



IN-CAR & IN-HOME

Biblical Lessons for the Family

"Repeat [the LORD's commands] again and again to your children. Talk about them when you are at home and when you are on the road, when you are going to bed and when you are getting up."

—DEUTERONOMY 6:7, NLT



PERSON TO PERSON MINISTERING THROUGH CIRCLES OF FAITH

VOLUME 2

— 10 LESSONS —

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MISSION STATEMENT

Our mission is to join with fellow Christians to mentor, teach, and share God's Word with families and to develop a strong, unbreakable bond of faith in God that will continue to be passed on from generation to generation.

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When passages are paraphrased by the editor for the sake of clarity, they are consistent with a commitment to the verbal, plenary inspiration of the Bible.

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ABOUT THIS GUIDE AND HOW TO USE IT:

This ministry is first dedicated to the service of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, and second to the parents who use the materials and resources to instruct their children about Jesus and the Word of God. We believe in the need for these lessons to be an intimate sharing of God's Word within the family through the bonding of you, your children, and God. The Bible tells us to instruct our children so that they may teach their children and generations to follow. It is impossible for us to know each child individually who may be reached through this ministry; therefore, we will leave it to individual parents how the lessons are presented. We have given you a guide to share the stories of the Bible. This may be used as it is written, or you may want to adapt the lessons to be more suitable for your children's level of understanding. You know them better than anyone else. This face-to-face interaction with your children, talking and learning about Jesus and the Bible, will enable them to see God through your eyes and your teachings. We ask you to be diligent in using these materials in a manner that enables the needs of your children to accomplish that objective. Thank you for your participation in the Bond of Faith Children's Ministries. You and your family will always be in our prayers.

ALL LESSONS FOLLOW THIS TEMPLATE:

1. **Biblical Title** for Lesson.
2. **Introduction** or Lead-In.
3. **Supporting Scripture.**
4. **Parent's Prayer.**
5. **Example retelling of this lesson for your Child:** This version will only be a guide. Over time parents will need to make this presentation their own personal conversation with their child. Please be aware that our suggestions are aimed at a general age group of 6-10. It is up to the parent to scale the presentation up or down to appeal to each child and be most understandable.
6. **Prayer** inspired by this lesson. Our prayer will only be another suggestion. The parents should give their own prayer for the child and eventually have their child do so on their own.
7. **Lessons to Stress:** These are key points in the lessons for your child to learn. Again, our suggestions are only meant as a guide. As you become more familiar with the lessons, you may want to add to this list or make your own.

- 8. Example Discussion:** a discussion of the lesson with your child using:
- A. Short questions and answers. These should be simple.
Example for “The Creation” Lesson: Who created all the universe with earth and all we see? God.
 - B. Using open-ended questions to draw your child into a discussion.
Example for “The Creation” Lesson: What did God do during The Creation that showed His love for us (you)? You will get many answers here. Made man and woman. Made plants and animals for food. Made the earth a good place to live and multiply. You will need to guide the discussion in the direction you want it to go. As you repeat the lessons, come up with your own questions. Your growing familiarity with the lesson will generate plenty of questions you can see in your child’s mind.
- 9. Additional Prayers:** When you or your child are so moved, enter into a spur-of-the-moment prayer session.
- 10. Focus on Jesus:** Always end each lesson by focusing on Jesus.
- 11. Follow Up:** Before you leave each lesson, have your child(ren) retell the story in his/her own words. Enter into a discussion still again. Revisit the lesson from time to time. By the time your children are teenagers, they will have these lessons firmly planted in their minds and will be well on their way to a life in Christ.



JOHN 3:16

Volume Two | Lesson Eleven

INTRODUCTION:

God shows His love for us repeatedly in the Bible. His ultimate outpouring of this love comes when He allows Jesus to go to the cross for our sins. This offers each of us the gift of salvation. To accept this gift, we must acknowledge Jesus' payment for our sins and place our faith in Him.

SUPPORTING SCRIPTURE:

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

PARENT'S PRAYER:

Dear Lord, Your plan for us is so wonderful. In the beginning You gave us free will. In the end, if we choose You, we get eternal life in Your heaven. What a blessing! Amen.

TIP: Take the time to read the verse in a variety of translations to compare, and perhaps gain new insights into the depths of the message.

TIP: Your child may ask you a question to which you don't have an answer. That's okay. You aren't supposed to have all the answers. Simply tell your child, “That's a good question. Let me get back to you on that.” Then seek out the answer for yourself.

EXAMPLE RETELLING OF THIS LESSON FOR YOUR CHILD:

God loves us all very much. He proves it when He allows His one and only son, Jesus, to be crucified on the cross to rid us of our sins. This is a gift from God and cannot be earned. If we accept this gift through our faith in Jesus, we will be saved from sin and an everlasting death. The Bible tells us this in the Book of John, Chapter 3, Verse 16. It says, "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." You will hear this verse many times in your life, for it is the most famous verse in the Bible. It is the good news of the Bible revealed in one verse. We learned from the story of Adam and Eve that God will punish us for sinning. That punishment comes in the form of being separated from God, which is spiritual death. But God still loved Adam and Eve just as He loves us today. He knew we could not save ourselves, so He provided a way through Jesus to be saved. His love was so great that He sent His only son into the world as a human to pay for all of our sins. Jesus said, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me." (John 14:6) The way to be saved is very clear. Jesus is the Son of God. We put our faith in Him, ask Him to forgive our sins, and come into our lives so that we may live forever in Heaven.

PRAYER: Thank you, Jesus, for the opportunity to have everlasting life through my faith in You. Your love for me and my fellow man is overwhelming. In the Holy name of Jesus. Amen.

WHAT SHOULD YOU STRESS THAT YOUR CHILD LEARN FROM THIS LESSON:

1. God's Love is unlimited.
2. God loves us so much that He sacrificed His only Son for us, and anyone who believes in Jesus will live forever with Him in heaven.
3. We can only obtain eternal life through Jesus Christ.

TIP: You may want to add to this list as you repeat the lesson.

TIP: Always enter into a discussion of the lesson with your child at some point. Previous lessons provided sample questions you might propose to lead this discussion. Now and going forward, we suggest you come up with your own questions. Make a list below.

EXAMPLE DISCUSSION:

Q:

A:

Q:

A:

Q:

A:

TIP: Sometimes the best questions are simple ones. Consider discussing what the key words in the verse mean (i.e. Love, world, begotten, Son, gave (sacrifice), belief, perish, everlasting life).

FOCUS ON JESUS: Jesus is Savior.

“For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.” (John 3:17, NIV)

FOLLOW UP: Let your child(ren) explain in her/his own words what John 3:16 means to them. Follow with a discussion. Revisit this lesson from time to time.



JESUS CALMS THE STORM

Volume Two | Lesson Twelve

INTRODUCTION:

Understanding that God the Father and God the Son are one and the same often confuses us. The Bible teaches us that the two are one and the same. The unlimited power is there. The love and patience are overflowing.

This scripture reveals the humanity of Christ. Jesus came to the earth as both man and God. Because of this, Jesus had the same basic needs as us. He needed rest and time away from the crowds. Jesus is the merciful emissary between us and God the Father, and His humanity is what qualified Him for this role.

The scripture also reveals how we, as humans, can get buried in the undesirable eruptions of our daily lives. Even though Christ is right before us in so many ways, we still fail to acknowledge Him and take hold of His Saving Grace. Following Jesus will give us peace and calm the storms in our lives.

SUPPORTING SCRIPTURE:

That day when evening came, he said to his disciples, "Let us go over to the other side." Leaving the crowd behind, they took him along, just as he was, in the boat. There were also other boats with him. A furious squall came up, and the waves broke over the boat, so that it was nearly swamped. Jesus was in the stern, sleeping on a cushion. The disciples woke him and said to him, "Teacher, don't you care if we drown?" He got up, rebuked the wind and said to the waves, "Quiet! Be still!" Then the wind died down and it was completely calm. He said to his disciples, "Why are you so afraid? Do you still have no faith?" They were terrified and asked each other, "Who is this? Even the wind and the waves obey him!" (Mark 4:35-41, NIV)

PARENT'S PRAYER:

Heavenly Father, our faith in You has no limits. Your words and actions reinforce our faith and make it never bending. Thank You for that. In Jesus's Holy Name. Amen.

EXAMPLE RETELLING OF THIS LESSON FOR YOUR CHILD:

Jesus had been teaching that day near a lake. When the evening came, He asked His disciples to board a boat with Him and go over to the other side. Jesus went to the rear section of the boat and was sleeping peacefully on a cushion. A violent storm came up as they were crossing the lake. Large waves broke over the boat, and it appeared at any moment the boat would be swept under water. The disciples, being unable to control the boat and fearful of drowning, woke Jesus and asked Him if He cared if they drowned. Jesus got up, calmed the wind, and told the waves to be quiet and still. The wind immediately died down, and it was completely calm. Jesus then asked His disciples why they were afraid and whether they had no faith. The disciples responded in fear and asked each other, "Who is this? Even the wind and the waves obey Him." Even though the disciples followed Jesus and heard His teachings, they lacked the faith that He was the Son of God.

TIP: Don't be afraid to use sound effects and voice inflection when you tell the story. Try to transport your child(ren) into the story and let them hear the panic in your voice when the disciples wake Jesus up. These things will make the story more memorable.

PRAYER: Dear Jesus, You gave Your life for us. We owe You so much. Our unquestionable faith is a small token to repay You for such a wonderful gift. Amen.

WHAT SHOULD YOU STRESS THAT YOUR CHILD LEARN FROM THIS LESSON:

1. Jesus loves us and cares for us even though at times our faith in Him is weak.
2. We should never doubt the power of Jesus. Just as Jesus did for the disciples, He can calm the storms in our lives.
3. When we have faith in Jesus, we become free of fear, and we can face whatever life throws at us.

TIP: You may want to add to this list as you repeat the lesson.

TIP: Always enter into a discussion of the lesson with your child at some point. Previous lessons provided sample questions you might propose to lead a discussion. Now we suggest you come up with your own questions. Make a list below.

EXAMPLE DISCUSSION:

Q:

A:

Q:

A:

Q:

A:

TIP: Consider Jesus' words at the end of this account. Share with your child from your own life when you have struggled with faith and wondered if God cared.

FOCUS ON JESUS: Jesus is God.

“Then they cried out to the LORD in their trouble, and he brought them out of their distress. He stilled the storm to a whisper; the waves of the sea were hushed.”
(Psalm 107:28-29, NIV)

FOLLOW UP: Let your child(ren) tell the story of Jesus Calms the Storm in her/his own words. Follow with a discussion. Revisit this lesson from time to time.



THE POOR WIDOW'S OFFERING

Volume Two | Lesson Thirteen

INTRODUCTION:

This Bible Story of the Poor Widow has provided us all with an example of very humble devotion to the Lord, devotion from the heart that is true to the core. The widow's willingness to give all the money she had affirms her great faith that God would supply all of her needs. In Jesus' eyes, the widow's offering was of greater value than all the others since it was all she possessed.

SUPPORTING SCRIPTURE:

Jesus sat down opposite the place where the offerings were put and watched the crowd putting their money into the temple treasury. Many rich people threw in large amounts. But a poor widow came and put in two very small copper coins, worth only a few cents. Calling his disciples to him, Jesus said, "Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put more into the treasury than all the others. They all gave out of their wealth; but she, out of her poverty, put in everything—all she had to live on. (Mark 12:41-44, NIV)

PARENT'S PRAYER:

Dear Lord, it's evident You don't measure our faith by how much money we give but by how much of our heart and soul we dedicate to You. We owe all to You. Amen.

EXAMPLE RETELLING OF THIS LESSON FOR YOUR CHILD:

Jesus often taught lessons in the temple. One day after His lesson, Jesus sat in the church near the offering plate watching the people as they gave their money. He saw many rich people putting in large amounts. As He continued to watch, He saw a poor widow deposit two small copper coins, worth only a few cents. It was the widow's offering that was the most significant to Jesus. Seeing this, Jesus called His disciples to Him and told them the poor widow had put more into the treasury than all the others. The others had given part of their wealth, while the widow had given everything she had. You see, the poor widow gave not because she could, but because she wanted to. The widow had no more money on which to live. She lived in poverty, but she had faith. She knew that God would provide, and she claimed His promise by giving away all she had and choosing to believe that God would supply her needs.

TIP: Have two pennies ready when you tell this story to hold up and show your child(ren).

PRAYER: Dear Jesus, please help us to always strive to be like You. We know You will accept us as we are if we place our faith firmly in You. Amen.

WHAT SHOULD YOU STRESS THAT YOUR CHILD LEARN FROM THIS LESSON:

1. God does not measure our faith by how much we give but by the spirit in which it is given.
2. Remember, do your best, whatever that looks like. God measures our faith by quality not quantity. People don't have to see it as big for it to be big in God's eyes.
3. A true Christian should always be all in for Jesus. Giving requires sacrifice and shows our devotion to God.

TIP: You may want to add to this list as you repeat the lesson.

TIP: Always enter into a discussion of the lesson with your child at some point. Previous lessons provided sample questions you might propose to lead a discussion. Now we suggest you come up with your own questions. Make a list below.

TIP: Prior to your lesson, brainstorm a time when you felt God asking you to give sacrificially.

EXAMPLE DISCUSSION:

Q:

A:

Q:

A:

Q:

A:

FOCUS ON JESUS: Jesus sacrificed all for us. May we joyfully give up all things for Him.

“And live a life of love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.” (Ephesians 5:2, NIV)

FOLLOW UP: Let your child(ren) explain in her/his own words what The Poor Widow's Offering means to her/him. Follow with a discussion. Revisit this lesson from time to time.

TIP: Consider working a worship song or an old hymn into your time together. An appropriate example might be “Jesus Paid it All.” Discuss the lyrics with your child(ren).



THE PARABLE OF THE SOWER

Volume Two | Lesson Fourteen

INTRODUCTION:

The Sower Parable is about salvation. When Jesus taught, He often used parables, which are simple stories that illustrate moral or spiritual lessons. In this lesson He uses the story of a farmer sowing his seed to represent the varying degrees of faith in Christ that exist in mankind now and existed in the past. This parable portrays the Sower as Jesus, the seed as the Word of God, and the soil as man's reactions to the Word of God. Jesus' explanation of the Parable of the Sower highlights four different responses to the gospel:

1. The person represented by the hard ground never develops faith in Christ due to a cold heart.
2. The person represented by the stony ground is initially interested in what God offers but never develops a faith strong enough to overcome his disbelief and loses interest.
3. The person represented by the soil with thorns and weeds initially shows a guarded interest in the word of Christ. As his faith tries to take root, he realizes that sinful things such as hate, selfishness, sexual desires and the love of money must be given up. He falls away.
4. The person represented by the fertile soil develops a strong faith and makes the walk with Jesus to the cross and salvation. The person represented by the "good soil" is the only one of the four who is truly saved, because salvation's proof is fruit.

To interpret this parable the way God intended us to understand it, we must see the gift God is offering us through the sacrifice of His Son. He knew we could not save ourselves. He gave His Son to atone for our sins, and by accepting Him as our Savior, we are saved. The most important thing for you to understand is that you, and only you, decide what happens as God's Word falls on your heart. Soften the soil and make it fertile.

SUPPORTING SCRIPTURE:

That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat by the lake. Such large crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat in it, while all the people stood on the shore. Then he told them many things in parables, saying: “A farmer went out to sow his seed. As he was scattering the seed, some fell along the path, and the birds came and ate it up. Some fell on rocky places, where it did not have much soil. It sprang up quickly because the soil was shallow. But when the sun came up, the plants were scorched, and they withered because they had no root. Other seed fell among thorns, which grew up and choked the plants. Still other seed fell on good soil, where it produced a crop—a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown. Whoever has ears, let them hear.” (Matthew 13:1-9, NIV)

PARENT’S PRAYER:

Lord, it is so pleasing to know that my heart is soft and open. I feel Your love and You have mine. Glory to God.

EXAMPLE RETELLING OF THIS LESSON FOR YOUR CHILD:

Jesus sat by the seaside, and when a large group of people came to be near Him, He left them on the beach and went onto a boat to speak. When Jesus wanted His people to learn a lesson about being a Christian, He often told stories called parables to help them understand. When Jesus got on the boat, He told the group about the Parable of the Sower.

In this story, the Sower goes out to sow his seed on his land. He throws the first handful of seeds. They land on the hard ground of the pathway and the birds eat them. The heavenly meaning of this is that Jesus is the Sower, and the seed he is sowing is God’s Word. The people represented by the hard ground have cold hearts and never let God into their lives.

The next handful of seeds lands on rocky ground, sprouts, and dies in the hot sun since no roots reach into the ground. The heavenly meaning of these seeds in the rocky soil shows us what happens to a person who has a casual interest in God but does not develop faith in Him and just falls away.

The third handful of seeds lands in a bed of thorns and weeds. These seeds take root but eventually are choked out by the weeds. The heavenly meaning of the seeds in this soil shows how some people begin accepting the Word of God. At some point they realize Jesus’s Crucifixion has already removed sin from our lives. They then become aware that to accept their salvation means they will be giving up what they consider many worldly pleasures. They choose the sinful world and fall away.

Finally, Jesus throws seeds on fertile, deep soil, and they spring up and grow into healthy, wholesome plants that produce tasty fruit. This heavenly meaning represents the person we want you to be. The good ground portrays the one who hears, understands, and accepts God's gift of salvation.

Listen to what God's Word tells you, and obey His commands. His Word begins with the creation and leads us all the way to the cross and through the resurrection to an everlasting life with Christ in Heaven. This is the pathway for our salvation. Seek this path every day and stay on it.

PRAYER: Lord, we ask for Your guidance in everything we do. Let us always put You first in our lives and follow Your Holy Word. In Jesus Christ's name we pray. Amen.

WHAT SHOULD YOU STRESS THAT YOUR CHILD LEARN FROM THIS LESSON:

1. Jesus is always near, telling us what He wants us to do to glorify Him and live a God inspired life.
2. We must learn as much as possible about God and what He says. He wants us to always open our minds to receive the blessings found in His word.
3. We must soften our hearts with love for Jesus and everyone around us. Jesus' seed will only grow in a heart filled with love.

TIP: You may want to add to this list as you repeat the lesson. Consider what else might be done to make soil good for planting.

TIP: Consult Jesus' explanation to the disciples in Matthew 13:18-23 or Luke 8:11-15

TIP: Always enter into a discussion of the lesson with your child at some point. Previous lessons provided sample questions you might propose to lead a discussion. Now we suggest you come up with your own questions. Make a list below.

EXAMPLE DISCUSSION:

Q:

A:

Q:

A:

Q:

A:

TIP: Consider having a seed for your child to hold as you go through this lesson. If you have a garden, examine it with your child and explain how things grow best in good soil.

FOCUS ON JESUS: The words of Jesus are precious. May we allow Jesus to plant them deep in our hearts to produce spiritual growth.

“But the seed on good soil stands for those with a noble and good heart, who hear the word, retain it, and by persevering produce a crop.” (Luke 8:15, NIV)

FOLLOW UP: Let your child(ren) explain in her/his own words what The Parable of the Sower means to her/him. Follow with a discussion. Revisit this lesson from time to time.



THE PARABLE OF THE GOOD SAMARITAN

Volume Two | Lesson Fifteen

INTRODUCTION:

Jesus often used parables to explain what God’s Word is commanding. The Good Samaritan parable teaches what it means to live a Christian life by obeying God’s commandments and loving one another. Jesus was approached by a man who questioned the definition of neighbor. He used the parable to explain what being a neighbor really means. We need to keep the spirit of the Good Samaritan message alive in our daily lives, as well as practicing what it teaches.

SUPPORTING SCRIPTURE:

On one occasion an expert in the law stood up to test Jesus. “Teacher,” he asked, “what must I do to inherit eternal life?” “What is written in the Law?” he replied. “How do you read it?” He answered, “Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind”; and, “Love your neighbor as yourself.” “You have answered correctly,” Jesus replied. “Do this and you will live.” But he wanted to justify himself, so he asked Jesus, “And who is my neighbor?” In reply Jesus said: “A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, when he was attacked by robbers. They stripped him of his clothes, beat him and went away, leaving him half dead. A priest happened to be going down the same road, and when he saw the man, he passed by on the other side. So too, a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. But a Samaritan, as he traveled, came where the man was; and when he saw him, he took pity on him. He went to him and bandaged his wounds, pouring on oil and wine. Then he put the man on his own donkey, brought him to an inn and took care of him. The next day he took out two denarii and gave them to the innkeeper. ‘Look after him,’ he said, ‘and when I return, I will reimburse you for any extra expense you may

have.’ “Which of these three do you think was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of robbers?” The expert in the law replied, “The one who had mercy on him.” Jesus told him, “Go and do likewise.” (Luke 10:25-37, NIV)

PARENT’S PRAYER:

Lord, help us open our minds to kindness and always treat our fellow humans with respect and love. Amen.

EXAMPLE VERSION FOR YOUR CHILD:

Once there was a man who asked Jesus what it meant to be a good neighbor. So, Jesus told this story to the man. The story was the Good Samaritan Parable. Parable meant that it was an earthly story that had a heavenly meaning. If you listen carefully, you can also find out what it means to be a “good neighbor.”

A Jewish man was traveling down the road and was attacked by robbers. The robbers stole all his clothes, beat him up, and left him for dead.

While the man was lying on the road unable to move, a priest came along and saw him. The priest was unwilling to help and walked on by. A second man came by and stopped to look at the man, but also offered no help and kept walking.

A third man, who was from Samaria, came walking by. The Samaritans and Jews of this time were bitter enemies. Nevertheless, he stopped to look and examined the Jewish man. He immediately gave him help by treating and bandaging his wounds. The Samaritan then put the wounded man on his donkey and carried him to a hotel where he paid for the man to have care and a place to heal. He even came back later to check on the injured victim and to pay any additional charges.

We can truly call this Samaritan a Good Samaritan since he acted as God wanted and showed love and compassion for his fellow man.

PRAYER: Lord, please help me to always show my love and respect for my fellow man. You have taught us to be compassionate. We show our faith in You and love for You by being like the Good Samaritan. Amen.

WHAT SHOULD YOU STRESS THAT YOUR CHILD LEARN FROM THIS LESSON:

1. Jesus wants everyone to be like the Good Samaritan. Show compassion and love toward everyone. Everyone is your neighbor.
2. Never be selfish. Think of others first. Always be ready to give of yourself and your possessions. When in doubt, just ask what Jesus would do.
3. Never judge anyone. God alone is in charge of judging his flock. Jesus wants us to love everyone and do unto them as we would want them to do unto us.

4. Never expect anything in return when you help someone. You will be rewarded with the feeling of love and accomplishment that will surely come from Jesus.

TIP: You may want to add to this list as you repeat the lesson.

TIP: Always enter into a discussion of the lesson with your child at some point. Previous lessons provided sample questions you might propose to lead a discussion. Now we suggest you come up with your own questions. Make a list below.

EXAMPLE DISCUSSION:

Q:

A:

Q:

A:

Q:

A:

TIP: Think of a time when a stranger was a “Good Samaritan” to you in a time of need. Share with your child this experience and how it made you feel.

FOCUS ON JESUS: Jesus came to our rescue when we were helpless and enemies of God.

“For when we were yet without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly.”
(Romans 5:6, KJV)

FOLLOW UP: Let your child(ren) explain in her/his own words what The Parable of the Good Samaritan means to her/him. Follow with a discussion. Revisit this lesson from time to time.



THE PARABLE OF THE LOST SHEEP

Volume Two | Lesson Sixteen

INTRODUCTION:

The Parable of the Lost Sheep is about Jesus' love for all of us. Jesus is describing His mission in this story. He is the Shepherd who was not content with 99 of the 100 sheep. When one sheep was lost, the Shepherd searched until he found it. When the Pharisees accused Jesus of "eating with sinners," He responded to this charge by telling this story. His compassion and love for all humanity is the main focus of this story. He teaches us our value and God's love for each of us through this parable. God's Kingdom is available to all, even the sinners who have strayed away from God's path. He will forgive our sins no matter what they are. All we have to do is ask and live our lives according to His Word.

SUPPORTING SCRIPTURE:

Now the tax collectors and sinners were all gathering around to hear Jesus. But the Pharisees and the teachers of the law muttered, "This man welcomes sinners and eats with them." Then Jesus told them this parable: "Suppose one of you has a hundred sheep and loses one of them. Doesn't he leave the ninety-nine in the open country and go after the lost sheep until he finds it? And when he finds it, he joyfully puts it on his shoulders and goes home. Then he calls his friends and neighbors together and says, 'Rejoice with me; I have found my lost sheep.' I tell you that in the same way there will be more rejoicing in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who do not need to repent." (Luke 15:1-7, NIV)

PARENT'S PRAYER:

Jesus, thank You for this lesson. It clearly defines what You want from us, an understanding of what You did for us, and a desire to help bring others to You. Amen.

EXAMPLE RETELLING OF THIS LESSON FOR YOUR CHILD:

Jesus often told stories to teach us how we should live our lives. During the time Jesus lived on earth there were many shepherds whose job was to take care of their flocks of sheep in the fields. In this story Jesus talked about a shepherd who cared for his 100 sheep. The shepherd took very good care of his sheep by making sure they had plenty of grass to eat and good water to drink. He counted his sheep each day to be sure they were all safe. One day, the shepherd counted only 99 sheep. One had wandered in the wilderness and was lost. The shepherd was unhappy and did not rest until he found the lost sheep.

The special meaning of this story is that God is like the shepherd. Jesus compares the 99 sheep, who stayed with the shepherd and did not wander, to Christians that are loyal to God. Jesus knows He can depend on them, and through His love and blessings, they will prosper. But the sheep lost in the wilderness represents a person who sins against God and is lost. God is not happy until He has all His people with Him. Jesus wants us to give attention to finding this lost person and helping him to find salvation because God loves us all more than we know. We are all welcome to His Kingdom. God will never give up on us. His gift of salvation is always there for the taking.

PRAYER: Lord, please let us be mindful of our fellow man. Give us the courage, strength, dedication, and wisdom to be effective Christians. In Jesus' name, Amen.

WHAT SHOULD YOU STRESS THAT YOUR CHILD LEARN FROM THIS LESSON:

1. To follow Jesus, we must love one another and show compassion to everyone.
2. We must dedicate ourselves to helping Christ save the lost. It is our Christian duty.

TIP: You may want to add to this list as you repeat the lesson.

TIP: Always enter into a discussion of the lesson with your child at some point. Make a list of questions that will lead your child(ren) into this discussion.

EXAMPLE DISCUSSION:

Q:

A:

Q:

A:

Q:

A:

TIP: Share a moment when you lost something, and how you felt when you found it.

FOCUS ON JESUS: Jesus is the good shepherd who comes looking for His lost sheep.

“I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.”
(John 10:11, NIV)

FOLLOW UP: Find a farm or a petting zoo that has sheep. Consider visiting it before or after this lesson. Let your child share his or her experience. Follow with a discussion. Revisit this lesson from time to time.



THE PRODIGAL SON

Volume Two | Lesson Seventeen

INTRODUCTION:

In this story a father's love provides a new start for a selfish son. The son goes off in the wrong direction, later finds salvation, and returns. His brother, who has always been faithful, sinks into selfishness and envy. This story gives us two messages about Christianity—faith in God and forgiveness of sin. God gives us the gift of faith. No matter how far we stray from Him, His unconditional love assures us our sins will be forgiven if we ask. He is always there to welcome us back.

SUPPORTING SCRIPTURE:

Jesus continued: "There was a man who had two sons. The younger one said to his father, 'Father, give me my share of the estate.' So he divided his property between them. Not long after that, the younger son got together all he had, set off for a distant country and there squandered his wealth in wild living. After he had spent everything, there was a severe famine in that whole country, and he began to be in need. So he went and hired himself out to a citizen of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed pigs. He longed to fill his stomach with the pods that the pigs were eating, but no one gave him anything. When he came to his senses, he said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have food to spare, and here I am starving to death! I will set out and go back to my father and say to him: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son; make me like one of your hired servants.' So he got up and went to his father. But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion for him; he ran to his son, threw his arms around him and kissed him. The son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' But the father said to his servants, 'Quick! Bring the best robe and put it on him. Put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. Bring the fattened

calf and kill it. Let's have a feast and celebrate. For this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.' So they began to celebrate. Meanwhile, the older son was in the field. When he came near the house, he heard music and dancing. So he called one of the servants and asked him what was going on. 'Your brother has come,' he replied, 'and your father has killed the fattened calf because he has him back safe and sound.' The older brother became angry and refused to go in. So his father went out and pleaded with him. But he answered his father, 'Look! All these years I've been slaving for you and never disobeyed your orders. Yet you never gave me even a young goat so I could celebrate with my friends. But when this son of yours who has squandered your property with prostitutes comes home, you kill the fattened calf for him!' 'My son,' the father said, 'you are always with me, and everything I have is yours. But we had to celebrate and be glad, because this brother of yours was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.'" (Luke 15:11-32, NIV)

PARENT'S PRAYER:

Lord, help me to always recognize the sin that separates me from You and deal with it in a Godly manner. Amen.

EXAMPLE RETELLING OF THIS LESSON FOR YOUR CHILD:

There was a father that had two sons. The younger son came to the father and said, "Father, I don't want to wait until you die; I want my share of the land and your wealth now." So, the father agreed to divide everything and give the younger son his share.

The younger son moved far away. He lived as he wanted with no regard for anyone but himself. He was soon penniless. It so happened that about that time a great food shortage came to the land, and he found himself on the verge of starvation. He turned to eating with the pigs. No one would give him food or any help.

One day he realized even the hired help who worked for his father were better off than him. So he headed home. He would admit to his father that he had sinned against God and him. He would admit he was no longer worthy of being his father's son and beg his father to make him a hired servant.

The father spotted him coming long before he arrived at the farm. He was very happy his younger son had returned. He ran to him, hugged and kissed him. The younger son told his father he knew he had sinned against him and God and no longer deserved to be his son. The father called for his servants to bring a fine robe, put a ring on his son's finger, and sandals on his feet. He ordered a feast to be prepared. The father was overcome with joy. He had felt that his son was dead and now he was alive. He had been lost but was now found.

The older brother was angry at his father's forgiveness of the younger son and refused to join the celebration. He told his father he had always worked hard and never disobeyed

him. Yet, his father had never given him such a celebration. His father reached out to him and pleaded with him to join them. He told the older son he had always been with him and that everything that the father owned was his. The father explained they should celebrate his brother's return because it was as if the younger son had died but was now alive again.

PRAYER: Thank You, Lord, for loving me. Help me when I lose my way to focus on You and return to You. Amen.

WHAT SHOULD YOU STRESS THAT YOUR CHILD LEARN FROM THIS LESSON:

1. God loves you and me no matter what.
2. We must recognize our sins, confess them to God, and work to never repeat them again.
3. We must rejoice when others find Christ and join them in God's light.
4. We must never be selfish. It is a very bad sin.
5. We cannot work our way into God's blessings. Only through faith can we receive what God has to offer.

TIP: You may want to add to this list as you repeat the lesson.

TIP: Always enter into a discussion of the lesson with your child at some point. Previous lessons provided sample questions you might propose to lead a discussion. Now we suggest you come up with your own questions. Make a list below.

EXAMPLE DISCUSSION:

Q:

A:

Q:

A:

Q:

A:

TIP: Connect this parable with your own family. Tell how you would feel in a similar situation.

TIP: While examining the story, don't forget to consider and examine the older brother: how he felt, how he responded, how we can be like him as well.

FOCUS ON JESUS: Jesus celebrates every lost person who comes back to the Father.

“But we had to celebrate and be glad, because this brother of yours was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.” (Luke 15:32, NIV)

FOLLOW UP: Let your child(ren) explain in her/his own words what the story of The Prodigal Son means to her/him. Follow with a discussion. Revisit this lesson from time to time.



ZACCHAEUS

Volume Two | Lesson Eighteen

INTRODUCTION:

Zacchaeus is an example of many Roman officials who came to worship Jesus. He was a wealthy tax collector who was hated by the people because he had not treated them fairly. Zacchaeus had heard much about Jesus and wanted to see who He was. Jesus was always seeking to save the sinners, so Zacchaeus was of special interest to Him. As the story unfolds, it's clear that Jesus knew the heart of Zacchaeus.

SUPPORTING SCRIPTURE:

Jesus entered Jericho and was passing through. A man was there by the name of Zacchaeus; he was a chief tax collector and was wealthy. He wanted to see who Jesus was, but because he was short, he could not see over the crowd. So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore-fig tree to see him, since Jesus was coming that way. When Jesus reached the spot, He looked up and said to him, "Zacchaeus, come down immediately. I must stay at your house today." So he came down at once and welcomed him gladly. All the people saw this and began to mutter, "He has gone to be the guest of a sinner." But Zacchaeus stood up and said to the Lord, "Look, Lord! Here and now I give half of my possessions to the poor, and if I have cheated anybody out of anything, I will pay back four times the amount." Jesus said to him, "Today salvation has come to this house, because this man, too, is a son of Abraham. For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost." (Luke 19:1-10, NIV).

PARENT'S PRAYER:

God, thank you for your forgiveness. It assures us that You love us beyond all of our sinful ways. What a blessing. Amen.

EXAMPLE RETELLING OF THIS LESSON FOR YOUR CHILD:

Jesus was traveling through Jericho. As usual, crowds gathered to see Him and hear His teachings. A tax collector named Zacchaeus wanted very much to see Jesus. Zacchaeus was wealthy but was hated by the people because he had not treated them fairly. He had kept much of their tax money for himself. Zacchaeus was trying to see Jesus on the road, but because he was very short, he could not see over the people that had also gathered to see Jesus. So he ran ahead and climbed into a sycamore tree in order to see over the crowd. When Jesus got to the tree, He called out to Zacchaeus by name and told him to come down from the tree. Jesus told him that He would be staying at Zacchaeus' house that day. Hearing this, Zacchaeus quickly came down from the tree. He was so excited to take Jesus to his home. Some of the people in the crowd nearby heard the conversation and began to complain. They were unhappy Jesus had chosen to visit with Zacchaeus, who was well known for overcharging the people. Zacchaeus, realizing his wrongdoing, stood before Jesus, repented of his sins, and told Jesus, "I will give half of my riches to the poor. If I am found over charging anyone on their taxes, I will take the burden upon myself and pay back four times the amount." Jesus told Zacchaeus that on that day salvation had come to his home. Zacchaeus was no longer lost. He had freely accepted Jesus as his Lord and Savior.

PRAYER: Jesus, help me to see myself and allow You to change me for Your work. Amen.

WHAT SHOULD YOU STRESS THAT YOUR CHILD LEARN FROM THIS LESSON:

1. Jesus knows who we are. We can't hide from Him.
2. Jesus is calling you and me to come out from our safe spot to work for Him.
3. We should do whatever it takes to be with Jesus.
4. We are all sinners, but when you come to Jesus, your life will change.

TIP: You may want to add to this list as you repeat the lesson.

TIP: Always enter into a discussion of the lesson with your child at some point. Previous lessons provided sample questions you might propose to lead a discussion. Now we suggest you come up with your own questions. Make a list below.

EXAMPLE DISCUSSION:

Q:

A:

Q:

A:

Q:

A:

TIP: Put yourself in the shoes of different people in the passage. Explore questions that seek to understand how Zacchaeus must have felt being hated by everyone. Then explore how you might feel as a member of the crowd when they heard Jesus inviting himself to the house of someone who betrayed or cheated you.

FOCUS ON JESUS: Jesus searches and saves the lost.

“For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost.” (Luke 19:10, NIV)

FOLLOW UP: Let your child(ren) explain in their own words what the story of Zacchaeus means to them. Follow with a discussion. Revisit this lesson from time to time.



JESUS RAISES LAZARUS FROM THE DEAD

Volume Two | Lesson Nineteen

INTRODUCTION:

This is another of the many miracles performed by Jesus. Lazarus and his two sisters, Mary and Martha, were well known friends of Jesus. Lazarus had gotten sick and died. The sisters sent for Jesus and He arrived two days later. Lazarus had already been prepared and placed in his grave. Jesus performed another miracle and brought Lazarus back to life.

SUPPORTING SCRIPTURE:

On his arrival, Jesus found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb for four days. Now Bethany was less than two miles from Jerusalem, and many Jews had come to Martha and Mary to comfort them in the loss of their brother. When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went out to meet him, but Mary stayed at home. “Lord,” Martha said to Jesus, “if you had been here, my brother would not have died. But I know that even now God will give you whatever you ask.” Jesus said to her, “Your brother will rise again.” Martha answered, “I know he will rise again in the resurrection at the last day.” Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; and whoever lives by believing in me will never die. Do you believe this?” “Yes, Lord,” she replied, “I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, who is to come into the world.” After she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary aside. “The Teacher is here,” she said, “and is asking for you.” When Mary heard this, she got up quickly and went to him. Now Jesus had not yet entered the village, but was still at the place where Martha had met him. When the Jews who had been with Mary in the house, comforting her, noticed how quickly she got up and went out, they followed her, supposing she was going to the tomb to mourn there. When Mary reached the place

where Jesus was and saw him, she fell at his feet and said, “Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.” When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who had come along with her also weeping, he was deeply moved in spirit and troubled. “Where have you laid him?” he asked. “Come and see, Lord,” they replied. Jesus wept. Then the Jews said, “See how he loved him!” But some of them said, “Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?” Jesus, once more deeply moved, came to the tomb. It was a cave with a stone laid across the entrance. “Take away the stone,” he said. “But, Lord,” said Martha, the sister of the dead man, “by this time there is a bad odor, for he has been there four days.” Then Jesus said, “Did I not tell you that if you believe, you will see the glory of God?” So they took away the stone. Then Jesus looked up and said, “Father, I thank you that you have heard me. I knew that you always hear me, but I said this for the benefit of the people standing here, that they may believe that you sent me.” When he had said this, Jesus called in a loud voice, “Lazarus, come out!” The dead man came out, his hands and feet wrapped with strips of linen, and a cloth around his face. Jesus said to them, “Take off the grave clothes and let him go.” (John 11:17-44, NIV)

PARENT’S PRAYER:

Dear Jesus, thank You. Your resurrection of Lazarus testifies to Your love for us and puts forth Your guarantee of eternal life through our faith in You. Amen.

EXAMPLE RETELLING OF THIS LESSON FOR YOUR CHILD:

Mary and Martha’s brother, Lazarus, got very sick and died. They immediately sent for their family friend and Savior, Jesus. Jesus arrived two days later very concerned about His dear friend. It seemed Jesus was too late. Lazarus had already been prepared and buried.

At the cemetery Jesus asked that the tomb be opened. Martha remarked that if they did so there would be a terrible odor. Jesus looked at Mary and said, “Didn’t I tell you that if you believe, you will see the glory of God?”

So they took away the stone. Then Jesus looked up and said, “Father, I thank You that You have heard Me. I knew that You always hear Me, but I said this for the benefit of the people standing here, that they may believe that You sent Me.” When He had said this, Jesus called in a loud voice, “Lazarus, come out!” The resurrected man came out, his hands and feet wrapped with strips of linen, and a cloth around his face. Jesus asked that the linen and cloth be removed. Everyone present witnessed the glory of God.

PRAYER: Lord, You are far beyond any power we know. You are our one and only God. We need no other. Thank You for Your presence in our lives. Amen.

WHAT SHOULD YOU STRESS THAT YOUR CHILD LEARN FROM THIS LESSON:

1. There is nothing that God can't do.
2. Jesus was and is the perfect Christian.
3. Jesus loves you and is concerned about you.

TIP: You may want to add to this list as you repeat the lesson.

TIP: Always enter into a discussion of the lesson with your child at some point. Previous lessons provided sample questions you might propose to lead a discussion. Now we suggest you come up with your own questions. Make a list below.

EXAMPLE DISCUSSION:

Q:

A:

Q:

A:

Q:

A:

TIP: “Jesus wept” is the shortest verse in the Bible, yet it is certainly not the least important. Consider the reasons why Jesus might have wept. Look up different opinions. Consider carefully the verses surrounding it.

FOCUS ON JESUS: Jesus IS the Resurrection and the Life.

“Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will live, even though he dies.” (John 11:25, NIV)



JESUS TELLS OF HIS CRUCIFIXION

Volume Two | Lesson Twenty

INTRODUCTION:

The Bible often reminds us of the many enemies that Jesus and His followers had. The leaders of the religious law groups were foremost among these, especially the Pharisees and Sadducees. They all feared He was indeed the Son of God and all powerful. His teachings had a very special effect on the people and His following was growing rapidly. Jesus's enemies were concerned they would lose their power if He was allowed to continue teaching. Jesus knew they would come after Him and have Him killed. He prepared His disciples by explaining this was God's plan. God used Jesus' enemies for His ultimate purpose, and that is how we were given the gift of salvation.

SUPPORTING SCRIPTURE:

He then began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests and the teachers of the law, and that he must be killed and after three days rise again. He spoke plainly about this, and Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. But when Jesus turned and looked at his disciples, he rebuked Peter. "Get behind me, Satan!" he said. "You do not have in mind the concerns of God, but merely human concerns." Mark 8:31-33, NIV)

Jesus strictly warned them not to tell this to anyone. And he said, "The Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests and the teachers of the law, and he must be killed and on the third day be raised to life." Luke 9:21-22, NIV).

PARENT'S PRAYER:

Jesus, the sacrifice You made for me makes my faith in You seem such a small price to pay for my salvation. Thank You. Amen.

EXAMPLE RETELLING OF THIS LESSON FOR YOUR CHILD:

Jesus knew and knows everything. He knew He had many enemies and spoke to His disciples about it on several occasions. He explained that He had been rejected by many people, mainly the church elders, chief priests and teachers of the law. They saw Him as a threat to their control of the religious community. No matter how Jesus preached, His enemies found it unacceptable. God had a plan for Jesus and He used His enemies to see that it happened. Jesus knew He was going to suffer many things, be killed, and would gloriously rise on the third day after His death. He told this to many of His followers but none seemed to remember. Jesus' disciples did not understand what He was saying until it actually happened. God let Jesus go to the cross for us. He died for our sins so that we would have the choice of spending eternity with Him. What a wonderful gift!

PRAYER: Jesus, You are my shining light. I look to You for what I need and the way to go. Please be with me forever. Amen.

WHAT SHOULD YOU STRESS THAT YOUR CHILD LEARN FROM THIS LESSON:

1. Jesus is our guiding light. Learn all about Him from the Bible and try your best to follow His directions in your everyday life.
2. Jesus knew He was going to the cross. His love for us was on display and is still very evident.
3. Jesus' goodness and love was highlighted by the evil that sought His destruction.
4. Never despair, Jesus always loves you no matter what. He has already given His life to cancel your sins. Accept Him as your Savior and be saved.
5. Remember you have a direct line to Jesus through prayer.

TIP: You may want to add to this list as you repeat the lesson.

TIP: Always enter into a discussion of the lesson with your child at some point. Make a list of questions that will lead your child(ren) into this discussion.

EXAMPLE DISCUSSION:

Q:

A:

Q:

A:

Q:

A:

TIP: Share a time where you did not understand the significance of something said until many years later. For instance, perhaps something that your father or mother told you that you dismissed, but many years later you realized how important it was.

FOCUS ON JESUS: Jesus went to the cross joyfully and willingly on our behalf.

“Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.” (Hebrews 12:2, NIV)

FOLLOW UP: Let your child(ren) explain in her/his own words what the story of Jesus Tells of His Crucifixion means to her/him. Follow with a discussion. Revisit this lesson from time to time.

CHILDREN'S PAGES: These are simple summaries of the previous biblical lessons, and are intended for children. You can present them at any time. We do, however, believe they will best be understood once you have completed your teaching of each lesson. These pages are available as a separate pack. We suggest your child collect and preserve them for future reference.



JESUS CALMS THE STORM

Volume Two | Lesson Twelve

PRAYER: Dear Jesus, You gave Your life for us. We owe You so much. Our unexpressed thanks are a small token to repay You for such a wonderful gift. Amen.

LET'S REMEMBER

- 1. Jesus loves us
- 2. We should never be afraid of Him
- 3. When we have a problem, we should ask Him for help

FOCUS ON

"Then they of their disciples hushed."

FROM THIS LESSON.

- 
Jesus had been teaching that they rear a lake.
- 
When evening came, He asked His disciples to board a boat with Him and go over to the other side.
- 
Jesus went to the back of the boat and fell peacefully asleep on a cushion.
- 
A violent storm came up as they were crossing the lake.
- 
Large waves broke over the boat and it appeared the boat would sink.
- 
The disciples were afraid they would die. They woke Jesus and cried, "Teacher, don't you care if we drown?"
- 
Jesus got up and commanded the winds and waves to be still. "Why are you so afraid? Do you still have no faith?"
- 
Even though the disciples followed Jesus and heard His teachings, they were still afraid to believe the fact that He was the Son of God.

BOND OF FAITH

Children's Page



JOHN 3:16

Volume Two | Lesson Eleven

PRAYER: Thank you, Jesus, for the opportunity to have everlasting life through my faith in You. Your love for me and my fellow man is overwhelming. In the Holy name of Jesus. Amen.

LET'S REMEMBER THESE THINGS AND MORE FROM THIS LESSON.

1. God's Love is unlimited.
2. God loves us so much that He sacrificed His only Son for us and anyone who believes in Jesus will live forever with Him in heaven.
3. We can only obtain eternal life through Jesus Christ.

FOCUS ON JESUS: Jesus is Savior.

“For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.” (John 3:17, NIV)



God loves us all very much.



He proves it when He allows His one and only son Jesus to be crucified on the cross to rid us of our sins.



We learned from the story of Adam and Eve that God will punish us for sinning.



That punishment comes in the form of being separated from God, which is spiritual death.



But God still loved Adam and Eve just as He loves us today.



His love was so great that He sent His only son into the world as a human to pay for all of our sins.



Jesus said, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me." (John 14:6)



Jesus is the Son of God. We put our faith in Him, ask Him to forgive our sins, and come into our lives so that we may live forever with Him.





JESUS CALMS THE STORM

Volume Two | Lesson Twelve

PRAYER: Dear Jesus, You gave Your life for us. We owe You so much. Our unquestionable faith is a small token to repay You for such a wonderful gift. Amen.

LET'S REMEMBER THESE THINGS AND MORE FROM THIS LESSON.

1. Jesus loves us and cares for us even though at times our faith in Him is weak.
2. We should never doubt the power of Jesus. Just as Jesus did for the disciples, He can calm the storms in our lives.
3. When we have faith in Jesus, we become free of fear, and we can face whatever life throws at us.

FOCUS ON JESUS: Jesus is God.

“Then they cried out to the LORD in their trouble, and he brought them out of their distress. He stilled the storm to a whisper; the waves of the sea were hushed.” (Psalm 107:28-29, NIV)



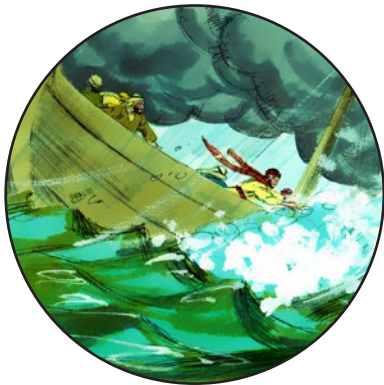
Jesus had been teaching that day near a lake.



When evening came, He asked His disciples to board a boat with Him and go over to the other side.



Jesus went to the back of the boat and fell peacefully asleep on a cushion.



A violent storm came up as they were crossing the lake.



Large waves broke over the boat and it appeared the boat would sink.



The disciples were afraid they would die. They woke Jesus and cried, "Teacher, don't you care if we drown?"



Jesus got up and commanded the winds and waves to be still. Jesus then asked His disciples "Why are you so afraid? Do you still have no faith?"



Even though the disciples followed Jesus and heard His teachings, they lacked the faith that He was the Son of God.





THE POOR WIDOW'S OFFERING

Volume Two | Lesson Thirteen

PRAYER: Dear Jesus, please help us to always strive to be like You. We know You will accept us as we are if we place our faith firmly in You. Amen.

LET'S REMEMBER THESE THINGS AND MORE FROM THIS LESSON.

1. God does not measure our faith by how much we give but by the spirit in which it is given.
2. Remember, do your best, whatever that looks like. God measures our faith by quality not quantity. People don't have to see it as big for it to be big in God's eyes.
3. A true Christian should always be all in for Jesus. Giving requires sacrifice and shows our devotion to God.

FOCUS ON JESUS: Jesus sacrificed all for us. May we joyfully give up all things for Him.

“And live a life of love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.” (Ephesians 5:2, NIV)



Jesus often taught lessons in the temple.



One day after His lesson, Jesus sat in the temple courts near the offering plates watching the people as they gave their money.



He saw many rich people putting in large amounts.



As He continued to watch, He saw a poor widow deposit two small copper coins, worth only a few cents.



Seeing this, Jesus called His disciples to Him and told them, "This poor widow gave more than all the others."



He explained that the others had given just a small part of their wealth, while the widow had given everything she had.



The poor widow gave sacrificially in faith.



She claimed God's promises by giving away all she had and choosing to believe that God would supply her needs.





THE PARABLE OF THE SOWER

Volume Two | Lesson Fourteen

PRAYER: Lord, we ask for Your guidance in everything we do. Let us always put You first in our lives and follow Your Holy Word. In Jesus Christ’s name we pray. Amen.

LET’S REMEMBER THESE THINGS AND MORE FROM THIS LESSON.

1. Jesus is always near, telling us what He wants us to do to glorify Him and live a God inspired life.
2. We must learn as much as possible about God and what He says. He wants us to always open our minds to receive the blessings found in His word.
3. We must soften our hearts with love for Jesus and everyone around us. Jesus’ seed will only grow in a heart filled with love.

FOCUS ON JESUS: The words of Jesus are precious. May we allow Jesus to plant them deep in our hearts and produce much.

“But the seed on good soil stands for those with a noble and good heart, who hear the word, retain it, and by persevering produce a crop.” (Luke 8:15, NIV)



One day by the seaside, Jesus told a crowd a Parable about a Sower.



The Sower goes out to sow seed on his land. Jesus tells His disciples that the seed is “the word.”



Some seed falls on the pathway and is stepped on and eaten by birds, representing cold hearts who “don’t understand the message.”



Other seed falls on rocky ground. While they quickly sprout, the lack of soil causes them to be scorched by the hot sun.



This is just like those who hear God’s message and quickly receive it with joy, but fall away when hard times test their faith.



Other seed falls in a bed of thorns and weeds. While the young plant starts to grow, so do the weeds and thorns, which choke them.



This is just like those who begins to accept the message, but the worries of life and the temptation of worldly wealth choke them.



But some seed falls on fertile soil, grows and produces a great harvest. This represents the person who hears and accepts God’s word.





THE PARABLE OF THE GOOD SAMARITAN

Volume Two | Lesson Fifteen

PRAYER: Lord, please help me to always show my love and respect for my fellow man. You have taught us to be compassionate. We show our faith in You and love for You by being like the Good Samaritan. Amen.

LET'S REMEMBER THESE THINGS AND MORE FROM THIS LESSON.

1. Jesus wants everyone to be like the Good Samaritan. Show compassion and love toward everyone. Everyone is your neighbor.
2. Never be selfish. Think of others first. Always be ready to give of yourself and your possessions. When in doubt, just ask what Jesus would do.
3. Never judge anyone. God alone is in charge of judging his flock. Jesus wants us to love everyone and do unto them as we would want them to do unto us.
4. Never expect anything in return when you help someone. You will be rewarded with the feeling of love and accomplishment that will surely come from Jesus.

FOCUS ON JESUS: Jesus came to our rescue when we were helpless and enemies of God.

“For when we were yet without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly.” (Romans 5:6, KJV)



Jesus taught, “Love God with all your heart, and love your neighbor as yourself.” A teacher asked, “Who is my neighbor?” So Jesus told him a story.



A Jewish man was traveling down the road and was attacked by robbers who stole his things and beat him up, leaving him to die.



While the man was lying on the road, unable to move, a priest came along and saw him. The priest was unwilling to help and walked on by.



Another religious man passed by and stopped to look at the man, but also offered no help and kept walking.



Finally, a Samaritan (who were hated by the Jews), came by and saw the man and had compassion on him.



He immediately gave him help by treating and bandaging his wounds and putting him on his own animal.



The Samaritan took him to an inn and paid the cost of his care. He even came back to check on the man and to pay any additional charges.



“Which of these was a neighbor to the man?” Jesus asked. “The one who showed mercy,” the teacher answered. Jesus replied, “Go and do the same.”





THE PARABLE OF THE LOST SHEEP

Volume Two | Lesson Sixteen

PRAYER: Lord, please let us be mindful of our fellow man. Give us the courage, strength, dedication, and wisdom to be effective Christians. In Jesus' name, Amen.

LET'S REMEMBER THESE THINGS AND MORE FROM THIS LESSON.

1. To follow Jesus, we must love one another and show compassion to everyone.
2. We must dedicate ourselves to helping Christ save the lost. It is our Christian duty.

FOCUS ON JESUS: Jesus is the good shepherd who comes looking for His lost sheep.

“I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.” (John 10:11, NIV)



During the time Jesus lived on earth there were many shepherds whose job was to take care of their flocks of sheep in the fields.



In this story, Jesus talked about a shepherd who cared for 100 sheep.



The shepherd took very good care of his sheep by making sure they had plenty of grass to eat and good water to drink.



He counted his sheep each day to be sure they were all safe. One day, a sheep wandered off.



The shepherd left the 99 sheep and went looking for the one that was lost in the wilderness.



When he finds the lost sheep, he takes it home. Then, he happily tells all his friends, "Celebrate with me. I found my lost sheep!"



Jesus said, "There will be more rejoicing in heaven over one sinner who repents than many righteous persons who do not need to repent."



We wander off like sheep, but Jesus comes looking for us.





THE PRODIGAL SON

Volume Two | Lesson Seventeen

PRAYER: Thank You, Lord, for loving me. Help me when I lose my way to focus on You and return to You. Amen.

LET'S REMEMBER THESE THINGS AND MORE FROM THIS LESSON.

1. God loves you and me no matter what.
2. We must recognize our sins, confess them to God, and work to never repeat them again.
3. We must rejoice when others find Christ and join them in God's light.
4. We must never be selfish. It is a very bad sin.
5. We cannot work our way into God's blessings. Only through faith can we receive what God has to offer.

FOCUS ON JESUS: Jesus celebrates every lost person who comes back to the Father.

“But we had to celebrate and be glad, because this brother of yours was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.” (Luke 15:32, NIV)



There was a father that had two sons. The younger son came to the father and asked for his share of the father's money. The father gave it to him.



The younger son moved far away. He spent all his money carelessly and selfishly, and soon became so hungry that he was willing to eat pigs' food.



He finally came to his senses. He realized his father's hired help had plenty of food, so he headed home.



The father spotted his son while he was a long way off. The father was so happy, he ran and hugged his son and kissed him.



The younger son told his father he knew he had sinned against him and God and no longer deserved to be his son.



But the father was happy his son was home. "Let's celebrate!" he declared. And so he threw a party.

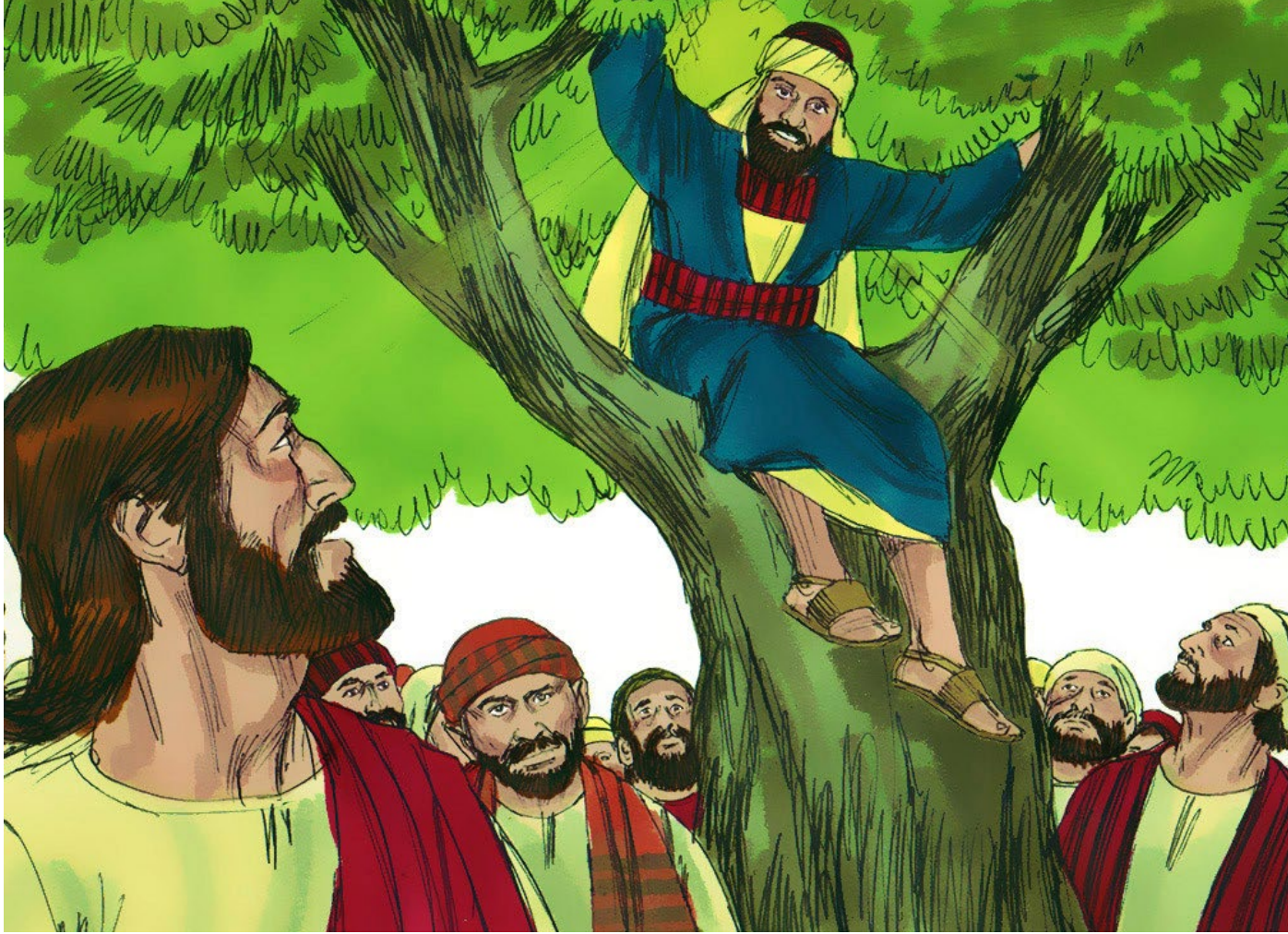


The older brother was angry at his father's forgiveness of the younger son. He refused to join the celebration.



The father explained, "Son, you are always with me, and all that I have is yours. But your brother was dead, and now he is alive."





ZACCHAEUS

Volume Two | Lesson Eighteen

PRAYER: Jesus, help me to see myself and allow You to change me for Your work. Amen.

LET'S REMEMBER THESE THINGS AND MORE FROM THIS LESSON.

1. Jesus knows who we are. We can't hide from Him.
2. Jesus is calling you and me to come out from our safe spot to work for Him.
3. We should do whatever it takes to be with Jesus.
4. We are all sinners, but when you come to Jesus, your life will change.

FOCUS ON JESUS: Jesus searches and saves the lost.

“For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost.” (Luke 19:10, NIV)



Jesus was traveling through Jericho. As usual, people gathered to see Him and hear His teachings.



A rich tax collector named Zacchaeus wanted very much to see Jesus.



Zacchaeus was hated by the people because he worked for the Romans. They felt he was a traitor.



Zacchaeus was trying to see Jesus on the road, but because he was very short, he could not see over the crowd.



So he ran ahead and climbed into a sycamore tree in order to see Jesus over the crowd.



When Jesus got to the tree, He called to Zacchaeus by name. "Come down from there. I'm coming over to your house for dinner."



Zacchaeus was overjoyed to have Jesus at his house. But the crowd was unhappy that Jesus would eat with a tax collector.



Zacchaeus promised to repay everyone who he may have cheated. Jesus said, "Salvation has come to your house today."





JESUS RAISES LAZARUS FROM THE DEAD

Volume Two | Lesson Nineteen

PRAYER: Lord, You are far beyond any power we know. You are our one and only God. We need no other. Thank You for Your presence in our lives. Amen.

LET'S REMEMBER THESE THINGS AND MORE FROM THIS LESSON.

1. There is nothing that God can't do.
2. Jesus was and is the perfect Christian.
3. Jesus loves you and is concerned about you.

FOCUS ON JESUS: Jesus IS the Resurrection and the Life.

“But we had to celebrate and be glad, because this brother of yours was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.” (John 11:25, NIV)



Mary and Martha's brother, Lazarus, became very sick. They immediately sent for their friend Jesus to come and heal him.



But Jesus waited for two more days before leaving. Once Jesus arrived, they were told Lazarus had been dead for four days.



Martha cried, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died." Jesus said, "I am the resurrection and the life."



Mary also came weeping, insisting that if Jesus had come sooner, her brother would be alive. Jesus was intensely moved in spirit. He wept.



They took Jesus to the tomb. He asked for the tomb to be opened. "But it will smell bad," Martha remarked. But Jesus insisted.



Jesus said, "Father, thank you that you hear me. You always hear me, but now everyone here will know it, and be shown that You sent me."



Then Jesus cried loudly, "Lazarus, come out!" The resurrected man came out, still wrapped up.



Jesus asked that the linen and cloth be removed. Many who saw it believed in Jesus.





JESUS TELLS OF HIS CRUCIFIXION

Volume Two | Lesson Twenty

PRAYER: Jesus, You are my shining light. I look to You for what I need and the way to go. Please be with me forever. Amen.

LET'S REMEMBER THESE THINGS AND MORE FROM THIS LESSON.

1. Jesus is our guiding light. Learn all about Him from the Bible and try your best to follow His directions in your everyday life.
2. Jesus knew He was going to the Cross. His love for us was on display and is still very evident.
3. Jesus' goodness and love was highlighted by the evil that sought His destruction.
4. Never despair, Jesus always loves you no matter what. He has already given His life to cancel your sins. Accept Him as your Savior and be saved.
5. Remember you have a direct line to Jesus through prayer.

FOCUS ON JESUS: Jesus went to the cross joyfully and willingly on our behalf.

“Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.” (Hebrews 12:2, NIV)



Jesus knew what was going to happen to Him. He explained some of these things to His disciples.



He explained that He would be betrayed and rejected by the religious leaders.



They were envious of Him, and hated Him for exposing their evil deeds. They saw Him as a threat to their power and wealth.



Jesus knew He was going to suffer many things and be killed. Yet He would be raised from death on the third day.



But Peter rebuked Jesus for saying such things. "Get behind me, Satan!" Jesus told him. "You do not have in mind the concerns of God."



On several occasions, Jesus told these things to His disciples. Yet, they could not understand what he was saying.



Jesus had to suffer for our sins so that we might have salvation and a restored relationship with God.



It wasn't until after Jesus was resurrected that His disciples would remember and understand.



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