

LLC Sunday School Curriculum

GRADE 6

Draft 2004

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LLC Sunday School Curriculum

INTRODUCTIONJune 2004

Jesus commanded His disciples to go and “teach all nations, teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you.” (Matt. 28:19-20) The children of God today want to observe this command. Sunday school is an especially important time for the sowing of God’s Word in the hearts of children. The Sunday school teacher willingly accepts this responsibility.

Using this document

Study the materials before Sunday School begins in the fall. Become acquainted with both the layout and content expectations. If you have questions about how your topics fit in with those being taught at other levels, you will find a summary of the lesson titles for all grades included in your binder. If you want to know the specific objectives for some grade level, there will be a reference binder in your congregation library with a summary of all this information. Ask your Sunday School Director for these materials if you would find them helpful.

Each grade-level binder is set up in the following order:

- table of contents
- general reference pages
- your grade’s lesson topic list
- your grade’s lesson pages

Each lesson page includes the following:

- the lesson title
- what you want the students to learn (objectives)
- Scripture references
- vocabulary
- examples of additional resources
- memory work
- notes or teaching suggestions to support the lesson

Most grades have 24 lessons, although some have 25. In most cases, lesson 25 was regarded as an optional lesson for those classes that have enough time.

The objectives are listed at the top of the page. In some cases, the objectives may include more than you think you can reasonably teach in one Sunday School class period. If so, feel free to choose those objectives you find most

important or interesting. It is not necessary to do everything. Remember that it's always better to learn less and learn it well than to cover more and walk away with little understanding.

Memory work

Included with each lesson in most grades you will find suggested memory work. There are several reasons for assigning memory work to students. Most important is that students acquire an intimate familiarity with Scripture and passages from books such as *The Small Catechism* that explain the fundamental beliefs of Christianity. During services, children will recognize Scripture portions from their memory work in Sunday School. Years later, words learned in Sunday School will come back to mind. The value of having these words deeply imbedded makes it worth spending the time on memory work.

Be sensitive to the varying abilities of children. If someone has difficulties with memorization, give that child options. One possibility is to have the child write out the memory passages.

There is a list summarizing the memory work for the grade toward the beginning of the binder. See the table of contents for the page number of this list. Although the memory work is assigned to specific lessons, the teacher is free to change the order or pace of the memory assignments.

There is a note of caution. The memory work is meant to be supplemental. With such a short period of time each Sunday, care must be taken not to use too much time on memory work. In younger grades, one possible way of dealing with this is to have students recite memory work in unison.

Remember to discuss the meaning of the words with the children.

Homework

Traditionally, the higher grades have been assigned homework to be completed for the next Sunday School class. Homework is important in that it provides an opportunity for students to study and consider God's Word during the week. This is important for young children as much as it is for older children.

It is also important to encourage parents to be a part of this work. Sunday School homework is not meant to be completed hastily in the car on the way to the church on Sunday morning. The reason for doing the homework and the importance of God's Word in the daily life of a believer is diminished by

this. Although life for most families becomes increasingly busier, God's Word should still remain our first priority. This lesson is learned best at home.

Forms of homework: There are many forms of homework to consider. The traditional question set is only one possibility. Sometimes it is more effective to have students answer two or three questions that require the student to consider the meaning of the lesson as opposed to a long list of questions. A homework question can be posed in more than one way. Consider the following approaches:

Who did Jesus see as he was walking by the sea of Galilee? What were they doing? (Matt. 5:18) What did Jesus say to them? (Matt. 5:19)

--OR--

In Matthew 5:18, we read that Jesus saw Simon and Peter fishing beside the sea of Galilee. What did Jesus ask of them? What do you think Jesus was actually asking them to do with their lives?

What did Jesus do in the ruler's house? (Matt. 9:25)

--OR--

Read Matthew 9:18-19, 23-26. This tells about a miracle in which a girl died and Jesus brought her back to life. How did the people react when Jesus told the crowd that she was not dead? What do you think the people learned from this?

Questioning: One type of question only requires lifting a word or basic information from the text without understanding. The other type of question causes the student to think about what it means. The questions can be worded in a way that gives the student some information to help begin interpreting the text. Poor questions can err in one of two ways: either it can be one that requires no understanding to give a correct answer, or it can ask for so much general interpretation or analysis so as to be overwhelming to the student. Not only is it important to carefully craft homework questions, but it is also important to think about what questions will be used during the lesson. Think about this in advance. Good questioning techniques take work to develop.

Reading: Sometimes a reading assignment, such as an article from a recent *Shepherd's Voice* issue, can be effective. For young children, the teacher could instruct the child to ask someone at home to sit down and read a particular article or story with him during the week.

Journals: An effective strategy for homework (and note-taking) is to require students to keep a journal or notebook. This strategy tends to be most

effective for third grade and up. All homework (and notes) can be kept together in the journal. Assignments could include specific questions to be answered, but they could also include writing a “journal entry” reflecting, for example, on what they learned from the previous lesson.

What to do with homework assignments: Keep in mind that homework assignments can be responded to in several ways.

- Often the teacher will go over the homework responses with the students at the next class.
- Sometimes the teacher can collect the homework, write responses for the students, and return them at the next class. (If the work is being kept in a notebook or journal, it is possible that the whole notebook would be collected.)
- Finally, it is possible that sometimes the homework is not shared with the class or read by the teacher at all. For example, maybe a lesson is teaching about prayer. A teacher may assign the student to write a personal prayer to God that will never be read by anyone else.

Use of the Bible: Encourage the use of the Bible. Remember that students need to be taught how to use the Bible. There are several ways to look up information, and students can be taught to use the reference section, concordance, and listing of the books at the beginning of the Bible. Students can be encouraged to follow along in their Bibles when the text is read during services. Auditory learners can use audio recordings of the Bible at home; many are available. After all, the Bible is the most precious of all books.

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TEACHING SUGGESTIONS
June 2004

Teaching involves many skills that can be practiced and improved each time a lesson is taught. Each teacher has his own unique style. We can learn from each other, but it is important to remember that God has given you the gifts He intended for you. Use those gifts for the honor and glory of His name. The work of teaching children about the Word of God and the gospel of the forgiveness of sins is a most precious task.

We want to teach children in meaningful ways that they can relate to their own experiences. The following suggestions are intended to help promote effective learning:

- Preparation is of utmost importance! Numerous resources are given for the lessons. Most of these are not intended to be read to students (nor by students) during class time; rather, they are intended to be used by the teacher in planning the lesson. Of course, during the lesson it is good to read some Scripture passages, excerpts from resource materials, or supportive stories. It is also good for the students to look up a main Bible reference that will be read together or by the teacher. We want all students to know that all lessons are based on God's Word. The lesson itself is not a story or Bible text, however. The teacher must plan the lesson in advance!
- Visual aids (e.g., pictures, simple drawings, objects, overhead transparencies, maps) make the lesson more meaningful and interesting. Adding visuals significantly increases retention of learning. Understanding increases when concepts are connected to familiar ideas/images.
- Plan for variety to help keep attention. Providing opportunities for students' interaction increases interest and attention. Responding to questions and relating personal experiences concerning the theme of the lesson are important. Writing is another mode of learning (e.g., students could keep a notebook in which they write main points from each lesson as well as personal thoughts or experiences). Making pictures or diagrams can be another effective learning mode. There are endless possibilities, but variety is a powerful way to strengthen a lesson.

- Clarify vocabulary. Having children see, say, and even show the meaning of new words aids comprehension and retention. Students might write special words in their notebooks.
- Asking questions is an important part of learning. All children need opportunities to ask and answer questions, not just the knowledgeable or outgoing children. Some children will need encouragement, perhaps easier questions to foster confidence. It is important to allow *wait time* (time and opportunity for the brain to process information) when asking for a response.
- Students should demonstrate a summary of the learning in some way at the end of the lesson. This greatly increases retention and enables the teacher to check whether the students have learned the intended concepts.
- Pleasant learning climate, enthusiasm, and reinforcement of desirable behaviors promote positive attitudes toward learning what God's Word teaches.

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LESSON PLANNING OUTLINE
June 2004

This lesson plan outline may be useful to the teacher when planning lessons. It calls attention to the important parts of a lesson.

There are always several stages to planning the lesson: preparation and gathering resources, building the lesson, implementing the lesson, and following up the lesson with homework and assessment of student learning.

Consider the following steps to determine whether each step is appropriate for the particular lesson or students, and decide whether it should be included in the lesson plan.

- I. Review of previous lesson: What concepts/memory work need to be reinforced?

- II. Objectives for new lesson: What learnings or key concepts do I want students to get?

- III. Procedures: What will I do to best help children learn this lesson?
 - A. Set: Lead into the new topic, get children ready to focus attention on the lesson
 - relate new learning to something students already know
 - involve all students
 - relate to the objective(s) of the new lesson

Examples:

- Show a wrapped gift and briefly discuss gifts prior to a lesson on the greatest gift.
- Have the children think about a time when they have seen a parade before discussing Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem.
- Discuss invitations and kinds of occasions the children might have received invitations for before a lesson on the parable of the man who sent his servant to invite guests to a wedding feast.

B. Objectives: Students are made aware of the objective(s) and the purpose of the learning.

- having objectives guides the teacher's planning for the lesson
- informing students of objective prior to lesson aids their learning
- students will know what they should have learned at the end
- answers "Why are we doing this?" and puts the learning in context

Examples:

- Today we will learn why God's Kingdom is sometimes compares to a flock of sheep, and we will be able to tell who is the shepherd of this flock and who are the sheep.
- Most of you have heard before of the Law and the Gospel; today we will learn what they are and which one belongs to the believer.
- We are going to hear what Jesus said about a widow who gave all her money; it will teach us how we are to give to the work of God's Kingdom.

C. Instructional Input: Students acquire new information about the knowledge they are to receive.

- main body of lesson
- think about what will be taught to the students, how the information will be taught, and how to check that they understand what is taught
- Question 1: What are the learnings?
- Question 2: What will the teacher do to provide the learnings?
- Question 3: How will the students show what they have learned?

Examples:

- I will tell you a story about two boys; think about which boy was walking in light and which in darkness. (teacher action)
- Look at this picture of a soldier; I will explain each of the pieces of armor that the soldier is wearing. (teacher action)

- Here are four possible reasons for baptizing a child, numbered one through four; signal me which you think is the best answer by holding up that number of fingers. (checking students' understanding)
- Write down the three parts of repentance that we talked about today. (checking students' understanding)
- Turn to your neighbor and summarize what you just learned. (checking students' understanding)

D. Guided Practice: Students are given the opportunity to use new knowledge with guidance.

- The teacher sometimes needs to circulate among students, observing and helping them during practice or some activity.
- The teacher should clarify or explain something before the lesson has ended.
- Remember that this clarification is important when an assignment will be given for outside of class.

E. Independent Practice: Students are given the opportunity to use new knowledge and/or skills independently.

- usually involves work that is assigned to be done outside of class
- may include memory work, answering questions, writing about the lesson, or other exercises

IV. Evaluation: How will you know what the students have learned?

- A. In summarizing the lesson, the students should summarize what they have learned, not the teacher summarizing what he thinks he has taught.
- B. How will the teacher check whether students gained the intended learning (e.g., questions, summary by learners, written responses or illustrations, etc.)?

Examples:

- List on your paper the four kinds of ground that we heard about in the parable that we studied today.
- List as many names for the Kingdom of God as possible and illustrate one of them.
- I will give each of you the chance to tell one thing you learned in today's lesson.

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EFFECTIVE TEACHING SUMMARIES
June 2004

The Fundamentals

- Students really learn best by *doing* something with the intended learning.
- Students need to do their own thinking and exploration.

The Techniques

Initiating learning activities

- Relate new activities to student experience.
- When introducing “unique” materials, provide unstructured time.
- Introduce all new terms/vocabulary orally and in writing.
- Organize materials for quick and easy distribution.
- Keep teaching materials hidden until they are needed.
- Introduce each activity before distributing materials.

Managing Learning Activities

- At the start of each activity, check all of the students.
- Avoid “talking” over group noise. Insist on quiet attention.
- Separate “talk time” from “work time.”
- Avoid “telling” and concluding for students.
- Prompt student discussions by joining groups as an observer.
- Resolve differences by returning to the materials.

The Art of Questioning

- Don’t ask “everyone questions.”
- Pause at least 3 to 5 seconds after asking each question.
- Avoid repeating student answers.
- Put student names at the END of directed questions.
- Turn student questions back to the students.

Instructions on Giving Instructions

- Make instructions as concrete as possible.
- Give instructions in “different ways.”
- Give instructions in “bite-sized chunks.”

Techniques for Concluding Learning Activities

- Alert students to the approaching end of each activity.
- Use a “group focus” to display information for discussion.
- Provide for “at-home” activities.

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NOTES TO THE 6TH GRADE TEACHER
June 2004

Grade 6 lessons follow the theme of the New Testament church and the epistles. This is difficult material, and many of the epistles have so much information that a central theme is difficult to identify. As a result, there are many potential objectives for many of those lessons. The teacher should choose a reasonable number of objectives to address in each lesson. With each set of objectives, there are accompanying notes for the teacher. This is *not* intended to be the lesson.

Halley's Bible Handbook is useful for studying the epistles, their content and central messages. Books with maps are also helpful, such as the *Holman Book of Biblical Charts, Maps, and Reconstructions* or the *Moody Guide to Bible Lands*.

Remember the developmental appropriateness of concepts for the typical 6th grade student. It is important to avoid approaching the lessons at a level one might use in a Bible Class, for example.

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ADDITIONAL TEACHING RESOURCES
June 2004

This collection of resources is only intended to give examples of possible materials that would be helpful in planning lessons. Some of them are included with the resources for individual lessons. Most of them are available in your church library or bookstore. This is not intended to be a comprehensive list.

According to These Words. Association of American Laestadian Congregations: Plymouth, MN. (Note: Available in congregation libraries)

Alexander, P., ed. (1978). *The Lion Encyclopedia of the Bible.* Lions Publishing: Batavia, IL.

Alphabet Tablet. Association of American Laestadian Congregations: Plymouth, MN. (Note: Tablet of stories and pictures for kindergarten)

Anderson, K. (1996). *Where to Find It in the Bible.* Thomas Nelson Publishers: Nashville, TN.

Bible Stories Grade 1. (1982). Association of American Laestadian Congregations: Plymouth, MN. (Note: Tablet of stories and pictures)

Burnick, M. (1968). *Children's Stories of the Bible from the Old and New Testament.* Playmore, Inc.: New York

By Faith. (1982). Association of American Laestadian Congregations: Plymouth, MN.

Comay, J. and R. Browning. (1971). *Who's Who in the Bible: Two Volumes in One.* Bonanza Books: NY.

d'Aubigne, J., M. Sidwell, trans. (1996). *The Triumph of Truth: a Life of Martin Luther.* Bob Jones University Press: Greenville, SC.

Douglas, J., ed. (1982). *New Bible Dictionary.* Tyndale House Publishers, Inc.: Wheaton, IL.

Dowley, T. (1986 & 1987). *The Moody Guide to the Bible and The Moody Guide to Bible Lands.* Moody Press: Chicago.

Drane, J. (1983). *The Old Testament Story.* Harper & Row, Publishers. San Francisco: New York.

Freeman, J. M. (1972 reprint). *Manners and Customs of the Bible.* Logos International: Plainfield, NJ.

- Gardner, J. (1981). *Reader's Digest Atlas of the Bible*. Reader's Digest Association, Inc.: Pleasantville, NY.
- Gross, A. (2001). *A Child's Garden of Bible Stories*. Concordia Publishing House: St. Louis, MO.
- Halley's Bible Handbook*. (1965). Zondervan: Grand Rapids, MI.
- Lepisto, E. (2002). *In the Footsteps of the Sheep*. Laestadian Lutheran Church: Plymouth, MN.
- Luther, M. and K. Leinberg. *Small Catechism & Bible History*. Association of American Laestadian Congregations: Plymouth, MN.
- Meyer, F. (1981). *Great Men of the Bible Volume 1* and *Great Men of the Bible Volume II*. Zondervan: Grand Rapids, MI.
- Piri, E. (1988). *I Am the Good Shepherd: A Sunday School Guide*. Association of American Laestadian Congregations: Plymouth, MN.
- Reinikainen, E. (1990). *The Storms Will Cease*. Laestadian Lutheran Church: Plymouth, MN.
- The Shepherd's Voice*. Laestadian Lutheran Church: Plymouth, MN.
- Sixth Grade Sunday School Stories*. Association of American Laestadian Congregations: Plymouth, MN.
- Smith, M., ed. (1993). *Holman Book of Biblical Charts, Maps, and Reconstructions*. Broadman & Holman Publishers: Nashville, TN.
- Stories for Young Children*. Association of American Laestadian Congregations: Plymouth, MN. (Note: Tablet of stories and pictures for preschool)
- Stories of the Old Testament I*. Association of American Laestadian Congregations: Plymouth, MN. (Note: Tablet of stories and pictures)
- Stories of the Old Testament II*. Association of American Laestadian Congregations: Plymouth, MN. (Note: Tablet of stories and pictures)
- Sunday School Stories Grade 5*. Association of American Laestadian Congregations: Plymouth, MN.
- Visalli, G., ed. (1992). *After Jesus: the Triumph of Christianity*. Reader's Digest Association, Inc.: Pleasantville, N.Y.
- The Voice of Zion*. Laestadian Lutheran Church: Plymouth, MN.
- Uljas, J. (2003). *The Treasure Hidden in a Field*. Laestadian Lutheran Church: Plymouth, MN.
- Witter, E. (1980). *In Jesus' Day*. Concordia Publishing House: St. Louis, MO.

Sunday School Lesson Topics
OVERVIEW BY GRADE
Draft 2004

PRE-SCHOOL**Theme: Familiar Bible Stories & Home and Family**

- Lesson 1 God's Word and the Holy Bible
- Lesson 2 Sin—Adam and Eve
- Lesson 3 Conscience
- Lesson 4 Forgiveness
- Lesson 5 Prayer—Three Men in the Furnace
- Lesson 6 Respect and Obedience for Parents and Siblings
- Lesson 7 Obedience to Rules
- Lesson 8 Listening—Behavior in Church as God's House
- Lesson 9 Singing—Angels at Jesus' Birth
- Lesson 10 The Christmas Story
- Lesson 11 Sharing
- Lesson 12 Shepherd and Sheep
- Lesson 13 Trust—David and Goliath
- Lesson 14 Thankfulness and Faith—Ten Lepers
- Lesson 15 Temptations
- Lesson 16 God Is Always With Us—Jacob in the Wilderness
- Lesson 17 The Easter Story
- Lesson 18 Honesty—Cain and Abel
- Lesson 19 Kindness—Woman at the Well
- Lesson 20 Patience
- Lesson 21 God Provides for Our Daily Needs
- Lesson 22 Jesus, Friend of Children
- Lesson 23 Friendship and Love
- Lesson 24 Faith as a Gift from God

KINDERGARTEN**Theme: Familiar Bible Stories & Home and Family**

- Lesson 1 Faith
- Lesson 2 Kingdom of God—Jesus Blesses the Children
- Lesson 3 God’s Word—Creation
- Lesson 4 Respect for Elders and Authority
- Lesson 5 The Devil—The Fall into Sin
- Lesson 6 God Cares for Us—Moses and the Red Sea
- Lesson 7 False Gods—Golden Calf
- Lesson 8 God’s Care and Protection—Joseph Being Sold into Slavery
- Lesson 9 Prayer—Jonah and the Whale
- Lesson 10 The Lord’s Prayer
- Lesson 11 The Benediction
- Lesson 12 Obedience to God
- Lesson 13 Angels
- Lesson 14 Giving—Wise Men
- Lesson 15 Trust—Noah
- Lesson 16 Forgiveness of Sins
- Lesson 17 Salvation—Good Friday
- Lesson 18 Easter Sunday
- Lesson 19 Singing—David and the Psalms
- Lesson 20 Thankfulness
- Lesson 21 Being a Light Through Our Behavior in School
- Lesson 22 Responsibility and Helping at Home
- Lesson 23 Home and Family—The Miniature Congregation
- Lesson 24 The Gospel
- Lesson 25 Heaven

GRADE 1**Theme: Familiar Bible Stories & Home and Family**

- Lesson 1 Faith—Jesus Calms the Storm
- Lesson 2 Being a Light
- Lesson 3 Care of the Conscience—Adam and Eve
- Lesson 4 Listening to God’s Word—Jesus in the Temple
- Lesson 5 Respect for People and Differences
- Lesson 6 Kingdom of God
- Lesson 7 Love—David and Absalom
- Lesson 8 Thankfulness—Noah
- Lesson 9 Prayer
- Lesson 10 Sabbath
- Lesson 11 Peace—The Christmas Story
- Lesson 12 Diligence—Joseph in the Pharaoh’s House in Egypt
- Lesson 13 Making Choices—Solomon’s Faith and God’s Word
- Lesson 14 Obedience to Authority
- Lesson 15 Temptations
- Lesson 16 Being Our Brother’s Keeper
- Lesson 17 Forgiveness—Thief on the Cross
- Lesson 18 Power of God—Tower of Babel
- Lesson 19 God’s Care and Protection—Elijah, King Ahab, and the Raven
- Lesson 20 Friendship—Jonathan and David
- Lesson 21 Trustworthiness
- Lesson 22 Music in God’s Kingdom
- Lesson 23 Christian Reading Material
- Lesson 24 Respect for Nature as God’s Creation

GRADE 2**Theme: People & Christian Values**

- Lesson 1 Abraham and Sarah—Trust, Faith and Obedience
- Lesson 2 Moses' Birth and Childhood—God's Care and Protection
- Lesson 3 David, the Shepherd Boy—Trust and God's Care
- Lesson 4 Elisha and Naaman—God's Power
- Lesson 5 Ruth and Naomi—Friendship, Kindness and Faithfulness
- Lesson 6 Daniel and His Friends in the Furnace—Faith
- Lesson 7 John the Baptist, Forerunner to Jesus—Humility
- Lesson 8 Mary and Joseph—Trust and Obedience
- Lesson 9 Simeon and Anna See Jesus—Faith and Patience
- Lesson 10 Jesus Feeds the 5000
- Lesson 11 Disciples of Jesus—Love, Learning God's Word, Service
- Lesson 12 Peter, James and John—Fishers of Men
- Lesson 13 Jesus Heals the Centurion's Servant—Faith
- Lesson 14 Zaccheus—Repentance and Forgiveness
- Lesson 15 Mary and Martha—Service and Love, Listening to God's Word
- Lesson 16 God Knows Our Needs—Trust in God's Care
- Lesson 17 Jesus Teaches to Love Your Neighbor
- Lesson 18 The Good Samaritan—Service, Love and Kindness
- Lesson 19 The Widow's Mite—Giving
- Lesson 20 The Daughter of Jairus—Faith and God's Gift of Life
- Lesson 21 Judas Iscariot—Greed vs. Love for God
- Lesson 22 Thomas—Doubts and Wrong Values
- Lesson 23 Conversion of Paul—Faith Through Hearing and God's Call
- Lesson 24 Timothy and the Apostle Paul—Friendship and Relationship of Believers

GRADE 3**Theme: Stories of the Old Testament (Part 1)**

- Lesson 1 The Fall into Sin—God’s Punishment and Promise
- Lesson 2 The First Children—Cain and Abel
- Lesson 3 Noah and the Flood
- Lesson 4 The Tower of Babel
- Lesson 5 God’s Promises to Abram
- Lesson 6 Lot—Sodom and Gomorrah
- Lesson 7 God Tests Abraham’s Faith
- Lesson 8 Isaac and Rebekah
- Lesson 9 The Sons of Isaac
- Lesson 10 Jacob and His Wonderful Dream
- Lesson 11 Jacob Wrestles with God
- Lesson 12 Joseph—Service and Imprisonment in Egypt
- Lesson 13 Joseph—Ruler in Egypt and His Brothers’ First Visit
- Lesson 14 Joseph Reveals Himself to His Brothers
- Lesson 15 Jacob Moves to Egypt
- Lesson 16 The Call of Moses—The Burning Bush
- Lesson 17 The Plagues of Egypt
- Lesson 18 The Passover and the Israelites’ Departure from Egypt
- Lesson 19 The Israelites’ Journey in the Wilderness
- Lesson 20 The Giving of the Law—The Ten Commandments
- Lesson 21 The Golden Calf—The Tables of the Law
- Lesson 22 The Israelites’ Complaints and Punishment
- Lesson 23 The Last Days in the Wilderness—The Death of Moses
- Lesson 24 Saved by Faith

GRADE 4**Theme: Stories of the Old Testament (Part 2)**

- Lesson 1 The Israelites Enter Canaan
- Lesson 2 The Sun and the Moon Stand Still
- Lesson 3 God Helps His People Through Gideon
- Lesson 4 Samson, Judge of Israel
- Lesson 5 Eli and Samuel
- Lesson 6 Israel Wants a King—King Saul
- Lesson 7 The Sins of King Saul
- Lesson 8 David and Goliath
- Lesson 9 David and Saul—A Battle of Spirits
- Lesson 10 King David's Fall Into Sin
- Lesson 11 Absalom, the Disobedient Son
- Lesson 12 King Solomon
- Lesson 13 The Holy Spirit
- Lesson 14 The Dividing of the Kingdom (optional lesson)
- Lesson 15 Elijah, a Great Prophet
- Lesson 16 Elijah at the Altars of Baal and Elijah Goes to Heaven
- Lesson 17 The Prophet Elisha
- Lesson 18 The Prophet Jonah
- Lesson 19 Isaiah and the End of the Kingdom of Israel
- Lesson 20 Jeremiah and the Fall of Jerusalem
- Lesson 21 Daniel Interprets the King's Dreams and God humbles King Nebuchadnezzar
- Lesson 22 Daniel and the Lions' Den
- Lesson 23 The Return Home and the Rebuilding of the Temple
- Lesson 24 The Old Testament Overview and Righteousness by Faith
- Lesson 25 Our Responsibility for Nature

GRADE 5**Theme: The Life, Miracles, and Teachings of Jesus**

- Lesson 1 Old and New Testament Prophecies of Jesus' Birth
- Lesson 2 Jesus' Birth—Shepherds, Wise Men, and Circumcision
- Lesson 3 Jesus' Childhood—His Family and His Discussion with Elders
- Lesson 4 John the Baptist
- Lesson 5 Baptism of Jesus
- Lesson 6 Jesus' Temptation in the Wilderness
- Lesson 7 Jesus' Disciples and Friends
- Lesson 8 Jesus' Ministry—His Teaching about the Kingdom, Forgiveness, and Love
- Lesson 9 Jesus' Miracles—Healing and Feeding the Multitude
- Lesson 10 Jesus' Miracles—Calming the Storm
- Lesson 11 Jesus' Miracles—Lazarus Raised from the Dead
- Lesson 12 Jesus' Parables—The Prodigal Son
- Lesson 13 Jesus' Parables—The Sower and Four Kinds of Soil
- Lesson 14 Jesus' Parables—The Good Samaritan
- Lesson 15 Jesus' Parables—The Ten Virgins
- Lesson 16 Jesus' Parables—The Good Shepherd
- Lesson 17 Jesus' Parables—The Vine and the Branches
- Lesson 18 Transfiguration
- Lesson 19 Palm Sunday—Entry into Jerusalem and a Prophecy Fulfilled
- Lesson 20 Passover—Establishment of Holy Supper
- Lesson 21 Good Friday
- Lesson 22 Easter Sunday and Resurrection
- Lesson 23 Jesus Appears to His Disciples
- Lesson 24 The Power of the Resurrection Victory and the Keys of the Kingdom

GRADE 6**Theme: The New Testament Church and the Epistles**

- Lesson 1 The Book of Acts
- Lesson 2 Ascension Day
- Lesson 3 Pentecost Day
- Lesson 4 Martyrdom of Stephen and Persecution of Christians
- Lesson 5 Conversion of the Ethiopian Eunuch
- Lesson 6 The Apostles Peter and John
- Lesson 7 Conversion of Cornelius
- Lesson 8 Conversion of Paul
- Lesson 9 Paul's Missionary Trips
- Lesson 10 Romans—The Gospel Is the Power of God unto Salvation
- Lesson 11 Corinthians—The Holy Spirit Unites the Children of God
- Lesson 12 Galatians—Freedom Through the Gospel
- Lesson 13 Ephesians—Be Strong in the Lord and the Power of His Might
- Lesson 14 Philippians—The Joy of Salvation
- Lesson 15 Colossians—A New Life in Christ
- Lesson 16 Thessalonians—Watchfulness and the Second Coming of Christ
- Lesson 17 Timothy—Caring for the Needs of the Congregation
- Lesson 18 Titus—Sound Doctrine & Believing According to the Word and Spirit
- Lesson 19 Philemon—Forgiveness and Brotherhood in Christ
- Lesson 20 Hebrews—The Priesthood of Christ
- Lesson 21 James—Living Faith Has Fruits
- Lesson 22 Peter—A Royal Priesthood
- Lesson 23 John—Little Children, Love One Another
- Lesson 24 Jude—Beware of False Teachers
- Lesson 25 Revelation—Heaven and the Marriage of the Lamb

GRADE 7**Theme: The Old Testament**

- Lesson 1 The Bible—The Word of God
- Lesson 2 The Old Testament—Its Content and History
- Lesson 3 Creation of the Universe
- Lesson 4 The Fall
- Lesson 5 Cain and Abel
- Lesson 6 Noah and the Flood
- Lesson 7 Abraham—Justified by Faith
- Lesson 8 Isaac—The Child of Promise
- Lesson 9 Jacob—Elect by Grace
- Lesson 10 Joseph
- Lesson 11 Israel in Bondage—Moses
- Lesson 12 The Passover
- Lesson 13 The Exodus—Crossing the Red Sea
- Lesson 14 The Wilderness Journey—The Way to Sinai
- Lesson 15 The Wilderness Journey—The Way to the Promised Land
- Lesson 16 Joshua
- Lesson 17 The Conquest
- Lesson 18 The Judges
- Lesson 19 Gideon
- Lesson 20 Samuel
- Lesson 21 Ruth
- Lesson 22 Esther
- Lesson 23 Job
- Lesson 24 In the World but Not of the World
- Lesson 25 Our Responsibility for Nature

GRADE 8**Theme: The Old Testament and Current Topics**

- Lesson 1 Who We Are—Laestadianism
- Lesson 2 The Church Calendar
- Lesson 3 Kings of the Old Testament—Saul
- Lesson 4 Kings of the Old Testament—David, Son of Jesse
- Lesson 5 Kings of the Old Testament—David, King of Israel
- Lesson 6 Kings of the Old Testament—Solomon
- Lesson 7 Kings of the Old Testament—The Divided Kingdom
- Lesson 8 Overview of the Home Congregation
- Lesson 9 The Psalms
- Lesson 10 The Proverbs
- Lesson 11 The Prophets—Servants of God
- Lesson 12 Elijah & Elisha
- Lesson 13 Hosea, Joel, Amos, Obadiah & Jonah
- Lesson 14 Isaiah & Micah
- Lesson 15 Jeremiah, Nahum, Habukkuk & Zephaniah
- Lesson 16 Ezekiel & Daniel
- Lesson 17 Daniel
- Lesson 18 Haggai, Malachi & Zechariah
- Lesson 19 Prophecies of Jesus
- Lesson 20 The Old & New Testament—One Completeness
- Lesson 21 The Righteousness of Faith & the Righteousness of Life
- Lesson 22 Tobacco & Intoxicants
- Lesson 23 Your Congregation as a Member of a National Organization
- Lesson 24 Being Our Brother's Keeper

GRADE 9**Theme: New Testament Topics and Others**

- Lesson 1 God the Father—Creator
- Lesson 2 God the Son—Redeemer
- Lesson 3 God the Holy Spirit—Sanctifier
- Lesson 4 The Four Gospels
- Lesson 5 Jesus' Teachings—Parables
- Lesson 6 Jesus' Teachings—The Parable of the Unmerciful Servant
- Lesson 7 Jesus' Teachings—The Parable of the Rich Fool
- Lesson 8 Jesus' Teachings—Keys of the Kingdom
- Lesson 9 Jesus' Teachings—The Church Law of Christ
- Lesson 10 The Congregation of God
- Lesson 11 The Early Congregation—Acts of the Apostles
- Lesson 12 Repentance
- Lesson 13 Baptism
- Lesson 14 Holy Communion
- Lesson 15 Confession
- Lesson 16 Prayer
- Lesson 17 The Apostles—Disciples of Jesus
- Lesson 18 Luther and the Reformation
- Lesson 19 Heresies
- Lesson 20 Courtship
- Lesson 21 The Christian Wedding
- Lesson 22 Marriage and Family Life
- Lesson 23 Death and Resurrection
- Lesson 24 Preparation for Confirmation School

LLC Sunday School Curriculum

MEMORY WORKDraft 2004

- Grade 2:** Scripture verses
- Grade 3:** Creed (bold print) from Luther's catechism
Ten Commandments (bold print) from Luther's catechism
Scripture verses
- Grade 4:** Ten Commandments and meanings from Luther's catechism
Scripture verses
- Grade 5:** Creed and meanings from Luther's catechism
Names of the books of the Old Testament
Scripture verses
- Grade 6:** Baptism and meanings from Luther's catechism
Names of the books of the New Testament
- Grade 7:** First three parts of confession from Luther's catechism
Sacrament of the Altar and meanings
- Grade 8:** Lord's Prayer and meanings from Luther's catechism
- Grade 9:** Review the entire catechism

LLC Sunday School Curriculum
GRADE 6 MEMORY WORK
Draft 2004

- Lesson 1: The Sacrament of Holy Baptism part 1
- Lesson 2: The Sacrament of Holy Baptism part 1
- Lesson 3: The Sacrament of Holy Baptism part 2
- Lesson 4: The Sacrament of Holy Baptism part 2
- Lesson 5: The Sacrament of Holy Baptism part 3
- Lesson 6: The Sacrament of Holy Baptism part 3
- Lesson 7: The Sacrament of Holy Baptism part 3
- Lesson 8: The Sacrament of Holy Baptism part 4
- Lesson 9: The Sacrament of Holy Baptism part 4
- Lesson 10: The Sacrament of Holy Baptism
- Lesson 11: The Books of the New Testament
- Lesson 12: The Books of the New Testament
- Lesson 13: The Books of the New Testament
- Lesson 14: The Books of the New Testament
- Lesson 15: The Books of the New Testament
- Lesson 16: The Books of the New Testament
- Lesson 17: The Books of the New Testament
- Lesson 18: The Books of the New Testament
- Lesson 19: The Books of the New Testament
- Lesson 20: The Books of the New Testament
- Lesson 21: The Books of the New Testament
- Lesson 22: The Books of the New Testament
- Lesson 23: Review the Sacrament of Holy Baptism
- Lesson 24: Review

Sunday School Lesson Topics and Objectives
GRADE 6
Draft 2004

Theme: New Testament Church and Epistles

The focus of the 6th grade is the New Testament Church and the Epistles. The objectives and teaching information are given for each lesson.

- Lesson 1 The Book of Acts
- Lesson 2 Ascension Day
- Lesson 3 Pentecost Day
- Lesson 4 Martyrdom of Stephen and Persecution of Christians
- Lesson 5 Conversion of the Ethiopian Eunuch
- Lesson 6 The Apostles Peter and John
- Lesson 7 Conversion of Cornelius
- Lesson 8 Conversion of Paul
- Lesson 9 Paul's Missionary Trips
- Lesson 10 Romans—The Gospel Is the Power of God unto Salvation
- Lesson 11 Corinthians—The Holy Spirit Unites the Children of God
- Lesson 12 Galatians—Freedom Through the Gospel
- Lesson 13 Ephesians—Be Strong in the Lord and the Power of His Might
- Lesson 14 Philippians—The Joy of Salvation
- Lesson 15 Colossians—A New Life in Christ
- Lesson 16 Thessalonians—Watchfulness and the Second Coming of Christ
- Lesson 17 Timothy—Caring for the Needs of the Congregation
- Lesson 18 Titus—Sound Doctrine & Believing According to the Word and Spirit
- Lesson 19 Philemon—Forgiveness and Brotherhood in Christ
- Lesson 20 Hebrews—The Priesthood of Christ
- Lesson 21 James—Living Faith Has Fruits
- Lesson 22 Peter—A Royal Priesthood
- Lesson 23 John—Little Children, Love One Another
- Lesson 24 Jude—Beware of False Teachers
- Lesson 25 Revelation—Heaven and the Marriage of the Lamb

Lesson 1: Overview of the Book of Acts

- A. The student will become familiar with the Book of Acts.
- B. The student will understand what it means to be a witness of Jesus Christ.
- C. The student will understand how the gospel is spread.
- D. The student will understand that the gospel is intended for all people and nations, the entire world. (Acts 1:8)

Scripture: Acts 1:1, 8

Vocabulary: Gentile, witness, gospel, visitation

Resources: *New Bible Atlas—Asia Minor: the ‘Seven Churches’; By Faith*, pp. 45-47

Summary Verse: Acts 1:8

Memory Work: The Sacrament of Holy Baptism, part 1 (*The Small Catechism*)

Notes: Following is an outline of some key information that may be helpful to the teacher.

- A. Overview of the book of Acts
 - 1. Luke is the author.
 - 2. It is thought to have been written about 63 A.D.
 - 3. Both the gospel of Luke and Acts were written to the same man, Theophilus. He may have been a high-ranking Roman official. (Acts 1:1)
 - 4. The book of Acts is a record of the establishment and spreading of living Christianity in Jerusalem, Judea and Samaria, Asia Minor, southern and eastern Europe. (Acts 1:8)

B. Witness of Christ

1. To confess by words or by the way one lives that he is a child of God and the Lord Jesus is his personal Savior
2. To confess that one is a member of God's kingdom on earth
3. To confess that there is only one saving faith and that God has only one kingdom

C. How the gospel is spread

1. By preaching repentance and the forgiveness of sins in Jesus' name and blood by the children of God through the power of the Holy Spirit
2. When God opens the heart of an individual or gives a time of visitation to a nation

Lesson 2: Ascension Day

- A. The student will be able to relate the story of Jesus' ascension into heaven.
- B. The student will understand why it was necessary for Jesus to ascend into heaven.
- C. The student will understand that Jesus will return one day to receive the children of God into heaven and to judge those in unbelief.

Scripture: Acts 1:8-11; 1 John 2:1; John 14:3, 16:7

Vocabulary: advocate, apparel, righteous, ascension

Resources: *Bible Class Book II*, pp. 101-102; *Voice of Zion*, May 1994, April 2002; *Small Catechism & Bible History*, pp. 39-40

Summary Verse: Acts 1:11

Memory Work: The Sacrament of Holy Baptism, part 1 (*The Small Catechism*)

Notes: Following is an outline of some key information, corresponding with the objectives, that may be helpful to the teacher.

- A. Jesus' ascension into heaven
 - 1. Jesus promised the coming of the Holy Ghost. (Acts 1:8; John 16:7)
 - 2. Jesus prophesied that the disciples would become His witnesses and would confess him in all the world. (Acts 1:8)
 - 3. The disciples were eye-witnesses of the ascension.
 - 4. The disciples saw Him disappear into the clouds. (Acts 1:9)
- B. Necessity for Jesus to ascend into heaven
 - 1. Jesus is in heaven as our advocate. (I John 2:1)
 - 2. Jesus entrusted the children of God to do the work of the gospel. (Luke 16:15)
 - 3. Jesus went to prepare a place in heaven for the believers. (John 14:3)
 - 4. Jesus went to heaven so that the Holy Spirit, the Comforter, would come. (John 16:7)

Lesson 3: Pentecost Day

- A. The student will be able to relate the story of the day of Pentecost.
 - B. The student will know the background for Pentecost.
 - C. The student will understand what the Holy Spirit is.
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Scripture: Acts 2:1-4, 8, 22-36, 41; John 14:26

Vocabulary: Pentecost, cloven tongues, enlighten, corruption

Resources: *Small Catechism and Bible History*, pp. 153-154; *Voice of Zion*, June 1992, June 1995, June 2001, June 2002

Summary verse: Acts 2:4

Memory Work: The Sacrament of Holy Baptism, part 2 (*The Small Catechism*)

Notes: Following is an outline of some key information, corresponding with the objectives, that may be helpful to the teacher.

- A. Pentecost Day (Acts 2:1-4)
 - 1. The Holy Spirit was poured out unto men as a teacher, comforter and guide. (John 14:26)
 - 2. The Old Testament prophesy was fulfilled. (Joel 3:28; Zech. 12:10)
 - 3. The gospel was heard in many languages. (Acts 2:8)
 - 4. Peter preached the sermon of repentance and the forgiveness of sins in Jesus' name. (Acts 2:22-36)
 - 5. 3000 souls were converted. (Acts 2:41)
- B. Background for Pentecost
 - 1. Pentecost is an old Jewish festival which began as a festival of thanksgiving at the harvest.
 - 2. The word is derived from the Greek word "pentekoste" which means "fiftieth."
 - 3. Pentecost Day was observed fifty days after Passover.

4. In Christendom, Pentecost Day has been observed since 200 A.D.
5. Christian Pentecost commemorates the shedding of the Holy Spirit.

C. Meaning of Holy Spirit

1. The children of God of the Old Testament had the Holy Spirit also.
2. It is the third person of the God-head.
3. It works to call, gather, and enlighten.
4. It creates unity.

Lesson 4: Martyrdom of Stephen and Persecution of Christians

- A. The student will be able to relate the story of the stoning of Stephen.
- B. The student will understand the meaning of the word martyr.
- C. The student will understand that a government's protection of Christians is a gift from God and that it is a blessing to live in a country where we can freely worship God. (Is. 9:6, 49:23)
- D. The student will compare the persecution of the early believers to persecution that we experience in our time.
- E. The students will understand that it was only by faith and the power of the gospel that the early Christians were able to overcome persecution. (Heb. 11:33-38)

Scripture: Acts 7:1-60; Heb.11:36-38

Vocabulary: martyr, persecution, catacombs

Resources: *Who's Who in the Bible, Small Catechism and Bible History*, p. 157; *Bible Dictionary*

Summary Verse: Acts 7:60

Memory Work: The Sacrament of Holy Baptism, part 2 (*The Small Catechism*)

Notes: Following is an outline of some key information, corresponding with the objectives, that may be helpful to the teacher.

- A. Stoning of Stephen (Acts 7:1-60)
 - 1. Believers are sometimes persecuted for confessing their faith. For example, believers were forced to live in the catacombs, burned alive, killed by wild animals, and mocked. (Heb. 11:38)
 - 2. Stephen was the first New Testament martyr.
 - 3. Stephen set an example. He prayed for his persecutors and did not seek revenge. (Acts 7:60)
 - 4. Saul of Tarsus was present. (Acts 7:58)

Lesson 5: Conversion of the Ethiopian Eunuch

- A. The student will be able to relate the story of the conversion of the Ethiopian eunuch. (Acts 8:26-40)
- B. The student will understand how a person enters God's kingdom from unbelief and the meaning of "grace calling."
- C. The student will understand that God has an order of grace.

Scripture: Acts 8:26-40

Vocabulary: eunuch

Resources: *Small Catechism & Bible History*, p. 159

Summary Verse: Acts 8:37

Memory Work: The Sacrament of Holy Baptism, part 3 (*The Small Catechism*)

Notes: Following is an outline of some key information, corresponding with the objectives, that may be helpful to the teacher.

- B. Entering God's kingdom from unbelief
 - 1. God works through believers to reveal His kingdom as He did through Phillip.
 - 2. God will lead a seeking one to His kingdom no matter where she or he is.
 - 3. Faith comes by hearing and hearing through the Word of God. (Rom. 10:11-18)
 - 4. The Scriptures are opened through the Spirit. The eunuch could not understand what he read. (Acts 8:30-31)
- C. Order of grace
 - 1. First, the kingdom of God approaches.
 - 2. Second, repentance and the forgiveness of sins is preached.
 - 3. Third, the gift of faith is received.
 - 4. Finally, the sacraments are given.

Lesson 6: The Apostles Peter and John

- A. The student will become familiar with the life of Peter.
- B. The student will understand the meaning of compassion in the context of Jesus' compassion for sin-fallen Peter. (Luke 23:54-63)
- C. The student will become familiar with the life of John.
- D. The student will understand that if a person truly loves God, he or she will also love all other children of God. (1 John 5:1)

Scripture: Acts 3:1-7, 9:32-43, 12:3-24; Luke 23:54-63; John 21:18-19; I John 5:1

Vocabulary: epistle, compassion, girded

Resources: *Who's Who in the Bible; The Small Catechism and Bible History*, pp. 153-156; *Voice of Zion*, August 1995, July 1994; *Bible Dictionary*

Summary Verse: Acts 3:6

Memory Work: The Sacrament of Holy Baptism, part 3 (*The Small Catechism*)

Notes: Following is an outline of some key information, corresponding with the objectives, that may be helpful to the teacher.

- A. Life of Peter
 1. Peter and John were fishermen by trade. Jesus called them to be His disciples while they were at work. (Mark 1:16-20)
 2. Peter was often very boastful and proud. (Luke 22:33)
 3. Peter denied knowing Jesus three times but later repented. (Luke 22:31-34, 54-62; Mark 16:7)
 4. Peter often was very doubting.
 5. Peter wrote the Epistles of Peter.
 6. Peter performed miracles (for example, the healing of the lame man, the healing of Aeneas, and the raising of Dorcas from the dead). (Acts 3:1-7, 9:32-43)

7. Peter was imprisoned by Herod and set free by an angel. (Acts 12:3-24)

C. Life of John

1. John is the apostle that Jesus especially loved. (John 19:26)
2. John often reminded the believers to love one another and is often referred to as the Apostle of Love. (1 John 4:7)
3. John wrote the Gospel of John, the three Epistles of John and the Book of Revelation.
4. John was the only disciple to die a natural death.

Lesson 7: Conversion of Cornelius

- A. The student will be able to relate the story of the conversion of Cornelius.
- B. The student will understand that the conversion of Cornelius marked the beginning of the time of visitation of the Holy Spirit and God's kingdom with the Gentile people.
- C. The student will understand that Cornelius was not heaven-acceptable because of his prayer to God, but rather because Peter was sent to him to preach repentance and the gospel of the forgiveness of sins. God gave him and others in his house the power to believe the gospel/gift of faith.
- D. The student will understand that after their conversion they were baptized: faith first, then the sacrament.

Scripture: Acts 10:1-48

Vocabulary: Gentile, conversion, tolerant, respecter of persons

Resources: *Who's Who in the Bible, The Small Catechism and Bible History*, pp. 160-161

Summary Verse: Acts 10:44

Memory Work: The Sacrament of Holy Baptism, part 3 (*The Small Catechism*)

Notes: Following is an outline of some key information, corresponding with the objectives, that may be helpful to the teacher.

- A. Conversion of Cornelius (Acts 10:1-48)
 - 1. Cornelius was from Italy. He was a Gentile. (Acts 10:1)
 - 2. He was a centurion (a ranking official).
 - 3. He prayed to God, and God heard his prayer. (Acts 10:2-3)
 - 4. An angel appeared unto him and instructed him to send for the Apostle Peter who would tell him what to do. (Acts 10:3-4)

B. Time of visitation with the Gentiles

1. Peter and other Jews were astonished that the Holy Spirit was given as a gift to the Gentiles also. (Acts 10:45-46)
2. Peter learned to be tolerant of other races and ethnic groups.

Lesson 8: Conversion of Saul

- A. The student will be able to relate the story of the conversion of Saul of Tarsus.
- B. The student will understand that everyone enters the kingdom of God from unbelief in the same way.
- C. The student will understand that the gospel of the forgiveness of sins creates love toward God and man, as well as a willingness to serve and even suffer for God's kingdom.

Scripture: Acts 9:1-31; Philippians 4:11

Vocabulary: doctrine of repentance, chosen vessel

Resources: *Who's Who in the Bible, The Small Catechism and Bible History*, p. 159

Summary Verse: Acts 9:17

Memory Work: The Sacrament of Holy Baptism, part 4 (*The Small Catechism*)

Notes: Following is an outline of some key information, corresponding with the objectives, that may be helpful to the teacher.

- A. Conversion of Saul of Tarsus (Acts 9:1-31)
 - 1. Saul was a scholar of the Law.
 - 2. Saul persecuted the Christians. (Acts 9:1-2)
 - 3. Saul was blinded on the way to Damascus and heard the voice of Jesus. (Acts 9:3-8)
 - 4. Saul was instructed to go to Ananias to be told what to do next. (Acts 9:6)
 - 5. Ananias, a believer, blessed Saul with the forgiveness of sins and Saul became a believer. (Acts 9:17-18)
 - 6. Saul became Paul, a special worker in God's kingdom.
 - 7. Paul confessed his faith before kings and powerful rulers, such as Felix, Festus, and King Agrippa. (Acts 24:10-21, 25:6-12, 25:23-26)

8. Paul confessed his faith and preached the doctrine of repentance and the forgiveness of sins to the wise of this world. For example, on Mars Hill in Greece, faith and reason came “face to face.” (Acts 17:16-32)
- C. The gospel creates love and willingness to serve
1. Paul’s love of God effected a serving heart in him. (Rom. 1:14-15)
 2. Paul learned to be content even in poor external circumstances. (Philip. 4:11)

Lesson 9: Paul's Missionary Trips

- A. The student will be able to relate about Paul's three major missionary trips.
 - B. The student will understand how the message of salvation is spread.
 - C. The student will understand that the gospel is the power of God unto salvation; it caused a change in the hearts and lives of the early New Testament believers.
 - D. The student will understand that repentance and the forgiveness of sins are the main points of preaching in God's kingdom.
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Scripture: Acts 13:1-52, 14:1-28, 15:36-21:17

Vocabulary: missionary, elders, theme, justified

Resources: *Small Catechism & Bible History*, pp. 162-168

Summary Verse: Acts 13:2

Memory Work: The Sacrament of Holy Baptism, part 4 (*The Small Catechism*)

Notes: Following is an outline of some key information, corresponding with the objectives, that may be helpful to the teacher.

- A. High points of Paul's first trip (Acts 13:1-14)
 - 1. Departure from Antioch of Syria (Acts 13:1-3)
 - 2. Preaching on the Island of Cyprus (Acts 13:1-3)
 - 3. Preaching in Antioch of Pisidia (Acts 13:13-52)
 - 4. Gospel work and persecution in Iconium, Lystra and Derbe (Acts 14:1-20)
 - 5. Confirmation of churches and appointment of elders (Acts 14:21-23)
 - 6. Return trip to Antioch (Acts 14:24-28)

- A. High points of Paul's second trip (Acts 15:36-18)
 - 1. Paul and Barnabas separate (Acts 15:36-41)

2. Timothy joins Paul and Silas (Acts 16:1-5)
 3. The call to come to Macedonia (Acts 16:6-10)
 4. The conversion of Lydia in Philippi (Acts 16:11-15)
 5. The conversion of the Philippian jailor (Acts 16:16-40)
 6. Gospel work in Thessalonica, Berea and Athens (Acts 17:1-34)
 7. One and a half years in Corinth (Acts 18:1-17)
 8. Return trip to Antioch (Acts 18:18-22)
- A. High points of Paul's third trip (Acts 18:23-21)
1. Strengthening of disciples in Galatia and Phrygia (Acts 18:23)
 2. Conversion of Apollos by Aquila and Priscilla (Acts 18:24-28)
 3. Three years in Ephesus (Acts 19:1-41)
 4. Travel through Macedonia to Greece and back (Acts 20:1-5)
 5. The breaking of bread and miracle at Troas (Acts 20:7-16)
 6. Meeting with the Ephesian elders at Miletus (Acts 20:17-38)
 7. Paul is warned about going to Jerusalem (Acts 21:11-14)
 8. Paul arrives in Jerusalem (Acts 21:15-17)
- B. How the message of salvation is spread
1. God works through His kingdom here on earth. (Mark 16:15-16)
 2. The work of God's kingdom takes place today in the same way as during Paul's time.
 3. Paul endured much suffering because of his love for the gospel work. (Col. 1:24)
- C. The message of the gospel causes a change in heart
1. The former life of sin and unbelief is rejected. (Rom. 6:4; I Peter 1:14-15; Eph. 4:21-23; Tit. 2:11-12)
 2. The Holy Spirit becomes the home teacher. (John 14:26)
 3. Relationships with others are repaired because of forgiveness and compassion. (Col. 3:13)
 4. The child of God lives for heaven instead of this life. (Col. 3:2; Heb. 13:14)

Lesson 10: Romans—The Gospel Is the Power of God unto Salvation

- A. The student will understand what the word “epistle” means.
- B. The student will become familiar with the Epistle to the Romans.
- C. The student will understand that all men, both Jews and Gentiles, have a need for salvation because of sin. (Romans 3:9-20)
- D. The student will understand that man is acceptable to God only by faith and through grace.
- E. The student will understand that the gospel gives us freedom from wrath, sin, the Law and death.
- F. The student will understand that God’s Spirit changes a person’s life in relation to: overall conduct (Rom 12:1-21), civil authority (Rom. 13:1-7), fellow man (Rom 13:8-14), other believers (the weak and the strong) (Rom. 14:1-15).

Scripture: Rom. 3:9-20, 1:16-17, 4:3, 7:18, 8:12, 12:1-21, 13:1-14, 14:1-15:13; I Cor. 15:45-47; Gal 5:17

Vocabulary: New Adam, Old Adam, Gentile, gospel, epistle, wrath

Resources: *Voice of Zion*, September 1999

Summary Verse: Rom. 1:16

Memory Work: The Sacrament of Holy Baptism (*The Small Catechism*)

Notes: Following is an outline of some key information, corresponding with the objectives, that may be helpful to the teacher.

- B. Overview of the Epistle to the Romans
 - 1. Paul is the author.
 - 2. The letter was written from Corinth, Greece.
 - 3. Paul wrote the epistle to the Romans during his third missionary journey in the years 57-58 A.D.

4. The Roman congregation was made up of both Jewish and Gentile believers.
5. Christianity may have come to Rome through those converted on Pentecost.

D. Man is acceptable to God through faith and by grace.

1. The just (pardoned sinners) live by faith. (Rom. 1:16-17)
2. Abraham is our father in faith. He believed God and was righteous because of his faith. Abraham was born before the Law of Moses and was acceptable to God before he was circumcised. (Rom. 4:3)

E. The gospel gives freedom

1. The believer has two portions, the New Adam (Spirit of Christ) and the Old Adam (fleshly portion). (Rom 7:18; I Cor. 15:45-47; Gal. 5:17)
2. The Holy Spirit in us wars against our reason, the world, and Satan. (Rom. 8:12)
3. The Spirit teaches us not to be conformed to this world. (Rom. 12:2)

Lesson 11: Corinthians—The Holy Spirit Unites the Children of God

- A. The student will become familiar with the Epistle to the Corinthians.
 - B. The student will understand that the kingdom of God is a battling kingdom.
 - C. The student will understand the concept of the unity of the Spirit.
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Scripture: I Cor.1:1, 1:10, 12, 16:1

Vocabulary: doctrine, carnal flesh, unity, battling

Resources: *Bible Class Book II*, pp. 103-104; *Voice of Zion*, June 1993

Summary Verse: I. Cor. 1:10

Memory Work: The Books of the New Testament

Notes: Following is an outline of some key information, corresponding with the objectives, that may be helpful to the teacher.

- A. Overview of the Epistle to the Corinthians
 - 1. Apostle Paul is the author. (I. Cor. 1:1)
 - 2. The first epistle was written from Ephesus in 57 A.D. The second epistle was written from Macedonia in 57 A.D.
 - 3. Corinth was a city in Greece with a free population of 200 000 plus 500 000 slaves.
 - 4. Corinth was a center of commerce.

- B. A battling kingdom
 - 1. The kingdom battles against wrong doctrine. (2 John 10; I Tim. 4:1,2; 2 Tim. 4:3-4)
 - 2. The kingdom battles against the permissibility of sin in society and individual lives. (Rom. 6:1-2, 6, 12-14)
 - 3. The kingdom battles against the three-fold enemy of sin, the world, and carnal flesh.

C. The unity of the spirit (I. Cor. 12)

1. Unity is a work of the Spirit and therefore precious. (Cor. 12:11)
2. The body of Christ, or the congregation of God, is compared to a human body with all its members. (Cor. 12:12)
3. All the members of the body of Christ work together. (Cor. 12:12)
4. There are many gifts in the body of Christ. (Cor. 12:4)
5. We sometimes need to help other congregations or individuals financially. (Cor. 16:1)

Lesson 12: Galatians—Freedom Through the Gospel

- A. The student will become familiar with the Epistle to the Galatians.
- B. The student will understand that Paul was called by God to be an apostle. It is an office of the Holy Spirit and not of man. (Gal. 1:1)
- C. The student will understand that justification is by faith and through grace.
- D. The student will understand that we have freedom in the gospel: freedom from sin, not freedom to sin. (Rom. 5:16-26)
- E. The student will understand what is meant by “New Jerusalem.” (Gal. 4:26; Heb. 12:22; Rev. 3:12, 21)

Scripture: Gal. 1:1; 5:1, 16-26

Vocabulary: New Jerusalem, justification, apostle

Resources: *Bible Class Book II*, pp. 105-106

Summary Verse: Gal. 5:1

Memory Work: The Books of the New Testament)

Notes: Following is an outline of some key information, corresponding with the objectives, that may be helpful to the teacher.

- A. Overview of the Epistle to the Galatians
 - 1. Paul was the author. (Gal. 1:1)
 - 2. It was most likely written during one of Paul’s missionary trips, perhaps around 55-58 A.D. or later.
 - 3. Galatia was a region in which several Christian churches had been established through the preaching of Paul and others.
- C. Justification by faith and through grace
 - 1. Salvation is through God’s grace and the believing of the gospel. (Eph. 2:8-9)
 - 2. No one can be saved through personal works or attempting to keep the Law of Moses. (Gal. 5:1)

Lesson 13: Ephesians—Be Strong in the Lord and the Power of His Might

- A. The student will become familiar with the Epistle to the Ephesians.
- B. The student will understand that we have many spiritual riches or blessings through Jesus Christ.
- C. The student will understand we have a responsibility and calling in Jesus Christ as the Holy Spirit teaches.

Scripture: Eph. 1:1-16, 4:1-7, 5:7-14, 5:22-6:17

Vocabulary: spiritual, manifest

Resources: *Voice of Zion*, July 1998

Summary Verse: Eph. 6:10

Memory Work: The Books of the New Testament

Notes: Following is an outline of some key information, corresponding with the objectives, that may be helpful to the teacher.

- A. Overview of the Epistle to the Ephesians
 - 1. Paul was the author. (Eph. 1:1)
 - 2. It is considered one of Paul's four prison epistles together with Philippians, Colossians, and Philemon. It was written when Paul was in prison in Rome between 61-63 A.D.
 - 3. It may have been written to other congregations in the vicinity of Ephesus rather than only to the Ephesians.
 - 4. Ephesus was a wealthy commercial center and city where the goddess Diana was worshipped.
- B. Spiritual riches through Jesus Christ (Eph. 1:3)
 - 1. These riches are from the Father, Son and Holy Ghost. (Eph. 1:4-16)
 - 2. Strength to continue in faith is a gift given freely to us by God. (Acts 14:22; Col. 1:23)

3. We are strengthened by personal faith in the gospel of the forgiveness of sins. (Rom. 1:16)
4. The children of God know each other. They are not as strangers or foreigners; rather, we are as citizens of the same spiritual nation and as family members. (Eph. 2:19)

C. A responsibility and calling in Jesus Christ

1. The Holy Spirit teaches us to walk in the unity of the Spirit;
2. The Holy Spirit teaches us to walk in the light of the Word. (Eph. 5:7-14)
3. The Holy Spirit teaches us to have an agreeable relationship to our parents, children, workers, teachers, bosses, and between husbands and wives. (Eph. 5:22 – 6:9)
4. The Holy Spirit teaches us to in all ways live a holy and righteous life. (Tit. 2:11-12)
5. We have a new life in Christ. (Rom. 6:4; Col. 3:4)
6. We are like soldiers in the army of Christ. Our weapons of warfare are the hope of salvation, God's Word, truth, righteousness, and faith. (Eph. 6:10-17)

Lesson 14: Philippians—The Joy of Salvation

- A. The student will become familiar with the Epistle to the Philippians.
- B. The student will understand that the general theme of the epistle is the joy of believing.
- C. The student will understand Christian behavior as a fruit of the Spirit.

Scripture: Phil. 1:1, 4:4; Ps. 133:1; Eph. 4:3; Matt. 5:14; 1 Pet. 1:8; Rev. 21:27

Vocabulary: Book of Life, exhort

Summary Verse: Phil. 4:4

Memory Work: The Books of the New Testament

Notes: Following is an outline of some key information, corresponding with the objectives, that may be helpful to the teacher.

- A. Overview of the Epistle to the Philippians
 - 1. Paul is the author. (Phil. 1:1)
 - 2. It is one of Paul's prison epistles.
 - 3. It was written from a Roman prison 61-63 A.D.
 - 4. Philippi was a major city in Greece named after Philip of Macedonia, father of Alexander the Great.
 - 5. It may have been a congregation mostly of Gentiles.
 - 6. Paul, Timothy, and Silas may have first visited in Philippi during Paul's second missionary trip.
- B. Theme of the epistle: the joy of believing (Phil. 4:4)
 - 1. The epistle is sometimes called Paul's "hymn of joy."
 - 2. Owning faith and the forgiveness of sins as a gift brings joy to the heart.
 - 3. When we hear of others remaining in faith, it brings us joy.
 - 4. Even when we are troubled by life around us we can be joyful in our hearts.

5. We are joyful because our own names are written in the Book of Life. (Rev. 21:27)
 6. As believers we live for the eternal joy of heaven and continue every day toward that goal.
 7. As believers we are exhorted to “rejoice in the Lord always.” (Phil. 3:3, 4:3; Matt. 5:12; I Pet. 1:8)
- C. Christian behavior as a fruit of the spirit
1. The Holy Spirit brings unity and one-mindedness. (Ps. 133:1; Eph. 4:3)
 2. We need not be afraid of our enemies. (Luke 1:71)
 3. As children of God we are a light unto the world. (Matt. 5:14)

Lesson 15: Colossians—A New Life in Christ

- A. The student will become familiar with the Epistle to the Colossians.
 - B. The student will understand that in Christ we have all that we need for salvation.
 - C. The student will understand that we are in warfare against wrong doctrines and false teachers.
 - D. The student will understand how we can battle against spiritual enemies.
-

Scripture: Col. 1:1, 1:15, 2:8-17, 3:1-17

Vocabulary: New Adam, Old Adam, philosophy

Summary Verse: Col. 3:1

Memory Work: The Books of the New Testament

Notes: Following is an outline of some key information, corresponding with the objectives, that may be helpful to the teacher.

- A. Overview of the Epistle to the Colossians
 - 1. Paul is the author. (Col. 1:1)
 - 2. It is one of Paul's prison epistles.
 - 3. It was written between 61-63 A.D.
 - 4. Colosse was a small pagan town about 100 miles from Ephesus.
 - 5. It is not known for sure if Paul actually ever visited in Colosse.
- B. In Christ, all needs for salvation are fulfilled
 - 1. Christ is the picture of the invisible God. (Col. 1:15)
 - 2. Christ was true God. (Col. 2:9-10)
 - 3. Our salvation is complete in Christ; we don't need anything else, such as works. (Col. 2:10)
- C. Warfare against wrong doctrines and false teachers
 - 1. Against the beliefs of this world (Col. 2:8-10)

2. Against requirements of the Jews' ceremonial law that required circumcision and the avoidance of certain food (Col. 2:11-17)
3. Against putting human intellect (wisdom) and reason ahead of faith and the Word of God (Rom. 8:6-7)

D. How to battle against spiritual enemies

1. Focus the mind on heaven or "the things above." (Col. 3:1-4)
2. Suppress the Old Adam of corruption (our fleshly desires) within you. (Col. 3:5-9)
3. Allow the New Adam, the Spirit of Christ, to rule in your heart through peace and forgiveness. (Col. 3:10-17)
4. Willingly hear and believe God's Word, caring for each other and singing songs of thanksgiving and praise from the heart. (Col. 3: 15-17)

Lesson 16: Thessalonians—Watchfulness and the Second Coming of Christ

- A. The student will become familiar with the Epistle to the Thessalonians.
 - B. The student will understand that the main theme of the first epistle is the second coming of Jesus Christ.
 - C. The student will understand that the main theme of the second epistle is to remain steadfast in faith while awaiting the second coming.
 - D. The student will understand that it is a Christian responsibility and desire to pray for the work of God's kingdom and its workers.
-

Scripture: 1 Thess. 1:1, 3:12-13; Acts 5:1-4; Heb. 12:1; 2 Thess. 2:3-5, 3:1

Vocabulary: diligence, steadfast, perdition

Summary Verse: 1 Thess. 5:2

Memory Work: The Books of the New Testament

Notes: Following is an outline of some key information, corresponding with the objectives, that may be helpful to the teacher.

- A. Overview of the Epistle to the Thessalonians
 - 1. The author was Paul. (Thess. 1:1)
 - 2. It is considered one of Paul's earliest writings.
 - 3. It is thought to have been written during Paul's second mission trip after he had arrived in Corinth.
 - 4. Thessalonica was the capital and largest city of the Roman province Macedonia.
 - 5. It was an important city of trade and commerce.
- B. Theme of the first epistle: second coming of Christ
 - 1. Every chapter in the first letter ends with emphasis on the second coming.
 - 2. The second coming of Christ will be sudden and without warning, just like a thief in the night.

3. We need to remain watchful in faith until we depart from this life.

C. Theme of the second epistle: remaining steadfast in faith

1. We are to walk in holiness, love, diligence, hope, light and obedience while awaiting the coming of Jesus.
2. We need to put away sin as it attaches.
3. There will be a falling away from God before the end comes.
4. We need to hold faith as a precious gift.
5. We need to become familiar with the Bible and to know the true doctrine of salvation.
6. We need to pray often for ourselves, other believers, unbelievers, and the workers in God's kingdom.

Lesson 17: Timothy—Caring for the Needs of the Congregation

- A. The student will become familiar with the Epistles to Timothy.
 - B. The student will understand the need to keep faith and a good conscience.
 - C. The student will understand that workers in God’s kingdom must preach and teach sound doctrine in order to fulfill the work of the ministry.
 - D. The student will understand that God’s Word gives instruction for maintaining love and a proper relationship between the children of God.
 - E. The student will understand that servants of God need to be remembered in prayer and with encouragement.
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Scripture: 1 Tim. 1:1-11, 5:1—6:2

Vocabulary: afflictions, charity, unfeigned faith

Resources: *Voice of Zion*, October 1994

Summary Verse: 2 Tim. 4:5

Memory Work: The Books of the New Testament

Notes: Following is an outline of some key information, corresponding with the objectives, that may be helpful to the teacher.

- A. Overview of the Epistles to Timothy
 1. Paul was the author. He wrote both epistles to Timothy whom he called a “son Timothy” and “my own son in faith.”
 2. Timothy was a young believer and a co-worker in God’s kingdom.
 3. Timothy’s mother was a Jew and his father a Greek.
 4. Timothy’s mother and grandmother were believers.

5. The first epistle is thought to have been written in Macedonia following his first imprisonment (63-64 A.D.). The second epistle is thought to have been written from Rome during his second imprisonment (66-67 A.D.).

C. Workers must preach and teach sound doctrine

1. Pastors must care for the spiritual needs of congregation members.
2. The wholesome doctrine of salvation must be taught and even fought for.
3. The preaching office is an office of the Holy Spirit.
4. We must be aware of false teachers who teach wrong doctrines.
5. Workers must remember that the congregation contains sinners like themselves.
6. Workers must not tire of helping the weak and sinful.

Lesson 18: Titus—Sound Doctrine & Believing According to the Word and Spirit

- A. The student will become familiar with the Epistle to Titus.
 - B. The student will understand that the newly formed congregations needed help to organize the work of the kingdom.
 - C. The student will understand that it is grace that teaches us how to live a Godly life in this world and present time.
 - D. The student will study the examples of proper Christian conduct given in the Bible—for older men and women, younger men and women, servants, and everyone in general.
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Scripture: Titus 1:1, 4-16, 2:1-14, 3:1-11

Vocabulary: steward of God, exhort, principalities, sound doctrine, conduct

Summary Verse: Titus 2:1

Memory Work: The Books of the New Testament

Notes: Following is an outline of some key information, corresponding with the objectives, that may be helpful to the teacher.

- A. Overview of the Epistle to Titus
 - 1. Paul is the author.
 - 2. Titus was a Gentile whom Paul considered “mine own son after the common faith.”
 - 3. It is possible the epistle was written from Corinth in the year 63-66 A.D. following his first imprisonment in Rome.
 - 4. Titus was on the island of Crete to attend to the matters of the newly formed congregations when Paul wrote to him.
- B. The newly formed congregations needed help
 - 1. It was Titus’ duty to help them.

2. Elders or board members have certain qualifications. The most important is that they are believing and love God and His children.
3. Sound doctrine must be preached.
4. False teachers or preachers can arise and have certain characteristics.

Lesson 19: Philemon—Forgiveness and Brotherhood in Christ

- A. The student will become familiar with the Epistle to Philemon.
 - B. The student will understand that the Epistle to Philemon is a personal letter written by Paul to his brother in faith, Philemon.
 - C. The student will understand that once a person repents and believes the gospel, he becomes a brother or sister in faith to all believers regardless of nationality, skin color or station in life.
 - D. The student will understand the importance of forgiving from the heart.
-

Scripture: Philem. 1,9,19,15-16

Vocabulary: beseech, albeit

Resources: *Who's Who in the Bible*

Summary Verses: Philem. 15-16

Memory Work: The Books of the New Testament

Notes: Following is an outline of some key information, corresponding with the objectives, that may be helpful to the teacher.

- A. Overview of the Epistle to Philemon
 - 1. Paul was the author.
 - 2. It is a “prison epistle.” Paul wrote it from a Roman prison.
 - 3. It is thought to have been written between 61-63 A.D.
 - 4. Philemon was a believer from the church in Colosse.
 - 5. Onesimus was converted/repented and believed the gospel.
 - 6. Onesimus was a servant/slave of Philemon, a believing man.
 - 7. Onesimus ran away/escaped and later became a believer.
 - 8. Paul urged Philemon to now receive Onesimus as brother in faith and to forgive him.

Lesson 20: Hebrews—The Priesthood of Christ

- A. The student will become familiar with the Epistle to the Hebrews.
- B. The student will understand that the sacrifice of Jesus Christ on the cross and His resurrection marked the beginning of the New Testament and the end of the Old Testament.
- C. The student will understand that Jesus Christ is a perfect high priest who fully knows and understands our trials and struggle of faith, and that we can approach Him without fear. (Heb. 4:14-16)
- D. The student will understand that the law of Moses couldn't change a person's heart, but the Holy Spirit teaches us inwardly through grace and forgiveness. (Heb. 10:1)
- E. The student will understand that by faith the former believers have overcome temptations and trials and were acceptable to God when they died. Biblical examples of this include Noah, Enoch, Abraham, Moses (Heb. 11:7-24). Examples of our time include members of the local congregation.
- F. The student will understand the need to put away sin as it attaches and that we have many brothers and sisters who can bless us with the forgiveness of sins.

Scripture: Matt. 13:55-56; Heb. 2:14-18, 4:14-16, 7:26-27, 9:11-12, 10:1-4, 10:12-14, 11:7-24

Vocabulary: High Priest, substance, evidence

Summary Verse: Heb. 11:1

Memory Work: The Books of the New Testament

Notes: Following is an outline of some key information, corresponding with the objectives, that may be helpful to the teacher.

- A. Overview of the Epistle to the Hebrews
 - 1. Apostle Paul is thought by some to be the author, although others think it may be Luke. The book contains no introduction or mention of who wrote it.
 - 2. The place from which it was written is not known.
 - 3. It was written to Jewish Christians.
 - 4. It is thought to have been written between 63-65 A.D.

- B. The beginning of the New Testament, the end of the Old Testament
 - 1. Christ is like a high priest who sacrificed Himself instead of an animal for the sins of the people. He was the perfect sacrifice. (Heb. 7:26-27)
 - 2. The sacrificing of animals was only a symbol (picture) of the coming sacrifice of Jesus on the cross. It could not remove sin. (Heb. 10:1-4)
 - 3. Jesus died once and for all, whereas animals had to be sacrificed continually. (Heb. 10:12-14)
 - 4. When Jesus died He opened the way to the most holy place, heaven. (Heb. 9:11-12)

- C. Jesus fully knows and understands the way of mankind
 - 1. He came in the form of sinful flesh. (Heb. 2:14-18)
 - 2. He was a member of an earthly family and had siblings and earthly parents. (Matt. 13:55-56)
 - 3. He experienced temptation but did not sin. (Luke 4:1-13)

- F. Putting away sin as it attaches
 - 1. We have many brothers and sisters who can bless us with the forgiveness of sins.
 - 2. Sin is like a heavy weight. (Heb. 12:1)
 - 3. We must not become disobedient.

Lesson 21: James—Living Faith Has Fruits

- A. The student will become familiar with the Epistle of James.
- B. The student will be able to list some of the fruits of the Holy Spirit, including love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, etc. (Gal. 5:22-23)
- C. The student will understand that living faith endures trials and temptations.
- D. The student will understand the importance of not only listening to God's Word, but also putting it into practice in our lives or living by it. (James 1:22-24)
- E. The student will understand that God's Word teaches us to care for our brothers and sisters in faith who have erred, by showing love and forgiveness. (James 5:13-16)

Scripture: Gal. 5:22-23; James 1:22-24, 5:13-16

Vocabulary: endure, err

Resources: *Who's Who in the Bible; Voice of Zion*, June 1997, June 1995; *Bible Class Book II*, pp. 56-60

Summary Verse: James 1:22

Memory Work: The Books of the New Testament

Notes: Following is an outline of some key information, corresponding with the objectives, that may be helpful to the teacher.

- A. Overview of the Epistle to James
 1. The author is thought to be James, the brother of Jesus and son of Mary and Joseph.
 2. It was probably written from Jerusalem.
 3. It was probably written between 48-50 A.D. and could have been the first book of the New Testament.
 4. It was probably written to believing Jews living outside the land of Palestine.

C. Living faith endures trials and temptations

1. Through joy and patience (James 1:2-4)
2. Through wisdom from God (James 1:5)
3. Through a proper outlook (James 1:9-11)
4. Through proper understanding of temptation (James 1:12-15)
5. Through an awareness of the goodness of God (James 1:16-18)

Lesson 22: Peter—A Royal Priesthood

- A. The student will be familiar with the Epistle of Peter.
- B. The student will be encouraged to remain believing even in the midst of persecution.
- C. The student will know Biblical descriptions for God's kingdom.
- D. The student will be able to give examples of Christian conduct as related to stations in life or circumstances.

Scripture: I Peter 2:9-25, 3:1—4:16

Vocabulary: revenge, priesthood, sojourner, peculiar

Resources: *Who's Who in the Bible*

Summary Verse: 1 Peter 2:9

Memory Work: The Books of the New Testament

Notes: Following is an outline of some key information, corresponding with the objectives, that may be helpful to the teacher.

- A. Overview of the Epistle of Peter
 - 1. Peter is the author.
 - 2. The first epistle is thought to have been written between 63-64 A.D.
 - 3. It may have been written primarily to Jewish Christians who were scattered throughout the region.
 - 4. It was written from Babylon but it is uncertain whether that meant the region of Babylon or in a spiritual sense.
- B. Remain believing in the midst of persecution
 - 1. Do not seek revenge. (Rom. 12:19)
 - 2. Pray for your enemies. (Matt. 5:44)
 - 3. Maintain honor.
 - 4. Love your enemies. (Luke 6:27)

C. Biblical description for God's kingdom

1. A holy nation (1 Peter 2:9)
2. A royal priesthood (1 Peter 2:9)
3. A chosen generation (1 Peter 2:9)

D. Examples of Christian conduct

1. As sojourners (1 Peter 2:11-12)
2. As citizens (1 Peter 2:13-17)
3. As servants (1 Peter 2:18-25)
4. As wives and husbands (1 Peter 3:1-7)
5. As brethren (1 Peter 3:8-12)
6. As sufferers for righteousness sake (1 Peter 3:13-4:16)
7. As those awaiting the coming of Christ (1 Peter 4:7-11)

Lesson 23: John—Little Children, Love One Another

- A. The student will be familiar with the Epistles of John.
- B. The student will understand that what it means to “walk in the light as He is in the light.” (1 John 1:5-7)
- C. The student will understand what it means to walk in truth and love.
- D. The student will understand that at times the spirit of heresy works against the wholesome teachings of the Spirit of the Word.
- E. The student will understand the danger to faith of loving this world and the sin of worldliness. (1 John 2:15-16)

Scripture: 1 John 1:5-10, 2:10, 4:7, 15, 7:38; 2 John 1; 3 John 4; 1 Corinth. 12:25-26; Gal. 5:22

Vocabulary: fellowship, abideth

Resources: *Who's Who in the Bible*; *Voice of Zion*, August 1994

Summary Verse: 1 John 3:11

Memory Work: Review the Sacrament of Holy Baptism

Notes: Following is an outline of some key information, corresponding with the objectives, that may be helpful to the teacher.

- A. Overview of the Epistles of John
 1. The Apostle John is the author. He wrote three epistles.
 2. The three epistles are thought to have been written between 90-95 A.D.
 3. John wrote the epistles against a heretical movement of his time called Gnosticism.
 4. The epistles may have been written from Ephesus.
 5. John refers to other believers as “my children.” (3 John 4)
 6. John often exhorted the believers to love one another. (1 John 4:7)

7. John at times refers to himself as “the elder.” (2 John 1)
- B. “Walk in the light as He is in the light.”
1. Live according to God’s Word. (John 7:38)
 2. Put away sin as it attaches. (1 John 1:8-10)
 3. Walk according to the doctrine set forth in the Bible. (John 7:38)
- C. Walk in truth and love
1. Love one another. (1 John 2:10, 4:7)
 2. Care for one another. (1 Corinth. 12:25-26)
 3. Love is a fruit of the Spirit. (Gal. 5:22)
 4. If we love God we will love the children of God. (1 John 5:1)
 5. Love teaches us to confess our faith. (1 John 4:15)
 6. If we love God and the Lord Jesus Christ, we will be obedient to the Word. (1 John 2:2,5; John 14:15)
- D. The spirit of heresy
1. False teachers arise. (1 John 4:1)
 2. We should not believe every spirit. (1 John 4:1)
 3. Jesus Christ came in the same fleshly form that we have. (1 John 4:3)
 4. A believer cannot greet an unbeliever with God’s Peace. (2 John 9-11)

Lesson 24: Jude—Beware of False Teachers

- A. The student will be familiar with the Epistle of Jude.
- B. The student will understand that heresies depart from God's kingdom from time to time. (2 Peter 2:1-2)
- C. The student will understand the importance of spiritual warfare.
- D. The student will understand that sin has a consequence.

Scripture: Jude: 1, 4, 7-12, 15; 2 Peter 2:1-2; 2 Ch. 20:15; I Cor. 12: 4, 14:8; Eph. 6:10-17; Eph. 4:4-6; I Tim. 1:19; 1 Thess. 5:17; Heb. 10:25; John 5:39; Rev. 1:3

Vocabulary: heresies, defiled conscience, wrath, vengeance

Resources: *Who's Who in the Bible*

Summary Verse: Jude 18

Memory Work: Review

Notes: Following is an outline of some key information, corresponding with the objectives, that may be helpful to the teacher.

- A. Outline of the Epistle of Jude
 1. The author is Jude “the servant of Jesus Christ and brother of James.” (Jude 1:1)
 2. No accurate time can be assigned to its writing only that it was written in the second half of the first century.
 3. The place of the writing is not known.
 4. It is called a general epistle because it was not written to a certain congregation or person but to all believers.
 5. The word revelation in Greek means “an uncovering” or “unveiling.”
 6. The letter is addressed to the seven churches of Asia: Ephesus, Smyrna, Pergamos, Thyratira, Sardis, Philadelphia, Laodicea.
 7. Seven seals are opened.
 8. Seven trumpets are sounded.
 9. There are seven bowls of wrath poured out upon the earth.

B. Heresies

1. God's congregation is a battling congregation.
2. Heresies are the result of defiled consciences. (Jude 4)
3. Heresies are led by false teachers who are like clouds without water, wild animals, trees without fruit. (Jude 10-12)
4. There is only one kingdom of God, one way of salvation. (Eph. 4:4-6; 1 Cor. 12:4)

C. Spiritual warfare

1. Diligently read the Bible. (John 5:39; Rev. 1:3)
2. Keep a good conscience. (1 Tim. 1:19)
3. Pray often. (1 Thess. 5:17)
4. Go to services and other activities of the children of God. (Heb. 10:25)
5. Do not use wrath or vengeance in the warfare. (Jude 9)

D. Examples of sin's consequence

1. Sodom and Gomorrah (Jude 7)
2. Cain (Jude 7)
3. Heresy of Korah (Jude 7)
4. Error of Balaam (Jude 11)
5. Final Judgment (Jude 15)

Lesson 25: Revelation—Heaven and the Marriage of the Lamb

- A. The student will be familiar with the Book of Revelation.
- B. The student will understand that some of the prophecies in the book of Revelation may already have taken place and may not therefore be still to happen or in the future.
- C. The student will understand that the book was originally addressed unto the seven churches in Asia but applies to Christians of every generation. (Rev. 2:1—3:22)
- D. The student will understand that the kingdom of God is a battling kingdom.
- E. The student will understand that God has prepared a place in heaven for those who love Him and continue in faith until the end.

Scripture: Rev. 2:1—3:22, 7:13-17, 12:1-17, 17: 14, 18:1-24; 19:6-9, 19:19-20, 20:1-15, 21:2-4; Matt. 25:10; Luke 12:40

Vocabulary: three-fold enemy, prophesy

Resources: *Voice of Zion*, December 2001

Summary Verse: Rev. 2:29

Note: Following is an outline of some key information, corresponding with the objectives, that may be helpful to the teacher.

- A. Outline of the Revelation
 1. The Apostle John is the author.
 2. The time of writing by some is thought to be as early as 64-68 A.D. or as late as 95-96 A.D.
 3. The place of the writing is thought to be the Isle of Patmos where John was in exile.
 4. It is written in a form that is very different from other books of the Bible. It is called apocalyptic literature.

5. The word revelation in Greek means “an uncovering” or “unveiling.”
6. The letter is addressed to the seven churches of Asia: Ephesus, Smyrna, Pergamos, Thyratira, Sardis, Philadelphia, Laodicea.
7. Seven seals are opened.
8. Seven trumpets are sounded.
9. There are seven bowls of wrath poured out upon the earth.

B. Some prophecies may have taken place

1. It was written to show unto his servants things which must “shortly come to pass.” (Rev. 1:1)
2. John was told not to seal the prophesy for another time. (Rev. 22:10)

D. A battling kingdom

1. There is continual warfare against the three-fold enemy.
2. The Lamb (Christ) battles against the dragon (Satan) and the beast.
3. The woman and child are pursued by the dragon. (Rev. 12:1-17)
4. “These will make war with the Lamb, and the Lamb will overcome them.” (Rev. 17:14)
5. The sinful city of Babylon falls and is destroyed. (Rev. 18:1-24)
6. On Judgment Day the enemies of Christ and His kingdom will receive their reward. (Rev. 20:11-15)

E. A place in heaven for those who love Him

1. The marriage supper of the Lamb (Rev. 19:6-9)
2. The congregation of God is compared to a bride and Jesus Christ to a groom. The wedding will be eternal. (Rev. 21:2)
3. In heaven are no sorrows, pain, fear or suffering. (Rev. 21:4)
4. The children of God throughout time have endured trial and tribulation.
5. We live every day for heaven. (Rev. 7:13-17)
6. We must always be ready to depart for heaven. (Matt. 25:10; Luke 12:40)