

GOD'S LOVE

A BIBLE STORYBOOK

Parent's Guide

How to Use

We hope you are enjoying *God's Love: A Storybook Bible*. Our prayer is that this book will help you as a parent magnify God's love to your children. To help equip you in this task, we are excited to provide the following Parent's Guide as a companion to your book.

The 120 stories in the book are divided into 3-story units which share a common theme. The Parent's Guide includes a memory verse for each unit, three target truths, and story specific questions. The questions provide a review of a story's content with a final question to encourage discussion with older children.

We recommend working through one unit each week, using the following schedule. However, the material can be easily adjusted to whatever format best suits your family's needs.

Monday	Introduce the memory verse and use the pictures to give an overview of the stories for the week.
Tuesday	Read story #1, talk about the discussion question, and review the memory verse.
Wednesday	Answer the review questions for story #1, read story #2, talk about the discussion question, and review the memory verse.
Thursday	Answer the review questions for story #2, read story #3, talk about the discussion question, and review the memory verse.
Friday	Answer the review questions for story #3 and have each of the children quote the memory verse.
Weekend	Reread all three stories, allowing your children to help tell the stories. Then review the memory verse a final time.

Creation

Scripture Memory—Genesis 1:1 (Creation)

Target Truths

- God doesn't need anything to be happy.
- God made everything out of nothing.
- God made everything just right.

Review and Discussion Questions

God exists before creation (p. 7)

Review Questions

1. What was it like in the beginning? (There was nothing—no world, no sky, no flowers, no people, etc.—except God.)
2. Was anything too hard for Him? (No, He is all-powerful.)
3. What could God make? (He could make anything He could imagine.)
4. Was God the Father lonely? (No, He had the Son and the Holy Spirit.)
5. How did the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit feel about each other? (They loved each other very much.)

Discussion Question

- Why doesn't God need anything to make Him happy?

God creates the world: Days 1-3 (p. 9)

Review Questions

1. On the first day, when God said, "Let there be light," what happened? (As soon as God spoke, there was light.)
2. What did God name the light and the darkness? (day and night)
3. What did God say on the second day? ("Let there be sky. Let there be water.")
4. What did God create on the third day? (land, trees, flowers, etc.)
5. What did God name the land and the waters? (earth and seas)
6. When God looked at what He had created, what did He say? ("This is good.")

Discussion Question

- What did God use to create everything we see?

God creates the world: Days 4-6 (p. 11)

Review Questions

1. Why did God create the world and everything in it? (to share His love with others)
2. What lights did God put in the sky on the fourth day? (the sun, moon, and stars)
3. Why did God make the sun, moon, and stars? (to give light and to help us tell time)
4. What creatures did God make on the fifth day to fill up the water and sky? (fish and birds)
5. What did God create on the sixth day? (Answers will vary.)
6. When God looked at what He had created, what did He see? (He saw that it was good.)

Discussion Question

- Why was everything God made good and right?

The Rebellion

Scripture Memory—John 14:15 (Obedience)

Target Truths

- God created people to share in His love.
- God wants us to put Him first.
- God calls disobedience sin.

Review and Discussion Questions

God makes Adam and Eve (p. 13)

Review Questions

1. What was the “one more thing” that God wanted to make on the sixth day? (people)
2. How did God make the first man? (He took some dust and shaped it. Then He breathed into it and gave it life.)
3. What did God name the man? (Adam)
4. How did God make the first woman? (God put Adam into a deep sleep and, from his side, took out one of his ribs. God shaped the rib into the first woman.)
5. Who named the first woman Eve? (Adam)
6. In whose image were Adam and Eve made? (God’s image—the way children are like their parents.)
7. What command did God give to Adam and Eve? (Fill up the earth with your children and grandchildren.)
8. This time when God looked at what He had created, what did He see? (He saw that everything was very good and was pleased with all that He had made.)
9. Why did God rest on the seventh day? (God rested, not because He was tired, but because His work of creation was done.)

Discussion Question

- How can you enjoy God’s love?

God gives a good rule to Adam and Eve (p. 15)

Review Questions

1. What was the Garden like where Adam and Eve lived? (It was a perfect place full of wonderful things. No one ever got sick or hurt there, and there was no sin.)
2. What one rule did God give Adam and Eve? (They must not eat the fruit of one special tree.)
3. Where was the one special tree? (It was in the middle of the Garden.)
4. What did God say would happen if they ate the fruit from this tree? (They would certainly die.)
5. How did Adam and Eve show God that they loved Him? (by obeying His command not to eat from the special tree)
6. How do you think we can show God that we love Him? (by obeying Him)

Discussion Question

- Why does God want you to love Him more than anything else?

Adam and Eve disobey God's good rule (p. 17)

Review Questions

1. Who came up to Eve in the Garden and started talking to her? (the snake, Satan)
2. What did he ask her? ("Did God really say not to eat from any of the trees in the Garden?")
3. What did Eve say? ("No, we may not eat of one special tree. We may not even touch it.")
4. What did the snake want Eve to do? (eat the fruit that God said not to eat)
5. Did Eve choose to believe God or Satan? (She believed Satan. She looked at the fruit, sniffed it, and took a bite.)
6. What did she do after she took a bite? (She gave the fruit to Adam, and he took a bite too.)
7. Why did Adam and Eve feel bad after they ate the fruit? (Adam and Eve knew they had sinned. God had given them only one rule, and they had broken it.)

Discussion Question

- Why is disobedience to God so bad?

Sent Away

Scripture Memory–Proverbs 3:12a (Discipline)

Target Truths

- God seeks His sinful children.
- God disciplines His sinful children.
- God rescues His sinful children.

Review and Discussion Questions

God finds Adam and Eve (p. 19)

Review Questions

1. What was Adam doing at the beginning of the story? (He was hiding from God.)
2. Why was Adam hiding from God? (He was afraid because he knew he had sinned.)
3. Did God know where Adam was hiding? (Yes, He knew exactly where Adam was because He knows everything.)
4. What did God ask Adam? (“Did you disobey My rule?”)
5. How did Adam answer God’s question the wrong way? (He blamed Eve for what he had done.)
6. Who did Eve blame for what she had done? (She blamed the snake, Satan.)
7. Why had God come down to find Adam and Eve? (He still loved them even though they had disobeyed Him.)

Discussion Question

- What does God’s looking for Adam and Eve, even after they sinned, reveal about God?

God talks to Eve (p. 21)

Review Questions

1. Because of Adam and Eve's disobedience, what would have to happen? (Their sin would have to be punished.)
2. Who did God punish first? (the snake, Satan)
3. In the promise that God made to the snake, who did God say would win in the end? (His Son)
4. What was Eve's punishment? (It would be hard to raise a family. Beside her love and joy would be pain and trouble.)
5. Why did God punish Eve? (so she would remember what she had done wrong and not sin again)
6. Did God still love Eve even though she had sinned? (yes)

Discussion Question

- How does God's discipline show His love for His children?

God lovingly sends Adam and Eve away (p. 23)

Review Questions

1. What was Adam's punishment? (It would be hard to grow food. Alongside the fruits and vegetables that he planted would grow thorns and weeds.)
2. Where did God lead Adam and Eve? (outside the gate of the Garden)
3. Why did God make them leave the Garden? (God wanted to protect them from eating of the Tree of Life and living forever apart from Him.)
4. Why did God send angels to guard the entrance of the Garden? (He sent them so that Adam and Eve could never go back inside.)
5. What bigger plan did God have even though He had sent His children away? (He would send His own Son to defeat Satan and sin.)

Discussion Question

- What are some ways God can use hard things for the good of His children?

The Flood

Scripture Memory—Romans 3:23 (Sin)

Target Truths

- God shows love in spite of sin.
- God shows love by delivering people from sin.
- God shows love by keeping His promises.

Review and Discussion Questions

God gives Adam and Eve a family (p. 25)

Review Questions

1. What was one way that God showed Adam and Eve His love? (He gave them grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and great-great-grandchildren.)
2. Since people lived longer, did that mean they loved God more? (No, most of the people were really mean to each other.)
3. Why did the people's sin make God so sad? (Sin was destroying God's good world and the people He made.)
4. Whom was life especially hard for? (the people who tried to love and obey God)
5. What did Noah's father hope that God would use Noah to do? (to bring rest to God's world)
6. What did Noah's name mean? ("rest")

Discussion Question

- What is the only way you can find rest in a sin-filled world?

God protects Noah and his family (p. 27)

Review Questions

1. How did the people in Noah's day act? (They were mean, and no one obeyed or loved God, except Noah and his tiny family.)
2. What job did God give to Noah? (God told Noah to build a huge boat called an ark.)
3. Why did this seem like a strange idea to Noah? (There was no water around.)
4. Whom was Noah to prepare homes for inside the boat? (for the animals and for all the people who would turn to God and trust Him)
5. How long did it take Noah and his sons to build the ark? (120 years)
6. Who closed the door of the ark once Noah's family and the animals were safely inside? (God)
7. What happened at the end of the story that had never happened before? (It started to rain.)

Discussion Question

- What are some ways God protects you from the sin in the world?

God keeps Noah safe through the flood (p. 29)

Review Questions

1. How long did water pour down from the clouds and gush up from the ground? (forty days)
2. How high did the waters rise? (until the highest mountains were covered)
3. How did God take care of Noah's family and the animals during the flood? (In the ark they didn't get wet; they were safe and dry.)
4. What did God command both Noah and the animals to do? (to fill up the earth again)
5. What promise did God make to Noah? (that He would never flood the whole earth again)
6. What special sign did God put in the sky as a reminder of His promise to Noah? (a rainbow)

Discussion Question

- Can God ever break a promise?

The Tower and the Promise

Scripture Memory–Romans 5:8 (Substitution)

Target Truths

- Sinners don't naturally seek or desire God's help.
- Sinners cannot mess up God's plan.
- Sinners are objects of God's love.

Review and Discussion Questions

The people begin building the Tower of Babel (p. 31)

Review Questions

1. Even though the flood removed wicked people from the earth, did it remove wickedness from people's hearts? (no)
2. What selfish plan did the people come up with? (They were going to make an amazing city with a super-tall tower right in the middle that reached all the way to heaven.)
3. Who was God talking to when He said, "Let us go down to look at their tower"? (He was talking to God the Son and God the Holy Spirit.)
4. How did the people's big and fancy tower look to God? (In God's eyes it was pretty tiny.)
5. What did the proud people who built the tower think about God? (They didn't think they needed God.)
6. How were the people not obeying God's command to fill the earth? (They wanted to stay together in one place.)
7. In what did the people trust? (They trusted in their own work to keep them safe.)

Discussion Question

- What are some things that people rely on rather than God?

God stops the tower builders (p. 33)

Review Questions

1. Instead of destroying the builders of the tower, what did God do? (He lovingly guided them to do what He wanted them to do—to fill up the whole earth.)
2. How did God powerfully stop the people's plans? (He mixed up their languages so they couldn't understand each other.)
3. Why did the people have to stop building? (because there was too much silliness and confusion)
4. How did the people end up obeying God's command? (They found other people who spoke the same language and moved away together.)

Discussion Question

- What are some ways God can stop the sinful plans of men?

God calls Abraham to follow Him (p. 35)

Review Questions

1. What city did Abraham and his wife live in? (Ur)
2. Where did God command Abraham to go? (to leave Ur and go to another land)
3. How do you think Abraham might have felt about leaving the walled city of Ur, his home? (He may have been frightened to leave.)
4. If Abraham left the city of Ur, who would keep him safe? (God would keep him safe.)
5. What promises did God make to Abraham? (to give him children, to make him the father of a great nation, and to bless all the people of the world through his family)

Discussion Question

- What does God calling Abraham reveal about God's love?

Isaac

Scripture Memory–Proverbs 22:9a (Giving)

Target Truths

- God gives good gifts to His children.
- God commands us to love Him more than His good gifts.
- God gave Jesus, His Son, as the best gift of all.

Review and Discussion Questions

God blesses Abraham (p. 37)

Review Questions

1. What promise had God made to Abraham and Sarah? (to give them a family)
2. How did God keep His promise? (He gave them a son, Isaac.)
3. How did Abraham show his love for God? (by offering sacrifices to Him)
4. What kinds of sacrifices did Abraham offer to God? (Often it was an animal from his flock, like a ram or sheep.)
5. What is a sacrifice? (giving back to God part of what has been given to you)

Discussion Question

- What are some of the good gifts God has given you?

Abraham prepares to obey the Lord (p. 39)

Review Questions

1. What was Abraham's favorite gift from God? (his son, Isaac)
2. What hard command did God give Abraham? (He asked Abraham to give Isaac back to Him as a sacrifice.)
3. What was God trying to test? (Abraham's love for Him)
4. Did Abraham obey God's command? (Yes, when the sun rose the next morning, Abraham and Isaac began their trip.)
5. What was the one thing that they needed for the sacrifice that they didn't bring with them? (the lamb)
6. Who did Abraham say would provide the lamb? (God)

Discussion Question

- Is there anything God has given you that you love too much to give back to Him?

God provides a sacrifice (p. 41)

Review Questions

1. Who stopped Abraham from sacrificing Isaac? (God did when He called out, "Abraham, don't hurt the boy!")
2. How did God know that Abraham loved Him more than anything or anyone else? (because he was willing to sacrifice his only son)
3. What was stuck in the bushes? (a ram—the sacrifice God had provided)
4. Even though God had given Abraham a hard test, did He ever stop loving Abraham? (No, He never stopped loving Abraham.)
5. Who would God one day offer as a sacrifice to take the death that our sins deserve? (His own Son, the perfect Lamb)

Discussion Question

- What is the greatest gift God has ever given?

Jacob

Scripture Memory—Proverbs 13:15b (Consequences)

Target Truths

- You cannot trick God out of His loving plan.
- You cannot run away from God’s love.
- You cannot do anything to earn God’s love.

Review and Discussion Questions

Jacob tricks Esau (p. 43)

Review Questions

1. How did God show His love to Isaac? (He gave Isaac twin sons—Esau and Jacob.)
2. How were the twin brothers different? (Esau liked to hunt and work with his hands, and Jacob liked to stay close to home and think.)
3. When Esau returned home from a long hunt, what did he complain about? (He was so hungry that he thought he might die.)
4. What did Jacob use to trick Esau into giving up his spot as the family leader? (the pot of bubbling red bean soup)
5. Did Esau fall for Jacob’s trick? (Yes, he was thinking only about what he needed right now.)
6. Did having a new title and becoming the family leader change Jacob’s heart? (No, he was still Jacob the trickster.)

Discussion Question

- What are some ways people try to “trick” God into doing what they want?

Jacob runs away from Esau (p. 45)

Review Questions

1. Who else did Jacob trick besides Esau? (He tricked his father into giving him the family blessing instead of Esau.)
2. Why did Jacob run away from home? (Esau was so angry that he wanted to kill Jacob.)
3. How did God show His love to Jacob the trickster? (God gave Jacob many children and huge flocks and herds.)
4. What was Jacob worried about as he returned home? (He wondered if Esau was still angry with him and what Esau would do when they saw each other.)
5. After Jacob helped the last of his family cross the river, what unexpected thing happened to him? (A man came out of nowhere, tackled him to the ground, and fought with him all night.)
6. With whom did Jacob think he was wrestling? (Esau)

Discussion Question

- Is there anywhere we can go where God is not still with us?

God wrestles with Jacob (p.47)

Review Questions

1. When the man said, "Let Me go because the sun is coming up," what did Jacob do? (He held on with every bit of strength he had.)
2. What did Jacob say to the man? ("I will not let You go unless You promise to bless me.")
3. What did the man promise Jacob? ("I will always take care of you, Jacob. The promises I gave to Abraham and Isaac, I give to you.")
4. What was Jacob's new name? (Israel)
5. What did it mean? (prince with God)
6. Whom did Jacob realize he had really been wrestling with? (God Himself)
7. Was Esau still angry with Jacob when they met? (No, God had changed Esau's heart.)
8. Did God bless Jacob because he had been good? (No, God blessed Jacob because He is good.)

Discussion Question

- Why does God have to give His love freely?

Joseph

Scripture Memory–Romans 8:28a (Sovereignty)

Target Truths

- God is in charge even when people do wrong.
- God is in charge of every detail in the world.
- God is in charge of His salvation plan.

Review and Discussion Questions

Joseph is hated by his brothers (p. 49)

Review Questions

1. Where did Jacob and his twelve sons live? (the land of Canaan, a land filled with wicked people)
2. Which of Jacob's sons loved God? (Joseph and Benjamin)
3. Why did the other brothers hate Joseph? (Jacob loved Joseph the most; Joseph was their father's favorite.)
4. How was Joseph's robe different from the robes his brothers wore? (It was beautiful and had been made just for him.)
5. What job did Jacob give Joseph? (to check on his brothers and find out how they were doing)
6. What did Joseph's brothers want to do to him? (to beat him up or kill him)

Discussion Question

- Can you think of anything bad that happened to you that God later used for good?

Joseph is sold as a slave (p. 51)

Review Questions

1. After Joseph's brothers wrestled him to the ground and ripped off his special robe, what did they do with him? (They threw him in a deep pit.)
2. How did God protect Joseph in the pit? (Usually these pits were filled with water, but God had kept this one empty in order to protect Joseph.)
3. What new plan did the brothers come up with instead of killing Joseph? (They decided to sell him as a slave.)
4. Did the brothers think that they would see Joseph again? (No, they thought he was gone for good.)
5. Why were Jacob and his family running out of food? (There was a famine in the land of Canaan.)
6. What would happen if Jacob's family didn't do something soon? (They would all starve.)

Discussion Question

- What are some areas of life where God is in control, even if we can't see Him working?

Joseph meets his brothers in Egypt (p. 53)

Review Questions

1. Why did Jacob send his sons to Egypt? (He had heard that there was food in Egypt, so he sent his sons to bring some back for their family.)
2. Why were the brothers surprised to see Joseph? (They never expected to see him again.)
3. Was Joseph still a slave in Egypt? (No, he was now second-in-command.)
4. What were Joseph's brothers afraid of? (They were afraid that Joseph might be mean to them since they had once been mean to him.)
5. Why had God sent Joseph to Egypt? (to prepare food for his family and the whole nation of Egypt)
6. What family did God consider His own? (the Children of Israel)

Discussion Question

- Is it true to say that God is working everything in the world together for the good of His people?

The Rescue

Scripture Memory—Proverbs 28:14b (Tender-heartedness)

Target Truths

- God never forgets His people.
- God fights to protect His people.
- God’s rescue always succeeds.

Review and Discussion Questions

God sends Moses back to Egypt (p. 55)

Review Questions

1. What was the new king worried about? (There were so many Israelites that he feared they would take over his country.)
2. What was the king’s terrible idea? (to make the Israelites his slaves)
3. What different plan did God have? (to rescue His people)
4. Did God hear His people crying out for help? (Yes, He heard their cry, even though they thought He had forgotten them.)
5. Was God worried about the king’s evil plan? (No, that little king was no problem for God.)
6. Whom had God chosen to help Him rescue the Israelites? (Moses)
7. Whose special help would Moses need for this job? (God’s)

Discussion Question

- Can you think of a time when you felt like God had forgotten about you?

God sends the plagues on Egypt (p. 57)

Review Questions

1. What message did God send to the king? (“The Israelite people don’t belong to you. They’re Mine. Let them go free so they can worship Me.”)
2. What did the king say in return? (He laughed and said, “Those people are mine. Let this god try to take them away.”)
3. How many plagues did God send to show His mighty power? (ten)
4. What did the king say after each plague? (“No way.”)
5. Would God ever stop trying to rescue His people? (No, he would not quit until He had rescued them all.)

Discussion Question

- What do the plagues of Egypt reveal about the power and love of God?

God brings His people out of Egypt (p. 59)

Review Questions

1. What did God say would happen to some of the king’s people if he did not let God’s people go free? (Some of them would die this very night.)
2. Did the king obey God’s command? (No, many of the king’s people died, even his oldest son.)
3. How did the king respond to the final battle? (He finally gave up and said, “You win. Your people may leave.”)
4. Why did the king change his mind about letting the Israelites go? (He didn’t want to lose all of his slaves; he thought they were his.)
5. What mighty miracle did God do when the Israelites were stuck between the king’s army and the waters of the Red Sea? (He made a dry path for His people in the middle of the sea.)
6. What happened to the evil king and his army when they tried to cross on the same path? (God brought the water crashing down on them.)

Discussion Question

- Is there anyone or anything strong enough to stop God from rescuing His people?

Mount Sinai

Scripture Memory—1 Peter 3:18a (Fellowship)

Target Truths

- God’s holiness makes Him unapproachable by sinners.
- God forgives sin through a Sacrifice.
- Forgiven sinners can enjoy fellowship with God.

Review and Discussion Questions

God comes down on the top of Mount Sinai (p. 61)

Review Questions

1. Why were the Children of Israel going to Mt. Sinai? (for a special meeting with their God)
2. What exciting message did God give to the people through Moses? (If the people obeyed God, He would make them His precious treasure, a nation that would be His forever.)
3. How did the people feel when they heard this? (They rejoiced and answered, “Everything God has said, we will do.”)
4. Why did God tell the people not to come too close to the mountain where He was? (because He is a holy God, and they were sinful)
5. What happened when God came down onto the mountain? (The sky filled with thick, dark clouds. Lightning flashed and thunder rumbled through the air. The dark clouds settled on the mountain, and the ground began to shake and shudder. Fire and smoke poured onto the mountain, and the noise of a trumpet grew louder and louder.)
6. How did the people feel as they watched God come down so powerfully? (They trembled with fear and wondered how they could ever fellowship with a God like this.)

Discussion Question

- What was the typical response of people in the Bible when God revealed Himself?

God gives the law and instructions for the Tabernacle (p. 63)

Review Questions

1. What ten rules did God give His people to teach them how to live? (the Ten Commandments)
2. What was the first and most important commandment? (You shall have no other gods before Me.)
3. How did the Children of Israel feel about the many rules that God had given them? (They were afraid that they wouldn't be able to keep all of these rules.)
4. Was God worried about how to deal with the people's sin? (No, He had a plan.)
5. What was the Tabernacle? (a special tent where God would live among His people and where the people would bring sacrifices to God)
6. One day, whom would God send to be the perfect Sacrifice for His people? (Jesus, His own Son)

Discussion Question

- Why is the First Commandment so important?

God fellowships with His people (p. 65)

Review Questions

1. How did the Children of Israel respond when Moses finished sharing what God had told him on the mountain? ("We will do all that the Lord has said.")
2. Why did Moses write all that God said in a book? (so the people would always remember the promise they had made to God and the promise God had made to them)
3. Why did the young men offer fellowship sacrifices to God? (They offered the sacrifices as a sign of their promise to obey God and be His people.)
4. Whom did God call up to the top of the mountain? (Moses and the other leaders)
5. When the leaders got to the top of the mountain, what had God prepared for them? (a feast to show that He would keep His promises to care for His people)

Discussion Question

- How can you enjoy fellowship with God?

The Golden Calf

Scripture Memory–Exodus 20:3 (Worship)

Target Truths

- Only God is to be worshipped, not idols.
- God’s people desperately need His presence.
- God loves to show mercy.

Review and Discussion Questions

Israel worships the golden calf (p. 67)

Review Questions

1. Why did God call Moses up the mountain? (to give Moses the Ten Commandments and the instructions for making the Tabernacle)
2. What did the people want Aaron to do for them? (to make a statue of God so that they could see Him and have Him with them)
3. What did Aaron do? (He took their gold earrings and made a statue of a calf. Then he claimed it was the God who led them out of Egypt.)
4. Was that true? (No, the statue had not led them out of Egypt.)
5. How do you think God felt about what Aaron and the people had done? (Answers will vary.)
6. What happened when Moses saw how badly the people had broken God’s rules? (He threw the stone tablets to the ground with a crash, shattering them into tiny pieces.)
7. What was their punishment? (Moses burned the statue, ground it to powder, mixed it with water, and made the people drink it. Many people also died because of their sin, for God sent a mighty plague.)

Discussion Question

- What are some things that people worship in place of God?

God is angry with His people (p. 69)

Review Questions

1. Why was God angry with His people? (They had bowed to an idol instead of worshipping Him.)
2. Why couldn't Aaron offer sacrifices for the people's sin? (He had sinned too.)
3. Who was willing to give his life in place of the others? (Moses)
4. What did God say that broke the hearts of the people? (God said that He would not go with them.)
5. What made the Children of Israel different from all of the other nations? (God's presence is what made them His people.)
6. Why did God agree to go with the people? (He looked on Moses with favor and knew him by name.)

Discussion Question

- How important is God's presence for His people?

God shows Moses His glory (p. 71)

Review Questions

1. What special request did Moses make to the Lord? (Moses said, "Please show me what You are like. Please show me Your glory.")
2. How did God protect Moses when He walked by in all His glory? (God covered the entrance of the cave with His hand so Moses could not see His face, for no one could see God's face and live.)
3. What are some of the things that the LORD showed Moses about Himself? (He is merciful and gracious, slow to anger, overflowing with love and faithfulness, forgiving, and just.)
4. When God removed His hand, what did Moses see? (the back of the Lord Himself)
5. What did God give to Moses? (another copy of the Ten Commandments)

Discussion Question

- What does God's self-revelation to Moses tell you about God?

The Bronze Serpent

Scripture Memory—Proverbs 29:25b (Safety)

Target Truths

- God is more powerful than anything that may scare us.
- God takes care of His people—even when they sin.
- God forgives people who trust in His promises.

Review and Discussion Questions

The twelve spies discover giants in the Promised Land (p. 73)

Review Questions

1. How did God lead His people each day and night? (God was with them every day in a cloud and every night in a pillar of fire.)
2. How many men did the people choose to spy out the land of Canaan? (twelve)
3. When the spies returned, what did they all agree about? (The land was just as amazing as God said it would be.)
4. What did they not agree about? (Two of them were ready to move in, but the others were afraid of the giants living in the land.)
5. Why did the people want to choose a new leader to replace Moses? (They wanted someone who would take them back to Egypt—away from the giants.)
6. What two men stood up to the people, reminding them that God is bigger than any giant? (Joshua and Caleb)
7. What was the punishment for the people who did not believe that God could defeat some puny giants? (They would wander around the desert for forty years, and many would never enter the land that God had promised.)

Discussion Question

- What fears can you trust God to give you victory over?

God gives His people water from a rock (p. 75)

Review Questions

1. Even while wandering in the desert, how did God show love to His people? (He took care of them and sent them food from heaven every day.)
2. What did the manna from heaven look and taste like? (It looked like little white wafers and tasted like fresh cakes made with honey.)
3. What did the Children of Israel complain to Moses about? (They were in a place with no water to drink. They wished they were still in Egypt.)
4. When Moses prayed to the Lord for help, what did the Lord tell Moses to do? (The Lord answered, "Take your staff in your hand, gather the people together, and, in front of them, speak to the rock. I will make water come out for all to drink.")
5. How did Moses disobey God? (Instead of speaking to the rock as God had said, Moses took his staff and hit the rock.)
6. What was Moses' punishment for his disobedience? (He would not be allowed to enter the Promised Land.)
7. How did God show kindness to Moses and the people who had complained? (He still gave them water out of the rock.)

Discussion Question

- Can you commit any sin that will make God stop loving you?

God gives poisonous snakes and the bronze serpent (p. 77)

Review Questions

1. What were the Children of Israel complaining about? (They grumbled about not having food and water. They were tired of eating manna, and they wondered why God had brought them into the desert.)
2. What surprising thing did God do because of their complaining? (He sent poisonous snakes into their camp.)
3. Who did the people run to for help? (They ran to Moses and cried, "We have sinned because we grumbled against you and God. Please pray that God will take away these snakes.")
4. What did God do instead of taking the snakes away? (He told Moses to make a snake out of metal and to put it on top of a pole so everyone could see it. God promised that anyone who looked at the snake would live.)
5. How were the people saved? (by believing what God promised)

Discussion Question

- What are some of God's promise that you can trust today?

The Conquest

Scripture Memory—Ephesians 2:8 (Grace)

Target Truths

- God doesn't need our help to accomplish His work.
- God wants us to trust and obey Him.
- God alone is powerful to save us.

Review and Discussion Questions

God's people prepare to attack Jericho (p. 79)

Review Questions

1. How many years did the Children of Israel wander in the desert? (forty years)
2. Who was the new leader of Israel? (Joshua)
3. What was it time for the people to do? (to enter the land that God had promised)
4. How much of the land would be theirs? (All the ground that they walked on would be theirs.)
5. What did the two spies say about the land when they returned from their secret mission? ("God has prepared everything and has given us the whole land. All the people—even the giants—are scared to death of us!")
6. How was this time different from the last time spies were sent into Canaan? (The first time, most of the people were afraid of the giants, but this time, the giants were afraid of them.)
7. What did the people think about God's plan to defeat the city of Jericho? (It seemed like a strange plan.)

Discussion Question

- Can you think of a time God helped you do something that you could not have done on your own?

Joshua leads the attack on Jericho (p. 81)

Review Questions

1. Why did the people of Jericho think this battle was strange? (The Israelites didn't talk or fight; they just walked around the city.)
2. What were the Israelites to do for the first six days? (They were to walk around the city one time each day.)
3. What were they to do on the seventh day? (They were to walk around the city seven times. When they stopped, they were to blow their horns and shout.)
4. What did God do next? (God shook the ground and tore the walls of Jericho all the way down.)
5. Who gave the Israelites victory over their enemies? (God gave them the mighty city of Jericho.)

Discussion Question

- What are some commands in the Bible that don't make sense to you where you simply have to trust God?

Gideon fights against the Midianites (p. 83)

Review Questions

1. Why did God send the enemy nation of Midian to attack the Israelites? (to bring them back to Himself; to stop them from worshipping idols)
2. Why did the Israelites call out to God for help? (The Midianites were stealing all of their money and food.)
3. How did God answer their prayers? (by sending them a man named Gideon to help them fight against Midian)
4. What did God say was wrong with the first army that Gideon gathered for battle? (It was too big.)
5. How many soldiers did God want in Gideon's army? (only 300, a much smaller number than 32,000)
6. What was God's plan for battle? (They were to circle around the Midianite camp, blow their horns, smash their pots, hold their torches high, and shout, "For the Lord and for Gideon!")
7. What did the Midianites think was happening? (They thought a huge army was attacking them, and they started fighting one another.)
8. Who rescued the Israelites from the Midianites? (God rescued them Himself.)

Discussion Question

- Why do you think God wanted to defeat the Midianites with only 300 men?

David

Scripture Memory—Psalm 143:9 (Rescue)

Target Truths

- God’s people must be rescued by Him.
- God prepares rescuers for His people.
- God fights to rescue His people.

Review and Discussion Questions

Goliath challenges Israel’s army (p. 85)

Review Questions

1. What were the Israelites complaining about at the beginning of the story? (They wanted a king like other nations to help them defeat their enemies.)
2. What was Goliath like? (He was the biggest, meanest, scariest giant you could imagine. No one messed with him.)
3. What deal did Goliath try to make with the Israelites? (He said, “If your man wins, we will serve your king. But if I win, you will serve our king!”)
4. Who stepped forward to fight Goliath? (No one. Even King Saul, the tallest man in God’s army, was too scared to fight.)
5. What important thing had the people forgotten about God? (He was strong enough to defeat any of their enemies—no matter how big or small.)

Discussion Question

- What are some “enemies” you face that you must trust God to defeat?

David gets ready to fight Goliath (p. 87)

Review Questions

1. Why did David come to the battlefield? (to visit his older brothers and bring them some food)
2. What did David hear Goliath shouting? (“Are you still too scared to fight me! I defy you and your God!”)
3. What did David say to his brothers? (“Who is going to fight this giant? Who’s going to teach him a lesson?”)
4. Why did David’s brothers laugh at him when he said that he would fight the giant? (because he was only a boy and was not a soldier)
5. What made David believe that God could defeat the giant? (God had helped him kill a lion and a bear.)

Discussion Question

- What are some struggles God has allowed in your life that may be preparing you to serve Him in the future?

David defeats Goliath (p. 89)

Review Questions

1. What did David take with him as he walked toward the giant? (a shepherd’s stick, a sling, and five smooth stones)
2. What did Goliath say when he saw young David coming to fight him? (“Are you joking with me? What do you think I am? A dog? Do you think you can hurt me with a stick?”)
3. How could David tell that Goliath was a mighty warrior? (by his thick shield, gigantic spear, and special armor)
4. In whose name did David come? (“You fight me with spear and sword, but I come in the name of the LORD Almighty!”)
5. Where did David’s rock hit Goliath? (It was a direct hit to the giant’s forehead—the only part of his body that wasn’t protected.)
6. Who did this battle belong to? (God)

Discussion Question

- What can David’s answer to Goliath teach you about how you should face difficulties in your life?

Solomon

Scripture Memory–Matthew 5:14a (Light)

Target Truths

- God’s promises are undeserved.
- God provides the humble with wisdom.
- God keeps His Word to bless all the nations of the world.

Review and Discussion Questions

God gives the kingdom to David’s family (p. 91)

Review Questions

1. What had God done for David during his life? (He took David from shepherding sheep to ruling His people. He had been with David and had helped him defeat the enemies who still lived in his land.)
2. What special promise did God make to David? (“I give you My word that one of your descendants will be king over My people, and I will be a Father to him. I will never take the kingdom from your son because I will always love him.”)
3. What did David thank God for as he prayed? (for loving him, making him a king, promising the kingdom to his family forever, and blessing the nations of the world through his family)
4. What did David say about God’s character? (He is sovereign and great. There is no one like Him, and His name is to be magnified forever.)
5. Who became the next king of God’s people? (Solomon, David’s son)

Discussion Question

- What are some undeserved blessings that has God given you?

God gives Solomon great wisdom (p. 93)

Review Questions

1. Did God keep His promise to make David's son king? (Yes, God loved Solomon and made him king after his father, David, just as He had said.)
2. What did God say to Solomon in a dream? ("Ask for whatever you want, Solomon, and I will give it to you.")
3. What did Solomon ask for? (wisdom in how to lead the people and help to know the difference between right and wrong)
4. Was God pleased with Solomon's request? (God was so pleased that not only did He give Solomon wisdom, He also gave Solomon other gifts—riches, honor, and peace with his enemies.)
5. What did Solomon use these gifts to build? (the Temple, a magnificent building covered in gold, where the people could come and worship their God)
6. What did Solomon see when he looked out of his palace? (a long line of camels marching into the city from the far away land of Sheba)

Discussion Question

- What are some gifts God has given you, and how can you use them to praise God's name?

Solomon brings blessing to the Queen of Sheba (p. 95)

Review Questions

1. Why had the Queen of Sheba come to Jerusalem? (She had heard about Solomon's great wisdom and mighty kingdom and had come to him with many hard questions.)
2. Were any of the questions too hard for Solomon to answer? (No matter what the queen asked, nothing was too hard for Solomon to explain to her.)
3. When the queen was amazed by everything she saw, whom did she praise? (She said, "Praise be to the LORD your God.")
4. What kinds of gifts did the Queen of Sheba give to Solomon? (spices, jewels, and gold)
5. How did Solomon bless the queen? (He gave her any treasure that she wanted.)
6. What promise was God keeping through Solomon? (He had promised to bless all of the nations of the world through Israel. His people were so wealthy that their blessings began to overflow to others.)

Discussion Question

- Does God still want His people to be a blessing to others?

Elijah the Prophet

Scripture Memory—Psalm 86:7 (Prayer)

Target Truths

- God is a jealous God.
- False gods have no true power.
- Only the real God answers prayer.

Review and Discussion Questions

God's people begin to follow false gods (p. 97)

Review Questions

1. What happened to Solomon's kingdom after he died? (His kingdom was split into two smaller kingdoms, the northern kingdom of Israel and the southern kingdom of Judah.)
2. Who did King Ahab want the people to worship instead of God? (an idol named Baal that they believed could control the rain)
3. What did prophets do? (Prophets were messengers sent by God to tell the truth about the people's sin and God's love.)
4. What did the prophet Elijah tell King Ahab? ("King Ahab, the real God has spoken. He wants everyone to know that He is the One who controls the rain—not Baal. To prove this to you and everyone else, God has said it will not rain again until He gives the command!")
5. How long did God keep it from raining? (three and a half years)
6. Why did Elijah tell King Ahab to meet him at Mount Carmel? (They were going to have a contest to see whose God was real.)
7. How does this story show us that God is jealous? (God won't share His glory with idols.)

Discussion Question

- Is there anyone or anything that deserves to share God's glory?

The prophets of Baal call on their god (p. 99)

Review Questions

1. What were the rules of the contest? (They would both place a sacrifice on the altar then pray to their god. The one who sent down fire from heaven to burn up the sacrifice would prove to be the real God.)
2. What did the prophets of Baal do when he didn't answer their prayers right away? (Their prayers became longer and longer and then louder and louder.)
3. What did Elijah say to mock the prophets of Baal? ("Maybe Baal is too busy, or perhaps he has gone on a trip. He might be asleep. Call out more loudly to wake him up.")
4. Did Baal answer his prophets' prayers by sending fire down from heaven? (No, nothing happened.)
5. Why did Elijah use twelve stones for his altar? (There was one stone for each of the twelve tribes of Israel.)
6. What strange instructions did Elijah give? (He instructed that twelve jars of water be poured on the altar, until everything was soaking wet.)

Discussion Question

- What are some things that people "worship" today that have no real power?

The Lord proves He is the only true God (p. 101)

Review Questions

1. Could Elijah make a fire hot enough to burn up the soggy, wet sacrifice? (No, but that was no problem for God.)
2. How was the way that Elijah prayed different from the way the prophets of Baal prayed? (He didn't put on a big show; he simply prayed. His prayer wasn't long or loud, but it was to the real God.)
3. What did Elijah pray? ("O Lord, You are the true God. Would you show all these people that You are the real God? Please help Your people come back to you and stop worshipping idols. Amen.")
4. How did God answer Elijah's prayer? (A ball of fire fell from heaven. In a flash, it burned up the wet sacrifice, the soggy wood, all the stones, and even the water in the trench!)
5. What did the people realize when they saw that God had defeated Baal? (They realized that the LORD is the real God and that only He could help them when they prayed.)

Discussion Question

- What are some prayers that you have seen God answer?

Jonah

Scripture Memory–Proverbs 10:12 (Peace-making)

Target Truths

- God wants all people to repent.
- God pursues His people who disobey.
- God wants His people to love their enemies.

Review and Discussion Questions

God commands Jonah to go to Nineveh (p. 103)

Review Questions

1. What message did the prophet Jonah like to preach? (that God would still protect the Israelites from their enemies)
2. What command did God give Jonah that he didn't like? (God wanted Jonah to preach to the wicked people of Nineveh.)
3. What would happen if the people of Nineveh didn't turn from their sin within forty days? (God would destroy their city.)
4. Why do you think that Jonah didn't want to deliver God's message? (Jonah knew how mean and nasty the Ninevites were. He also knew how loving and forgiving God is.)
5. How did Jonah disobey God's command? (He got on a ship going the opposite direction of Nineveh.)
6. Did God know where Jonah was? (Yes, God knew Jonah was, and God would not let His plan for Jonah or for Nineveh fail.)

Discussion Question

- Have you ever disobeyed one of God's commands just because you didn't like it?

Jonah disobeys and doesn't go to Nineveh (p. 105)

Review Questions

1. Why did God send the wild storm? (God loved Jonah and the Ninevites too much to let Jonah disobey.)
2. During the storm, where was Jonah, and what was he doing? (He was in the bottom of the boat, sleeping.)
3. What were the sailors doing while Jonah was sleeping? (They were tossing everything heavy into the sea to make the ship lighter and crying out to their idols to rescue them.)
4. What was the only way to make the storm stop? (The sailors had to throw Jonah into the sea.)
5. What happened when the sailors flung Jonah into the sea? (Immediately, God stopped the wind and calmed the waves.)
6. What did the sailors do when they saw God's mighty power? (They offered a sacrifice to the LORD and promised to serve Him with their lives.)

Discussion Question

- What are some ways people try to run away from God and His commands?

The Ninevites turn to the Lord (p. 107)

Review Questions

1. How did God save Jonah from drowning? (God prepared a giant fish to swallow Jonah.)
2. How many days was Jonah inside the smelly belly of the fish? (3 days)
3. What were the only things that Jonah could do while he was in the fish's belly? (think and pray)
4. After God commanded the fish to spit Jonah onto the beach, what did He command Jonah to do? (Once again, God commanded Jonah to go to Nineveh, and this time Jonah obeyed.)
5. What amazing thing happened when Jonah preached God's message to the Ninevites? (They listened to God's Word, turned from their sin, and enjoyed God's forgiveness.)
6. How did Jonah feel about the amazing thing that God had done? (He was angry. He didn't want the nasty Ninevites to enjoy God's love. He wanted them to be punished.)
7. How was God still good to Jonah, even though he was pouting? (God caused a plant to grow that shaded Jonah from the hot sun.)
8. When Jonah was angry about the worm that ate the plant, what did God say to him? (You are upset because I destroyed a single plant, but you would be happy if I destroyed a city full of men, women, and children. Shouldn't people be more important than plants?)

Discussion Question

- What are some ways you could share the amazing message of God's forgiveness?

Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego

Scripture Memory—Proverbs 1:10 (Courage)

Target Truths

- God is God wherever you live.
- God gives us courage to do what's right.
- God can protect you wherever you are.

Review and Discussion Questions

Nebuchadnezzar decides to build a statue (p. 109)

Review Questions

1. Why did God take the Israelites out of the land He had given them? (They still loved and worshipped idols.)
2. What happened to Jerusalem and the Temple? (They were destroyed.)
3. What happened to God's people? (They were led away as slaves in Babylon.)
4. Even though most of the Israelites did not turn back to the Lord, what three friends still loved God with all their hearts? (Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego)
5. What were the friends' jobs in Babylon? (They served in the court of King Nebuchadnezzar.)
6. What was the king's wicked idea? (He wanted everyone to bow down and worship a huge golden statue.)
7. What would happen to anyone who didn't bow down to King Nebuchadnezzar's statue? (They would be thrown into a hot, fiery furnace.)

Discussion Question

- Is there any place you can go where God is far away?

Nebuchadnezzar throws Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego into the furnace (p. 111)

Review Questions

1. Who did not bow down to King Nebuchadnezzar's golden statue when the music played? (Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego)
2. How did the king feel when he heard that several Israelites had not bowed to his statue? (He was furious and ordered that the three men be brought to him at once.)
3. What deal did the king offer the three friends? ("If you bow down now, I will let you live. If you disobey my rule, I will throw you into the hot, fiery furnace, and you will die!")
4. Why did Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego still not worship the statue, even though they knew they might die in the furnace? (They loved God and would obey His commands, not the king's.)
5. What did the king command his soldiers to do? ("Make the fire hotter than it's ever been! Make it seven times hotter. Then tie these enemies up and throw them into the furnace.")

Discussion Question

- Was there ever a time where you had to ask God to give you courage to do what was right even though it was hard?

God rescues Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego (p. 113)

Review Questions

1. What did King Nebuchadnezzar see in the furnace that made him gasp? (He saw four men walking around inside the furnace.)
2. Whom did the fourth man look like? (someone who comes from God)
3. When Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego came out of the fire, what surprised the crowd about the way they looked and smelled? (They were not burned and did not even smell like smoke.)
4. Whom did the king praise for rescuing the three friends from the fire? (the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego)
5. What command did the king give to the people of his kingdom? (He said, "I command all the people of my kingdom never to speak against their God, for there is no other god who can rescue like this God.")

Discussion Question

- How has God protected you in the past when you obeyed Him in spite of people encouraging you to disobey?

The Return

Scripture Memory–Ecclesiastes 9:10a (Diligence)

Target Truths

- God never forgets His people.
- God always keeps His promises.
- God is in complete control.

Review and Discussion Questions

God promises to return His people to the Promised Land (p. 115)

Review Questions

1. Why did the Children of Israel cry as they sat by the rivers of Babylon? (They were thinking of the wonderful city of Jerusalem and the beautiful Temple that God’s enemies had burned. They had lost the Promised Land and now lived as slaves far away from home.)
2. How did God use the prophets to show the people that He had never left them? (He sent the prophets to comfort them with His promises and encourage them to obey His word.)
3. What special message did God send through the prophets? (God said, “I am your God, and you are still My people. Just as I rescued you from the land of Egypt, one day I will rescue you from the land of Babylon. I will take you back to your land and destroy those who have hurt you.”)
4. Besides leading the people back to their land, what else did God promise to do one day? (He said, “I will also build a Temple even more beautiful than the one you remember. I will appoint another King over My people, one who will be like David, only greater.”)
5. How many years went by with nothing happening? (seventy years)
6. Though many of God’s people grew tired of waiting for His promises to come true, why did a few of them remain faithful? (Deep in their hearts, they trusted that God would keep His promises.)

Discussion Question

- Does God ever forget the promises He makes to you?

God's people return to the Promised Land (p. 117)

Review Questions

1. What idea did God put in King Cyrus's mind? (to rebuild God's Temple and provide all the supplies that were needed)
2. What was the good news that the Israelites had been waiting for? (They would finally be free to go home and rebuild their Temple.)
3. Did Jerusalem look like they remembered it? (No, it was no longer the beautiful city they remembered. The walls were fallen down, the houses had been burned, and the Temple was in ruins.)
4. What did the people do when they finished building the foundation? (They cheered, sang, and shouted for joy.)
5. Why were some of the older men sad? (They remembered Solomon's beautiful Temple. The foundation of this new Temple was smaller and not as fancy.)
6. Why were others who lived nearby mad? (They didn't want to share the land with God's people or God's Temple.)
7. What did the angry people decide to do to stop the Israelites from building their Temple? (They decided to slow down their work and scare them away.)

Discussion Question

- What does the return of the Israelites to the Promised Land teach about God?

The Temple is rebuilt in Jerusalem (p. 119)

Review Questions

1. What lies did Israel's angry neighbors write in the letter that they sent to the king of Babylon? (They claimed that Israel would turn against the king and stop giving him money.)
2. Did the king believe the lies in the letter? (Yes, he commanded the people to stop building the Temple.)
3. Even though it looked like this king was in charge, who was really in charge? (God)
4. What mighty miracle did God do in King Darius's heart? (God led the king to change the law and give the Israelites anything they needed to finish building the Temple.)
5. Which of God's promises had still not come true? (The Temple was finished, but it still wasn't huge and beautiful. God's people lived in the Promised Land, but they still didn't have their own king.)
6. Would God keep all of His promises? (Yes. He had started, but the best part was yet to come.)

Discussion Question

- Can God's enemies stop God's plan for you?

A Humble Birth

Scripture Memory–Philippians 2:3b (Humility)

Target Truths

- Jesus, the Messiah, was sent by God the Father.
- Jesus, the Messiah, brings great rejoicing.
- Jesus, the Messiah, came to save sinners.

Review and Discussion Questions

Jesus is born in Bethlehem (p. 121)

Review Questions

1. Why were Mary and Joseph staying in a stable full of animals? (It was the only room they could find.)
2. Why had the couple traveled from Nazareth to Bethlehem? (The Roman king had commanded that everyone visit his hometown to pay taxes.)
3. What famous king of Israel was from the same hometown as Joseph? (King David)
4. Who did Mary wrap in long strips of cheap cloth? (her newborn son, Jesus)
5. What did Mary use for Jesus' crib? (a manger that the cows weren't using)
6. Who brought surprising news to Mary? (an angel with a message from God)
7. What did the angel say would be special about Mary's baby? ("He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to Him the throne of David, and He will rule over His kingdom forever.")

Discussion Question

- What does the birth of Jesus reveal about God's love?

The shepherds tell the story of the angels (p. 123)

Review Questions

1. What amazing thing had the shepherds seen while they were watching their sheep? (An angel shining with God's glory appeared to them.)
2. What good news did the angel tell the shepherds? ("For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. You will find the baby wrapped in strips of cloth, lying in a manger.")
3. Why was the sky blazing with light like it was daytime? (The angels filled the night with brightness and singing.)
4. What song were the angels singing to God? ("Glory to God in heaven! And on earth, peace to all of God's people.")
5. What did the shepherds do when they heard the angels' news? (They ran as fast as they could to find the newborn Messiah.)
6. How did they know that baby Jesus was the newborn Messiah? (They found Him wrapped in strips of cloth, lying in a manger, just as the angel had said.)

Discussion Question

- What is your response to the announcement of the angels concerning Jesus?

The shepherds and Mary respond to Jesus' birth (p. 125)

Review Questions

1. What good news did the shepherds shout on the way back to their sheep? ("The promised Messiah has been born!")
2. What did the people who heard their shouting think? (They didn't know what to think. They wondered if this wonderful news could be true.)
3. Why did the shepherds love telling people what God had done? (God had sent Jesus the Messiah into the world, and only He could rescue His people from their sin.)
4. What did Mary think about as she looked around the now quiet stable? (Why would the Messiah be born in a stable instead of somewhere special? Why would His first visitors be shepherds instead of kings?)
5. What did Mary realize about the baby she was holding in her arms? (This little baby would one day grow up to be her Savior.)

Discussion Question

- Why did God send Jesus to earth?

The Wise Men

Scripture Memory–Philippians 2:11 (Adoration)

Target Truths

- Jesus, the Messiah, was born King.
- Jesus' birth perfectly fulfilled God's plan.
- As King, Jesus is worthy of worship.

Review and Discussion Questions

The wise men arrive in Jerusalem, seeking the new king (p. 127)

Review Questions

1. What unusual visitors were coming into Jerusalem? (a group of wise men who had traveled from a far country)
2. What did wise men do? (They studied the stars.)
3. What question did the wise men begin asking the people in the crowd? (“Do you know where we can find the baby who has been born king?”)
4. How did the people respond? (“What do you mean? Our king is named Herod, and he’s a grown man.”)
5. What was special about the star that the wise men had seen? (It was the kind of star that only appears when a king has been born.)
6. Why had the wise men come to Jerusalem? (to find and honor the new king)
7. When King Herod heard that there might be a new king, what did he do? (He came up with an evil plan to kill this so-called king.)

Discussion Question

- Why did the wise men travel so far to see Jesus?

Herod directs the wise men to Bethlehem (p. 129)

Review Questions

1. What did King Herod command when he heard the news about a new king? (“Go look in the scrolls to see what they say about where this king will be born.”)
2. What answer was found in the old scroll of God’s Word? (The King God had promised would be born in Bethlehem.)
3. When King Herod secretly invited the wise men to his palace, what did he ask them? (“Why are you here? What are you looking for?”)
4. Where had the wise men expected to find the new king? (at the royal palace in Jerusalem)
5. Why did King Herod lie about wanting to worship the new king? (He wanted to find the king so he could kill him.)
6. What did the wise men see when they left the palace? (the special star that would lead them to the new king)

Discussion Question

- What do all the prophecies of Jesus in the Old Testament reveal about the power and wisdom of God’s plan?

The wise men worship the new king (p. 131)

Review Questions

1. Where did the special star lead the wise men this time? (not to a king’s palace but to a small house)
2. When the wise men found the new baby king, what presents did they give Him? (gold, frankincense, and myrrh—expensive gifts that you would give to a king)
3. What did God warn the wise men about in a dream? (God told them not to go back to King Herod because he wanted to kill baby Jesus.)
4. Did the wise men obey God? (Yes, they went home a different way.)
5. What did the angel tell Joseph to do? (to take Mary and Jesus and leave Israel)
6. Why did the angel tell Joseph to do this? (because Herod wanted to kill Jesus)

Discussion Question

- How can you worship Jesus?

Standing with Sinners

Scripture Memory—James 4:7 (Resisting Temptation)

Target Truths

- Everyone needs to repent.
- Jesus didn't need to repent.
- Jesus resisted temptation.

Review and Discussion Questions

John baptizes sinners in the Jordan River (p. 133)

Review Questions

1. What was unusual about the prophet John? (He wore scratchy camel hair robes, ate wild honey and grasshoppers, preached strong sermons, and baptized people in water.)
2. What kinds of places did people come from to hear John speak? (everywhere—rolling hills, deep valleys, big cities, small towns)
3. Who did the people think John might be? (the Messiah)
4. Was John the Messiah? (No, he was a prophet sent to prepare the way for the Messiah.)
5. What did John tell the people they needed to do? (He said, “Turn away from your sin! Turn back to God! Repent and live like God commands.”)
6. What did baptism show? (It showed that the people were turning from their sin and coming back to God.)
7. What did the Pharisees think about John's message? (They didn't think they needed to repent; they didn't want to admit that they were sinners.)

Discussion Question

- Is there anyone who doesn't need to repent of sin?

John baptizes Jesus (p. 135)

Review Questions

1. How were John and Jesus related? (They were cousins.)
2. What made John think that Jesus was no ordinary person? (Jesus had had a miraculous birth and was living a perfect life.)
3. Why did John not want to baptize Jesus? (John said that Jesus should be baptizing him because Jesus had never sinned.)
4. Why did Jesus want to be baptized? (It was the right thing to do because it was what God the Father wanted.)
5. What did God the Father say about Jesus after He was baptized? (“This is the Son I love. I am very happy with Him.”)
6. The next time that John saw Jesus, what did he call Jesus? (the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world)

Discussion Question

- As the Lamb of God, what was Jesus’ mission on earth?

Jesus defeats Satan’s temptations (p. 137)

Review Questions

1. How long was Jesus alone and without food in the wilderness? (forty days)
2. After the forty days was over, what did Satan try to get Jesus to do? (Satan tried to trick Jesus into sinning.)
3. What was the first thing Satan tempted Jesus to do? (to turn the stones into bread)
4. What was the second thing Satan tempted Jesus to do? (to jump off of a high place so that God would take care of Him)
5. What was the third thing Satan tempted Jesus to do? (to worship Satan in order to receive his kingdom)
6. Was Satan able to trick Jesus into sinning? (No, Jesus is the perfect Son of God.)
7. Why did Satan leave Jesus alone? (Jesus commanded him to leave, and Satan had to obey Him.)

Discussion Question

- Why is it important that Jesus never sinned?

First Miracles

Scripture Memory—John 3:16 (Salvation)

Target Truths

- Jesus works a miracle of real joy.
- Jesus offers the miracle of new life.
- Jesus brings the miracle of forgiveness.

Review and Discussion Questions

Jesus turns the water into wine (p. 139)

Review Questions

1. Where did Jesus, His mother, and some of His followers go? (a wedding in the country)
2. What news did Jesus' mother tell Him? ("They are all out of wine for the wedding party.")
3. Why did Jesus tell His mother that it was not time to show His mighty power to everyone? (He knew that His Heavenly Father had many amazing miracles for Him to do later.)
4. What did Jesus tell the wedding helpers to do? (He told them to fill the huge water pots with water and serve it.)
5. What miracle did Jesus do at the wedding? (He changed the water into wine.)
6. What did the wedding guests say about the wine? ("This is the best wine ever!")
7. When Jesus' followers saw this miracle, what did they realize about Him? (that He was the amazing and powerful Son of God)

Discussion Question

- Why could Jesus do amazing miracles?

Jesus teaches Nicodemus about the new birth (p. 141)

Review Questions

1. What did people think when they saw Jesus' miracles? (Some believed in Him, but others were scared of what people might think of them for following Jesus.)
2. Who came to see Jesus late one night? (Nicodemus, a smart Bible teacher and a very important person)
3. What did Nicodemus see Jesus doing? (He saw Jesus doing miracles—giving sight to the blind, hearing to the deaf, and health to the sick.)
4. Nicodemus could see God at work in Jesus' miracles, but did he understand Jesus? (No, like the pieces to a puzzle that he could not put together, there were things he just didn't understand.)
5. What did Jesus say has to happen to a person before he can see the kingdom of God? (He must be "born again.")
6. What does it mean to be born again? (God's Spirit cleans a sinner up so much on the inside that it's like he has become a new person.)

Discussion Question

- Can you explain in your own words what it means to be born again?

Jesus teaches Nicodemus about salvation (p. 143)

Review Questions

1. What Old Testament story did Jesus remind Nicodemus of to help him understand and believe? (the story about the poisonous snakes in the Israelite camp)
2. What did Jesus tell Nicodemus that Moses lifted up on a pole? (a statue of a snake)
3. How were the Israelites healed from their snake bites? (If they looked at the snake on the pole when they were bitten, they would not die.)
4. Whom did Jesus say that God was going to lift up on the cross? (Jesus Himself)
5. What would happen when Jesus was lifted up on the cross? (Jesus would take all the poison of evil and sin on Himself so that anyone who looked to Jesus would not die because of sin.)
6. Why would God give His only Son to die on the cross for sinners? ("It's because God so loved this sinful world that He gave His Son. Whoever believes in the Son will not die but have life that never ends.")
7. If Jesus was not a puzzle to be solved, what was He instead? (the Savior to be trusted)

Discussion Question

- Is it possible to find God's forgiven any other way than trusting in Jesus?

Disciples

Scripture Memory–Ephesians 4:32a (Kindness)

Target Truths

- Jesus’ power changes doubters into believers.
- Jesus’ power changes sinners into followers.
- Jesus’ power changes enemies into friends.

Review and Discussion Questions

Jesus provides a huge catch of fish (p. 145)

Review Questions

1. Why had a large crowd of people gathered by the Sea of Galilee? (to hear Jesus teach)
2. Why did Jesus have to get into a boat to teach? (because there were so many people crowding around to hear Him)
3. After Jesus finished teaching, what did He ask Peter? (“How many fish did you catch last night?”)
4. What was Peter’s answer? (“We didn’t catch a single fish. Not one.”)
5. Why was it strange that Peter hadn’t caught any fish that night? (because they usually caught the most and biggest fish at night)
6. What command did Jesus give to Peter? (“Row out a little further from the shore, put your nets back in the water, and see what you catch.”)
7. What happened when Peter obeyed Jesus and threw his net into the water? (Fish filled the boat till it was so full that it started to sink.)

Discussion Question

- What are some doubts that you struggle with?

Jesus calls Peter to become a fisher of men (p. 147)

Review Questions

1. Why were the four fishermen surprised at the number of fish that they had caught? (They had never seen so many fish.)
2. In the middle of catching fish, what did Peter realize? (Peter knew he was a sinner and that Jesus had done this amazing miracle for him.)
3. Why did Peter ask Jesus to leave? (He realized that he was a sinner and didn't deserve Jesus' kindness.)
4. What did Jesus invite Peter and his friends to do? (to join His group of followers)
5. All of Peter's life, he had been catching fish. What did Jesus say he would catch now? (men)
6. Did Peter, Andrew, James, and John continue fishing? (No, they immediately left their nets and boats and followed Jesus as His disciples.)
7. What would the four fishermen do now that they were Jesus' disciples? (They would live with Jesus and travel wherever He went. They would learn His teachings and help Him serve others.)

Discussion Question

- What are some ways you can be a fisher of men?

Jesus calls Matthew and Simon to be His disciples (p. 149)

Review Questions

1. Why did Simon and the other Zealots hate the Romans? (The Romans had taken over their country. The Zealots didn't want to be under a Roman ruler; they wanted their own king.)
2. What was Matthew's job before he became a disciple? (He worked for the Romans as a tax collector.)
3. What did Matthew do with the money he collected from the Israelites? (He gave most of it to the Romans, but he kept some for himself.)
4. Why didn't Zealots and tax collectors get along? (Tax collectors worked for the Romans, while the Zealots wanted to destroy the Romans.)
5. Who helped even enemies like Simon and Matthew become friends? (Jesus)
6. Did Jesus call people to follow Him because they were special or because He needed them? (No, He called people because He was special and wanted to include them in His great plan.)

Discussion Question

- As a believer, are there people you might normally not want to be around that you now have the grace to love as Jesus loved you?

Healing

Scripture Memory–Psalm 32:1a (Happiness)

Target Truths

- Jesus shows love for God and people.
- Jesus reveals His power to heal.
- Jesus has the power to forgive sins.

Review and Discussion Questions

Jesus heals many people (p. 151)

Review Questions

1. What was wrong with Peter's mother-in-law? (She was sick with a high fever.)
2. What did Jesus do to help her? (He commanded the fever to leave.)
3. Did the fever obey His command? (Yes, it immediately left her.)
4. What happened when the news of Jesus' miracle began to spread? (People gathered at Peter's house, bringing friends and family members to receive help from Jesus.)
5. Who else did Jesus heal that evening? (Jesus laid His hands on every person who needed help, and they were healed too!)
6. Why did Jesus leave Peter's house very early the next morning? (to find a quiet place to pray to His Father)
7. Why did Jesus say it was time to go to a new place? (so that more people could hear the good news)
8. What two things did Jesus do wherever He went? (He taught people and healed them.)

Discussion Question

- What are some ways that Jesus showed His love for God and people?

Jesus heals a leper (p. 153)

Review Questions

1. Why did Jesus do miracles whenever He taught God's Word? (to show who He was and that what He said was true)
2. What was wrong with the terribly sick man? (He was covered with sores called leprosy.)
3. What would happen if someone touched a person with leprosy? (That person would get leprosy too.)
4. Who touched the man when no one else would? (Jesus)
5. What mighty command did Jesus give? (He commanded, "Be healed!")
6. What happened to the man's leprosy? (As soon as Jesus spoke the words, the man was better. From head to toe, there wasn't a sore left on him.)
7. Why could Jesus no longer go into cities? (So many people knew about Jesus because of His miracles that crowds followed Him everywhere.)

Discussion Question

- Is there any illness that is too powerful for Jesus to heal?

Jesus heals the lame man (p. 155)

Review Questions

1. Did everyone like what Jesus was teaching? (No, there were some men called Pharisees who didn't like Jesus' words.)
2. What did the four friends do for the paralyzed man? (They carried him to Jesus.)
3. When the four friends got to the house where Jesus was, why couldn't they get inside? (because there were too many people in the way)
4. How did they get their friend to Jesus? (They climbed to the top of the house and removed some of the roof covering. Then, using ropes, they lowered their friend down to where Jesus stood.)
5. What did Jesus say to the man who could not walk? ("Your sins are forgiven.")
6. Why didn't the Pharisees like what Jesus had said? (They thought that only God could forgive sins.)
7. How did Jesus show the people that He had the power to forgive sins? (He told the man to get up, pick up his mat, and walk.)
8. What was Jesus teaching that day? (He was teaching that if He could heal someone's legs, He could also heal his heart.)

Discussion Question

- Does Jesus have the power to forgive your sins?

Setting Things Right

Scripture Memory–Psalm 56:3 (Trust)

Target Truths

- Jesus helps people who are afraid.
- Jesus is never too busy to help.
- Jesus gives us hope when we want to give up.

Review and Discussion Questions

Jesus calms the storm (p. 157)

Review Questions

1. Why did Jesus settle down in the stern of the boat? (He was tired from a long day of teaching and healing and wanted to sleep.)
2. What happened while Jesus was sleeping? (A strong wind swept across the sea, causing water to pour into the boat as wave after wave crashed against its side.)
3. What were the disciples afraid would happen to them? (They were afraid that their boat would sink and that they would die.)
4. Who did the disciples turn to for help when they were afraid? (Jesus)
5. What did Jesus say to the wind and the waves? (“Quiet! Be still.”)
6. What did Jesus ask His disciples? (“Why were you afraid? Do you still not believe in Me?”)
7. What question did the disciples ask themselves after Jesus calmed the storm? (“Who is this Man?”)

Discussion Question

- What are some things that make you afraid and that you need God’s help to face?

Jesus heals a sick woman (p. 159)

Review Questions

1. Why did Jairus beg Jesus to come to his house? (His twelve-year-old daughter was dying.)
2. What happened as Jesus was on His way to Jairus's house that caused Him to stop? (Someone in the crowd touched His clothes.)
3. Why did the woman want to touch Jesus' clothes? (She believed that if she could just touch His clothes, she would be healed from her sickness.)
4. How long had the woman been sick? (twelve years)
5. Had any of the doctors been able to help her? (No, she had gone to one doctor after another, but no one could help her.)
6. What happened to the woman when she reached out and touched Jesus' clothes? (Immediately, she was well.)
7. What strange question did Jesus ask the people in the crowd? ("Who touched Me?")
8. Why was this a strange question? (There were many people crowding around Him, so anyone could have touched Him.)
9. What did Jesus say to the woman? ("My dear, you believed I could heal you. Go home and enjoy God's blessings. Your suffering is over.")
10. While Jesus was talking with the sick woman, what sad news did Jairus hear about his daughter? (that his daughter was dead)

Discussion Question

- Have you ever felt like God was too busy to help with your problems?

Jesus raises Jairus's daughter (p. 161)

Review Questions

1. What did Jesus say to Jairus after he heard that his daughter had died? ("Don't be afraid. Trust Me.")
2. What did Jesus say about the little girl when He heard the people crying at Jairus's house? ("The child is not dead; she is only sleeping.")
3. Why did the people laugh at Jesus? (They knew the girl was dead.)
4. Who was in the room when Jesus healed the little girl? (Jesus had sent all the people out of the house except for the three disciples and the little girl's parents.)
5. What did Jesus say to Jairus's daughter to raise her from the dead? ("Little girl, it's time to get up.")
6. What happened after Jesus spoke to the little girl? (Immediately, she got up and started walking around her room.)
7. What did the disciples and the little girl's parents think about this miracle? (They were amazed.)
8. What important lesson did Jairus learn from what had happened? (Nothing is too hard for Jesus.)

Discussion Question

- What can you learn about God from the fact that Jesus has power to raise the dead?

Enemies

Scripture Memory–Spiritual Sight (Psalm 119:18)

Target Truths

- God gave rules to help people.
- Jesus wants us to love people more than rules.
- Jesus can heal spiritual blindness.

Review and Discussion Questions

Jesus does good on the Sabbath day (p. 163)

Review Questions

1. As Jesus and His disciples walked through grain fields on the Sabbath, what did the disciples do? (They picked some grain and ate it.)
2. Why were the Pharisees angry with Jesus and His disciples? (They had worked by picking grain on the Sabbath.)
3. Why did God make the Sabbath? (God made the Sabbath because He loves His people. People are more important than the Sabbath.)
4. What question did the Pharisees ask Jesus to try to trick Him? (“Is it right to heal someone on the Sabbath?”)
5. How did Jesus answer their question? (“If one of your sheep gets stuck in a hole on the Sabbath, won’t you pull it out? Now, isn’t a person more important than a sheep? Of course, it’s right to help a person on the Sabbath.”)
6. What did Jesus tell the man with the hurt hand to do? (“Stretch out your hand.”)
7. When the man obeyed Jesus’ command to stretch out his hand, what happened? (Immediately, it became as good as new.)
8. How did the Pharisees feel about the miracle Jesus had done? (They were very angry and wanted to get rid of Him.)

Discussion Question

- Does God intend His rules to make your life better or worse?

Jesus gives sight to a blind man (p. 165)

Review Questions

1. What did the disciples ask Jesus about the blind man? (Was the man born blind because of his own sin or his parents' sin?)
2. How did Jesus answer their question? ("It's not because of anyone's sin. This man is blind so that people will see God do an amazing work in his life.")
3. What did Jesus do to help the blind man? (Jesus spit in the dirt, made a little mud, covered the man's blind eyes with the mud, and told him to wash in the Pool of Siloam.)
4. What happened when the man washed the mud from his eyes as Jesus had commanded? (Immediately, he could see.)
5. Why were the Pharisees unhappy with what Jesus did? (To them, making mud was work, and no one should work on the Sabbath.)
6. How was the way the Pharisees loved different from the way that God loves? (The Pharisees loved their Sabbath rules more than people.)

Discussion Question

- Do any of God's rules give permission treat others in an unloving way?

Jesus heals the man's spiritual blindness (p. 167)

Review Questions

1. What did the Pharisees think about Jesus healing someone on the Sabbath? (They thought that the real Messiah would not do that.)
2. How did the Pharisees respond when the man asked if they wanted to become Jesus' disciples too? ("We are not His disciples—you are! We don't even know if Jesus was sent by God.")
3. What was unusual about the amazing miracle Jesus had done in healing the man's blindness? (No one who had been born blind had ever been healed.)
4. When the Pharisees got angry with the man Jesus had healed, what did they do to him? (They kicked him out of their synagogue.)
5. What question did Jesus ask the man He had healed? ("Do you believe in the Messiah?")
6. Who did Jesus say the Messiah was? (Jesus said, "I am the Messiah.")
7. What happened when the man heard that Jesus was the Messiah? (He bowed down before Jesus and said, "Lord, I believe.")
8. What was the double miracle that Jesus performed for the blind man? (Not only did Jesus heal the man's eyes, but He also healed the man's heart.)

Discussion Question

- Why is healing of spiritual blindness more important than healing physical blindness?

Love People

Scripture Memory—Matthew 22:39b (Loving People)

Target Truths

- Loving God and loving people are God’s most important rules.
- Obedience without love is sin.
- True love loves everyone.

Review and Discussion Questions

Jesus discusses the two greatest commandments (p. 169)

Review Questions

1. What were the Pharisees trying to do to Jesus by asking Him questions? (They wanted to trick Him into saying something that would get Him into trouble.)
2. What question did the Pharisee ask to try to trick Jesus? (“What do I have to do so God will let me into heaven?”)
3. What question did Jesus ask the Pharisee? (“What’s the greatest commandment in the Bible?”)
4. What did the Pharisee reply? (“Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength. You must also love your neighbor like you want to be loved.”)
5. What did Jesus say about these commands? (They were the most important commands in the Bible.)
6. What did the Pharisee think about what Jesus had said? (He didn’t like what Jesus said because he didn’t want to love everyone.)

Discussion Question

- Why are the two commandments mentioned in this story the greatest commandments?

Jesus tells the story of the Good Samaritan (p. 171)

Review Questions

1. What did the Pharisee ask Jesus? (“Who is my neighbor?”)
2. What had happened to the man in Jesus’ story? (He was attacked by robbers and left in the road.)
3. Why didn’t the priest stop to help the man? (If the priest touched a dead person, he couldn’t work in the Temple.)
4. What happened when the Levite walked by? (He didn’t stop to help either.)
5. Who was the third man to come along and find the hurting man? (a Samaritan)
6. How did the Samaritans and Israelites feel about one another? (They hated each other.)
7. Do you think the Samaritan will help the hurting Israelite? (Answers may vary.)

Discussion Question

- Is it possible to do the “right thing” in a way that doesn’t please God?

Jesus teaches love for people (p. 173)

Review Questions

1. When the Samaritan saw the man lying on the ground, how did he feel towards the man? (The Samaritan’s heart was moved with love for him.)
2. How did the Samaritan help the man? (He bandaged the man’s wounds, took him to an inn where he could rest, and gave the innkeeper money for whatever the man needed.)
3. Which man in Jesus’ story acted like a good neighbor to the man who had been hurt? (the Samaritan)
4. Why was this strange? (The Samaritans and Israelites were enemies.)
5. What was Jesus trying to teach through this story? (We must love all people—both our friends and our enemies.)

Discussion Question

- Who do you find it hard to love?

Love God

Scripture Memory—Matthew 22:37 (Loving God)

Target Truths

- Listening to Jesus shows love for God.
- Loving God is more important than loving people.
- We pray in response to God's love for us.

Review and Discussion Questions

Mary listens to Jesus' teaching (p. 175)

Review Questions

1. What two sisters did Jesus visit in Bethany? (Mary and Martha)
2. While waiting for dinner, what was Jesus doing? (He was teaching the people who were in the house.)
3. What was Martha doing in the kitchen while Jesus was teaching? (She was rushing around preparing dinner.)
4. What was Mary doing while Martha was busily working? (She was sitting at Jesus' feet, listening to Him teach.)
5. Why did Mary want to listen to Jesus? (She loved Him and wanted to learn how to obey Him.)
6. How did Martha feel about Mary's sitting at Jesus' feet? (Martha was angry. The more she worked, the angrier she became.)
7. Why was Martha angry? (She didn't think it was fair for her to do all of the work while her sister was doing nothing.)

Discussion Question

- What can you learn about showing love for God in this story?

Jesus teaches Martha about loving God (p. 177)

Review Questions

1. What did Martha think to herself as she worked busily in the hot kitchen? (She thought it was unfair that Mary wasn't helping her.)
2. What rude thing did Martha do because she was angry? (She marched up to Jesus and interrupted His teaching.)
3. What did she ask Him? ("Lord, don't You care about me? Don't You care that my sister has left me to do all the work?")
4. What did she want Jesus to do? (She wanted Him to tell Mary to get up and help her.)
5. How did Jesus respond to Martha? ("Martha, Martha, I know you are busy and worried about the work that needs to be done. However, there's only one important thing right now, and that is what your sister Mary is doing. She is listening to Me.")
6. What did Jesus teach about the importance of loving people and loving God? (Though Jesus taught that loving people is important, He taught that loving God is more important.)

Discussion Question

- Can you think of a time you had to show love for God even though others were pressuring you to do something different?

Jesus teaches His disciples to pray (p. 179)

Review Questions

1. When Jesus left Mary and Martha's house, what did He stop to do? (He stopped to talk to His Heavenly Father.)
2. What did Jesus' disciples want Him to teach them? (They wanted to learn to pray.)
3. Whom did Jesus say we should always ask for help? (God)
4. If you ask your father for bread, will he give you a rock? (no)
5. If you ask your father for a fish, will he give you a snake? (no)
6. If you ask your father for an egg, will he give you a scorpion? (no)
7. How does God feel about giving His children what they pray for? (If even fathers here on earth, who aren't perfect, love to give their children good gifts, how much more does your Heavenly Father, who is perfect, love to give you what you pray for?)

Discussion Question

- How does understanding God's love encourage you to pray?

Reaching Out

Scripture Memory—Psalm 69:33a (Help)

Target Truths

- Jesus welcomes sinners.
- Jesus ministers to all people.
- Jesus' forgiveness motivates love.

Review and Discussion Questions

Jesus eats with sinners (p. 181)

Review Questions

1. After Jesus called Matthew to be His disciple, what did Matthew do to celebrate? (He threw a big party at his house.)
2. Whom did he invite to his party? (all his friends, many of whom were also tax collectors)
3. Why did he invite these people to his party? (He wanted them to hear the news that he was going to follow Jesus.)
4. What did the Pharisees think when they saw Jesus sitting at the table with all these sinners? (They wondered why Jesus was talking to sinners and what kind of teacher He was.)
5. What did the Pharisees think the real Messiah would do? (punish sinners, not love them)
6. Why did Jesus say that He ate and drank with tax collectors and sinners? (He came to call sinners to repentance.)

Discussion Question

- How could you share God's love with people who are unlovely?

Jesus ministers to a Gentile (p. 183)

Review Questions

1. As Jesus entered the city, who came running up to Him? (a Roman centurion)
2. Why did the centurion need Jesus' help? (The centurion had a servant who was so sick that he couldn't even get out of bed.)
3. Did Jesus agree to help the centurion? (Yes. He said, "I will come with you and heal your servant.")
4. How did the centurion respond to Jesus' offer to come with him? (He said, "Lord, I am not worthy to have You come into my house. Just say the word, and my servant will be healed.")
5. What helped the centurion understand authority? (He was in charge of one hundred soldiers who had to obey his commands.)
6. How did the centurion show faith in Jesus' authority? (He believed that the sickness would obey Jesus' command.)
7. How did Jesus respond? (He marveled at the centurion's faith. Then He said, "You may go home. I have healed your servant as you asked.")

Discussion Question

- What does Jesus' ministry teach you about who God loves?

Jesus forgives a sinful woman (p. 185)

Review Questions

1. During Jesus' meal with Simon the Pharisee, who rushed into the room? (a sinful woman)
2. Why had this woman come to see Jesus? (to thank Jesus for forgiving her sins)
3. What did this woman do to show Jesus how much she loved Him? (With her tears, she washed His feet and then wiped them with her beautiful hair. She even kissed Jesus' feet and poured very expensive perfume on them to show how much she loved Him.)
4. What did Simon think when he saw what the woman was doing? (He thought that Jesus couldn't be a good teacher. If He knew how sinful this woman was, He wouldn't let her touch Him.)
5. How did Jesus know what Simon was thinking? (He is God, and He knows everything.)
6. What lesson was Jesus trying to teach Simon through the story that He told? (People who realize the greatness of God's forgiveness love Him very much.)
7. Why did this woman love Jesus so much? (She had been forgiven for many sins.)

Discussion Question

- What is the right response to receiving God's forgiveness?

Bread of Life

Scripture Memory—John 6:48 (Spiritual Nourishment)

Target Truths

- Jesus uses little things to accomplish His great plans.
- Jesus is the Bread of Life.
- Jesus guards His children’s hearts.

Review and Discussion Questions

Jesus feeds five thousand people (p. 187)

Review Questions

1. How many men had followed Jesus into the wilderness to listen to Him teach? (5,000 men)
2. Were the 5,000 men the only people there that day? (No, there were women and children too.)
3. What did Jesus ask Philip? (“Where are we going to buy bread so all these people can eat?”)
4. How did Philip answer Jesus? (He said that they didn’t even have enough money to buy each person a crumb.)
5. Who was willing to share his lunch with the crowd? (a boy with five little loaves of bread and two tiny fish)
6. What did Jesus do with the five loaves of bread and two fish? (He blessed them. Then He started breaking the bread and fish into pieces and giving them to His disciples.)
7. Was there enough food to feed everyone in the crowd? (Yes, there were even twelve basketfuls left over.)
8. How was Jesus able to do such an amazing miracle? (He is God, and He can do anything.)

Discussion Question

- What are some small things that God has used to accomplish His plan in your life?

Many people turn away from Jesus (p. 189)

Review Questions

1. What was the people's plan for Jesus? (They wanted Him to be king and give them good food to eat.)
2. Was this God's plan? (No, it wasn't the right time for Jesus to be king.)
3. Where did Jesus go when He secretly left the crowd? (He went back across the Sea of Galilee.)
4. What did the people ask Jesus when they found Him? ("Why did you leave us?")
5. What did Jesus claim to be? (the Bread of Life)
6. Why did many of the people stop following Jesus? (They selfishly wanted Jesus to give them food and heal their sicknesses; they didn't want Him to be their Savior.)

Discussion Question

- What does it mean when Jesus says He is the Bread of Life?

The twelve disciples stay with Jesus (p. 191)

Review Questions

1. Why did many people stop following Jesus? (The people didn't like what Jesus said about being the Bread of Life. It was hard for them to understand, and they didn't think they wanted that kind of king.)
2. What did Jesus ask the disciples as the crowds left? ("Do you want to leave Me like these people have?")
3. How did Peter reply to Jesus' question? ("Lord, who else would we follow except You? You teach the only way to get to heaven.")
4. Who did Peter say that Jesus was? (the Holy One from God)
5. Who had revealed this truth about Jesus to Peter? (God)
6. Which one of the disciples would one day help Jesus' enemies kill Him? (Judas Iscariot)
7. Did the things that were happening surprise Jesus? (No, though Jesus was approaching the time of His death, He was completely in charge, and everything was happening according to God's wonderful plan.)

Discussion Question

- Can you think of a time God encouraged you to trust Him even when others were turning away?

Transfigured

Scripture Memory—John 1:14b (Glory)

Target Truths

- Jesus reveals His glory.
- God’s plan focuses on Jesus.
- Jesus treats people lovingly.

Review and Discussion Questions

The disciples see Jesus’ glory (p. 193)

Review Questions

1. Where did Jesus lead Peter, James, and John? (up a tall mountain)
2. Why had Jesus brought them up the mountain? (He had chosen these three to see something special.)
3. What did Jesus do when they reached the top of the mountain? (He began to pray.)
4. What happened as He was praying? (There was a bright light that was so white it hurt to look at it.)
5. How did Jesus look different than normal? (His face shone like the sun, and His clothes gleamed with brightness. He was mighty, powerful, and glorious.)
6. Who were the two men that came from heaven to talk with Jesus? (Moses and Elijah)
7. What were Moses and Elijah talking with Jesus about? (how Jesus would soon die on the cross)
8. Was Jesus’ death part of God’s plan? (Yes. Though Jesus was going to die, He would live again.)

Discussion Question

- What does the transfiguration teach you about Jesus?

The disciples should listen to Jesus (p. 195)

Review Questions

1. What two important Bible teachers was Jesus talking to on the mountain? (Moses and Elijah)
2. What is the right way to treat important teachers? (People should listen to and obey them.)
3. What did Peter want to do for Moses, Elijah, and Jesus? (Peter wanted to build three tents, one for each of them to teach in.)
4. What happened as soon as Peter finished speaking? (A cloud covered the disciples, and God spoke to the disciples about Jesus.)
5. What did the Father say about Jesus? (“This is My Son, whom I dearly love. Listen carefully to Him.”)

Discussion Question

- What are some good things that can distract Christians from loving God most of all?

Jesus is kind to His disciples (p. 197)

Review Questions

1. How did Peter, James, and John feel when they heard God’s voice speaking from the cloud? (They were scared and fell to the ground, hiding their faces.)
2. What was Jesus’ reaction to the disciples’ fear? (Jesus reached out His hand and touched them. He spoke to them kindly, saying, “Get up and don’t be afraid.”)
3. What did the disciples see when they looked around? (Everything was back to normal.)
4. Were Moses and Elijah still there? (No, Jesus now stood alone.)
5. How did Jesus appear now? (His face was no longer shining; He looked just like anyone else.)
6. How would Jesus soon show that He loved His people? (by dying for them)
7. Was there anyone else who could do this job? (No one except the real Messiah could die for people’s sin.)

Discussion Question

- How do you respond when people say or do something foolish around you?

Living to Die

Scripture Memory—John 10:27 (Following)

Target Truths

- Jesus lived to die.
- Jesus came to serve.
- Jesus wants us to serve.

Review and Discussion Questions

Jesus tells the disciples that He's going to die (p. 199)

Review Questions

1. Where did the Father plan for Jesus to go? (Jerusalem)
2. What was the Father's plan for Jesus in Jerusalem? (Jesus would suffer many things and be rejected. He would be killed there and three days later be raised to life again.)
3. What did the disciples think when they heard this? (They wondered how dying could be God's plan for His Son.)
4. Why did Peter take Jesus aside? (He was upset and could not believe that this would happen to Jesus.)
5. How did Jesus rebuke Peter? (Jesus told him that he wasn't thinking the way God thinks; he was thinking like a man.)
6. Why did Jesus have to continue teaching the disciples about His Father's plan? (No matter how many times He told them, they didn't understand.)

Discussion Question

- What was God's plan in sending Jesus to earth?

James and John want to be in charge (p. 201)

Review Questions

1. Why didn't the disciples think that Jesus was supposed to die? (They wanted Him to be in charge.)
2. Why did they want Him to be in charge? (so that they could be in charge too)
3. Which two disciples asked Jesus to do them a favor? (James and John)
4. What did James and John ask Jesus to do for them? (to let them be second in command, sitting beside Jesus' throne)
5. How did Jesus respond to their question? ("You don't know what you're asking. Can you also share in My suffering?")
6. Who did Jesus say assigns the seats of honor beside His throne? (God, His Father)
7. Why were the other disciples angry with James and John? (The other disciples also wanted to be in charge.)
8. What was wrong with how the disciples were thinking? (Jesus had not come to be in charge but to serve in obedience to the Father.)

Discussion Question

- What does Jesus' answer to James and John teach about God's plan for His followers?

Jesus teaches about serving (p. 203)

Review Questions

1. What did Jesus tell His disciples they should do if they wanted to be in charge? (They should give everything to serve other people.)
2. What did the disciples think about what Jesus said? (They thought that because they were Jesus' disciples, certainly He didn't want them to be servants.)
3. Why was Jesus going to let Himself be killed? (to save God's people)
4. How did Jesus encourage His disciples? (Jesus told a story about planting grain.)
5. How did Jesus explain that grain grows? ("First, a farmer plants a kernel in the ground. That piece of grain dies, but soon it will spring forth with new life. It will shoot up and make a stalk that grows lots of grain.")
6. What was Jesus really talking about? (Jesus was talking about His own death. He would die and be buried in the ground, yet soon He would live again and bring new life to many people.)

Discussion Question

- How can you follow Jesus' example of giving His life for others?

The Prodigal Son

Scripture Memory—John 6:37b (Repentance)

Target Truths

- God sometimes lets us have our own way.
- God loves a sinner who comes back to Him.
- God wants us to be happy when people repent.

Review and Discussion Questions

The younger son leaves home (p. 205)

Review Questions

1. Why did Jesus tell the Pharisees this story? (to help them understand that God wanted them to love all people)
2. What were the rich man's sons like? (The older seemed like a good son because he always obeyed his father, but the younger was very selfish.)
3. What did the father tell his children? ("Sons, when I die, you will inherit this farm and all my money.")
4. What did the younger son want from his father? (He wanted his half of the father's money right then.)
5. Did the father give the son what he wanted? (Yes. He said, "Here you go, my son. Here is your part of the money.")
6. What did the son do once he got the money? (The son took the money and said to his father, "I am leaving home so that I can live the way I want.")

Discussion Question

- What does the younger son's request reveal about his heart?

The younger son returns home (p. 207)

Review Questions

1. What did the son do with his money? (He spent it foolishly until he had none left.)
2. What happened when all of his money ran out? (He had to get a job feeding pigs.)
3. How hungry was the son? (He was so hungry that even the pig food started to look good.)
4. What was the son's idea? (He would go back home, confess his sin, and beg his father to let him be one of the farm helpers.)
5. What did the son see as he got close to home? (His father was running towards him.)
6. How do you know that the son was sorry for what he had done? (He said, "Father, I've sinned against you and God. I no longer deserve to be your son. I'm so sorry.")
7. How did the father respond? (The father stopped the son before he could finish his apology and said, "I love you so much! I don't care what you've done. I'm just glad you're home.")
8. How did the father plan to celebrate that his son had come home? (He cooked a feast for everyone in town.)

Discussion Question

- What can we learn about God as our Father from this story?

The older son refuses to rejoice (p. 209)

Review Questions

1. While the party was being prepared for the younger brother, what was the older brother doing? (working in the fields)
2. What did the older brother hear as he came home from working in the fields? (He heard music and laughter coming from inside.)
3. Why did he get angry? (because his father was having a party for his selfish brother)
4. What did the older son think was unfair? (His father had never had a party for him, even though he had always tried to obey.)
5. What did the father say? ("My dear son, this farm and all my money—everything—is yours! You can have a party any time you want.")
6. How should the older son have felt about his brother's safe return? (He should have been happy that his brother was home safe and sound.)
7. What did the father say should be the reason to celebrate? (They should celebrate because the younger son had turned away from his sin and come home.)

Discussion Question

- How do you respond when someone who has hurt you repents?

The Only Way to Heaven

Scripture Memory–Romans 10:13 (Belief)

Target Truths

- Being good doesn't get people into heaven.
- God saves people who know they need Him.
- Jesus is the only way into heaven.

Review and Discussion Questions

Two men pray in the Temple (p. 211)

Review Questions

1. Why was Jesus telling a story to the people who believed that they could get to heaven by doing good things? (He wanted to teach them the true way to heaven.)
2. What two men went up to the Temple to pray? (a Pharisee and a tax collector)
3. How did the Pharisee pray? (He stood up in front of everyone and loudly prayed.)
4. What did the Pharisee say in his prayer? (“God, thank You for helping me to be so good. I’m not like other sinful people. I’m not a cheater. I’m nice and fair with people. I don’t do bad things, not like that tax collector over there. In fact, God, I worship You and give money in the offering every week.”)
5. How did the tax collector pray? (He prayed from a dark corner and was so sad for his sin that he couldn’t even look up to God.)
6. What did the tax collector say in his prayer? (“God, give me mercy. Forgive me. I am a sinner.”)
7. Who did the people listening to Jesus think would be the hero of the story? (They thought it would be the Pharisee because he had done such good things.)
8. Why was God happy with the tax collector instead? (because he was humble and was truly sorry for his sin)

Discussion Question

- How must we come to God if we want Him to hear our prayers?

Jesus blesses the little children (p. 213)

Review Questions

1. Why did some parents bring their children to Jesus? (They wanted Jesus to pray for their children.)
2. Why did the disciples tell the parents to stop bothering Jesus? (They thought Jesus was too busy for little children.)
3. What did Jesus say to His disciples? (“Let the children come to Me. Don’t get in their way.”)
4. What did Jesus say that they could learn from little children? (The only way to get into heaven is by becoming like little children.)
5. What did Jesus mean by what He said? (Jesus was teaching that only the people who know they need God and ask Jesus to save them will get into heaven.)

Discussion Question

- In what ways must you have the faith of a child?

Jesus talks to the rich ruler (p. 215)

Review Questions

1. Who came and knelt in front of Jesus? (an important rich man)
2. What did he ask Jesus? (“Good Teacher, what do I have to do to get into heaven?”)
3. What was the first thing that Jesus told the man? (Jesus listed some important rules from the Bible that he must follow.)
4. What did the man say about these rules? (He had obeyed them since he was a little boy.)
5. What else did Jesus tell the man that he needed to do? (He said, “Take your gold and silver, fancy clothes, and nice houses, and give them all away. Then come and follow Me.”)
6. How did the rich man feel when he heard this? (He was sad because he would have to give away so much to follow Jesus.)
7. Can being good and having great wealth get you into heaven? (no)
8. What is the only way you can get to heaven? (Salvation is possible only with God.)

Discussion Question

- What things in a person’s life may keep him from trusting in Jesus?

Lazarus

Scripture Memory–Colossians 3:1a (Heaven)

Target Truths

- God’s plan is sometimes different from our plan.
- God’s plan is stronger than any obstacle, even death.
- God’s plan brings joy from sorrow.

Review and Discussion Questions

Jesus hears about Lazarus’s sickness (p. 217)

Review Questions

1. What message did Mary and Martha send to Jesus about their brother? (They asked Jesus to come quickly and help their brother Lazarus, who was very sick.)
2. How did Jesus respond to their message? (“This sickness will not end in death. All this has happened so people will see the greatness of God through the mighty power of His Son.”)
3. Did Jesus leave right away? (No, he waited two days before leaving.)
4. Why did Jesus wait? (This was all part of God’s plan.)
5. What did Jesus mean when He told the disciples that Lazarus had “fallen asleep”? (Lazarus had died.)
6. Why was God’s plan for Lazarus to die? (It would make the disciples’ faith grow stronger.)

Discussion Question

- Can you think of a time when your plan was different from God’s plan?

Jesus comforts Martha and Mary (p. 219)

Review Questions

1. What was everyone doing when Jesus and the disciples arrived? (They were crying because Lazarus had died.)
2. What did Mary and Martha both say to Jesus? (“Lord, if you had come sooner, my brother Lazarus would not have died.”)
3. What did Martha think Jesus meant when He said that her brother would live again? (She thought Jesus meant that Lazarus would live in heaven forever.)
4. What do you think Jesus meant by this? (He planned to raise Lazarus back to life.)
5. What did Jesus call Himself? (Jesus said, “I am the Resurrection and the Life.”)
6. Why did Jesus weep when He saw His friends crying? (He cried because death had hurt the people He loved.)
7. What was God’s plan for Jesus? (His plan was for Jesus to destroy death and give people eternal life.)

Discussion Question

- What are some things that God has overcome to accomplish His plan for your life?

Jesus raises Lazarus from the dead (p. 221)

Review Questions

1. What kind of tomb was Lazarus buried in? (He was buried in a cave with a huge rock covering the doorway.)
2. What did Jesus command the people to do? (He wanted them to remove the rock from the doorway of the cave.)
3. Why was Martha worried about the rock being moved? (She was afraid that Lazarus’s body would smell really bad because he had been dead for four days.)
4. What did Jesus say as the men rolled back the rock? (“Watch and you will see God’s greatness.”)
5. Why did Jesus pray out loud to His Father? (so that the people around Him would know that God had answered His prayer)
6. What happened when Jesus shouted, “Lazarus! Come out!”? (Lazarus walked out of the doorway of the cave.)
7. When the Pharisees heard about what Jesus had done, what did they do? (They made plans to kill both Jesus and Lazarus.)
8. Did any of this surprise Jesus? (No, He had always known that bringing Lazarus back to life would lead to His own death.)

Discussion Question

- Can the end of God’s plan ultimately result in sorrow for His children?

Triumphal Entry

Scripture Memory—Ephesians 6:1 (Submission)

Target Truths

- Jesus, the King, deserves praise.
- Jesus, the King, restores true worship.
- Jesus, the King, loves His enemies.

Review and Discussion Questions

Jesus rides into Jerusalem as King (p. 223)

Review Questions

1. What did Jesus send two of His disciples to do when they were just outside Jerusalem? (He sent them to get the donkey that God had ready for Him and bring it to Him.)
2. How did Jesus know where the donkey would be and what the owners would say to the disciples? (Jesus is God, and He knows everything—even before it happens.)
3. Why did the people cheer for Jesus as He came into the city? (The people were excited because they knew God had promised to send the real King riding on a donkey.)
4. How did the people prepare the way for their King? (They waved leafy branches in the air and threw their coats down on the dusty road, making a nice, clean path for the King.)
5. What did the people shout? (“Hosanna! Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord! Save us! Rescue us!”)
6. How did the Pharisees feel about the crowd treating Jesus like their King? (They didn’t like it at all and wanted the people to stop cheering for Jesus as their King.)
7. What did Jesus say would happen if the people stopped cheering? (Even the rocks on the ground would sing praise to God.)

Discussion Question

- What ways can you praise Jesus as your King?

Jesus cleans the Temple (p. 225)

Review Questions

1. What did the Pharisees say to one another about Jesus? (“Look at this! Our plans to stop Jesus have failed. Everyone loves Him.”)
2. Why was Jesus upset by what was taking place in the Temple? (The Temple was a special holy place, yet men were selling cattle, sheep, and doves for sacrifices.)
3. What were some of the things that Jesus heard inside the Temple? (He heard wings fluttering, hooves stamping, tails swishing, doves cooing, sheep baaing, cows mooing, and coins clanking and clattering.)
4. How did the Temple sound and smell? (like a barnyard)
5. How did Jesus react to what was happening in the Temple? (Jesus chased out the people who were buying and selling things, turning over their tables and benches.)
6. What did Jesus say about His Father’s house? (“My Father’s house is for prayer, not for buying and selling animals!”)
7. Why would people soon no longer need to make sacrifices? (Jesus, who was clean from all sin, would become the perfect Sacrifice.)

Discussion Question

- How does God feel about worship that distracts from His glory?

The Pharisees try to trick Jesus (p. 227)

Review Questions

1. Why did the Pharisees send spies to ask Jesus hard questions? (They were hoping to make Jesus say something to trap Him with His own words so that people would stop following Him.)
2. How do you think Jesus knew that the Pharisees were trying to trick Him? (He is God; He knows everything—even what we are thinking.)
3. What hard question did the Pharisees ask Jesus? (“Teacher, Caesar has said that we have to pay him taxes. Should we obey him?”)
4. What was Jesus’ answer? (He told them to give to Caesar what belongs to Caesar and to give to God what belongs to God.)
5. How did Jesus feel towards the Pharisees? (He loved them even though they hated Him.)
6. Why did Jesus say the Pharisees were in trouble with God? (They looked clean on the outside, but their hearts were full of sin.)
7. How had Jesus wanted to show His love to the people in Jerusalem? (He had wanted to bring them close like a mother hen gathers her chicks under her wings, but they wouldn’t come to Him.)

Discussion Question

- How did Jesus show love, even to His enemies?

The Servant

Scripture Memory–Galatians 5:13b (Serving)

Target Truths

- Jesus washes away our sin.
- Jesus teaches us to serve one another.
- Jesus promises to bring us to God.

Review and Discussion Questions

Jesus washes the disciples' feet (p. 229)

Review Questions

1. While Jesus and the disciples were celebrating Passover, what unexpected thing did Jesus do? (He washed the disciples' feet.)
2. What kind of job was this? (It was the job of a servant, not of God's Son.)
3. When it was Peter's turn to have his feet washed, what did he say to Jesus? ("I won't let You wash my feet. It wouldn't be right.")
4. What was Jesus' washing the disciples' feet supposed to remind them of? (Cleaning the dirt from their feet was a picture of cleaning daily sin from their hearts.)
5. What servant's job would Jesus have to do in order to wash sin away forever? (He would have to die on the cross.)

Discussion Question

- Why is it important that Jesus cleanse you from your sins?

Jesus serves at the Last Supper (p. 231)

Review Questions

1. What did Jesus want the disciples to understand about what He had done for them? (If He, their Teacher and Lord, had washed their feet, then they should wash one another's feet.)
2. What kind of work was Jesus asking the disciples to do? (the work of a servant)
3. What was the bread a picture of? (It was a picture of His body, which would be sacrificed.)
4. What was the cup a picture of? (It was a picture of His blood, which would bring forgiveness of sins.)
5. What was this new kind of Passover feast called? (The Lord's Supper)
6. Why do people still celebrate the Lord's Supper today? (It is a reminder of how Jesus' death brings rescue from sin.)

Discussion Question

- How can you follow Jesus' example of service?

Jesus comforts His disciples (p. 233)

Review Questions

1. What made the disciples sad? (The Pharisees and the Romans were going to kill Jesus, and very soon He would go back to heaven to be with His Father.)
2. What did Jesus tell them that He was going to heaven to do? (He was going to prepare a place where they could live together forever.)
3. What did Thomas ask Jesus? ("Lord, we don't know where You're going, so how can we know the way?")
4. Who is the only way to the Father? (The only way is through Jesus; He is the way to heaven, the truth, and the life.)
5. What was Jesus going to leave with the disciples? (His peace)
6. Who was Jesus going to send to be with them forever? (the Holy Spirit)

Discussion Question

- How does Jesus bring us to God, and how is that fellowship maintained?

The Cross

Scripture Memory–Philippians 2:4 (Unselfishness)

Target Truths

- Jesus experienced Judas’s selfishness.
- Jesus selflessly obeyed God’s plan.
- Jesus selflessly suffered in the place of others.

Judas helps the Pharisees (p. 235)

Review Questions

1. Why couldn’t the Pharisees capture Jesus during the day? (The Pharisees feared what would happen if they tried to arrest Jesus while the crowds that followed Him were listening to Him teach.)
2. Why couldn’t the Pharisees capture Jesus at night? (Jesus was alone with His disciples, but the Pharisees didn’t know where to look for Him.)
3. Which disciple was not with Jesus and the other disciples after the Passover feast? (Judas)
4. Even though Judas had been a disciple of Jesus for a long time, how did he feel about Jesus? (He didn’t really love Jesus.)
5. What terrible deal did Judas make with the Pharisees? (Judas would help them catch Jesus, and the Pharisees would pay him thirty pieces of silver.)
6. Where did Judas tell the Pharisees that they could find Jesus? (in the garden of Gethsemane)
7. Why would it be easy for the Pharisees to capture Jesus now? (because all the crowds were gone)

Discussion Question

- What are some ways today that people selfishly respond to Jesus?

Jesus is taken prisoner (p. 237)

Review Questions

1. Where was Judas leading the Pharisees and soldiers? (to the quiet garden where Jesus was praying)
2. Why was Jesus praying? (Jesus knew everything that was going to happen to Him, and He was asking His Father for strength.)
3. What happened after Jesus finished praying? (The dark, quiet garden filled with the light of fiery torches and the noise of rattling swords.)
4. Did the soldiers need their weapons to capture Jesus? (No, Jesus stepped right out towards them.)
5. What did Jesus ask the soldiers? (“Whom are you looking for?”)
6. When the soldiers told Him that they were looking for Jesus of Nazareth, what happened? (Jesus said, “I am He,” and the soldiers fell backwards to the ground.)
7. What command did Jesus give the soldiers? (“I will go with you, but let My disciples go free.”)
8. Why did the Pharisees take Jesus before Pilate? (They wanted Pilate to put Jesus to death.)
9. What lie did the Pharisees tell Pilate about Jesus? (that He was trying to kick out the Roman king and take over his kingdom)

Discussion Question

- If Jesus had wanted to, could He have escaped from the Roman soldiers?

Jesus is condemned to die (p. 239)

Review Questions

1. Why did Pilate not want to crucify Jesus? (Pilate could find no crime that Jesus had committed and didn't want to kill an innocent man.)
2. What offer did Pilate make to the crowds? (“Every year I let you choose one prisoner for me to set free. Who do you want this year? Do you want me to let Jesus go? Or do you want me to let Barabbas go?”)
3. Why did Pilate think that the crowds would choose to free Jesus? (Barabbas was a terrible robber and murderer.)
4. Who stirred up the people against Jesus by shouting, “We want Barabbas! We want Barabbas!”? (the Pharisees)
5. When Pilate realized that his plan had failed, what did he command his soldiers to do? (crucify Jesus and let Barabbas go)
6. Did Jesus deserve to die? (No, He had never disobeyed.)
7. Could Jesus have stopped His own death? (Yes, He could have stopped it, but He let Himself be crucified because He loved God's people.)

Discussion Question

- In whose place did Jesus die?

Jesus Is Alive

Scripture Memory—Matthew 28:19a (Witnessing)

Target Truths

- Jesus is alive!
- Jesus helps people who doubt.
- Jesus commands us to spread the Good News.

Review and Discussion Questions

Jesus rises from the tomb (p. 241)

Review Questions

1. When Mary Magdalene went to Jesus' tomb on the third day, what did she find? (Something was out of place—the huge stone which should have been in front of the tomb had been moved.)
2. What did she do? (She ran to tell the disciples that someone had taken Jesus' body.)
3. What did Peter and John see when they looked inside the tomb? (The strips of cloth that Jesus' body had been wrapped in were lying there, and the cloth that had been around His head had been folded and lay in a place by itself.)
4. What did they suddenly remember? (They remembered all the things that Jesus had taught them—He would die on the cross, but He would come back to life on the third day! Now, finally, they saw and believed.)
5. What did Mary see when she looked inside the tomb? (Sitting where Jesus' body had been were two angels.)
6. What did Mary say when the angels asked her why she was crying? (“They have taken my Lord, and I don't know where they have put Him.”)
7. When did Mary realize that the man that she thought was the gardener was really Jesus? (when He called her name)

Discussion Question

- What does the resurrection reveal about Jesus' sacrifice?

Jesus appears to doubting Thomas (p. 243)

Review Questions

1. Why were the disciples hiding? (They were afraid that the Pharisees would come looking for them too.)
2. When Jesus came into the room, did He use the door? (No, He appeared out of nowhere—even though the doors were locked.)
3. Did Thomas want to believe that Jesus was alive? (Yes, but he wanted to see Jesus with his own eyes.)
4. What was the only difference the next time Jesus appeared to the disciples? (The situation was exactly the same, except that this time Thomas was with them.)
5. What did Jesus tell Thomas to do? (Jesus told Thomas to put his fingers where the nails had been, to stop doubting, and to believe.)
6. What did Thomas say when He realized that Jesus really was alive? (“My Lord and my God”)

Discussion Question

- What things cause you to doubt?

Jesus commissions His disciples (p. 245)

Review Questions

1. How long did Jesus spend with His followers before He went back to heaven? (forty days)
2. What job did Jesus give the disciples to do while He was gone? (They were to go to every part of the earth and make disciples, baptizing and teaching them to obey Him.)
3. What happened as soon as Jesus blessed His disciples? (He began ascending into the air, disappearing into the clouds.)
4. Where was He going? (He was going back to the Father in heaven to prepare a place for His followers.)
5. What did the two angels tell the disciples about Jesus? (“He has returned to heaven, but He will one day come to earth again.”)
6. Did the disciples do the job that Jesus had given them? (Yes, for the rest of their lives, the disciples told other people about God’s great plan of love.)
7. What is your job? (to tell other people about our loving God and His Son, Jesus Christ)

Discussion Question

- How can you be part of spreading the Good News of God’s love?