter a little fire kindleth!
6. And the tongue *is* a fire, a world of iniquity: so is the tongue among our members, that it defileth the whole body, and setteth on fire the course of nature; and it is set on fire of hell.
7. For every kind of beasts, and of birds, and of serpents, and of things in the sea, is tamed, and hath been tamed of mankind:
8. But the tongue can no man tame; *it is* an unruly evil, full of deadly poison.
9. Therewith bless we God, even the Father; and therewith curse we men, which are made after the similitude of God.
10. Out of the same mouth proceedeth blessing and cursing. My brethren, these things ought not so to be.
11. Doth a fountain send forth at the same place sweet *water* and bitter?
12. Can the fig tree, my brethren, bear olive berries? either a vine, figs? so *can* no fountain both yield salt water and fresh.
13. Who *is* a wise man and endued with knowledge among you? let him shew out of a friendly conversation his works with meekness of wisdom.
14. But if ye have bitter envying and strife in your hearts, glory not, and lie not against the truth.
15. This wisdom descendeth not from above, but *is* earthly, sensual, devilish.
16. For where envying and strife *is*, there *is* confusion and every evil work.
17. But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, *and* easy to be intreated, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality, and without hypocrisy.
18. And the fruit of righteousness is sown in peace of them that make peace.

PURPOSE — To show that the Holy Ghost does not behave itself unseemly. But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and *be* ready always to *give* an answer to every man that ask you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear. 1 Peter 3:15

PRACTICAL POINT — In practicing self-control let your speech *be* always with grace, seasoned with salt, that you may know how you ought to answer every man. Colossians

4:6 Remember, a soft answer turns away wrath: but grievous words stir up anger. Proverbs 15:1

GLOSSARY/COMMENTARY

1. Discipline – Self-control, restraint; the ability to behave in a controlled and calm way even in a difficult or stressful situation.
2. Condemnation – Disapproval, conviction, judgment; to serve as the proof that somebody is guilty or wrong.
3. Bridle – Control, keep in check: ships, boats and some animals are bridled to make them stop or steer them in the direction you want them to go.
4. Helm – The apparatus used to steer a ship, even during storms or severe winds.
5. Similitude – Resemblance, likeness, sameness; a form or semblance of somebody or something. Mankind was created in the similitude of God.
6. Endued – To empower somebody or something with an ability or quality; to give somebody power or authority. You will be endued with power from on high.

DISCUSSION AND LESSON APPLICATIONS

1. How does one discipline himself?
Answer: Self-discipline is being able to control one's actions and reactions to certain adverse situations.
2. The tongue is a small instrument in the body. Who can tame the tongue?
Answer: Students should discuss this question.
3. What are the many uses of the tongue? Fill in the blanks with answers.
We use the tongue to _____ and to _____ and to _____. Name other uses.
4. There will be times when you are questioned concerning the hope that you have in God, in the resurrection, in eternal life, etc. How do you respond?
Answer: The students may list their answers.
5. Sweet and bitter water cannot come out of the same fountain at the same time. How do you understand the meaning of this statement?
Allow and guide the students to reply to this statement.

MEMORY VERSE: 2 Peter 1:5-6 And beside this, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue; and to virtue knowledge; And to knowledge temperance; and to temperance patience; and to patience godliness.

THEME VII
THE TOIL AMID THE TOILS OF LIFE

Beloved, think it not strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened unto you: But rejoice, inasmuch as ye are partakers of Christ's sufferings; that, when his glory shall be revealed, ye may be glad also with exceeding joy.

1 Peter 4:12-13

LESSONS 91-104

LESSON 91

APRIL 28, 2024

FORGIVENESS

MOTTO TEXT: Acts 13:38 Be it known unto you therefore, men and brethren, that through this man is preached unto you the forgiveness of sins.

ENTIRE LESSON: Matthew 5:38-48

38. Ye have heard that it hath been said, An eye for an eye, and a tooth for a tooth:
39. But I say unto you, that ye resist not evil: but whosoever shall smite thee on thy right cheek, turn to him the other also.
40. And if any man will sue thee at the law, and take away thy coat, let him have *thy* cloke also.
41. And whosoever shall compel thee to go a mile, go with him twain.
42. Give to him that asketh thee, and from him that would borrow of thee turn not thou away.
43. Ye have heard that it hath been said, Thou shalt love thy neighbour, and hate thine enemy.
44. But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you;
45. That ye may be the children of your Father which is in heaven: for he maketh his sun to rise on the evil and on the good, and sendeth rain on the just and on the unjust.
46. For if ye love them which love you, what reward have ye? do not even the publicans the same?
47. And if ye salute your brethren only, what do ye more *than others*? do not even the publicans so?
48. Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect.

PURPOSE – To teach us that as we ask for forgiveness for our trespasses, we must also be willing to forgive others their trespasses.

PRACTICAL POINT – If thy brother trespass against thee, rebuke him; if he repents, forgive him (Matt. 18:15).

GLOSSARY/COMMENTARY

1. Cloke – A loose outer garment similar to a cape. Give your cloke to anyone who takes your coat.
2. Compel – to bring about something by the use of force or pressure. We should compel men and women to fill God's house. How is that done?

3. Converted – Changed, transformed, to adopt new opinions or beliefs, especially religious beliefs, or change the opinions or beliefs of somebody.
4. Forgive – Pardon, excuse, exonerate; to stop being angry about or resenting somebody or somebody's behavior. If we do not forgive, our Heavenly Father will not forgive us.
5. Represent – symbolize, stand for, be a symbol of. Believers represent God on this earth. Be careful how you live.
6. Smite – Hit, smack: If someone smacks you on one cheek, turn the other one.

DISCUSSION AND LESSON APPLICATIONS

1. When we become Godly sorry for our sins, God gives us the gift of the Holy Ghost. Therefore, we do not render evil for evil. How should we treat our enemies?
Answer: Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you.
2. In the Motto Text of the lesson, the writer is referring to Jesus who is teaching the forgiveness of sins. What qualified Jesus to teach forgiveness of sins?
Answer: Jesus' purpose for coming to earth was to shed his blood for the sins of the world. He automatically qualifies to teach forgiveness.
3. If you love only those who love you and lend only to those you know will pay you back, what reward do you have?
Answer: Students should make suggestions as to what the reward might be.
4. Why are we urged to be perfect?
Answer: We should be perfect because our Father in heaven is perfect. Are you striving for perfection?
5. There are many expectations in this lesson for the believer, name as many as you can.
Answer: Those teachings are named throughout this lesson.

MEMORY VERSE: *Psalm 32:1 Blessed is he whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered.*

LESSON 92

MAY 5, 2024

NATIONAL PRAYER DAY PRAYER IS ESSENTIAL

MOTTO TEXT: *1 Timothy 2:8 I will therefore that men pray everywhere, lifting up holy hands, without wrath and doubting.*

ENTIRE LESSON: 1 Timothy 2:1-8

1. I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, *and* giving of thanks, be made for all men;
2. For kings, and *for* all that are in authority; that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty.
3. For this *is* good and acceptable in the sight of God our Saviour;
4. Who will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth.
5. For *there is* one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus;

6. Who gave himself a ransom for all, to be testified in due time.
7. Whereunto I am ordained a preacher, and an apostle, (I speak the truth in Christ, *and* lie not;) a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and verity.
8. I will therefore that men pray every where, lifting up holy hands, without wrath and doubting.

PURPOSE – To be in close fellowship and communication with God through prayer.

PRACTICAL POINT – May we unite together in prayer before the Father of our Lord and savior Jesus Christ, asking for divine protection and for the safety and healing of His people.

GLOSSARY/COMMENTARY

1. Essential – Absolutely necessary; extremely important
2. Exhort – Strongly encourage or urge someone to do something
3. Intercession – The act of intervening on behalf of another
4. Prayer – Communication with God
5. Supplication – The act of asking or begging for something earnestly or humbly

DISCUSSION AND LESSON APPLICATIONS

Prayer is such an essential factor in the Christian's daily life. Our Church Decree states that "We Believe in Praying". Prayer is not only a form, but it is definitely a force! Prayer will help us to accomplish anything! We have the great privilege of taking everything to God in prayer. In our lesson, Apostle Paul urges Timothy and others to earnestly pray for all men. "I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks, be made for all men" (I Timothy 2:1).

Prayer not only helps the individual that is praying; but the power of prayer can potentially help our nation, our communities, our schools, and our homes. Prayer changes things! Please make the decision and commit today to let prayer be a top priority in your daily walk with God. Prayer is indispensable and without an argument, it is absolutely necessary.

1. Have you committed to making prayer a priority in your daily walk with God?
Class discussion
2. True or False.... Prayer will change things
3. True or False.... Prayer and supplications should be made for all men, Saints and sinners alike.
4. Where is it found in the Church General Decree that "We believe in Praying"?
General Decree Book page 32 and, page 65.
5. Why is prayer so important?
Have a class discussion.

MEMORY VERSE Numbers 6:24-26 The LORD bless thee and keep thee: The LORD make his face shine upon thee and be gracious unto thee: The LORD lift up his countenance upon thee and give thee peace.

**MOTHER'S DAY
A VIRTUOUS WOMAN**

MOTTO TEXT: Proverbs 31:10, 25 Who can find a virtuous woman? Her price *is* far above rubies. Strength and honour *are* her clothing; and she shall rejoice in time to come.

ENTIRE LESSON: Proverbs 31:10-31

10. Who can find a virtuous woman? for her price *is* far above rubies.
11. The heart of her husband doth safely trust in her, so that he shall have no need of spoil.
12. She will do him good and not evil all the days of her life.
13. She seeketh wool, and flax, and worketh willingly with her hands.
14. She is like the merchants' ships; she bringeth her food from afar.
15. She riseth also while it is yet night, and giveth meat to her household, and a portion to her maidens.
16. She considereth a field, and buyeth it: with the fruit of her hands she planteth a vineyard.
17. She girdeth her loins with strength, and strengtheneth her arms.
18. She perceiveth that her merchandise *is* good: her candle goeth not out by night.
19. She layeth her hands to the spindle, and her hands hold the distaff.
20. She stretcheth out her hand to the poor; yea, she reacheth forth her hands to the needy.
21. She is not afraid of the snow for her household: for all her household *are* clothed with scarlet.
22. She maketh herself coverings of tapestry; her clothing *is* silk and purple.
23. Her husband is known in the gates, when he sitteth among the elders of the land.
24. She maketh fine linen, and selleth *it*; and delivereth girdles unto the merchant.
25. Strength and honour *are* her clothing; and she shall rejoice in time to come.
26. She openeth her mouth with wisdom; and in her tongue *is* the law of kindness.
27. She looketh well to the ways of her household, and eateth not the bread of idleness.
28. Her children arise up, and call her blessed; her husband *also*, and he praiseth her.
29. Many daughters have done virtuously, but thou excellest them all.
30. Favour *is* deceitful, and beauty *is* vain: *but* a woman *that* feareth the LORD, she shall be praised.
31. Give her of the fruit of her hands; and let her own works praise her in the gates.

PURPOSE – To express the characteristics and qualities of a virtuous and godly woman.

PRACTICAL POINT – You shall love and honor your mother as the LORD your God has commanded you; that your days may be prolonged, and that it may go well with you.

GLOSSARY/COMMENTARY

1. Character – The mental and moral qualities distinctive to an individual.
2. Honor – High respect; great esteem.
3. Mother – A female parent.
4. Strength – The quality or state of being physically and mentally strong.
5. Virtuous – Having or showing high moral standards.

DISCUSSION AND LESSON APPLICATIONS

In today's lesson, we are strongly encouraged to honor our mothers. A mother is a female parent. Honor is giving respect to, and esteeming someone highly. Our lesson provides us with the characteristics of a godly woman and mother deserving of such great honor.

A virtuous woman has the following characteristics: She is honest; she is a hard worker; she is faithful and a crown to her husband (those who are married); she shows beauty on the inside as well as on the outside; she is a woman of strength, dignity, ability, and efficiency. She is valued far above rubies. Her worth is immeasurable.

Take time today to honor, respect, and love your mother. This needs to be done not only on Mother's Day, but every day of our lives. Our mothers do so much for us! They pray for us; they are truthful and always advocate for what is right.

Let us consider Exodus 20:12, and strive to live thereby, "Honour thy father and thy mother: that thy days may be long upon the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee.

MEMORY VERSE: Proverbs 31:30 Favour *is* deceitful, and beauty *is* vain: *but* a woman *that* feareth the LORD, she shall be praised.

LESSON 94

MAY 19, 2024

LIFE HAS NO MEANING WITHOUT CHRIST

MOTTO TEXT: Mark 8:36 For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul?

ENTIRE LESSON: Luke 12:11-34

11. And when they bring you unto the synagogues, and *unto* magistrates, and powers, take ye no thought how or what thing ye shall answer, or what ye shall say:
12. For the Holy Ghost shall teach you in the same hour what ye ought to say.
13. And one of the company said unto him, Master, speak to my brother, that he divide the inheritance with me.
14. And he said unto him, Man, who made me a judge or a divider over you?
15. And he said unto them, Take heed, and beware of covetousness: for a man's life consisteth not in the abundance of the things which he possesseth.
16. And he spake a parable unto them, saying, The ground of a certain rich man brought forth plentifully:
17. And he thought within himself, saying, What shall I do, because I have no room where to bestow my fruits?
18. And he said, This will I do: I will pull down my barns, and build greater; and there will I bestow all my fruits and my goods.
19. And I will say to my soul, Soul, thou hast much goods laid up for many years; take thine ease, eat, drink, *and* be merry.
20. But God said unto him, *Thou* fool, this night thy soul shall be required of thee: then whose shall those things be, which thou hast provided?
21. So *is* he that layeth up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God.

22. And he said unto his disciples, Therefore I say unto you, Take no thought for your life, what ye shall eat; neither for the body, what ye shall put on.
23. The life is more than meat, and the body *is more* than raiment.
24. Consider the ravens: for they neither sow nor reap; which neither have storehouse nor barn; and God feedeth them: how much more are ye better than the fowls?
25. And which of you with taking thought can add to his stature one cubit?
26. If ye then be not able to do that thing which is least, why take ye thought for the rest?
27. Consider the lilies how they grow: they toil not, they spin not; and yet I say unto you, that Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these.
28. If then God so clothe the grass, which is to day in the field, and to morrow is cast into the oven; how much more *will he clothe* you, O ye of little faith?
29. And seek not ye what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink, neither be ye of doubtful mind.
30. For all these things do the nations of the world seek after: and your Father knoweth that ye have need of these things.
31. But rather seek ye the kingdom of God; and all these things shall be added unto you.
32. Fear not, little flock; for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom.
33. Sell that ye have, and give alms; provide yourselves bags which wax not old, a treasure in the heavens that faileth not, where no thief approacheth, neither moth corrupteth.
34. For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.

PURPOSE – To show that our lives have meaning today only because of Jesus Christ, and that being justified by His grace we are made heirs to the Kingdom of God.

PRACTICAL POINT – The riches of this world will fade away, but he that doeth the will of God will abide forever. Seek God's will and all other needful things will be added to assist completing His work through you.

GLOSSARY/COMMENTARY

1. Meaning – Having a purpose; Having value; Significance
2. Profit – A financial gain; Value; Making money
3. Vanity – The quality of being worthless or futile

DISCUSSION AND LESSON APPLICATIONS

What is life? Who is life? What is the meaning and purpose of life? Today's lesson lets us know that life without Christ is meaningless, it has no purpose. The Bible states, "For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul?"

It is vital that we set our priorities in order. It's okay to get a quality education; it's wonderful to live in a beautiful home and drive the best of cars; it's needful to have a nice bank account and financial stability. God does not mind us having these things. He promises in His word that if we would seek Him first, all these things will be added to us. However, God does not want these things to *have* us.

Remember, only what you do for Christ will last. God wants us to have life and to have it more abundantly (John 10:10b).

1. Do you feel and really know that you are living a meaningful life?

Lead the Class in their discussion.

2. How can you have a meaningful life?

We can have a meaning life by making Jesus the center of everything.

3. What do I need to get rid of in my life to make Jesus the center of my everything?
Answer Individually.

MEMORY VERSE: 1 Corinthians 15:19 If in this life only we have hope in Christ, we are of all men most miserable.

LESSON 95

MAY 26, 2024

WHAT GOD DOES NOT WANT

MOTTO TEXT: 1 Thessalonians 4:13 But I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope.

ENTIRE LESSON: 1 Thessalonians 4:1-15

1. Furthermore then we beseech you, brethren, and exhort *you* by the Lord Jesus, that as ye have received of us how ye ought to walk and to please God, *so* ye would abound more and more.
2. For ye know what commandments we gave you by the Lord Jesus.
3. For this is the will of God, *even* your sanctification, that ye should abstain from fornication:
4. That every one of you should know how to possess his vessel in sanctification and honour;
5. Not in the lust of concupiscence, even as the Gentiles which know not God:
6. That no *man* go beyond and defraud his brother in *any* matter: because that the Lord *is* the avenger of all such, as we also have forewarned you and testified.
7. For God hath not called us unto uncleanness, but unto holiness.
8. He therefore that despiseth, despiseth not man, but God, who hath also given unto us his holy Spirit.
9. But as touching brotherly love ye need not that I write unto you: for ye yourselves are taught of God to love one another.
10. And indeed ye do it toward all the brethren which are in all Macedonia: but we beseech you, brethren, that ye increase more and more;
11. And that ye study to be quiet, and to do your own business, and to work with your own hands, as we commanded you;
12. That ye may walk honestly toward them that are without, and *that* ye may have lack of nothing.
13. But I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope.
14. For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him.
15. For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we which are alive *and* remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent them which are asleep.

PURPOSE – To wake up those who are asleep and encourage all who are awake that it is time for all to 'STUDY and excel in the righteousness of God.

PRACTICAL POINT – Let all learn to seek God face for the wisdom of His Word, and walk therein.

GLOSSARY/COMMENTARY

- 1. Fornicate – Sexual intercourse/activity between two people not married to each other
- 2. Ignorant – Lacking knowledge or awareness in general; Uneducated
- 3. Iniquity – Immoral or grossly unfair behavior
- 4. Vessel – A person who has a particular quality or who is used for a particular purpose

DISCUSSION AND LESSON APPLICATIONS

In this hour of temptation, turmoil, peer pressure, and social unrest, we need a safe harbor. God’s Word is our safety net and guide. II Timothy 2:15 instructs us to, “Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth”.

In studying His Word daily, not only do we discover the things that God requires of us, but we find what God does not want.

Our lesson today lets us know that God does not want any of us to be ignorant and unlearned concerning anything in this life or in that which is to come, eternal life. God does not want us to be disobedient or partake in any type of sin or iniquity. To sum it all up, God loves us and does not want anyone to Perish! “For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life” (John 3:16).

- 1. How are we to walk as children of God?
We are to walk to please God
- 2. What does it mean to possess your vessel in sanctification and honor?
Enjoy a class discussion
- 3. II Timothy 2:15, “_____ to shew thyself _____ unto _____, a workman that needeth not to be _____, rightly _____ word of _____

Answer words: Study, Approved, God, Ashamed, dividing, truth

MEMORY VERSE: 2 Timothy 2:15 Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.

LESSON 96

JUNE 2, 2024

OPEN MY EYES SO THAT I WILL SEE FOR MYSELF

MOTTO TEXT: 1 John 1:5 This then is the message which we have heard of him, and declare unto you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all.

ENTIRE LESSON: 1 John 1:1-10

- 1. That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon, and our hands have handled, of the Word of life;
- 2. (For the life was manifested, and we have seen *it*, and bear witness, and show unto you

that eternal life, which was with the Father, and was manifested unto us;)

3. That which we have seen and heard declare we unto you, that ye also may have fellowship with us: and truly our fellowship *is* with the Father, and with his Son Jesus Christ.
4. And these things write we unto you, that your joy may be full.
5. This then is the message which we have heard of him, and declare unto you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all.
6. If we say that we have fellowship with him, and walk in darkness, we lie, and do not the truth:
7. But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin.
8. If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
9. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us *our* sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.
10. If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

PURPOSE – To open the eyes that have been blinded with the cares of this life and have forgotten to look to God.

PRACTICAL POINT – There is a time to move forward with open eyes to see what God has to offer to sustain each soul desiring to see Him.

GLOSSARY/COMMENTARY

1. Forgive – Stop feeling angry or resentful toward someone for an offense, flaw, or mistake.
2. Light – The natural agent that stimulates sight and makes things visible
3. Open – Allowing access, passage, or a view through an empty space; not closed or blocked up.
4. See – Perceive with the eyes; discern visually

DISCUSSION AND LESSON APPLICATIONS

In today's lesson, we see the significance of asking God to open our eyes, our spiritual eyes, so that we will be able to see for ourselves. This refers, to seeing with spiritual 20/20 vision, Perfected by God. We must first be willing to go through the process, even if it is difficult, uncomfortable, and may even be painful; but as followers of Christ, dear children of God, we must always ask God to keep our spiritual eyes open! Learn to be comfortable in an uncomfortable situation, and trust the process, for God is working it out for your good, and for His glory

Yes, God did so in John 9:6-7, when Jesus passed by and saw a man which was blind from his birth. He did not see Jesus, but **Jesus saw him!** Jesus spoke and said "I am the light of the world. He spat on the ground and made spittle, and He anointed the eyes of the blind man with clay, and said to him, "**Go**, wash in the pool of Siloam, (which is by interpretation, Sent.). He went his way therefore, and washed, and **came seeing**. The blind man had to be willing to trust the process! He had to first **be willing** to obey God, and secondly, to Go where God sent him. Thirdly, after following God's direction, he obeyed, and washed **and came seeing!**

As dear children of God, we should always be willing to take regular spiritual eye exams, attending Sunday Bible School, reading His Anointed Word, the Bible, fasting and praying, living Holy, attending our services so that we won't get spiritual cataracts. Ask

God to perform any necessary procedures concerning our spiritual eyes, “For now we see through a glass, darkly; but then face to face: now I know in part; but then shall I know even as also I am known (I Corinthians 13:12), for He is the light of the world.

God wants His children to walk in the light. He is light. I John 1:5 says that “This then is the message which we have heard of Him, and declare unto you, that God is light, and in Him is no darkness at all”.

Our daily prayer should be to ask God to open our spiritual eyes so that we will be able to see for ourselves. Doing this will keep us aware of our surroundings both naturally and spiritually so that we as God’s children will not stumble or fall.

1. What can you do to enhance your spiritual vision?
Answer Individually.
2. List some of the dangers of walking with closed eyes and limited visibility.
Have a Class discussion.
3. Is it possible to have fellowship with God while walking in darkness?
Have a Class discussion.
4. Compare and contrast the natural vision with the spiritual vision.
Have a Class discussion.

MEMORY VERSE: Philippians 4:9 Those things, which ye have both learned, and received, and heard, and seen in me, do: and the God of peace shall be with you.

LESSON 97

JUNE 9, 2024

WATCH AND PRAY THAT YOU ENTER NOT INTO TEMPTATION

MOTTO TEXT: Matthew 26:41 Watch and pray, that ye enter not into temptation: the spirit indeed *is* willing, but the flesh *is* weak.

ENTIRE LESSON: James 1:1-15

1. James, a servant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ, to the twelve tribes which are scattered abroad, greeting.
2. My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations;
3. Knowing *this*, that the trying of your faith worketh patience.
4. But let patience have *her* perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing.
5. If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all *men* liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him.
6. But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering. For he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed.
7. For let not that man think that he shall receive any thing of the Lord.
8. A double minded man *is* unstable in all his ways.
9. Let the brother of low degree rejoice in that he is exalted:
10. But the rich, in that he is made low: because as the flower of the grass he shall pass away.

11. For the sun is no sooner risen with a burning heat, but it withereth the grass, and the flower thereof falleth, and the grace of the fashion of it perisheth: so also shall the rich man fade away in his ways.
12. Blessed *is* the man that endureth temptation: for when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life, which the Lord hath promised to them that love him.
13. Let no man say when he is tempted, I am tempted of God: for God cannot be tempted with evil, neither tempteth he any man:
14. But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed.
15. Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death.

PURPOSE – To understand that temptation will come. The believer must ask God, to be delivered from evil.

PRACTICAL POINT – Blessed *is* the man that endures temptation: for when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life (James 1:12).

GLOSSARY/COMMENTARY

1. Double-Minded – Wavering in mind; Undecided; Unstable.
2. Temptation – The desire to do something, especially something wrong or unwise.
3. Upbraideth – To find fault with or reproach severely.
4. Wavering – To fluctuate between choices; Falter; Unsteadiness.

DISCUSSION AND LESSON APPLICATIONS

We are living in a society where life's temptations are prevalent. The devil comes to steal, kill, and destroy. He will plot and scheme our spiritual as well as our natural demise. In today's lesson, James encourages us to count it all joy when we fall into divers temptations. God can, and He will make a way of escape! All we have to do is sincerely ask Him for guidance.

James 1:5 says, "if any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him. Also, we need to ask Him in faith, nothing wavering.

As Saints of God, we do not have to succumb to the temptations of sexual sins, lying, stealing, or cheating. Please take a stand, make a quality decision to watch and pray daily that you enter not into temptation.

1. Have you ever been tempted? How did you react or respond?
Answer individually/Class discussion
2. What is the only way to successfully overcome temptation?
To successfully overcome temptation, we must watch and pray daily
3. When you are confronted with temptation, is it a sin?
Have a Class discussion
4. True or False... Temptation only comes to sinners and the ungodly.
Allow the Class to have a Discussion with their responses.
5. True or False... We should count it all joy when we fall into divers temptations

MEMORY VERSE: Matthew 4:1 Then was Jesus led up of the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted of the devil.

FATHER'S DAY
GODLY FATHERS LIVING IN AN UNGODLY WORLD

MOTTO TEXT: Genesis 18:20-21 And the LORD said, Because the cry of Sodom and Gomorrah is great, and because their sin is very grievous; I will go down now and see whether they have done altogether according to the cry of it, which is come unto me; and if not, I will know.

ENTIRE LESSON: 2 Timothy 3:1-17

1. This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come.
2. For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy,
3. Without natural affection, trucebreakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good,
4. Traitors, heady, highminded, lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God;
5. Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away.
6. For of this sort are they which creep into houses, and lead captive silly women laden with sins, led away with divers lusts,
7. Ever learning, and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth.
8. Now as Jannes and Jambres withstood Moses, so do these also resist the truth: men of corrupt minds, reprobate concerning the faith.
9. But they shall proceed no further: for their folly shall be manifest unto all *men*, as theirs also was.
10. But thou hast fully known my doctrine, manner of life, purpose, faith, longsuffering, charity, patience,
11. Persecutions, afflictions, which came unto me at Antioch, at Iconium, at Lystra; what persecutions I endured: but out of *them* all the Lord delivered me.
12. Yea, and all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution.
13. But evil men and seducers shall wax worse and worse, deceiving, and being deceived.
14. But continue thou in the things which thou hast learned and hast been assured of, knowing of whom thou hast learned *them*;
15. And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.
16. All scripture *is* given by inspiration of God, and *is* profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:
17. That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.

PURPOSE-To show that we can live godly and righteous in an ungodly world.

PRACTICAL POINT-The grace of God teaches us that denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world. Titus 2:12

GLOSSARY/COMMENTARY

1. Father – A man in relation to his child or children; A male parent.
2. Form – The shape or appearance of something.
3. Heady – Willful; Rash; Violent.
4. Perilous Times – Times full of danger or risks; Terrible times.

5. Traitor – A person who betrays a friend, country, or principle.
6. Trucebreaker – One who violates a truce, covenant or engagement; Peace Breaker.

DISCUSSION AND LESSON APPLICATIONS

Today is Father's Day. Oh, how blessed it is to have a godly father! This is a time where we are thankful and appreciative of our fathers. Yes, we can live godly in an ungodly world. We have our Heavenly Father, God Almighty as an example.

Our lesson today also reveals to us the characteristics and attributes of a godly father right here on earth in this present time. The Apostle Paul instructs young Timothy concerning these characteristics and attributes of the godly father: not a traitor, not heady or high minded; not lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God; not trucebreakers or false accusers, etc.

Today, as Saints of God, let us strive to follow the example of godly fathers. Let us daily practice righteous thinking, acting, and living. Let us not only have a form of godliness, denying the power; but let us allow the Holy Ghost power of God to rule our lives, our thoughts, our actions, and our very being. Remember, "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life" (John 3:16). Accept and follow this example and you will be able to live godly in an ungodly world.

1. What does it mean to live godly in an ungodly world?
Class discussion
2. List some of the characteristics and attributes of a godly father.
See lesson text (2 Timothy 3:1-17)
3. Can you identify anyone in your life who exemplifies the character of a godly father?
Answer individually.
4. What can you do to live a godly life and be an example to others?
Answer individually.
5. Are we living in perilous times?
Have a Class discussion.

MEMORY VERSE: 1 Timothy 1:9-10 Knowing this, that the law is not made for a righteous man, but for the lawless and disobedient, for the ungodly and for sinners, for unholy and profane, for murderers of fathers and murderers of mothers, for manslayers, For whoremongers, for them that defile themselves with mankind, for men-stealers, for liars, for perjured persons, and if there be any other thing that is contrary to sound doctrine

LESSON 99

JUNE 23, 2024

BACKSLIDING IS NOT GOOD

MOTTO TEXT: Jeremiah 8:5 Why *then* is this people of Jerusalem slidden back by a perpetual backsliding? They hold fast deceit, they refuse to return.

ENTIRE LESSON: 2 Peter 2:4-22

4. For if God spared not the angels that sinned, but cast *them* down to hell, and delivered *them* into chains of darkness, to be reserved unto judgment;

5. And spared not the old world, but saved Noah the eighth *person*, a preacher of righteousness, bringing in the flood upon the world of the ungodly;
6. And turning the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah into ashes condemned *them* with an overthrow, making *them* an ensample unto those that after should live ungodly;
7. And delivered just Lot, vexed with the filthy conversation of the wicked:
8. (For that righteous man dwelling among them, in seeing and hearing, vexed *his* righteous soul from day to day with *their* unlawful deeds;)
9. The Lord knoweth how to deliver the godly out of temptations, and to reserve the unjust unto the day of judgment to be punished:
10. But chiefly them that walk after the flesh in the lust of uncleanness, and despise government. Presumptuous *are they*, selfwilled, they are not afraid to speak evil of dignities.
11. Whereas angels, which are greater in power and might, bring not railing accusation against them before the Lord.
12. But these, as natural brute beasts, made to be taken and destroyed, speak evil of the things that they understand not; and shall utterly perish in their own corruption;
13. And shall receive the reward of unrighteousness, as they that count it pleasure to riot in the daytime. Spots *they are* and blemishes, sporting themselves with their own deceivings while they feast with you;
14. Having eyes full of adultery, and that cannot cease from sin; beguiling unstable souls: an heart they have exercised with covetous practices; cursed children:
15. have forsaken the right way, and are gone astray, following the way of Balaam *the son* of Bosor, who loved the wages of unrighteousness;
16. But was rebuked for his iniquity: the dumb ass speaking with man's voice forbad the madness of the prophet.
17. These are wells without water, clouds that are carried with a tempest; to whom the mist of darkness is reserved for ever.
18. For when they speak great swelling *words* of vanity, they allure through the lusts of the flesh, *through much* wantonness, those that were clean escaped from them who live in error.
19. While they promise them liberty, they themselves are the servants of corruption: for of whom a man is overcome, of the same is he brought in bondage.
20. For if after they have escaped the pollutions of the world through the knowledge of the Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, they are again entangled therein, and overcome, the latter end is worse with them than the beginning.
21. For it had been better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, than, after they have known it, to turn from the holy commandment delivered unto them.
22. But it is happened unto them according to the true proverb, The dog is turned to his own vomit again; and the sow that was washed to her wallowing in the mire.

PURPOSE – To warn believers of the danger of backsliding; and that it is an evil thing, and extremely bitter that they have forsaken the Lord.

PRACTICAL POINT – Backsliding Israel had played the harlot. The people slid back with a perpetual backsliding.

GLOSSARY/COMMENTARY

1. Backslide – Relapse into bad ways or error; Falling away.
2. Perpetual – Never ending or changing.
3. Presumptuous – Failing to observe the limits of what is permitted or appropriate.

DISCUSSION AND LESSON APPLICATIONS

In today's lesson, Apostle Peter shows the dangers and consequences of backsliding. When a person returns to sin or relapses into the error of their former sinful ways, they become a backslider. If a person is not careful and prayerful, it may be possible for him or her to backslide even while participating in church functions and activities.

It is God's will for all to be saved and that no one perishes. "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish but have everlasting life" (John 3:16).

Remember, "For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord" (Romans 6:23).

1. What is the danger of backsliding?
Allow the Class to have a discussion.
2. Is it possible to backslide even while participating in church?
Answer individually/Group Discussion
3. Is it ever too late to turn or come back to God?
Allow a Class discussion.
4. Is it possible to be spiritually dead and yet be physically alive?
Allow a Class discussion.

MEMORY VERSE: Jeremiah 14:7 O LORD, though our iniquities testify against us, do thou *it* for thy name's sake: for our backslidings are many; we have sinned against thee.

LESSON 100

JUNE 30, 2024

OWE NO MAN ANYTHING

MOTTO TEXT: Romans 13:8 Owe no man any thing, but to love one another: for he, that loveth another hath fulfilled the law.

ENTIRE LESSON: Romans 13:1-14

1. Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers. For there is no power but of God: the powers that be are ordained of God.
2. Whosoever therefore resisteth the power, resisteth the ordinance of God: and they that resist shall receive to themselves damnation.
3. For rulers are not a terror to good works, but to the evil. Wilt thou then not be afraid of the power? do that which is good, and thou shalt have praise of the same:
4. For he is the minister of God to thee for good. But if thou do that which is evil, be afraid; for he beareth not the sword in vain: for he is the minister of God, a revenger to *execute* wrath upon him that doeth evil.
5. Wherefore *ye* must needs be subject, not only for wrath, but also for conscience sake.

6. For for this cause pay ye tribute also: for they are God's ministers, attending continually upon this very thing.
7. Render therefore to all their dues: tribute to whom tribute *is due*; custom to whom custom; fear to whom fear; honour to whom honour.
8. Owe no man any thing, but to love one another: for he, that loveth another hath fulfilled the law.
9. For this, thou shalt not commit adultery, thou shalt not kill, thou shalt not steal, Thou shalt not bear false witness, Thou shalt not covet; and if *there be* any other commandment, it is briefly comprehended in this saying, namely, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.
10. Love worketh no ill to his neighbour: therefore, love *is* the fulfilling of the law.
11. And that, knowing the time, that now *it is* high time to awake out of sleep: for now *is* our salvation nearer than when we believed.
12. The night is far spent, the day is at hand: let us therefore cast off the works of darkness and let us put on the armour of light.
13. Let us walk honestly, as in the day; not in rioting and drunkenness, not in chambering and wantonness, not in strife and envying.
14. But put ye on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make not provision for the flesh, to *fulfil* the lusts *thereof*.

PURPOSE – To encourage Christians to pay their tithes and offerings, to not borrow, and to become debt free.

PRACTICAL POINT – Owe no man anything, but to love one another. Love is the fulfilling of God's law.

GLOSSARY/COMMENTARY

1. Custom – the practices of an organization or individual long standing; a way of doing something; habitual, sometimes unwritten
2. Revenger – is known as an “avenger or redeemer;” one who has legal responsibility to protect a family member who is endangered according to Hebrew law.
3. Tribute – money paid for taxes equaling \$.25 to \$.27 to the government

DISCUSSION AND LESSON APPLICATIONS

1. Reflect on a time someone owed you something and functioned as if they did not remember. How do you feel about it?
2. Discuss some government mandates during this Pandemic and express your opinion of them.
3. Compare subjection to civil laws with the laws of God. What differences are there. Which ones are more important?
4. Should race, ethnic background, disability or sexual orientation create biases in how to treat others.
5. God respects obedience and honour to whom it is due. Explain Mark 10:17, “And Jesus answering said unto them, Render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's.” And they marvelled at him.

MEMORY VERSE: Jonah 2:9 But I will sacrifice unto thee with the voice of thanksgiving; I will pay *that* that I have vowed. Salvation *is* of the LORD.

IN TIME, CHILDREN WILL BECOME ADULTS

MOTTO TEXT: Ephesians 4:14 That we *henceforth* be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, *and* cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive.

ENTIRE LESSON: Ephesians 4:1-16

1. I therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you that ye walk worthy of the vocation wherewith ye are called,
2. With all lowliness and meekness, with longsuffering, forbearing one another in love;
3. Endeavouring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.
4. *There is* one body, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling;
5. One Lord, one faith, one baptism,
6. One God and Father of all, who *is* above all, and through all, and in you all.
7. But unto every one of us is given grace according to the measure of the gift of Christ.
8. Wherefore he saith, When he ascended up on high, he led captivity captive, and gave gifts unto men.
9. (Now that he ascended, what is it but that he also descended first into the lower parts of the earth?
10. He that descended is the same also that ascended up far above all heavens, that he might fill all things.)
11. And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers;
12. For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ:
13. Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ:
14. That we *henceforth* be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, *and* cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive;
15. But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, *even* Christ:
16. From whom the whole body fitly joined together and compacted by that which every joint supplieth, according to the effectual working in the measure of every part, maketh increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love.

PURPOSE – To remind all that there is no fear in growing into adulthood.

PRACTICAL POINT – There is a great joy in the success of all children.

GLOSSARY/COMMENTARY

1. Ascend – go up or climb; rise through the air.
2. Cunning – sly; skill in achieving a result by using deceit.
3. Edify – to instruct and improve moral and religious knowledge.
4. Grace – *Biblically*, it is the free and unmerited favor of God.
5. Sleight – *Biblically*, a divine call to God's service; employment.

DISCUSSION AND LESSON APPLICATIONS

1. Paul was concerned about how we live our lives. It is important that we live worthy of our calling. He does not want us to get lost in what degrees we receive in life, nor who we will become in this world. What are your spiritual goals? (*Answer Individually*)
2. Our daily conduct should be that of how we live as Christians, while maintaining the unity in the Spirit. True or False (*Explain Individually*)
3. Satan has been causing confusion and sending mixed messages since the beginning of creation, at some point in our lives, we will grow to maturity where we will know the truth from a lie. When we come into the knowledge of the truth, we can no longer be deceived by the cunningness of our adversaries. True or False
4. According to our Decree page 63, We believe that all who follow in His (*Jesus*) footsteps and example will likewise do no sin but shall be able to overcome the world as He did, who is the way, the truth, and the life of all men spiritually. St John 14:6

MEMORY VERSE: 2 Peter 2:2-3 As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby: If so be ye have tasted that the Lord *is* gracious.

LESSON 102

JULY 14, 2024

FINANCIAL PEACE

MOTTO TEXT: Deuteronomy 28:12 The LORD shall open unto thee his good treasure, the heaven to give the rain unto thy land in his season, and to bless all the work of thine hand: and thou shalt lend unto many nations, and thou shalt not borrow.

ENTIRE LESSON: Deuteronomy 28:1-14

1. And it shall come to pass, if thou shalt hearken diligently unto the voice of the Lord thy God, to observe *and* to do all his commandments which I command thee this day, that the Lord thy God will set thee on high above all nations of the earth:
2. And all these blessings shall come on thee, and overtake thee, if thou shalt hearken unto the voice of the Lord thy God.
3. Blessed *shalt* thou *be* in the city, and blessed *shalt* thou *be* in the field.
4. Blessed *shall be* the fruit of thy body, and the fruit of thy ground, and the fruit of thy cattle, the increase of thy kine, and the flocks of thy sheep.
5. Blessed *shall be* thy basket and thy store.
6. Blessed *shalt* thou *be* when thou comest in, and blessed *shalt* thou *be* when thou goest out.
7. The Lord shall cause thine enemies that rise up against thee to be smitten before thy face: they shall come out against thee one way, and flee before thee seven ways.
8. The Lord shall command the blessing upon thee in thy storehouses, and in all that thou settest thine hand unto; and he shall bless thee in the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee.
9. The Lord shall establish thee an holy people unto himself, as he hath sworn unto thee, if thou shalt keep the commandments of the Lord thy God, and walk in his ways.
10. And all people of the earth shall see that thou art called by the name of the Lord; and they shall be afraid of thee.

11. And the Lord shall make thee plenteous in goods, in the fruit of thy body, and in the fruit of thy cattle, and in the fruit of thy ground, in the land which the Lord sware unto thy fathers to give thee.
12. The Lord shall open unto thee his good treasure, the heaven to give the rain unto thy land in his season, and to bless all the work of thine hand: and thou shalt lend unto many nations, and thou shalt not borrow.
13. And the Lord shall make thee the head, and not the tail; and thou shalt be above only, and thou shalt not be beneath; if that thou hearken unto the commandments of the Lord thy God, which I command thee this day, to observe and to do *them*:
14. And thou shalt not go aside from any of the words which I command thee this day, *to* the right hand, or *to* the left, to go after other gods to serve them.

PURPOSE – To follow after the things which make for peace, to owe no man anything.

PRACTICAL POINT – The Lord shall make you the head and not the tail, and you shall only be above. You shall not be beneath. You shall lend unto many nations, and you shall not borrow.

GLOSSARY/COMMENTARY

God has promised blessings to his children. In order to receive the full benefits, the blessings are attached to obedience. By the same token, curses are attached to disobedience. When you work or get an allowance, do you spend it wisely or frivolously? Developing an attitude of total obedience to God's word coupled with common sense spending and saving habits, will ultimately lead to "Financial Peace".

1. Blessed – Hallowed, sanctioned, favor and mercy of God.
2. Diligently – attentively, carefully, thoroughly, showing persistent and hard-working effort in doing something.
3. Frivolously – thoughtlessly, idly, foolishly, lacking in intellectual substance.
4. Harken – to give respectful attention.

DISCUSSION AND LESSON APPLICATIONS

1. There are several key verses that allude to "Financial Peace" in this lesson. Discuss verses 8-13; showing the relationship to "Financial Peace".
2. List some good spending and saving behaviors that will also lead to financial peace.

MEMORY VERSE: Psalm 37:21 The wicked borroweth, and payeth not again: but the righteous sheweth mercy, and giveth.

LESSON 103

JULY 21, 2024

SIN

MOTTO TEXT: Romans 5:12 Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned.

ENTIRE LESSON: Romans 6:1-23

1. What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound?

2. God forbid. How shall we, that are dead to sin, live any longer therein?
3. Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death?
4. Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.
5. For if we have been planted together in the likeness of his death, we shall be also *in the likeness of his resurrection*:
6. Knowing this, that our old man is crucified with *him*, that the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth we should not serve sin.
7. For he that is dead is freed from sin.
8. Now if we be dead with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with him:
9. Knowing that Christ being raised from the dead dieth no more; death hath no more dominion over him.
10. For in that he died, he died unto sin once: but in that he liveth, he liveth unto God.
11. Likewise reckon ye also yourselves to be dead indeed unto sin, but alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord.
12. Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, that ye should obey it in the lusts thereof.
13. Neither yield ye your members as instruments of unrighteousness unto sin: but yield yourselves unto God, as those that are alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness unto God.
14. For sin shall not have dominion over you: for ye are not under the law, but under grace.
15. What then? shall we sin, because we are not under the law, but under grace? God forbid.
16. Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness?
17. But God be thanked, that ye were the servants of sin, but ye have obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine which was delivered you.
18. Being then made free from sin, ye became the servants of righteousness.
19. I speak after the manner of men because of the infirmity of your flesh: for as ye have yielded your members servants to uncleanness and to iniquity unto iniquity; even so now yield your members servants to righteousness unto holiness.
20. For when ye were the servants of sin, ye were free from righteousness.
21. What fruit had ye then in those things whereof ye are now ashamed? for the end of those things *is* death.
22. But now being made free from sin, and become servants to God, ye have your fruit unto holiness, and the end everlasting life.
23. For the wages of sin *is* death; but the gift of God *is* eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

PURPOSE – To show that we are purged from our old sins.

PRACTICAL POINT – Denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world.

GLOSSARY/COMMENTARY

Sin will never be acceptable, intolerable, deplorable, obnoxious, and distasteful. SIN will cause one to go to hell. Read Romans 1:24-32. God will forgive sin if one seeks forgiveness; but sin has to be FORSAKEN.

5. Dominion – Authority, power, somebody's area of influence or control
6. Grace – the infinite love, mercy, favor, and goodwill shown to humankind by God
7. Resurrection – the rising of Jesus Christ from the dead after his crucifixion and entombment
8. Sin – Iniquity, wickedness, an act, thought, or way of behaving that goes against the law or teachings of a religion, especially when the person who commits it is aware of this

DISCUSSION AND LESSON APPLICATIONS

1. Discuss Romans Chapter 1, verses 24-32. Give your thoughts on these verses and how it applies to daily living.
2. Discuss the course of forgiveness and how grace is applied to each one.
3. Denying _____ and _____, we should live _____, _____, and _____, in this present world.

MEMORY VERSE: Matthew 10:26 Fear them not therefore: for there is nothing covered, that shall not be revealed; and hid, that shall not be known.

LESSON 104

JULY 28, 2024

THE TOLL AMID THE TOILS OF LIFE

MOTTO TEXT: Luke 5:5 And Simon answering said unto him, Master, we have toiled all the night, and have taken nothing: nevertheless at thy word I will let down the net.

ENTIRE LESSON: Luke 5:1-14

1. And it came to pass, that, as the people pressed upon him to hear the word of God, he stood by the lake of Gennesaret,
2. And saw two ships standing by the lake: but the fishermen were gone out of them, and were washing *their* nets.
3. And he entered into one of the ships, which was Simon's, and prayed him that he would thrust out a little from the land. And he sat down, and taught the people out of the ship.
4. Now when he had left speaking, he said unto Simon, Launch out into the deep, and let down your nets for a draught.
5. And Simon answering said unto him, Master, we have toiled all the night, and have taken nothing: nevertheless at thy word I will let down the net.
6. And when they had this done, they enclosed a great multitude of fishes: and their net brake.
7. And they beckoned unto *their* partners, which were in the other ship, that they should come and help them. And they came, and filled both the ships, so that they began to sink.

8. When Simon Peter saw *it*, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, Depart from me; for I am a sinful man, O Lord.
9. For he was astonished, and all that were with him, at the draught of the fishes which they had taken:
10. And so *was* also James, and John, the sons of Zebedee, which were partners with Simon. And Jesus said unto Simon, Fear not; from henceforth thou shalt catch men.
11. And when they had brought their ships to land, they forsook all, and followed him.
12. And it came to pass, when he was in a certain city, behold a man full of leprosy: who seeing Jesus fell on *his* face, and besought him, saying, Lord, if thou wilt, thou canst make me clean.
13. And he put forth *his* hand, and touched him, saying, I will: be thou clean. And immediately the leprosy departed from him.
14. And he charged him to tell no man: but go, and show thyself to the priest, and offer for thy cleansing, according as Moses commanded, for a testimony unto them.

PURPOSE – To alert all that toils of fishing to reclaim souls to God will take a toll on the human body, yet each must relentlessly continue fishing.

PRACTICAL POINT – When soul-fishing, each reaches out to the wandering without wandering, The toll may seem great, only because many times the toil lasts long.

GLOSSARY/COMMENTARY

1. Amid – surrounded by or in the middle of.
2. Draught – the drawing in of a fishing net; the act of pulling a heavy load.
3. Toils – to work extremely hard, struggle or battle.
4. Toll – causing harm or damage; to have an adverse effect.

DISCUSSION AND LESSON APPLICATIONS

In our lesson today, Jesus was teaching as multitudes gathered to hear the word of God. Peter, James and John, the sons of Zebedee, partners of Simon, there business was catching fish. After a night of unsuccessful fishing, they were frustrated. Jesus takes this opportunity to teach them to fish for men. They knew Jesus and began to follow Him but was not fully committed yet. Notice a transformation took place from verse three, and once we read verse 11, Peter's vocation switched from catching fish to catching men for the gospel's sake.

The moral of our lesson is everyday people can be transformed into servants. We must not toil to lay up treasures in this life but seek the kingdom and righteousness of God first and all these things will be added. (ref. Matthew 6:19,33)

Have a Class Discussion: We live in a society that is filled with wicked people, and it looks hopeless, how persistent are you when it comes to fishing for the souls of men in the face of adversity? Do you believe there is hope? Have you committed to be fishers of men?

MEMORY VERSE: Matthew 23:23 Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye pay tithe of mint and anise and cummin, and have omitted the weightier *matters* of the law, judgment, mercy, and faith: these ought ye to have done, and not to leave the other undone.