



Jesus is alive

Romans 8:34

THE HOUSE OF GOD WHICH IS THE CHURCH OF THE LIVING GOD
THE PILLAR & GROUND OF THE TRUTH WITHOUT CONTROVERSY, INC.
KEITH DOMINION



LEAD ME GUIDE ME IN THE PATH OF RIGHTEOUSNESS

LESSON TEXT: Psalm 31:3 For thou *art* my rock and my fortress; therefore for thy name's sake lead me, and guide me.

1. *He leadeth me in the path of righteousness* **Psalm 23:3** He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.
2. *Show me the way. Lead me in thy truth.* **Psalm 25:4-5** Shew me thy ways, O LORD; teach me thy paths. Lead me in thy truth, and teach me: for thou *art* the God of my salvation; on thee do I wait all the day.
3. *Lead me to the rock that is higher than I.* **Psalm 61:2** From the end of the earth will I cry unto thee, when my heart is overwhelmed: lead me to the rock *that* is higher than I.
4. *The Lamb shall feed them.* **Revelation 7:17** For the Lamb which is in the midst of the throne shall feed them, and shall lead them unto living fountains of waters: and God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes.
5. *Lead us not into temptation.* **Luke 11:4** And forgive us our sins; for we also forgive every one that is indebted to us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil.
6. *God is our God forever.* **Psalm 48:14** For this God *is* our God for ever and ever: he will be our guide *even* unto death.
7. *I am with you always.* **Matthew 28:20** Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, *even* unto the end of the world. Amen.

BONUS SCRIPTURES:

- (a) **John 16:13** Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, *that* shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come.
- (b) **John 5:19** Then answered Jesus and said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, The Son can do nothing of himself, but what he seeth the Father do: for what things soever he doeth, these also doeth the Son likewise.

THOUGHT FOR TODAY: Matthew 7:13-14 Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide *is* the gate, and broad *is* the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat: Because strait *is* the gate, and narrow *is* the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it.

LET'S TALK ABOUT IT:

(Discussion/Small Group Questions)

1. What does it mean to be "led in the path of righteousness" (answer individually)?
2. How would you describe the difference between temptation (Luke 11:4) and truth (Psalm 25:4-5)?
3. The "strait gate" (Matthew 7:13-14) is a metaphor for entry into the Kingdom of God which is eternal life. The "narrow way" is a metaphor for the road of obedience in order to enter the straight gate. Why do some people find the "narrow way" difficult? How does Jesus make traveling the "narrow way" possible?
4. Psalm 25:4-5 is a request from man to God to, "Shew me thy ways, O LORD; teach me thy paths. Lead me in thy truth, and teach me: for thou *art* the God of my salvation; on thee do I wait all the day." If you are a believer in Jesus, how does God show you His ways, teach His paths and lead you into His truth? Answer individually. If time permits, you may share an example.

THE UNITED FAMILY

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

There is a family in heaven and a family on earth. the family in heaven and the family on earth must wear the same name, and that seal of the Father must be written in their forehead. **Revelation 7:2**, And I saw another angel ascending from the east, having the seal of the living God: and he cried with a loud voice to the four angels, to whom it was given to hurt the earth and the sea, Saying, Hurt not the earth, neither the sea, nor the trees, till we have sealed the servants of our God in their foreheads. **Psalm 133** Behold, how good and pleasant *it is* for brethren to dwell together in unity!

Let us now explore what God, the Father, has instructed concerning family unity.

1. **Exodus 20:12** Honor thy father and thy mother: that thy days may be long upon the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee.
2. **1 Timothy 5:8** But if any provide not for his own, and specially for those of his own house, he hath denied the faith, and is worse than an infidel.
3. **Ephesians 4:2-3** With all lowliness and meekness, with longsuffering, forbearing one another in love; Endeavouring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.
4. **1 Timothy 3:4-5** One that ruleth well his own house, having his children in subjection with all gravity. For if a man know not how to rule his own house, how shall he take care of the church of God?
5. **1 Corinthians 1:10** Now I beseech you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye all speak the same thing, and *that* there be no divisions among you; but *that* ye be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment.
6. **1 Corinthians 11:3** But I would have you know, that the head of every man is Christ; and the head of the woman *is* the man; and the head of Christ *is* God.
7. **Proverbs 6:20** My son, keep thy father's commandment, and forsake not the law of thy mother.

THOUGHT FOR TODAY: God created the united family. When we think of a Christian family, we think about a husband and wife united in holy matrimony. The husband and wife should be knit together in God's love while growing together. If that husband and wife have children, the children should be raised in the fear and admonition of God (**Ephesians 6:4**). Because iniquity shall abound, the love of many shall wax cold **Matthew 24:12**. Jesus prayed in **John 17:21** that they all may be one; as you, Father, *are* in me, and I in you, that they also may be one in us: that the world may believe that you have sent me. The glory which you gave me I have given them; that they may be one, even as we are one: I in them, and you in me, that they may be made perfect in one; and that the world may know that you have sent me, and have loved them, as you have loved me.

LET'S TALK ABOUT IT:

(Discussion/Small Group Questions)

1. Why is it important for the family in heaven and earth to wear the same name, with God as our father (Ephesians 3:15)?
2. Name 3 things that cause families to become fractured (answer individually).
3. Name 3 things that cause families to become united (answer individually).

ACTIVITY:

Gather with your family this week (perhaps in a circle or on Zoom, etc.) and allow each person to say 1 positive quality they appreciate about each family member that has gathered for this activity. At the end of your time each family member should have given and received a brief statement of appreciation for/from every family member in the activity.

REVIVE US AGAIN

LESSON TEXT: Ezra 9:8 And now for a little space grace hath been *shewed* from the LORD our God, to leave us a remnant to escape, and to give us a nail in his holy place, that our God may lighten our eyes, and give us a little reviving in our bondage.

Revive means to activate, set in motion, or take up again. Revive also means to restore, renew, or refresh. The theme of the sixth administration is “Bring Back the Love,” restore it, renew it, revive it again.

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

1. **Mark 16:18b** They shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover (be revived).
2. **James 5:15** And the prayer of faith shall save (revive) the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up; and if he have committed sins, they shall be forgiven him.
3. **Revelation 3:2** Be watchful, and strengthen (revive) the things which remain, that are ready to die: for I have not found thy works perfect before God.
4. **Psalms 51:12** Restore (revive) unto me the joy of thy salvation; and uphold me with thy free spirit. Restore the joy, restore the happiness restore the love. Cast out everything that is not like you, God.
5. **Ephesians 4:22** That you put off concerning the former conversation the old man, which is corrupt according to the deceitful lusts; And be renewed (revived) in the spirit of your mind.
6. **Psalms 51:2** Wash me thoroughly from mine iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin.
7. **Isaiah 43:18-19** Remember ye not the former things, neither consider the things of old. Behold, I will do a new thing; now it shall spring forth; shall ye not know it? I will even make a way in the wilderness, *and* rivers in the desert. *Revive us again.*

THOUGHT FOR TODAY: Jeremiah 18:2-4 Arise, and go down to the potter's house, and there I will cause thee to hear my words. Then I went down to the potter's house, and behold, he wrought a work on the wheels. And the vessel that he made of clay was marred in the hand of the potter: so, he made it again (revived it) another vessel, as seemed good to the potter to make *it*.

LET'S TALK ABOUT IT:

(Discussion/Small Group Questions)

1. If you had to choose 2 living people to help you stay focused and spiritually strong, who would those 2 people be and what would you want them to do in order to help you?
2. Revive means to activate something dead or dying, to restore it, renew it, refresh it. What on earth needs a revival? What on earth does NOT need a revival?
3. How can a Christian have a spiritual renewal and refreshing every day (answer individually)?
4. What are 3 ways you can avoid becoming spiritually weak (answer individually)?

**HOLY, HOLY, HOLY IS THE LORD:
THE WHOLE EARTH IS FULL OF HIS GLORY**

LESSON TEXT: Isaiah 6:1-3 In the year that king Uzziah died I saw also the Lord sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up, and his train filled the temple. Above it stood the seraphims: each one had six wings; with twain he covered his face, and with twain he covered his feet, and with twain he did fly. And one cried unto another, and said, Holy, holy, holy, *is* the LORD of hosts: the whole earth *is* full of his glory.

1. *The same Holy Ghost that moved on the day of Pentecost is moving right now. Acts 2:1-4* And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.
2. *The same Holy Ghost that moved on Peter when he preached at Cornelius's house is here right now. Acts 10:44-46* While Peter yet spake these words, the Holy Ghost fell on all them which heard the word. And they of the circumcision which believed were astonished, as many as came with Peter, because that on the Gentiles also was poured out the gift of the Holy Ghost. For they heard them speak with tongues, and magnify God.
3. *The same Holy Ghost that fell when Paul laid his hands on them is here right now. Acts 19:1-2, 5-6* And it came to pass, that, while Apollos was at Corinth, Paul having passed through the upper coasts came to Ephesus: and finding certain disciples, **He** said unto them, Have ye received the Holy Ghost since ye believed? And they said unto him, We have not so much as heard whether there be any Holy Ghost. When they heard *this*, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. And when Paul had laid *his* hands upon them, the Holy Ghost came on them; and they spake with tongues and prophesied.
4. *The same spirit that raised Jesus from the dead will raise you up. Romans 8:11* But if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you.
5. *The way of Holiness.* And an highway shall be there, and a way, and it shall be called The way of holiness; the unclean shall not pass over it; but it *shall be* for those: the wayfaring men, though fools, shall not err *therein*. **Isaiah 35:8**
6. *The earth is full of His praise. Habakkuk 3:3* God came from Teman, and the Holy One from mount Paran. Selah. His glory covered the heavens, and the earth was full of his praise.
7. *The whole earth is filled with his glory. Psalm 72:19* Blessed *be* his glorious name for ever: and let the whole earth be filled *with* his glory; Amen, and Amen.

THOUGHT FOR TODAY: Hebrews 13:8 Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever. The Holy Ghost is the same yesterday, and today, and forever. Malachi 3:6 For I *am* the LORD, I change not. The grass withereth, the flower fadeth: but the word of our God shall stand

for ever **Isaiah 40:8**. Now unto the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only wise God, *be* honor and glory for ever and ever. Amen. **1 Timothy 1:17**

LET'S TALK ABOUT IT:

(Discussion/Small Group Questions)

1. God does not change but it is necessary for men and women that are seeking God to constantly change for the better as we grow stronger in Christ. Why is change unnecessary for God but necessary for man?
2. What is the first thought that comes to mind when you hear the word, "Holy" (answer individually)?
3. Holy is the nature of God. He is almighty and glorious. What are some other words that describe God's nature?

ACTIVITY:

Your group may desire to organize a time of prayer where you call upon the name of Jesus for a period of time (even on Zoom if that is how your group gathers). This can also be done individually in a private place. If you choose to do this activity, consider why you desire to call upon the name of Jesus. What is your request? Make your request known to Him in prayer and then spend time calling on His name. If you call on Jesus, He will answer prayer.

LOOK IN THE MIRROR AND EXAMINE YOURSELF

LESSON TEXT: James 1:23-25 For if any be a hearer of the word, and not a doer, he is like unto a man beholding his natural face in a glass: For he beholdeth himself, and goeth his way, and straightway forgetteth what manner of man he was. But whoso looketh into the perfect law of liberty, and continueth *therein*, he being not a forgetful hearer, but a doer of the work, this man shall be blessed in his deed.

We use mirrors to view or look at ourselves. We must study the word and look deeply into it to be sure we follow the faith and righteousness of God. While we may desire to cast stones at others, we may first want to take a look at ourselves in the mirror. When the disciples came to Jesus and said, Master, this woman was taken in adultery, in the very act, they commanded that she be stoned according to Moses law. But Jesus stooped down, and with his finger wrote on the ground, ignoring them. So when they continued asking him, He lifted up himself, and said unto them, he that is without sin among you, let him first cast a stone at her. John 8:4-7

1. *Examine yourselves, whether ye be in the faith.* **2 Corinthians 13:5** Examine yourselves, whether ye be in the faith; prove your own selves. Know ye not your own selves, how that Jesus Christ is in you, except ye be reprobates?
2. *Search and try our ways.* **Lamentations 3:40** Let us search and try our ways, and turn again to the LORD.
3. *If a man think himself to be something, when he is nothing...* **Galatians 6:3-5** For if a man think himself to be something, when he is nothing, he deceiveth himself. But let every man prove his own work, and then shall he have rejoicing in himself alone, and not in another. For every man shall bear his own burden.
4. *Search the scriptures daily.* **Acts 17:11** These were more noble than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness of mind, and searched the scriptures daily, whether those things were so.
5. *Let a man examine himself.* **1 Corinthians 11:28-29** But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of *that* bread, and drink of *that* cup. For he that eateth and drinketh unworthily, eateth and drinketh damnation to himself, not discerning the Lord's body.
6. *I bring my body into subjection.* **1 Corinthians 9:27** But I keep under my body, and bring *it* into subjection: lest that by any means, when I have preached to others, I myself should be a castaway.
7. *Search me, O God.* **Psalms 139:23-24** Search me, O God, and know my heart: try me, and know my thoughts: And see if *there be any* wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.

THOUGHT FOR TODAY: The word search means to look through a place, or area carefully in order to find something. **John 5:39** Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me. Look carefully at the scriptures, **2 Timothy 2:15** Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.

LET'S TALK ABOUT IT: (Discussion/Small Group Questions)

1. Psalm 37:37 says, "mark the perfect man." What are characteristics of a perfect man?
2. Many people look in a mirror in order to examine their outward appearance every day. What are 3 ways you can examine your spiritual life every day (answer individually)?
3. Why do you believe God wants His followers to constantly search/examine ourselves (explain).

YOU SHALL BE A WITNESS UNTO ME

LESSON TEXT: Acts 1:8 But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.

To witness for Jesus is to cry aloud, spare not, lift-up your voice like a trumpet, and show God's people their transgression, and the world their sins Isaiah 58:1. For all have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God Romans 3:23. When witnessing let no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth. Let your speech *be* always with grace, seasoned with salt, that you may know how you ought to answer every man Colossians 4:6. Use sound speech that cannot be condemned; that he that is of the contrary part may be ashamed, having no evil thing to say of you Titus 2:8. Employ words that ministers grace unto the hearers.

1. *Be ready to give an answer about your salvation.* **1 Peter 3:15** But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and *be* ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear.
2. *Jesus appeared unto the eleven after he was risen.* **Mark 16:15-16** And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned.
3. *Apostle Paul was an example of a true witness.* **Romans 1:16** For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.
4. *Let your light shine.* **Matthew 5:16** Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.
5. *God has chosen you.* **Acts 22:14-15** And he said, The God of our fathers has chosen you, that you shouldest know his will, and see that Just One, and shouldest hear the voice of his mouth. For you shalt be his witness unto all men of what you have seen and heard.
6. *The servant of the lord must be kind.* **2 Timothy 2:24-25** And the servant of the Lord must not strive; but be gentle unto all *men*, apt to teach, patient, In meekness instructing those that oppose themselves; if God peradventure will give them repentance to the acknowledging of the truth;
7. *We must teach and preach the Gospel message.* **Acts 10:42** And he commanded us to preach unto the people, and to testify that it is he which was ordained of God *to be* the Judge of quick and dead.

THOUGHT FOR TODAY: Matthew 28:18-20 And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, *even* unto the end of the world. Amen.

LET'S TALK ABOUT IT:

(Discussion/Small Group Questions)

1. What are some ways you can be an effective witness for God (answer individually)?
2. What are some ways you can be an ineffective witness for God (answer individually)?
3. Have you ever privately observed someone effectively letting their light shine as a good witness for God (explain)?

**IT IS ALL ABOUT LOVE:
LOVE THE LORD WITH ALL YOUR HEART**

LESSON TEXT: Matthew 22:37-38 Master, which *is* the great commandment in the law? Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment.

The Apostle Paul, while in prison and being led by the Holy Spirit, wrote these words in **Ephesians 4:1-3**, I therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you that ye walk worthy of the vocation wherewith ye are called, With all lowliness and meekness, with longsuffering, forbearing one another in love; Endeavouring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

1. *The Lord makes you to increase and abound in love.* **1 Thessalonians 3:12-13** And the Lord make you to increase and abound in love one toward another, and toward all *men*, even as we *do* toward you: To the end he may stablish your hearts unblameable in holiness before God, even our Father, at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ with all his saints.
2. *Unfeigned love is sincere and genuine love.* **1 Peter 1:22-23** Seeing ye have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit unto unfeigned love of the brethren, *see that ye love one another with a pure heart fervently*: Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever.
3. *You must become rooted and grounded in love.* **Ephesians 3:17-19** That Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith; that ye, being rooted and grounded in love, May be able to comprehend with all saints what *is* the breadth, and length, and depth, and height; And to know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge, that ye might be filled with all the fulness of God
4. *With lovingkindness have I drawn thee.* **Jeremiah 31:3** The LORD hath appeared of old unto me, *saying*, Yea, I have loved thee with an everlasting love: therefore, with lovingkindness have I drawn thee.
5. *God gave his only begotten Son.* **John 3:16** For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.
6. *He who loveth God love his brother also.* **1 John 4:20-21** If a man say, I love God, and hateth his brother, he is a liar: for he that loveth not his brother whom he hath seen, how can he love God whom he hath not seen? And this commandment have we from him, That he who loveth God love his brother also.
7. *God is love.* **1 John 4:7** Beloved, let us love one another: for love is of God; and everyone that loveth is born of God, and knoweth God. He that loveth not knoweth not God; for God is love.

THOUGHT FOR TODAY: Matthew 5:44-45 But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you; That ye may be the children of your Father which is in heaven: for he maketh his sun to rise on the evil and on the good, and sendeth rain on the just and on the unjust.

LET'S TALK ABOUT IT:

(Discussion/Small Group Questions)

1. Is loving someone you do not know difficult for you (why or why not, explain)?
2. The two great commands are to love God and love people. How can you exhibit unconditional love towards another person?
3. How do you know God loves you, from your own experience? Give an example (answer individually)?

MARRIAGE: HOW TO SELECT AND KEEP YOUR SPIRITUAL LIFE-TIME PARTNER

LESSON TEXT: Genesis 2:24 Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh.

For most people, when they first unite in holy matrimony it is the happiest day of their life. The marriage evolves over time and *fifty* years later, perhaps, they've stood the test of time. Keep loving one another deeply, because love covers a multitude of sins.

The Declaration of Intent

- Will you love her, comfort her, honor her and keep her, in sickness and in health; and forsaking all others remain loyal only to her as long as you both shall live?
 - Will you love and help him, comfort and honor him, cherish and keep him, in sickness and in health; and forsaking all others remain loyal only to him as long as you both shall live?
1. *Whoso finds a wife* **Proverbs 18:22** *Whoso* finds a wife, finds what is good and obtains favor from the LORD.
 2. *Marriage is honorable* **Hebrews 13:4** *Marriage is* honorable in all, and the bed undefiled: but whoremongers and adulterers God will judge.
 3. *Do not defraud one another* **1 Corinthians 7:5** Defraud ye not one the other, except *it be* with consent for a time, that ye may give yourselves to fasting and prayer; and come together again, that Satan tempt you not for your incontinency.
 4. *Should we select according to looks?* **Proverbs 31:30** Favor (unfair partiality or preferential treatment) *is* deceitful, and beauty *is* vain: *but* a woman *that* feareth the LORD, she shall be praised.
 5. *Put God first.* **Matthew 6:33** But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.
 6. *How to treat your wife* **Ephesians 5:25** Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it.
 7. *Forgive one another* **Ephesians 4:32** And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you.

BONUS SCRIPTURES:

- (a) He that loveth his wife loveth himself. **Ephesians 5:28** So ought men to love their wives as their own bodies. He that loveth his wife loveth himself.
- (b) Do not be unequally yoked (Unequally united). **2 Corinthians 6:14** Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness?
- (c) We believe in Saints marrying Saints. **Decree book page 39 paragraph 1** We believe in Christians marrying Christians and Saints marrying Saints, and sinners and unbelievers marrying. We are opposed to being unequally yoked together with unbelievers.

THOUGHT FOR TODAY: Mark 10:9 What therefore God hath joined together, let not man put asunder (separate).

LET'S TALK ABOUT IT:

(Discussion/Small Group Questions)

1. How can a marriage honor God (explain)?
2. What are some qualities of true, unconditional love (answer individually)?
3. We believe in saints marrying saints but what should a person do if they are already married and their spouse is not a believer (1 Corinthians 7:14)?

HOLD ON, HELP IS ON THE WAY

LESSON TEXT: Hebrews 4:16 Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.

Stand firm in difficult times. When trouble comes, we must stand on the word of God. God *is* our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble **Psalm 46:1**. God will even make a way in the wilderness, and in the desert. When it seems that there is no way, remember help is on the way. Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil **Ephesians 6:11**. Holdfast, that no man take your crown. **Revelation 3:11**

1. *Yes, I will help you.* **Isaiah 41:10-11** Fear thou not; for I *am* with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness. Behold, all they that were incensed against thee shall be ashamed and confounded: they shall be as nothing; and they that strive with thee shall perish.
2. *My help cometh from the LORD.* **Psalm 121:1-2** I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills, from whence cometh my help. My help *cometh* from the LORD, which made heaven and earth.
3. *Stand still and see the salvation of the LORD.* **Exodus 14:13** And Moses said unto the people, Fear ye not, stand still, and see the salvation of the LORD, which he will shew to you today: for the Egyptians whom ye have seen today, ye shall see them again no more forever.
4. *God is my helper.* **Psalm 54:4** Behold, God is mine helper: the Lord is with them that uphold my soul.
5. *The LORD shall fight for you.* **Exodus 14:14** The LORD shall fight for you, and ye shall hold your peace.
6. *Fear not; I will help thee.* **Isaiah 41:13** For I the LORD thy God will hold thy right hand, saying unto thee, Fear not; I will help thee.
7. *Help is on the way.* **John 14:13-14** And whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If ye shall ask any thing in my name, I will do *it*.

BONUS SCRIPTURES:

- (a) *Stand firm in the faith.* **1 Corinthians 16:13** Watch ye, stand fast in the faith, quit you like men, be strong.
- (b) *The righteous cry* **Psalm 34:17** The righteous cry, and the LORD heareth, and delivereth them out of all their troubles.

THOUGHT FOR TODAY: Psalm 40:1-3 I waited patiently for the LORD; and he inclined unto me, and heard my cry. He brought me up also out of an horrible pit, out of the miry clay, and set my feet upon a rock, *and* established my goings. And he hath put a new song in my mouth, *even* praise unto our God: many shall see *it*, and fear, and shall trust in the LORD.

LET'S TALK ABOUT IT:**(Discussion/Small Group Questions)**

1. What does it mean to “*Stand firm in the faith*” 1 Corinthians 16:13?
2. What was the most difficult moment of your life that you overcame?
3. What are 3 or 4 spiritual weapons we can use the next time we face great difficulty (explain how these spiritual weapons will help)? Some answers may include prayer, fasting, studying God’s word, etc.).

ACTIVITY:

If group members were courageous enough to share an answer to question 2, consider spending time praying for them and thanking God for proving we are more than conquerors through Him that loved us (Romans 8:37).

A DOUBLE MINDED MAN, A DOUBLE MINDED WOMAN

LESSON TEXT: James 1:8 A double minded man *is* unstable in all his ways.

According to scripture a double minded man is unstable in everything. You cannot trust him, you cannot count on him. Double minded means to be wavering in mind. Your mind is not settled. It is not made up. This definition can apply to male or female.

1. *A double minded man is neither cold nor hot.* **Revelation 3:15-16** I know thy works, that thou art neither cold nor hot: I would thou wert cold or hot. So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of my mouth.
2. *A double minded man is halting (hesitating) between two opinions.* **1 Kings 18:21** And Elijah came unto all the people, and said, How long halt ye between two opinions? if the LORD *be* God, follow him: but if Baal, *then* follow him. And the people answered him not a word.
3. *A double minded man tries to serve two masters.* **Matthew 6:24** No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Your loyalty will be divided..
4. *There is a war going on.* **Romans 7:23, 25** But I see another law in my members, warring against the law of my mind, and bringing me into captivity to the law of sin which is in my members. I thank God through Jesus Christ our Lord. So then with the mind I myself serve the law of God; but with the flesh the law of sin.
5. *Neither be ye of a doubtful mind.* **Luke 12:29** And seek not ye what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink, neither be ye of doubtful mind.
6. *Double-tongued.* **1 Timothy 3:8** Likewise *must* the deacons *be* grave, not double-tongued, not given to much wine, not greedy of filthy lucre.
7. *Choose you this day whom ye will serve.* **Joshua 24:15** And if it seem evil unto you to serve the LORD, choose you this day whom ye will serve; whether the gods which your fathers served that *were* on the other side of the flood, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell: but as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD.

THOUGHT FOR TODAY: James 1:5-6 If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all *men* liberally... But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering. For he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed.

LET'S TALK ABOUT IT:

(Discussion/Small Group Questions)

1. A double minded man *is* unstable in all his ways (James 1:8). How do you describe a person that is unstable in all their ways (answer individually)?
2. What are 2 ways a person can become double-minded (answer individually)?
3. There is nothing too hard for God (Mark 9:23). What are 2 ways a double-minded person can become spiritually stable (answer individually)?

JESUS CAME, NOT BY WATER ONLY, BUT BY WATER AND BLOOD

LESSON TEXT: 1 John 5:6 This is he that came by water and blood, *even* Jesus Christ; not by water only, but by water and blood. And it is the Spirit that beareth witness, because the Spirit is truth.

Then cometh Jesus from Galilee to Jordan unto John, to be baptized of him. But John forbad him, saying, I have need to be baptized of thee, and comest thou to me? And Jesus answering said unto him, Suffer *it to be so* now: for thus it becometh us to fulfil all righteousness. Then he suffered him. And Jesus, when he was baptized, went up straightway out of the water: and, lo, the heavens were opened unto him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove, and lighting upon him: And lo a voice from heaven, saying, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased. **Matthew 3:13-17**

This is he (Jesus) that came by water refers to his water baptism. The blood reference his spiritual baptism. Except a man be born of water and *of* the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God. **John 3:5**

1. *The life of the flesh is in the blood* **Leviticus 17:11** For the life of the flesh *is* in the blood: and I have given it to you upon the altar to make an atonement for your souls: for it *is* the blood *that* maketh an atonement for the soul.
2. *There came out blood and water.* **John 19:34** But one of the soldiers with a spear pierced his side, and forthwith came there out blood and water.
3. *These three agree in one.* **1 John 5:8** And there are three that bear witness in earth, the Spirit, and the water, and the blood: and these three agree in one.
4. *Without shedding of blood no remission of sin.* **Hebrews 9:22** And almost all things are by the law purged with blood; and without shedding of blood is no remission.
5. *Out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water.* **John 7:37-38** In the last day, that great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried, saying, If any man thirst, let him come unto me, and drink. He that believeth on me, as the scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water.
6. *You were redeemed with the precious blood of Jesus Christ.* **1 Peter 1:18-19** Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, *as* silver and gold, from your vain conversation *received* by tradition from your fathers; But with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot.
7. *These are they which came out of great tribulation.* **Revelation 7:14** These are they which came out of great tribulation, and have washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

THOUGHT FOR TODAY: *There is a fountain filled with blood drawn from Immanuel's veins, and sinners plunged beneath that flood lose all their guilty stains. We have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace.* **Ephesians 1:7**

LET'S TALK ABOUT IT: (Discussion/Small Group Questions)

1. What do you think about when you hear the phrase, "the blood of Jesus" (answer individually)?
2. If you had to choose a song to describe the impact of Jesus on your life, what song would you choose?
3. How can other members of the group pray for you?

GOD IS AMAZING

LESSON TEXT: Nehemiah 9:6 Thou, *even* thou, *art* LORD alone; thou hast made heaven, the heaven of heavens, with all their host, the earth, and all *things* that *are* therein, the seas, and all that *is* therein, and thou preservest them all; and the host of heaven worshippeth thee.

Our God is an amazing God. He astonishes and cause us to marvel at all his wonderful works. *In* six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them *is*, and rested the seventh day Exodus 20:11. We admire the beauty of all that God has created. He is the God that formed the light and created darkness. He is great, mighty, and awesome. O God, how amazing are your works! Through the greatness of your power shall your enemies humble themselves before you.

1. *How excellent is thy name in all the earth.* **Psalm 8:1-2** O LORD our Lord, how excellent *is* thy name in all the earth! who hast set thy glory above the heavens. Out of the mouth of babes and sucklings hast thou ordained strength because of thine enemies, that thou mightest still the enemy and the avenger.
2. *The LORD be magnified.* **Psalm 40:16** Let all those that seek thee rejoice and be glad in thee: let such as love thy salvation say continually, The LORD be magnified.
3. *The LORD is a great God.* **Psalm 95:3** For the LORD *is* a great God, and a great King above all gods.
4. I am fearfully *and* wonderfully made. **Psalm 139:14** I will praise thee; for I am fearfully *and* wonderfully made: marvellous *are* thy works; and *that* my soul knoweth right well.
5. *His greatness is unsearchable.* **Psalm 145:3** Great *is* the LORD, and greatly to be praised; and his greatness *is* unsearchable.
6. *His understanding is infinite.* **Psalm 147:5** Great *is* our Lord, and of great power: his understanding *is* infinite.
7. *Whosoever believeth in him should not perish.* **John 3:16** For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

BONUS SCRIPTURES

- (a) **Psalm 139:17** How precious also are thy thoughts unto me, O God! how great is the sum of them!
- (b) **Numbers 23:19** God *is* not a man, that he should lie; neither the son of man, that he should repent: hath he said, and shall he not do *it*? or hath he spoken, and shall he not make it good?
- (c) **Psalm 34:8** O taste and see that the LORD *is* good: blessed *is* the man *that* trusteth in him.

THOUGHT FOR TODAY: Romans 8:38-39 For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

LET'S TALK ABOUT IT:

(Discussion/Small Group Questions)

1. What type of activities do you do when you are giving praises to God for being amazing (answer individually)?
2. Describe a time you remember God being amazing to you (answer individually).

MAY THE GOD OF HOPE FILL YOU WITH REAL JOY

LESSON TEXT: Romans 14:17 For the kingdom of God is not meat and drink; but righteousness, and peace, and joy in the Holy Ghost.

One of the most important things in the life of a true Christian is joy. The joy of the Lord is our strength. Everyone wants to feel joy, happiness, and the emotional feeling of just being glad. Real joy is when we enter the very presence of God. May the God of hope fill you with real joy and peace, in believing and trusting in him, that you may abound in hope, through the power of the Holy Ghost. Rejoice in the Lord, and again I say rejoice.

1. *Rejoice in hope*; be patient in tribulation; be constant in prayer. **Romans 12:12**
2. *Count it all joy*, my brothers, when ye fall into divers temptations. **James 1:2**
3. *A joyful heart* is good medicine: but a broken spirit dries up the bones. **Proverbs 17:22**
4. *Joy comes in the morning*. For his anger *endureth but* a moment; in his favour *is* life: weeping may endure for a night, but joy *cometh* in the morning. **Psalms 30:5**
5. *This is the day which the LORD hath made*; we will rejoice and be glad in it. **Psalms 118:24**
6. *The unspeakable joy*. Whom having not seen, ye love; in whom, though now ye see *him* not, yet believing, ye rejoice with joy unspeakable and full of glory. **1 Peter 1:8**
7. *My lips shall greatly rejoice when I sing unto thee*; and my soul, which thou hast redeemed. **Psalms 71:23**

BONUS SCRIPTURES

- (a) Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of *our* faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God. **Hebrews 12:2**
- (b) **Zephaniah 3:17** The LORD thy God in the midst of thee *is* mighty; he will save, he will rejoice over thee with joy; he will rest in his love, he will joy over thee with singing.

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

LET'S TALK ABOUT IT:**(Discussion/Small Group Questions)**

1. Describe a time you or someone you know experienced joy in the midst of a situation that seemed hopeless (answer individually).
2. What thoughts come to mind when you hear the phrase, "unspeakable joy?"
3. What can a person do if it seems their prayer is unanswered (answer individually)?

ACTIVITY:

Go around the group asking every willing and able person that can pray to pray a prayer of thanksgiving. In other words, while praying these prayers, do not request anything, only give thanks for what God has already done and what he is doing. Next time, receive prayer requests from friends, family members and coworkers and then at your meeting choose 2 or 3 people to pray for those requests.

**STAY IN THE RACE, KEEP THE FAITH
LAY HOLD ON ETERNAL LIFE**

LESSON TEXT: Ecclesiastes 9:11 I returned, and saw under the sun, that the race *is* not to the swift, nor the battle to the strong, neither yet bread to the wise, nor yet riches to men of understanding, nor yet favour to men of skill; but time and chance happeneth to them all.

If you want to live so God can use you, stay in the race and keep the faith. By doing so, you will lay hold on eternal life. Those that stay in the race will learn how to wait on the Lord and renew their strength. They will mount up with wings as eagles; They will run and not be weary, they will walk and not faint.

1. *Be not afraid of sudden fear*, neither of the desolation of the wicked, when it cometh. **Proverbs 3:25**
2. Therefore, my beloved brethren, *be ye stedfast, unmoveable*, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord. **1 Corinthians 15:58**
3. Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might. Put on the whole armor of God, *that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil*. **Ephesians 6:10-11**
4. I have fought a good fight, *I have finished my course, I have kept the faith*:
5. Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing. **2 Timothy 4:7-8**
6. Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, *hath everlasting life*, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life. **John 5:24**
7. *He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life*: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him. **John 3:36**
8. But whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst; but the water that I shall give him *shall be in him a well of water springing up into everlasting life*. **John 4:14**

BONUS SCRIPTURES

- (a) **Galatians 6:9** And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not.
- (b) **John 6:27** Labour not for the meat which perisheth, but for that meat which endureth unto everlasting life, which the Son of man shall give unto you: for him hath God the Father sealed.

THOUGHT FOR TODAY: Ephesians 6:13-15 Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness; And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace.

LET'S TALK ABOUT IT:

(Discussion/Small Group Questions)

1. What does it mean for someone to "lay hold to eternal life" (answer individually)?
2. What are 5 things we can do to avoid succumbing to obstacles that hinder our ability to stay in the race?

I HAVE HEARD THY PRAYERS, I HAVE SEEN THY TEARS

LESSON TEXT: 2 Kings 20:5 Turn again, and tell Hezekiah the captain of my people, Thus saith the LORD, the God of David thy father, I have heard thy prayer, I have seen thy tears: behold, I will heal thee: on the third day thou shalt go up unto the house of the LORD.

In those days was Hezekiah sick unto death. And Isaiah the prophet the son of Amoz came unto him, and said unto him, Thus saith the LORD, Set thine house in order: for thou shalt die, and not live. Then Hezekiah turned his face toward the wall, and prayed unto the LORD, And said, Remember now, O LORD, I beseech thee, how I have walked before thee in truth and with a perfect heart, and have done *that which is good* in thy sight. And Hezekiah wept sore. Then came the word of the LORD to Isaiah, saying, Go, and say to Hezekiah, Thus saith the LORD, the God of David thy father, I have heard thy prayer, I have seen thy tears: behold, I will add unto thy days fifteen years. **Isaiah 38:1-5**

1. *I will take sickness away from the midst of thee.* **Exodus 23:25** And ye shall serve the LORD your God, and he shall bless thy bread, and thy water; and I will take sickness away from the midst of thee.
2. *He healed them.* **Matthew 4:23-24** And Jesus went about all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing all manner of sickness and all manner of disease among the people. And his fame went throughout all Syria: and they brought unto him all sick people that were taken with divers diseases and torments, and those which were possessed with devils, and those which were lunatick, and those that had the palsy; and he healed them.
3. *He gave them power against unclean spirits.* **Matthew 10:1** And when he had called unto *him* his twelve disciples, he gave them power *against* unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal all manner of sickness and all manner of disease.
4. *This sickness is not unto death, but for the glory of God* **John 11:1-4** Now a certain *man* was sick, *named* Lazarus, of Bethany, the town of Mary and her sister Martha. (It was *that* Mary which anointed the Lord with ointment, and wiped his feet with her hair, whose brother Lazarus was sick.) Therefore his sisters sent unto him, saying, Lord, behold, he whom thou lovest is sick. When Jesus heard *that*, he said, This sickness is not unto death, but for the glory of God, that the Son of God might be glorified thereby.
5. *Jesus saith unto him, I will come and heal him.* **Matthew 8:6-8** And saying, Lord, my servant lieth at home sick of the palsy, grievously tormented. And Jesus saith unto him, I will come and heal him. The centurion answered and said, Lord, I am not worthy that thou shouldest come under my roof: but speak the word only, and my servant shall be healed.
6. *Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out devils.* **Matthew 10:7-8** And as ye go, preach, saying, The kingdom of heaven is at hand. Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out devils: freely ye have received, freely give.
7. *The prayer of faith shall save the sick.* **James 5:14-15** Is any sick among you? let him call for the elders of the church; and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord: And the prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up; and if he have committed sins, they shall be forgiven him.

BONUS SCRIPTURES

- (a) **Deuteronomy 32:39** See now that I, *even I, am he*, and *there is* no god with me: I kill, and I make alive; I wound, and I heal: *neither is there any* that can deliver out of my hand.
- (b) **Psalm 41:4** I said, LORD, be merciful unto me: heal my soul; for I have sinned against thee.

THOUGHT FOR TODAY: Psalm 103:1-3 Bless the LORD, O my soul: and all that is within me, *bless* his holy name. Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits: Who forgiveth all thine iniquities; who healeth all thy diseases.

LET'S TALK ABOUT IT:

(Discussion/Small Group Questions)

1. Do you remember the last time your prayer was answered? If so, explain (answer individually).
2. Who are the people you pray for every day? What is your prayer for them?
3. Who are the people that pray for you every day?

ACTIVITY:

Contact friends and family, asking them to share special prayer requests with you. Choose 2 or 3 people to pray for those requests (collectively or individually).

I WILL NOT LEAVE YOU COMFORTLESS

LESSON TEXT: John 14:16-18, 26 And I will pray ttle Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever; *Even* the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knowelh him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you and shall be in you. *I* will not leave you comfortless: I will come to you. But the Comforter, *which is* the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you,

Nevertheless I tell you the truth; It is expedient for you that I go away: for if I go not away, the Comforter will not come unto you; but if I depart, I will send him unto you. And when he is come, he will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment: Of sin, because they believe not on me; Of righteousness, because I go to my Father, and ye see me no more; Of judgment, because the prince of this world is judged. **John 16:7-11**

1. *You shall receive power. Acts 1:8* But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.
2. *They were all filled with the Holy Ghost. Acts 2:4* And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.
3. *When he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth. John 16:13* Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, *that* shall he speak: and he will show you things to come.
4. *Repent and be Baptized and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost. Acts 2:38* Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.
5. *Your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost. 1 Corinthians 6:19* What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost *which is* in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own?
6. *You shall be baptized-with the Holy Ghost. Acts 1:5* For John truly baptized with water; but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost not many days hence.
7. *When the Comforter is come. John 15:26* But when the Comforter is come, whom I will send unto you from the Father, *even* the Spirit of truth, which proceedeth from the Father, he shall testify of me.

BONUS SCRIPTURES

- (a) **Matthew 28:19** Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the nanle of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost.
- (b) **Romans 15:13** Now the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that ye may abound in hope, through the power of the Holy Ghost.

THOUGHT FOR TODAY: 2 Corinthians 13:14 The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Ghost, *be* with you all. Amen.

LET'S TALK ABOUT IT:

(Discussion/Small Group Questions)

1. Fill in the blank: God thank you for not leaving me comfortless. Without your comforter, I would not be able to _____ (answer individually).
2. What are some ways a person that does not have a relationship with Jesus can begin to receive the comforter?
3. Describe (in brief) the day you received the comforter (if time permits, answer individually).

IS YOUR HEART RIGHT WITH GOD?

LESSON TEXT: Matthew 15:8 This people draweth nigh unto me with their mouth, and honoureth me with *their* lips; but their heart is far from me.

The heart *is* deceitful above all *things*, and desperately wicked: who can know it? **Jeremiah 17:9** For out of the heart proceed evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, blasphemies. **Matthew 15:19**

1. *Every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.* **Genesis 6:5** And GOD saw that the wickedness of man *was* great in the earth, and *that* every imagination of the thoughts of his heart *was* only evil continually.
2. *Their foolish heart was darkened.* **Romans 1:21** Because that, when they knew God, they glorified *him* not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened.
3. *I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh.* **Ezekiel 36:26** A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you: and, and I will give you an heart of flesh.
4. *Create in me a clean heart.* **Psalms 51:10** Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me.
5. *Your heart is not right.* **Acts 8:21** Thou hast neither part nor lot in this matter: for thy heart is not right in the sight of God.
6. *An evil heart of unbelief.* **Hebrews 3:12** Take heed, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief, in departing from the living God.
7. *Angry heart.* **2 Corinthians 2:4** For out of much affliction and anguish of heart I wrote unto you with many tears; not that ye should be grieved, but that ye might know the love which I have more abundantly unto you.

BONUS SCRIPTURES

- (a) **Genesis 6:5** And GOD saw that the wickedness of man *was* great in the earth, and *that* every imagination of the thoughts of his heart *was* only evil continually.
- (b) **1 John 3:20** For if our heart condemn us, God is greater than our heart, and knoweth all things.

THOUGHT FOR TODAY: Proverbs 21:2 Every way of a man *is* right in his own eyes: but the LORD weighs the hearts.

LET'S TALK ABOUT IT:

(Discussion/Small Group Questions)

1. What does it mean to have a "heart right with God" (answer individually)?
2. How would you describe the difference between a clean heart (Psalm 51) and a deceitful heart (Jeremiah 17:9), explain?
3. Besides clean and deceitful, what other adjectives describe the state of the heart in our lesson today?
4. In your own words how would you apply Proverbs 21:2 to your life?

THE LORD COMETH TO EXECUTE JUDGMENT UPON ALL

LESSON TEXT: Jude 1:14-15 And Enoch also, the seventh from Adam, prophesied of these, saying, Behold, the Lord cometh with ten thousands of his saints, To execute judgment upon all, and to convince all that are ungodly among them of all their ungodly deeds which they have ungodly committed, and of all their hard *speeches* which ungodly sinners have spoken against him.

God is the judge of the living and the dead. **2 Peter 2:4-7,9** For if God spared not the angels that sinned, but cast *them* down to hell, and delivered *them* into chains of darkness, to be reserved unto judgment; And spared not the old world, but saved Noah the eighth *person*, a preacher of righteousness, bringing in the flood upon the world of the ungodly; And turning the cities of Sodom and Gomorrha into ashes condemned *them* with an overthrow, making *them* an ensample unto those that after should live ungodly; And delivered just Lot, vexed with the filthy conversation of the wicked: The Lord knoweth how to deliver the godly out of temptations, and to reserve the unjust unto the day of judgment to be punished.

1. *We must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ* **2 Corinthians 5:10** For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that everyone may receive the things *done* in *his* body, according to that he hath done, whether *it be* good or bad.
2. *Every one of us shall give account of himself to God.* **Romans 14:12-13** So then *every one of us shall give account of himself to God.* Let us not therefore judge one another any more: but judge this rather, that no man put a stumblingblock or an occasion to fall in *his* brother's way.
3. *Every idle word that men shall speak, they shall give account thereof in the day of judgment.*
4. **Matthew 12:36** But I say unto you, That every idle word that men shall speak, they shall give account thereof in the day of judgment.
5. *Judge nothing before the time, until the Lord come.* **1 Corinthians 4:5** Therefore judge nothing before the time, until the Lord come, who both will bring to light the hidden things of darkness, and will make manifest the counsels of the hearts: and then shall every man have praise of God.
6. *Judge not, and ye shall not be judged.* **Luke 6:37** Judge not, and ye shall not be judged: condemn not, and ye shall not be condemned: forgive, and ye shall be forgiven.
7. *The time is come that judgment must begin at the house of God.* **1 Peter 4:17** For the time *is come* that judgment must begin at the house of God: and if *it first begin* at us, what shall the end *be* of them that obey not the gospel of God?
8. *The Father judgeth no man.* **John 5:22** For the Father judgeth no man, but hath committed all judgment unto the Son:

BONUS SCRIPTURES

- (a) **Hebrews 9:27** And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment.
- (b) **John 7:24** Judge not according to the appearance, but judge righteous judgment.

THOUGHT FOR TODAY: Deuteronomy 1:17 Ye shall not respect persons in judgment; *but* ye shall hear the small as well as the great; ye shall not be afraid of the face of man; for the judgment *is* God's: and the cause that is too hard for you, bring *it* unto me, and I will hear it.

LET'S TALK ABOUT IT:

(Discussion/Small Group Questions)

1. What is the day of judgement and why is that good news for believers?
2. Why can't flesh and blood inherit the kingdom of God (1 Corinthians 15:50)?
3. What are you looking forward to the most when Jesus returns (explain why, answer individually)?

LORD I AM RUNNING

LESSON TEXT: Hebrews 12:1-2 Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset *us*, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us, Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of *our* faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God.

Ye did run well; who did hinder you that ye should not obey the truth? Galatians 5:7 Blessed *is* the man that endureth temptation: for when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life, which the Lord hath promised to them that love him. James 1:12 I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus. Philippians 3:14

1. *Run, that ye may obtain.* **1 Corinthians 9:24** Know ye not that they which run in a race run all, but one receiveth the prize? So run, that ye may obtain.
2. *I have finished the race.* **2 Timothy 4:7-8** I have fought a good fight, I have finished *the race*, I have kept the faith: Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing.
3. *I have not run in vain.* **Philippians 2:16** Holding forth the word of life; that I may rejoice in the day of Christ, that I have not run in vain, neither labored in vain.
4. *Endure unto the end.* **Matthew 24:13** But he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved.
5. *If thou hast run with the footmen.* **Jeremiah 12:5** If thou hast run with the footmen, and they have wearied thee, then how canst thou contend with horses? and *if* in the land of peace, *wherein* thou trustedst, *they wearied thee*, then how wilt thou do in the swelling of Jordan?
6. *For the eyes of the LORD run to and fro* **2 Chronicles 16:9** For the eyes of the LORD run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to shew himself strong in the behalf of *them* whose heart *is* perfect toward him.
7. *I will run the way of thy commandments.* **Psalms 119:32** I will run the way of thy commandments, when thou shalt enlarge my heart.

BONUS SCRIPTURES

- (a) **Jeremiah 5:1** Run ye to and fro through the streets of Jerusalem, and see now, and know, and seek in the broad places thereof, if ye can find a man, if there be *any* that executeth judgment, that seeketh the truth; and I will pardon it.
- (b) **1 Timothy 4:8** For bodily exercise profiteth little: but godliness is profitable unto all things, having promise of the life that now is, and of that which is to come.

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

LET'S TALK ABOUT IT:

(Discussion/Small Group Questions)

1. What does the phrase, "Lord I'm Running" mean to you?
2. What does it mean to be "faithful unto death" Revelation 2:10?
3. Why is it impossible to please God without faith?

THE HIDDEN MYSTERY OF DIVINE HEALING

LESSON TEXT: Matthew 14:14 And Jesus went forth, and saw a great multitude, and was moved with compassion toward them, and he healed their sick.

I trust God this day. I have learned how to lean and depend on Jesus. The hidden mystery of divine healing is not open to the natural eye. The hidden mysteries of God's healing power is buried deep on the inside. If you can believe, all things are possible to him that believe. Divine, simply means that it comes from above. Heavenly.

Healing means to make well or whole again. God promises to restore our health and heal our wounds. It is written in *Psalm 118:17*, you shall not die but live and declare the works of the Lord. Divine healing is healing by faith. For we walk by faith, not by sight. *2 Corinthians 5:7* Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen. *Hebrews 11:1*

1. *I will heal thee of thy wounds. Jeremiah 30:17* For I will restore health unto thee, and I will heal thee of thy wounds, saith the LORD.
2. *Jesus went about healing all manner of sickness and all manner of disease. Matthew 4:23* And Jesus went about all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing all manner of sickness and all manner of disease among the people.
3. *He cast out the spirits with His word. Matthew 8:16-17* When the even was come, they brought unto him many that were possessed with devils: and he cast out the spirits with *his* word, and healed all that were sick: That it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Esaias the prophet, saying, Himself took our infirmities, and bare *our* sicknesses.
4. *Heal the sick. Matthew 10:8* Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out devils: freely ye have received, freely give.
5. *He cast out many devils. Mark 1:34* And he healed many that were sick of different diseases and cast out many devils.
6. *Jesus went about doing good and healing all that were oppressed of the devil. Acts 10:38* How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with power: who went about doing good and healing all that were oppressed of the devil; for God was with him.
7. *By His stripes you are healed. 1 Peter 2:24* Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed.

BONUS SCRIPTURES

- (a) **Jeremiah 33:6** Behold, I will bring it health and cure, and I will cure them, and will reveal unto them the abundance of peace and truth.
- (b) **3 John 1:2** Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth.

THOUGHT FOR TODAY: James 5:14-15 Is any sick among you? let him call for the elders of the church; and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord. And the prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up; and if he have committed sins, they shall be forgiven him.

LET'S TALK ABOUT IT:

(Discussion/Small Group Questions)

1. Which verse or story stands out to you in a memorable way from today's lesson, why (answer individually)?
2. Why do you believe God heals us if we are going to eventually pass away anyway (answer individually)?
3. Have you ever seen someone's health restored because of Jesus even though the medical forecast was death (explain)?

FORGIVE, FORGET AND LET IT GO

LESSON TEXT: Philippians 3:13-14 Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but *this* one thing *I do*, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.

Sometimes because of pride and attitudes that may have developed over time, letting go of a situation and forgiving a person is one of the hardest things in life to do, but there is hope. God said, I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more.

When it comes to Forgiveness, Forgetting and Letting Go, Jesus Christ must always be our example. We must walk in his footsteps; who, when he was reviled (to speak with abusive language), reviled not again. "Father forgive them for they know not what they do. Jesus loved and forgave so much that he told one of the thieves on the cross, Verily I say unto thee, today shalt thou be with me in paradise. *Luke 23:43*

If problems are to be resolved between the saints, we must be willing to forget the pass and look to the future in Christ Jesus. It is time to forgive, forget and let go. Life is too short. God said, I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more.

1. *His anger endures but a moment.* **Psalm 30:5** For his anger *endureth* but a moment; in his favor *is* life: weeping may endure for a night, but joy *cometh* in the morning.
2. *Many times turned he his anger away.* **Psalm 78:37-39** For their heart was not right with him, neither were they stedfast in his covenant. But he, *being* full of compassion, forgave *their* iniquity, and destroyed *them* not: yea, many a time turned he his anger away, and did not stir up all his wrath. For he remembered that they *were* but flesh; a wind that passeth away, and cometh not again.
3. *Remember not the former things.* **Isaiah 43:18-19** Remember ye not the former things, neither consider the things of old. Behold, I will do a new thing; now it shall spring forth; shall ye not know it? I will even make a way in the wilderness, *and* rivers in the desert.
4. *If you will not forgive.* **Matthew 6:15** But if ye forgive not men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.
5. *Forgive.* **Mark 11:25-26** And when ye stand praying, forgive, if ye have ought against any: that your Father also which is in heaven may forgive you your trespasses. But if ye do not forgive, neither will your Father which is in heaven forgive your trespasses.
6. *Be kind, forgiving one another.* **Ephesians 4:32** And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you.
7. *I love God, But I hate my brother.* **1 John 4:20** If a man say, I love God, and hateth his brother, he is a liar: for he that loveth not his brother whom he hath seen, how can he love God whom he hath not seen?

BONUS SCRIPTURES

- (a) **2 Corinthians 5:17** Therefore if any man *be* in Christ, *he is* a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.
- (b) **Ephesians 4:31** Let all bitterness, and wrath, and anger, and clamor, and evil speaking, be put away from you, with all malice.

THOUGHT FOR TODAY: James 1:19-20 Wherefore, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath: For the wrath of man worketh not the righteousness of God.

LET'S TALK ABOUT IT:

(Discussion/Small Group Questions)

1. Is it necessary to forgive and forget your own harmful actions in order to walk into the promises God has for you?
2. What are some sins that are difficult to forgive?
3. What are some sins that are difficult to forget?
4. Name 3 reasons you should forgive and forget the sins of the past (answer individually).
5. What are 3 things you can do to help you forgive and forget the harmful things of the past?

PRAYER IS NEEDED RIGHT NOW

LESSON TEXT: Isaiah 65:24 And it shall come to pass, that before they call, I will answer; and while they are yet speaking, I will hear.

Somewhere in this sanctuary, someone is standing in the need of prayer right now. Are you seeking divine direction, waiting on an answer from God? Do not give up. God is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, and He is not through blessing you.

1. *Call unto me, and I will answer.* **Jeremiah 33:3** Call unto me, and I will answer thee, and show thee great and mighty things, which thou knowest not.
2. *When you pray, believe.* **Mark 11:24** Therefore I say unto you, What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them.
3. *Ask, seek, knock.* **Luke 11:9** And I say unto you, Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you.
4. *Ask what you will.* **John 15:7** If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you.
5. *The Spirit makes intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered.* **Romans 8:26** Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered.
6. *Let your requests be made known unto God.* **Philippians 4:6** Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God.
7. *First of all, prayers, and giving of thanks, be made for all men.* **1 Timothy 2:1-2** I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks, be made for all men; For kings, and for all that are in authority; that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty.

BONUS SCRIPTURES

- (a) **Ephesians 6:18** Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints.
- (b) **Psalms 34:17** *The righteous cry, and the LORD heareth, and delivereth them out of all their troubles.*

THOUGHT FOR TODAY: Luke 18:1 And he spake a parable unto them *to this end*, that men ought always to pray, and not to faint.

LET'S TALK ABOUT IT:**(Discussion/Small Group Questions)**

1. Why do you believe God said, "men ought to always pray and not faint" (answer individually)?
2. Who are the people you pray for every day? What is your prayer for them?
3. Who are the people that pray for you every day?
4. List 5 things prayer (communication with God) can do?

THE DEVIL IS NOT YOUR FRIEND

LESSON TEXT: John 10:10 The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have *it* more abundantly.

There was war in heaven: Michael and his angels fought against the dragon; and the dragon fought and his angels, And prevailed not; neither was their place found any more in heaven. And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world: he was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him. *Revelation 12:7-9*

The Devil is not your friend. The devil does not like you. He is your most powerful enemy, and he is out to destroy you. If you work for him, he promised to pay you with death. The wages of sin is death. The devil is the chief advocate of sin and rebellion against God, and he does not like you either. The thief (*the devil*) cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy.

1. *Satan has no shame.* **Job 1:6** Now there was a day when the sons of God came to present themselves before the LORD, and Satan came also among them (to present himself before the Lord). No shame.
2. *Is this the man that made the earth to tremble, that did shake kingdoms?* **Isaiah 14:12-14-16** How art thou fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! *how* art thou cut down to the ground, which didst weaken the nations! For thou hast said in thine heart, I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God: I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of the north: I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will be like the most High. Yet thou shalt be brought down to hell, to the sides of the pit. They that see thee shall narrowly look upon thee, *and* consider thee, *saying*, *Is this the man that made the earth to tremble, that did shake kingdoms?*
3. *He is a liar, and the father of all lies.* **John 8:44** Ye are of *your* father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it.
4. *God shall bruise Satan under your feet shortly.* **Romans 16:20** And the God of peace shall bruise Satan under your feet shortly.
5. *How do we stand against the works of Satan?* **Ephesians 6:11** Put on the whole armor of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.
6. *How did the Saints of God overcome Satan and how do you get rid of him?* **Revelation 12:11** They overcame him by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony; and they loved not their lives unto the death. *James 4:7* Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.
7. *The Devil was cast into the lake of fire.* **Revelation 20:10** And the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet *are*, and shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever.

BONUS SCRIPTURES

- (a) **1 Peter 5:8** Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour.
- (b) **1 John 3:8** He that committeth sin is of the devil; for the devil sinneth from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil.

THOUGHT FOR TODAY: 2 Corinthians 11:3 But I fear, lest by any means, as the serpent beguiled Eve through his subtilty, so your minds should be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ.

LET'S TALK ABOUT IT:

(Discussion/Small Group Questions)

1. What do you believe the bible means when it says, “we wrestle not against flesh and blood” (Eph. 6)?
2. Why is it important to stay away from negativity (Rom. 16:17-18)?
3. Describe 3 positive, healthy choices you make each day (answer individually).
4. What does it mean when the bible says, “because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour” 1 Peter 5:8-9 (answer individually)?

AFTER YOU HAVE DONE THE WILL OF GOD YOU WILL RECEIVE THE PROMISES OF GOD

LESSON TEXT: Hebrews 10:35-36 Cast not away therefore your confidence, which hath great recompence of reward. For ye have need of patience, that, after ye have done the will of God, ye might receive the promise.

God has promised a crown of life to them that love him. This promise, he gave before the world began. They which are called, those who are sanctified and filled with the Holy Ghost shall receive the promise of eternal life. God said if you will listen unto the voice of the Lord to observe and to do all his commandments, the Lord God will set you on high above all nations of the earth. God's blessings shall come on you and overtake you

The Bible is full of the promises, but we must do the will of God.. God promises peace, joy and happiness, a long life, a healthy marriage, blessed children, the desires of your heart and so much more. The promises of God are yes and Amen.

1. *God shall supply all your needs.* **Philippians 4:19** My God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus.
2. *God knows the plans that he has for you.* **Jeremiah 29:11** For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the LORD, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end.
3. *God has given unto us great and precious promises.* **2 Peter 1:4** Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.
4. *All things work together for good to them that love God.* **Romans 8:28** And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.
5. *Ask God For Wisdom.* **James 1:5** If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him.
6. *God will not fail you.* **Deuteronomy 31:8** And the LORD, he *it is* that doth go before thee; he will be with thee, he will not fail thee, neither forsake thee: fear not, neither be dismayed.
7. *The Lord is not slack concerning his promise.* **2 Peter 3:9** The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.

BONUS SCRIPTURES

- (a) **1 John 1:9** If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us *our* sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.
- (b) **John 3:16** God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

THOUGHT FOR TODAY: Isaiah 43:2 When thou passest through the waters, I *will be* with thee; and through the rivers, they shall not overflow thee: when thou walkest through the fire, thou shalt not be burned; neither shall the flame kindle upon thee.

LET'S TALK ABOUT IT:

(Discussion/Small Group Questions)

1. What are 5 promises from God in the bible?
2. What does it mean for someone to "do the will of God" (answer individually)?
3. God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten son and while we were yet sinners Christ died for us. It is often said, God loves the sinner but hates sin. Because God loves us with an unwavering, unending everlasting, unconditional (agape) love, is there anything we can do to make God love us more? Is there anything we can do to show God we love Him more (explain)?

THE CHURCH BELONGS TO GOD

LESSON TEXT: Matthew 16:18 And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.

No State Bishop, Elder, Pastor or any other minister in this Church shall rule as lords over God's inheritance, using these decrees for selfish reasons and in a way to obtain vain glory and honor for themselves from the members of this Church in that which is out of reason and beyond that provided for in this Decree Book, which is intended for justice, righteousness and truth, instead of mighty and lordship. Pastors must feed the flock of God, not by constraint, but willingly; not for filthy lucre, but of a ready mind; neither as being lords over *God's* heritage, but being ensamples to the flock. *Decree page 11 para. 1*

The church belongs to God; not to the pastor nor to the pastor's family. The pastor is not lord over the church, Jesus Christ is Lord to the glory of God the Father. Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood. The members of the church has liberty, and their liberty is clearly outlined and fully explained in the church Decree Book. No one in this Church should attempt to nor administer the decrees of the Church partially nor selfishly for selfish reasons nor to gain personal honors and fame, nor in a way to muzzle the liberty of the members of this Church, for selfish reasons. The members of this Church are Saints of the Church and of the Living God and are brethren, not slaves, strangers nor foreigners, but fellow citizens of the true Church.

1. *Christ purchased the church with his own blood. Acts 20:28* Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood.
2. *To them that are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints. 1 Corinthians 1:2* Unto the church of God which is at Corinth, to them that are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called *to be* saints, with all that in every place call upon the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, both theirs and ours.
3. *Christ is the head of the church. Colossians 1:18* And he is the head of the body, the church: who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead; that in all *things* he might have the preeminence. *Ephesians 5:23* For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the church: and he is the savior of the body.
4. *Jesus Christ is the head over all things to the church, which is his body. Ephesians 1:22-23* And hath put all *things* under his feet, and gave him *to be* the head over all *things* to the church, Which is his body, the fulness of him that filleth all in all.
5. *One Lord, one faith, one baptism. Ephesians 4:4-6* *There is* one body, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling; One Lord, one faith, one baptism, One God and Father of all, who *is* above all, and through all, and in you all.
6. *Jesus Christ is the Chief Shepherd. 1 Peter 5:4* And when the chief Shepherd shall appear, ye shall receive a crown of glory that fadeth not away.
7. *The Church belongs to God. 1 Corinthians 3:9* For we are laborers together with God: ye are God's husbandry, *ye are* God's building.

BONUS SCRIPTURES

- (a) **John 4:24** God *is* a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship *him* in spirit and in truth.
- (b) **1 Corinthians 3:16-17** Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and *that* the Spirit of God dwelleth in you? If any man defile the temple of God, him shall God destroy; for the temple of God is holy, which *temple* ye are.

THOUGHT FOR TODAY: 1 Timothy 3:15 But if I tarry long, that thou mayest know how thou oughtest to behave thyself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth.

LET'S TALK ABOUT IT:

(Discussion/Small Group Questions)

1. Why is it important to share our time, talents and treasures with the church?
2. Explain how you would know if the Lord needed you to serve in the church?
3. Has God ever needed you and you agreed to serve in the church (share positive examples, if any)?

ACTIVITY:

Allow each person in the group to share their favorite place to serve in the church then share with the group and explain why.

LET THE GLORY OF THE LORD FILL THIS HOUSE

LESSON TEXT: 1 Kings 8:11 So that the priests could not stand to minister because of the cloud: for the glory of the LORD had filled the house of the LORD.

Let the glory of the Lord fill this house. Let the glory of the Lord fill this place. Jesus said, greater works than these shall you do because I go to my Father. God's presence and his grace must fill this church. Holy, holy, holy, *is* the LORD of hosts: the whole earth *is* full of his glory. **Isaiah 6:3** The field is wide open waiting for someone to spread the gospel of Jesus Christ. The harvest truly is plentiful but the laborers are few.

God is commanding all men everywhere to repent for he has appointed a day in which he will judge the world in righteousness by Jesus Christ. You shall hear of wars and rumors of wars: see that you be not troubled: for all these things must come to pass, But the end is not yet. For nation will rise against nation and kingdom against kingdom there will be famines and earthquakes in various places.

1. *Let the whole earth be filled with his glory* **Psalm 72:19** And blessed *be* his glorious name for ever: and let the whole earth be filled *with* his glory; Amen, and Amen.
2. *We beheld his glory full of grace and truth.* **John 1:14** And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth.

BONUS SCRIPTURES

- (a) **Exodus 40:9** And thou shalt take the anointing oil, and anoint the tabernacle, and all that *is* therein, and shalt hallow it, and all the vessels thereof: and it shall be holy.
- (b) **Exodus 40:38** For the cloud of the LORD *was* upon the tabernacle by day, and fire was on it by night, in the sight of all the house of Israel, throughout all their journeys.

THOUGHT FOR TODAY: Acts 2:1-4 And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.

LET'S TALK ABOUT IT:

(Discussion/Small Group Questions)

1. What are some examples of "God's glory" in today's lesson (explain)?
2. Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you (1 Corinthians 3:16). Describe ways God's glory can fill your body/temple (answer individually).
3. Describe a memorable time you or someone you know witnessed the glory of the Lord fill His temple (explain, answer individually)?

ACTIVITY:

Work with your group facilitator to reenact the day of Pentecost (as creatively or as simplistically as you desire). Perhaps group members can choose bible characters from Acts 2. Allow each person to describe what they would be doing if they had been in the upper room 2,000 years ago waiting on God's glory to fill the house. How would they respond? What would they say? Who would they tell after experiencing God's glory? Allow space for each group member to think on God's goodness and appreciate the power of that great day. May His glory fill this house.

LEAD ME TO THE ROCK THAT IS HIGHER THAN I

LESSON TEXT: Psalm 61:1-2 Hear my cry, O God; attend unto my prayer. From the end of the earth will I cry unto thee, when my heart is overwhelmed: lead me to the rock *that* is higher than I.

God's word *is* a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path. **Psalm 119:105** The steps of a *good* man are ordered by the LORD: and he delighteth in his way. **Psalm 37:23** Teach me to do thy will; for thou *art* my God: thy spirit *is* good; lead me into the land of uprightness. **Psalm 143:10**

1. *Lead me, O LORD, in thy righteousness.* **Psalm 5:8** Lead me, O LORD, in thy righteousness because of mine enemies; make thy way straight before my face.
2. *Lead me in thy truth.* **Psalm 25:5** Lead me in thy truth, and teach me: for thou *art* the God of my salvation; on thee do I wait all the day.
3. *Teach me to do thy will.* **Psalm 143:10** Teach me to do thy will; for thou *art* my God: thy spirit *is* good; lead me into the land of uprightness.
4. *This is the way, walk ye in it.* **Isaiah 30:21** And thine ears shall hear a word behind thee, saying, This *is* the way, walk ye in it, when ye turn to the right hand, and when ye turn to the left.
5. *The LORD shall guide thee continually.* **Isaiah 58:11** And the LORD shall guide thee continually, and satisfy thy soul in drought, and make fat thy bones: and thou shalt be like a watered garden, and like a spring of water, whose waters fail not.
6. *He set my feet upon a rock and established my goings.* **Psalm 40:2** He brought me up also out of an horrible pit, out of the miry clay, and set my feet upon a rock, *and* established my goings,
7. *He guides our feet into the way of peace.* **Luke 1:79** To give light to them that sit in darkness and *in* the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace.

BONUS SCRIPTURES

- (a) **Psalm 25:8-9** Good and upright *is* the LORD: therefore will he teach sinners in the way, The meek will he guide in judgment: and the meek will he teach his way.
- (b) **Proverbs 22:6** Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it.

THOUGHT FOR TODAY: Proverbs 3:5-6 Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.

LET'S TALK ABOUT IT:

(Discussion/Small Group Questions)

1. He guides our feet into the way of peace. Luke 1:79 After a believer receives God's spirit (the Holy Ghost), why do we still need His guidance (answer individually)?
2. His ways are higher than our ways and his thoughts higher than our thoughts (Isaiah 55:9). Share 3 thoughts God has for you that are higher than your own thoughts (answer individually).

GOD'S MERCY ENDURES FOREVER

LESSON TEXT: Hebrews 4:16 Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.

God, is rich in mercy. His love is everlasting. Even when we were dead in sin, God quickened us together with Christ, by grace we are saved. *Ephesians 2:4-5* Therefore, be merciful, even as your Father in Heaven is also merciful. God is good, and ready to forgive; He is plenteous in mercy unto all who call upon him. God's mercy never comes to an end. *They are new every morning. great is thy faithfulness.* O give thanks unto the LORD; for *he is good: for his mercy endureth for ever. Psalm 136:1*

1. *Turn unto the Lord. Joel 2:13* And rend your heart, and not your garments, and turn unto the LORD your God: for he *is* gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and of great kindness, and repenteth him of the evil.
2. *The Lord shows mercy to all. 2 Peter 3:9* The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.
3. *The LORD is good to all. Psalm 145:9* The LORD *is* good to all: and his tender mercies *are* over all his works.
4. *Remember not the sins of my youth. Psalm 25:6-7* Remember, O LORD, thy tender mercies and thy lovingkindnesses; for they *have been* ever of old. Remember not the sins of my youth, nor my transgressions: according to thy mercy remember thou me for thy goodness' sake, O LORD.
5. *God keeps his commandments to a thousand generations. Deuteronomy 7:9* Know therefore that the LORD thy God, he *is* God, the faithful God, which keepeth covenant and mercy with them that love him and keep his commandments to a thousand generations.
6. *From generation to generation. Luke 1:50* And his mercy *is* on them that fear him from generation to generation.
7. *His mercy is everlasting Psalm 100:5* For the LORD *is* good; his mercy *is* everlasting; and his truth *endureth* to all generations.

BONUS SCRIPTURES

- (a) **Micah 7:18** Who *is* a God like unto thee, that pardoneth iniquity, and passeth by the transgression of the remnant of his heritage? he retaineth not his anger forever, because he delighteth *in* mercy.
- (b) **Deuteronomy 4:31** The LORD thy God *is* a merciful God; he will not forsake thee, neither destroy thee, nor forget the covenant of thy fathers which he swore unto them.

THOUGHT FOR TODAY: 1 Peter 1:3 Blessed *be* the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.

LET'S TALK ABOUT IT:**(Discussion/Small Group Questions)**

1. How does God show mercy (answer individually)?
2. How can God's faithfulness towards us be an example of how we can be faithful towards Him?
3. Describe where you would be today if it had not been for God's mercy (answer individually).
4. Describe where you are today because of God's mercy (answer individually).

THE LORD IS MY SHEPHERD

LESSON TEXT: Psalm 23:1 The LORD *is* my shepherd; I shall not want.

The LORD *is* my shepherd. He is the Overseer of my soul and the good shepherd who gave his life for me. The life Jesus gave is eternal. Eternal life never ends. Jesus promised to never leave us, nor forsake us.

1. *Jesus knows his sheep.* **John 10:14** I am the good shepherd, and know my *sheep*, and am known of mine.
2. *Jesus have other sheep which are not of this fold.* **John 10:16** And other sheep I have, which are not of this fold: them also I must bring, and they shall hear my voice; and there shall be one fold, *and* one shepherd.
3. *Jesus shall supply our needs.* **Philippians 4:19** But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus.
4. *We are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.* **Psalm 100:3** Know ye that the LORD he *is* God: *it is* he *that* hath made us, and not we ourselves; *we are* his people, and the sheep of his pasture.
5. *Jesus will send us to witness.* **Matthew 10:16** Behold, I send you forth as sheep in the midst of wolves: be ye therefore wise as serpents, and harmless as doves.
6. *We must hear our shepherd's voice.* **John 10:4-5** And when he putteth forth his own sheep, he goeth before them, and the sheep follow him: for they know his voice. And a stranger will they not follow, but will flee from him: for they know not the voice of strangers.
7. *Jesus, that great shepherd of the sheep.* **Hebrews 13:20-21** Now the God of peace, that brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, Make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is wellpleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ; to whom *be* glory forever, Amen.

BONUS SCRIPTURES

- (a) **Revelation 7:17** For the Lamb which is in the midst of the throne shall feed them, and shall lead them unto living fountains of waters: and God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes.
- (b) **1 Peter 5:4** And when the chief Shepherd shall appear, ye shall receive a crown of glory that fadeth not away.

THOUGHT FOR TODAY: Ezekiel 34:15-16 I will feed my flock, and I will cause them to lie down, saith the Lord GOD. I will seek that which was lost, and bring again that which was driven away, and will bind up *that which was* broken, and will strengthen that which was sick: but I will destroy the fat and the strong; I will feed them with judgment.

LET'S TALK ABOUT IT:**(Discussion/Small Group Questions)**

1. Describe 4 characteristics of sheep.
2. Why do you believe God compares his followers to sheep?
3. Like a shepherd, a good parent (or guardian) safely guides children in the way they should go. Share some of the reasons you are thankful for the people God used to guide your life in the way you should go (answer individually).

ACTIVITY:

If your group chooses to participate, go to a church worship service and sit together. After the worship service, gather for a conversation (perhaps via Zoom or at a lunch table during a meal). Share the positives of your experience at the worship service. The rule is you can only talk positively about the worship service.

RACE RELATIONS AND LOVE

LESSON TEXT: Galatians 3:28 There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus.

Race relations- the way different racial or ethnic groups feel about each other. Let brotherly love continue. Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you. God is our peace and has broken down the middle wall of partition *between us*. Be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you. If it be possible, as much as lieth in you, live peaceably with all men. **Romans 12:18** But if you bite and devour one another, take heed that you be not consumed (destroyed) one of another. **Galatians 5:15**

1. *God does not show partiality.* **Acts 10:34** Then Peter opened *his* mouth, and said, Of a truth I perceive that God is no respecter of persons. But if ye have respect to persons, ye commit sin, and are convinced of the law as transgressors. **James 2:9**
2. *God has made of one blood all nations.* **Acts 17:26** And hath made of one blood all nations of men for to dwell on all the face of the earth, and hath determined the times before appointed, and the bounds of their habitation.
3. *There is no difference between the Jew and the Greek.* **Romans 10:12** For there is no difference between the Jew and the Greek: for the same Lord over all is rich unto all that call upon him.
4. *Why do we deal treacherously every man against his brother?* **Malachi 2:10** Have we not all one father? hath not one God created us? why do we deal treacherously every man against his brother, by profaning the covenant of our fathers?
5. *The rich and poor meet together.* **Proverbs 22:2** The rich and poor meet together: the LORD *is* the maker of them all.
6. *Follow peace with all men.* **Hebrews 12:14** Follow peace with all *men*, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord.
7. *The Jews have no dealings with the Samaritans.* **John 4:9** Then saith the woman of Samaria unto him, How is it that thou, being a Jew, askest drink of me, which am a woman of Samaria? for the Jews have no dealings with the Samaritans.

BONUS SCRIPTURES

- (a) **Colossians 3:11** Where there is neither Greek nor Jew, circumcision nor uncircumcision, Barbarian, Scythian, bond *nor* free: but Christ *is* all, and in all.
- (b) **Acts 10:28** And he said unto them, Ye know how that it is an unlawful thing for a man that is a Jew to keep company, or come unto one of another nation; but God hath shewed me that I should not call any man common or unclean.

THOUGHT FOR TODAY: 1 Corinthians 1:10 Now I beseech you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye all speak the same thing, and *that* there be no divisions among you; but *that* ye be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment.

LET'S TALK ABOUT IT:

(Discussion/Small Group Questions)

1. How would you describe race relations in America and throughout the world?
2. What are 3 things you can do to help improve race relations in your community or state?
3. Why do you believe God created us differently but loves us equally (answer individually)?

ACTIVITY:

Consider creating a reading group that could help you better understand the history of race relations in America and throughout the world. Some reading suggestions include, "Divided by Faith," by Michael Emerson and "Letter from a Birmingham Jail," by Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

THE INFALLIBLE TRUTH

LESSON TEXT: 1 Corinthians 6:9-11 Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God? Be not deceived: neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with mankind, Nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners, shall inherit the kingdom of God. And such were some of you: but ye are washed, but ye are sanctified, but ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of our God.

GLOSSARY

- (a) **Infalible-** Absolutely trustworthy, or sure. Certain, unfailling. The Bible is absolutely trustworthy. All scripture *is* given by inspiration of God, and *is* profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness. **2 Timothy 3:16**
- (b) **Abomination-** Anything greatly disliked or abhorred.
- (c) **Vile affections-** Bad feelings, highly offensive, unpleasant, repulsive and disgusting.
- (d) **Effeminate-** having feminine qualities untypical of a man: not manly in appearance or manner

1 Timothy 2:1-4 exhorts us that we *Pray for Presidents and Kings*, and *for all that are in authority*, that supplications, prayers, intercessions, *and giving of thanks*, be made for all men; that we (*the Saints of God*) may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty. For this *is* good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior; Who will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth.

1. *Jesus is the only way to heaven, the Bible says there is no other way.* **John 14:6** Jesus said I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me. Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that entereth not by the door into the sheepfold, but climbeth up some other way, the same is a thief and a robber. **John 10:1**
2. *It is an abomination.* **Leviticus 18:22** Thou shalt not lie with mankind, as with womankind: it *is* abomination. **Leviticus 20:13** If a man also lie with mankind, as he lieth with a woman, both of them have committed an abomination: they shall surely be put to death; their blood shall be upon them.
3. *Men with men working that which is unseemly.* **Romans 1:26-27** For this cause God gave them up unto vile affections: for even their women did change the natural use into that which is against nature: And likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust one toward another; men with men working that which is unseemly, and receiving in themselves that recompence of their error which was meet.
4. *The law is not made for a righteous man.* **1 Timothy 1:9-10** Knowing this, that the law is not made for a righteous man, but for the lawless and disobedient, for the ungodly and for sinners, for unholy and profane, for murderers of fathers and murderers of mothers, for manslayers, For whoremongers, for them that defile themselves with mankind, for men-stealers, for liars, for perjured persons, and if there be any other thing that is contrary to sound doctrine.

5. **Matthew 22:37, 39-40** Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.

BONUS SCRIPTURES

- (a) **Romans 1:16** For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.
- (b) **John 8:32** And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.

THOUGHT FOR TODAY: Isaiah 58:1 Cry aloud, spare not, lift up thy voice like a trumpet, and shew my people their transgression, and the house of Jacob their sins.

LET'S TALK ABOUT IT:

(Discussion/Small Group Questions)

1. What does the word, "infallible" mean?
2. What does it mean to be unashamed of the gospel of Christ (answer individually)?
3. What are 3 things we can do today to effectively show our neighbors and the world that we are not ashamed of the gospel of Christ?

THE DANGER OF PLEASING MEN RATHER THAN PLEASING GOD

LESSON TEXT: Galatians 1:10 For do I now persuade men, or God? or do I seek to please men? for if I yet pleased men, I should not be the servant of Christ.

If we are going to please God alone, then our love for him will cause us to walk in obedience to him. **1 Samuel 15:24** And Saul said unto Samuel, I have sinned: for I have transgressed the commandment of the LORD, and thy words: because I feared the people, and obeyed their voice.

When we refuse to tell someone the truth, it may be because we want to please them by not hurting their feelings, and because we dread the thought of being uncomfortable or inconvenienced. While it may appear that we are seeking to please others, we are actually seeking to please ourselves. This is both the irony and danger of people pleasing.

1. *Let your requests be made known unto God.* **Philippians 4:6** Be careful for nothing; but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God.
2. *Without faith it is impossible to please God.* **Hebrews 11:6** But without faith *it is* impossible to please *him*: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and *that* he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.
3. *We speak; not as pleasing men, but God.* **1 Thessalonians 2:4** But as we were allowed of God to be put in trust with the gospel, even so we speak; not as pleasing men, but God, which trieth our hearts.
4. *When a man's ways please the LORD.* **Proverbs 16:7** When a man's ways please the LORD, he maketh even his enemies to be at peace with him.
5. *They that are in the flesh.* **Romans 8:8** So then they that are in the flesh cannot please God.
6. *I do always those things that please God.* **John 8:29** And he that sent me is with me: the Father hath not left me alone; for I do always those things that please him.
7. *Whatsoever ye do, do it to the Lord.* **Colossians 3:23** And whatsoever ye do, do *it* heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men.

BONUS SCRIPTURES

- (a) **Hebrews 13:6** So that we may boldly say, The Lord *is* my helper, and I will not fear what man shall do unto me.
- (b) **Hebrews 13:16** But to do good and to communicate forget not: for with such sacrifices God is well pleased.

THOUGHT FOR TODAY: Romans 12:1-2 I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, *which is* your reasonable service. And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what *is* that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

LET'S TALK ABOUT IT:

(Discussion/Small Group Questions)

1. What does it mean to present your body as a living sacrifice (answer individually)?
2. Give an example of why it is important to please God instead of people (answer individually)?
3. Why does God say, without faith it is impossible to please Him (explain, answer individually)?

THE UNCHANGEABLE SON OF GOD

LESSON TEXT: Isaiah 40:8 The grass withereth, the flower fadeth: but the word of our God shall stand for ever.

God is unchanging. He is unchanging in his character. His character is Holy. His Word is timeless, His promises are Everlasting. He is not like man. Man changes with the wind and with the weather. You cannot trust man. You cannot trust what he says, you cannot trust what he does.

Forever, O LORD, thy word is settled in heaven. The counsel of the LORD stands for ever, the thoughts of his heart flows to all generations. Heaven and earth shall pass away, but God's Word shall not pass away.

1. *God does not change.* **Malachi 3:6** For I am the LORD, I change not.
2. *Jesus Christ is the same.* **Hebrews 13:8** Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and today, and for ever.
3. *God's word is settled in heaven.* **Psalm 119:89-90** For ever, O LORD, thy word is settled in heaven. Thy faithfulness is unto all generations: thou hast established the earth, and it abideth.
4. *God remains faithful.* **2 Timothy 2:13** If we believe not, yet he abideth faithful: he cannot deny himself.
5. *His words shall not pass away.* **Matthew 24:35** Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away.
6. *From everlasting to everlasting, thou art God.* **Psalm 90:2** Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever thou hadst formed the earth and the world, even from everlasting to everlasting, thou art God.
7. *For I am persuaded that nothing shall be able to separate us from the love of God.* **Romans 8:37-39** Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us. For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

BONUS SCRIPTURES

- (a) **James 1:17** Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning.
- (b) **John 12:34** The people answered him, We have heard out of the law that Christ abideth for ever: and how sayest thou, The Son of man must be lifted up? who is this Son of man?

THOUGHT FOR TODAY: Psalm 102:25-27 Of old hast thou laid the foundation of the earth: and the heavens are the work of thy hands. They shall perish, but thou shalt endure: yea, all of them shall wax old like a garment; as a vesture shalt thou change them, and they shall be changed: But thou art the same, and thy years shall have no end.

LET'S TALK ABOUT IT:

(Discussion/Small Group Questions)

1. God does not change but it is necessary for men and women that are seeking God to constantly change for the better as we grow stronger in Christ. Why is change unnecessary for God but necessary for man?
2. List 5 things people idolize that will eventually fade, deteriorate, rust or pass away.
3. How can we hold onto the things that will never pass away (like God's love, God's word, God's promises, the Holy Ghost etc.)?

PRAYER IS NEEDED FOR HEALING AND STRENGTH

LESSON TEXT: Jeremiah 30:17 For I will restore health unto thee, and I will heal thee of thy wounds, saith the LORD; because they called thee an Outcast, *saying*, This *is* Zion, whom no man seeketh after.

God stands ready to heal you. He is the creator of all life. God said, I have seen your tears and I have heard your cry and I have come down to deliver you. Behold, I will bring health and cure, and I will cure them, and will reveal unto them the abundance of peace and truth. *Jeremiah 33:6* It is God who heals the broken hearted and binds up all their wounds.

O Lord my God, when I cried out to you for help, you healed me. Prayer is needed for healing and strength. **Psalm 30:2** Jesus is yet saying, I am come that they might have life and that they might have it more abundantly.

1. *Heal me, O LORD* **Jeremiah 17:14** Heal me, O LORD, and I shall be healed; save me, and I shall be saved: for thou *art* my praise.
2. *By His stripes we are healed.* **1 Peter 2:24** Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed.
3. *Let them pray, anointing with oil.* **James 5:14-15** Is any sick among you? let him call for the elders of the church; and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord: And the prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up; and if he have committed sins, they shall be forgiven him.
4. *I am the LORD that healeth thee.* **Exodus 15:26** If thou wilt diligently hearken to the voice of the LORD thy God, and wilt do that which is right in his sight, and wilt give ear to his commandments, and keep all his statutes, I will put none of these diseases upon thee, which I have brought upon the Egyptians: for I *am* the LORD that healeth thee.
5. *God will give you longevity.* **Psalm 91:15-16** He shall call upon me, and I will answer him: I *will be* with him in trouble; I will deliver him, and honour him. With long life will I satisfy him, and show him my salvation.
6. *The prayers of a righteous man.* **James 5:16** Confess *your* faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.
7. *If* **2 Chronicles 7:14** If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land.

BONUS SCRIPTURES

- (a) **Hosea 6:1** Come, and let us return unto the LORD: for he hath torn, and he will heal us; he hath smitten, and he will bind us up.
- (b) **Mark 5:34** And he said unto her, Daughter, thy faith hath made thee whole; go in peace, and be whole of thy plague.

THOUGHT FOR TODAY: Psalm 107:19-21 Then they cry unto the LORD in their trouble, *and* he saveth them out of their distresses. He sent his word, and healed them, and delivered *them* from their destructions. Oh that *men* would praise the LORD *for* his goodness, and *for* his wonderful works to the children of men!

LET'S TALK ABOUT IT:

(Discussion/Small Group Questions)

1. Describe a time you were sick and God healed you.
2. Do you have an example of suffering that led to something positive (explain)?
3. What is something a person can do if they are in need of healing but cannot talk (in other words, how can someone pray if they cannot talk)?
4. What are 3 ways you can increase your spiritual strength (answer individually)?

WHEN I FIRST GOT SAVED

LESSON TEXT: John 3:16 For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

It is by God's grace, that I am saved through faith. Not that I deserved it, nor did he save me by my own works; but it was the gift of God. When I first got saved, I was told that if I would confess with my mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in my heart that God has raised him from the dead, I would be saved. They told me with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation. They said, **Acts 16:31** Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house.

When I first got saved, those who were teaching me, instructed me:

1. That the wages of sin *is* death; but the gift of God *is* eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Romans 6:23**
2. That I needed to repent, and be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and I would receive the gift of the Holy Ghost. **Acts 2:38**
3. That all have sinned and come short of the glory of God. **Romans 3:23**
4. That everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.
5. To not be ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek. **Romans 1:16**
6. That neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved. **Acts 4:12**
7. That God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved. **John 3:17**

BONUS SCRIPTURES**When I first got saved, I was told:**

- (a) He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned. **Mark 16:16**
- (b) That if any man *be* in Christ, *he is* a new creature: old things are passed away; all things are become new. **2 Corinthians 5:17**

THOUGHT FOR TODAY: Matthew 7:21-23 Not everyone that says, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of the Father which is in heaven. Many will say in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works? And then I (Jesus) will profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity.

LET'S TALK ABOUT IT:

(Discussion/Small Group Questions)

1. Having a made-up mind to want to receive God's Spirit, which is the Holy Ghost, is one of the first things a person needs to do in order to receive the Holy Ghost. What are some things a non-believer can do today to make up their mind about receiving God's precious gift?
2. How did you know you had been transformed by the power of the Holy Ghost (answer individually)?
3. What are 3 things you can do this week to seeking God for more wisdom, power, love and joy like you did when you first got saved (answer individually)?

THE THRONE OF GOD

LESSON TEXT: Revelation 4:2 And immediately I was in the spirit: and, behold, a throne was set in heaven, and *one* sat on the throne.

After this I looked, and, behold, a door *was* opened in heaven: and the first voice which I heard *was* as it were of a trumpet talking with me; which said, Come up hither, and I will shew thee things which must be hereafter. And immediately I was in the spirit: and, behold, a throne was set in heaven, and *one* sat on the throne. And he that sat was to look upon like a jasper and a sardine stone: and *there was* a rainbow round about the throne, in sight like unto an emerald. And round about the throne *were* four and twenty seats: and upon the seats I saw four and twenty elders sitting, clothed in white raiment; and they had on their heads crowns of gold. *Revelation 4:1-4*

1. *The LORD hath prepared his throne in the heavens. Psalm 103:19* The LORD hath prepared his throne in the heavens; and his kingdom ruleth over all.
2. *The throne of grace. Hebrews 4:16* Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.
3. *The throne of God Hebrews 12:2* Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of *our* faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God.
4. *The LORD'S throne is in heaven. Psalm 11:4* The LORD *is* in his holy temple, the LORD'S throne *is* in heaven: his eyes behold, his eyelids try, the children of men.
5. *I saw also the Lord sitting upon a throne. Isaiah 6:1* In the year that king Uzziah died I saw also the Lord sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up, and his train filled the temple.
6. *The LORD'S throne is in heaven. Psalm 11:4* The LORD *is* in his holy temple, the LORD'S throne *is* in heaven: his eyes behold, his eyelids try, the children of men.
7. *The tabernacle of God is with men. Revelation 21:3* And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God *is* with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, *and be* their God.

BONUS SCRIPTURES

- (a) **Revelation 3:21** To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me in my throne, even as I also overcame, and am set down with my Father in his throne.
- (b) **Revelation 22:1** And he shewed me a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding out of the throne of God and of the Lamb.

THOUGHT FOR TODAY: Exodus 24:1-3 And he said unto Moses, Come up unto the LORD, thou, and Aaron, Nadab, and Abihu, and seventy of the elders of Israel; and worship ye afar off. And Moses alone shall come near the LORD: but they shall not come nigh; neither shall the people go up with him. And Moses came and told the people all the words of the LORD, and all the judgments: and all the people answered with one voice, and said, All the words which the LORD hath said will we do.

LET'S TALK ABOUT IT:

(Discussion/Small Group Questions)

1. The image of a throne is powerful. Thrones are where kings and queens sit. Why do you believe God used the image of a throne in scripture to illustrate His majesty?
2. Describe some of the most powerful images on earth (examples may include The Taj Mahal, The White House, The Eiffel Tower, The Pentagon, etc.). Why is God's throne more powerful than all of these?

CALLING LOST SOULS TO CONFESSION AND REPENTANCE OF SIN

LESSON TEXT: Matthew 11:28-30 Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke *is* easy, and my burden is light

If any of you do err from the truth, and one convert him; Let him know, that he which converteth the sinner from the error of his way shall save a soul from death and shall hide a multitude of sins. **James 5:19-20** If thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation. **Romans 10:9-10**

1. *Whoso confesses and forsakes his sin shall have mercy.* **Proverbs 28:13** He that covereth his sins shall not prosper: but whoso confesseth and forsaketh *them* shall have mercy.
2. *If we confess our sins.* **1 John 1:9** If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us *our* sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.
3. *Repent and be converted.* **Acts 3:19** Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord.
4. *God is calling all men to be saved* **1 Timothy 2:3-4** For this *is* good and acceptable in the sight of God our Saviour; Who will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth.
5. *Turn from your wicked ways.* **2 Chronicles 7:14** If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land.
6. *Sin is the transgression of the law.* **1 John 3:4** Whosoever commits sin transgresses also the law: for sin is the transgression of the law.
7. *The wages of sin is death.* **Romans 6:23** For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God *is* eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

BONUS SCRIPTURES

- (a) **Acts 17:30** And the times of this ignorance God winked at; but now commands all men everywhere to repent:
- (b) **Luke 15:4** What man of you, having an hundred sheep if he lose one of them, doth not leave the ninety and nine in the wilderness, and go after that which is lost, until he find it?

THOUGHT FOR TODAY: Matthew 10:6-7 But go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. And as ye go, preach, saying, The kingdom of heaven is at hand.

LET'S TALK ABOUT IT:

(Discussion/Small Group Questions)

1. What are 3 characteristics of a person that is ready for their soul to be washed (answer individually)?
2. What are some ways (that we learned from today's lesson) that a person can be converted from a sinful nature (serving sin) into a saved person (doing the will of God)?
3. What are 3 helpful things you can do to assist the church in calling lost souls to repentance (answer individually and discuss)?

WALKING WITH GOD

LESSON TEXT: Deuteronomy 8:6 Therefore thou shalt keep the commandments of the LORD thy God, to walk in his ways, and to fear him.

The Lord requires that we walk humbly before him. We are instructed to walk in all the ways which the LORD has commanded, that we may live, and *that it may be* well with us, and *that* we may prolong *our* days in the land which we possess. **Deuteronomy 5:33** Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths. **Proverbs 3:5-6** As we walk with God daily, His word becomes a lamp unto our feet, and a light unto our path. O for a closer walk with God.

1. *Walk in the light, as he is in the light*, **1 John 1:7** But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin.
2. *Walk in the Spirit*. **Galatians 5:16** Walk in the Spirit, and you shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh.
3. *Walk in the old path*. **Jeremiah 6:16** Thus saith the LORD, Stand ye in the ways, and see, and ask for the old paths, where *is* the good way, and walk therein, and ye shall find rest for your souls.
4. *Walk in his ways*. **Deuteronomy 28:9** The LORD shall establish thee an holy people unto himself, as he hath sworn unto thee, if thou shalt keep the commandments of the LORD thy God, and walk in his ways.
5. *Walk uprightly*. **Proverbs 2:7** He layeth up sound wisdom for the righteous: *he is* a buckler to them that walk uprightly.
6. *Walk in God's judgments and observe His statutes*. **Ezekiel 37:24** And David my servant *shall be* king over them; and they all shall have one shepherd: they shall also walk in my judgments, and observe my statutes, and do them.
7. Walk before God in the light of the living. **Psalms 56:13** For thou hast delivered my soul from death: *wilt not thou deliver* my feet from falling, that I may walk before God in the light of the living?

BONUS SCRIPTURE

- (a) **Genesis 6:9** Noah was a just man *and* perfect in his generations, *and* Noah walked with God.
- (b) **2 Corinthians 5:7** For We walk by faith, not by sight.

THOUGHT FOR TODAY: Zechariah 3:7 Thus saith the LORD of hosts; If thou wilt walk in my ways, and if thou wilt keep my charge, then thou shalt also judge my house, and shalt also keep my courts, and I will give thee places to walk among these that stand by.

LET'S TALK ABOUT IT:

(Discussion/Small Group Questions)

1. The scriptures in today's lesson illustrate men and women that successfully and humbly walked with God thousands of years ago before the telephone, internet, television, airplanes, trains and automobiles. What are 3 things we can do today to successfully and humbly walk with God?
2. Which example in today's lesson is most memorable for you (explain)?
3. Although the people in today's lesson successfully and humbly walked with God, our only perfect example is Jesus. Why is it important to follow the example of Jesus more than any other person in the bible?

HE PURGED OUR SINS

LESSON TEXT: Hebrews 1:3 Who being the brightness of *his* glory, and the express image of his person, and upholding all things by the word of his power, when he had by himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high.

Purge means to rid our bodies of whatever is impure or undesirable. It means to cleanse or purify. The blood of Jesus purges us from sin and unrighteousness. If a man therefore purges himself from the undesirable elements of this life, he shall be a vessel unto honor, sanctified, and meet for the master's use *and* prepared unto every good work. **2 Timothy 2:21** If we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanse us from all sin. **I John 1:7**

1. *Almost all things are by the law purged with blood.* **Hebrews 9:22** Almost all things are by the law purged with blood; and without shedding of blood is no remission.
2. *Deliver us and purge away our sins.* **Psalms 79:9** Help us, O God of our salvation, for the glory of thy name: and deliver us, and purge away our sins, for thy name's sake.
3. *Purge your conscience from dead works.* **Hebrews 9:14** How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?
4. *Jesus shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost and with fire.* **Luke 3:17** Whose fan is in his hand, and he will thoroughly purge his floor, and will gather the wheat into his garner; but the chaff he will burn with fire unquenchable.
5. *Though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow.* **Isaiah 1:18** Come now, and let us reason together, saith the LORD: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool.
6. *I will sprinkle clean water upon you, and ye shall be clean.* **Ezekiel 36:25** Then will I sprinkle clean water upon you, and ye shall be clean: from all your filthiness, and from all your idols, will I cleanse you.
7. *Having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience.* **Hebrews 10:22** Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water.

BONUS SCRIPTURES

- (a) **Psalms 51:7** Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean: wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.
- (b) **John 15:2** Every branch in me that bears not fruit he taketh away: and every *branch* that bears fruit, he purges it, that it may bring forth more fruit.

THOUGHT FOR TODAY: I Corinthians 5:6-8 Your glorying *is* not good. Know ye not that a little leaven leaveneth the whole lump? Purge out therefore the old leaven, that ye may be a new lump, as ye are unleavened. For even Christ our passover is sacrificed for us: Therefore let us keep the feast, not with old leaven, neither with the leaven of malice and wickedness; but with the unleavened *bread* of sincerity and truth.

LET'S TALK ABOUT IT:**(Discussion/Small Group Questions)**

1. List 5 natural things you would like to purge from your life.
2. If God has ever purged something from your life spiritually, how did it feel to get rid of something spiritually unhealthy?
3. What does it mean to you when the scriptures say, "Purge your conscience from dead works" (Hebrews 9:14)?
4. Is there anything too hard for God (answer individually, explain)?

ACTIVITY:

Make a list of 5 people from your contacts that do not have a church home and invite them to your worship service tomorrow (or for Easter). Sit with them during the service and consider sitting with them for lunch etc. after the service which will allow them to share their experience with you. Remain positive even if they share something they did not like. Make the environment at church and afterwards welcoming and friendly as if they are your honored guest.

**A MAN CALLED JESUS
(PALMSUNDAY)**

LESSON TEXT: Matthew 1:21 And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins.

Jesus being found in fashion as a man, humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross. Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him and given him a name which is above every name: that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of *things* in heaven, and *things* in earth, and *things* under the earth; and *that* every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ *is* Lord, to the glory of God the Father. *Philippians 2:8-11*

1. *The only begotten of the Father. John 1:14* And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth.
2. *A man that is called Jesus made clay and anointed my eyes. John 9:11* He answered and said, *A man that is called Jesus made clay, and anointed mine eyes, and said unto me, Go to the pool of Siloam, and wash: and I went and washed, and I received sight.*
3. *Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of Jesus Christ. Titus 2:12-13* Teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world; Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Savior Jesus Christ.
4. *God did miracles, wonders, and signs by Jesus Christ. Acts 2:22, 24* Ye men of Israel, hear these words; Jesus of Nazareth, a man approved of God among you by miracles and wonders and signs, which God did by him in the midst of you, as ye yourselves also know: Whom God hath raised up, having loosed the pains of death: because it was not possible that he should be holden of it.
5. *God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost. Acts 10:38* How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with power: who went about doing good and healing all that were oppressed of the devil; for God was with him.
6. *Whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be saved. Acts 2:21* And it shall come to pass, *that* whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be saved.
7. *There is only one mediator between God and men. 1 Timothy 2:5* For *there is* one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, who gave himself a ransom for all, to be testified in due time.

BONUS SCRIPTURES

- (a) **Matthew 27:22** Pilate saith unto them, What shall I do then with Jesus which is called Christ? *They* all say unto him, Let him be crucified.
- (b) **John 14:6** Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.

THOUGHT FOR TODAY: Hebrews 1:1-4 God, has in these last days spoken unto us by *his* Son, whom he has appointed heir of all things, by whom also he made the worlds; Who being the brightness of *his* glory, and the express image of his person, and upholding all things by the word of his power, when he had by himself purged our sins, sat down on the

right hand of the Majesty on high; Being made so much better than the angels, as he has by inheritance obtained a more excellent name than they.

LET'S TALK ABOUT IT:

(Discussion/Small Group Questions)

1. Why is the name of Jesus so meaningful and so powerful? Why is the name of Jesus filled with peace, grace and love (answer individually)?
2. In Matthew, Jesus is called the Son of Man and Emmanuel. What does "Emmanuel" mean and why was Jesus called Emmanuel (Matthew 1:23)?
3. What are some of the other names Jesus is called and what do those names mean to you (answer individually)?

ACTIVITY:

Your group may desire to organize a time of prayer where you call upon the name of Jesus for a period of time (even on Zoom if that is how your group gathers). This can also be done individually in a private place. Consider why you desire to call upon the name of Jesus. What is your request? Make your request known to him in prayer and then spend time calling his name until your soul is satisfied.