

SEARCH THE SCRIPTURES

VOLUME 50-53

FOR
SENIOR CHILDREN (Middle
School Graders)

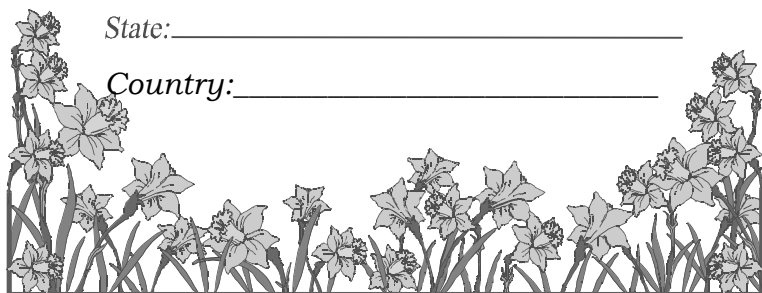
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LESSON 1

GOD'S PUNISHMENT OF ABIMELECH AND THE PEOPLE OF SHECHEM

Judges 9:34-57

Kings are rulers appointed by God to reign over a people (Romans 13:1,2). They exercise much power and authority over the people they rule. When a good king is on the throne, the subjects (citizens) all enjoy a great deal, because the welfare and goodness of the people are his concern. On the other hand, a bad king makes life difficult and painful for his subjects (Proverbs 29:2).

Abimelech was the son of Gideon. He proclaimed himself king after the death of his father (Judges 8:33; 9:1-6). One of the first things he did was to kill all of his seventy half-brothers on a stone at Ophra. Only one of them named Jotham escaped. Abimelech was a very wicked leader who loved power and often engaged in war with his own people.

In our study today, we shall consider the period of his reign and death.

1. THE CRUEL REIGN OF ABIMELECH:

Judges 9:34-49.

It is clearly written in the Bible that **“Though hand join in hand, the wicked shall not be unpunished: but the seed of the righteous shall be delivered”** (Proverbs 11:21a). Also, Isaiah 48:22

Abimelech proclaimed himself king and killed seventy of his brothers.



states that **“There is no peace, saith the Lord, unto the wicked.”** These passages were fulfilled in the life of Abimelech.

Due to his evil ambition to become king, he killed 70 sons of his father with the help of his mother’s family. After reigning for three years, God brought judgment upon him for killing his brothers. For the three

years that Abimelech reigned over Israel, there was no peace. He thought he could get away with his evil deeds. Eventually, he rose up against his mother’s people and destroyed them.

If you have joined others to do wicked things, know that one day, you will be discovered. You cannot hide from God forever. Today, God’s grace is available for sinners to repent. After the period of grace, sinners will come under the judgment of God. Do not remain in your sinful state, repent and believe the gospel.

2. THE END OF THE WICKED KING:

Judges 9:50-57; Psalm 9:16,17.

An elephant is a very big and powerful animal. Yet, if a fly as tiny as it is enters into the nostril of an elephant, it will become very uncomfortable and much troubled. This was the situation of Abimelech. With all the strength and power he had in destroying

other people, God used a woman to cast a big stone on his skull, and he died a shameful death. The action of the woman eventually led to his death (2 Samuel 11:21a).

The reign of Abimelech was characterized by great wickedness, murder and evil. There were other wicked kings also in the Bible who rebelled against God and died shamefully. Some of them are Pharaoh, Belshazzar, Ahab, Jeroboam and Herod. No one is too big for God to punish. He is the ruler over the entire world. He is the King of kings and the Lord of lords. He lives forever more. Everyone must fear and obey His commandments.

God brought judgment upon
Abimelech for his wicked acts.



3. GOD'S PUNISHMENT OF ABIMELECH AND THE PEOPLE OF SHECHEM:

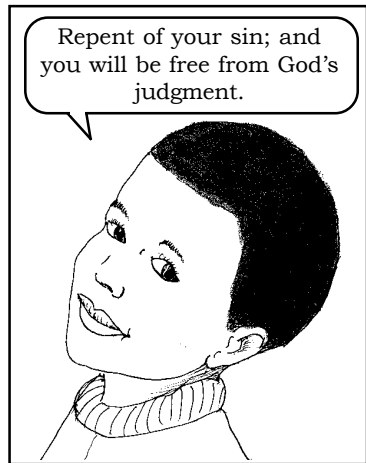
Galatians 6:7; Psalm 62:12.

There are various lessons that the Lord wants us to learn from the reign and death of Abimelech (Romans 15:4). (i) In whatever situation we find ourselves, we must not be partial or favour others as the people of Shechem did by wrongfully supporting Abimelech to become king (Judges 9:1-3). Do not support your brothers or sisters in doing evil

or fighting with other children (Exodus 23:2). (ii) You must not be over ambitious. This means you must not try to get any position or things through wrong methods. Abimelech was desperate to become king, to the extent that he killed his brothers to achieve his ambition. All you need to do is wait for God's appointed time. (iii) The people of Shechem did not take heed to the warning in the parable of Jotham (Judges 9:8-20). Any sinner who refuses to listen when he is being warned to repent will perish in his sins (Proverbs 29:1).

Judgment is certain and sure on any sinner who fails to repent of his evil ways. Abimelech was killed and the people of Shechem were also completely destroyed.

"It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God". If you are still a sinner, repent of your sins and accept Jesus as your Lord and Saviour today. Then you will be free from God's judgment and live with Jesus forever in heaven.



QUESTIONS:

1. Who was the father of Abimelech? _____
2. What did Abimelech do to get to the throne? _____

3. Mention three lessons you can learn from Abimelech's reign and death. _____
4. What can a sinful child do to reign with Christ?

MEMORY VERSE: "Thus God rendered the wickedness of Abimelech, which he did unto his father, in slaying his seventy brethren: And all the evil of the men of Shechem did God render upon their heads" (Judges 9:56,57a).

LESSON: God's judgment will certainly come upon evil doers.

THOUGHT: I will follow Jesus and not do evil.

ACTIVITY: The Bible has a list of the works of the flesh in Galatians. Unscramble the words below to discover them and write out the passages where they are written.

- | | |
|---------------------|-----------------|
| 1. VSNIYENG | 2. LITOARDY |
| 3. RATWH | 4. FTISER |
| 5. REULTDAY | 6. AAVCIRNE |
| 7. HWCTIFTACR | 8. NAEVNSSLINCE |
| 9. UNDKSRESENN | 10. HEADTR |
| 11. DEURMSR | 12. CAFONIRINOT |
| 13. LINGVERESL | 14. MAUETLNOIS |
| 15. NIOSTEDIS | 16. EHERSSEI |
| 17. SSENSOUIVICSAL. | |

HOMEWORK: Children should write out the names of three people in the Bible who committed murder (killed someone) and how they were punished.

CONGREGATIONAL SONG GHS: 205 – HAVE YOU COUNTED THE COST?

CHORUSES: (1) You cannot hide it from God. (2) One day be one day. (3) Holiness, holiness.

DAILY BIBLE READING

| | | |
|-----------|--------|----------|
| MONDAY | EXODUS | 14:5-7 |
| TUESDAY | EXODUS | 14:8-10 |
| WEDNESDAY | EXODUS | 14:13-15 |
| THURSDAY | EXODUS | 14:23-25 |
| FRIDAY | EXODUS | 14:26-28 |
| SATURDAY | ACTS | 12:18-20 |
| SUNDAY | ACTS | 12:21-24 |

BIBLE WORD SEARCH

Find the meanings of these words. You can use your dictionary: 1. Reign 2. Shechem
3. Judgment 4. Political 5. Cruelty.

LESSON 2

ISRAEL'S SIN AND MISERY

Judges 10:1-18

The word misery means sadness, unhappiness or sorrow. The children of Israel were going through a period of sorrow, sadness and unhappiness because they disobeyed God and worshipped idols. Sin brings sorrow. As we have learnt before, each time the children of Israel forsook God to serve idols, they always suffered greatly in the hands of their enemies. Whenever they repented and turned from their sins, God forgave them and also raised Judges to deliver them. Yet, Israel continued to rise and fall into sin. This kind of life is not good. You must determine to follow God without looking back.

We shall consider the study under three sub-headings:

1. THE WAGES OF SIN:

Judges 10:6-9; Genesis 3:16-19; Romans 6:23a.

Right from the garden of Eden, when Adam and Eve disobeyed God, sin brought sorrow, pain and punishment upon man (Genesis 3:16,17). The sin of the children of Israel in forsaking the Lord to worship idols brought hardship and oppression upon them. Their strange gods could not save them from trouble.

Many children today are going through sorrow, pain, sicknesses, bad dreams, troubles and failure

Sin brings trouble upon people.
Children are therefore warned to run away
from sin.

Anger at sin and wickedness is an important attribute (character) of God. It is an expression of His goodness and love for righteousness. He does not want the sinner to perish, but to repent and seek for forgiveness (2 Peter 3:9).

2. TRUE REPENTANCE – THE CONDITION FOR SALVATION:

Judges 10:10-16; Acts 2:37,38; Acts 3:19.

The reason why many children are not born again today is because they are not sincere with God. Their repentance is not true. They pretend to confess their sins just to make their teachers happy. Such confession is not from the depth of their hearts.



God refused to answer the prayers of the children of Israel until they became serious and sincere (Judges 10:11-16). It was when they showed genuine repentance and sincerity that God forgave them.

Why are you not born again? Why do you

not have the assurance of being saved? The only reason is because you have not genuinely repented and turned away from all your sins (Isaiah 59:1,2; Romans 10:9-13).

You must become a child of God: (i) accept that you are a sinner, (ii) confess all your sins to Jesus (iii) pray for forgiveness and cleansing of your heart through the blood of Jesus, (iv) totally turn away from all these sins, (v) accept Jesus Christ into your heart as your Lord and Saviour, (vi) believe in your heart that Jesus has forgiven you and (vii) never go back to sin.

3. GOD'S UNFAILING MERCY:

Judges 10:16-18; 2 Peter 3:9.

There are many lessons to learn here: (i) The suffering of the Israelites grieved God, just as the misery of a child grieves and hurts a loving parent. This means that God was not happy with what they were passing through. He was moved with compassion and had mercy on them. (ii) God's tender mercies are open to all who have sinned, who



are suffering grievous consequences and who repent and seek forgiveness. (iii) God's compassion for a lost world moved Him to send His Son to reconcile sinners unto Himself (John 3:16).

Sinners and backsliders do not have any excuse to remain in sin., God's door of mercy will not be opened forever because the time is short. To be totally free from every suffering and misery, you must be a child of God. Do not delay to receive Jesus Christ today (John 1:12).

QUESTIONS:

1. What brought misery, sorrow or sadness upon the children of Israel? _____
2. How long did the enemy oppress the children of Israel according to our Bible passage? _____

3. What should a sinner do to be saved from misery and sorrow? _____
4. State two lessons that you have learnt on God's unfailing mercies toward us. _____

MEMORY VERSE: "That 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" (Romans 10:9).

LESSON: Man-made gods cannot help anyone.

THOUGHT: I will never forsake the LORD to serve Satan.

ACTIVITY: Read Judges 10:11,12 and mention the names of the countries who oppressed Israel in the past but were later defeated with the help of God.

HOMEWORK: Search the scriptures and write out the names of two people in the Old Testament and two in the New Testament that forsook the Lord and what happened to them.

**CONGREGATIONAL SONG GHS: 38 -
HAVE YOU BEEN TO JESUS?**

CHORUSES: (1) Come to J – E – S – U – S, J – O – Y will follow. (2) I have decided to follow Jesus. (3) Jesus said to Nicodemus, you must be born again.

DAILY BIBLE READING

| | | |
|-----------|---------------|---------|
| MONDAY | GENESIS | 3:16-18 |
| TUESDAY | GENESIS | 4:8-12 |
| WEDNESDAY | JOSHUA | 7:10-12 |
| THURSDAY | ACTS | 5:1-5 |
| FRIDAY | I CORINTHIANS | 5:1-5 |
| SATURDAY | I JOHN | 3:7-9 |
| SUNDAY | REVELATION | 3:11-13 |

BIBLE WORD SEARCH

Find the meanings of these words. You can use your dictionary: 1. Misery 2. Sorrow 3. Unfailing
4. Consequence 5. Reconcile.

LESSON 3

JEPHTHAH'S REJECTION AND RISE TO LEADERSHIP

Judges 11:1–28

Israel had again sinned against God. As punishment, God allowed the Israelites to be oppressed by the Ammonites. Their suffering made them to turn back to God.

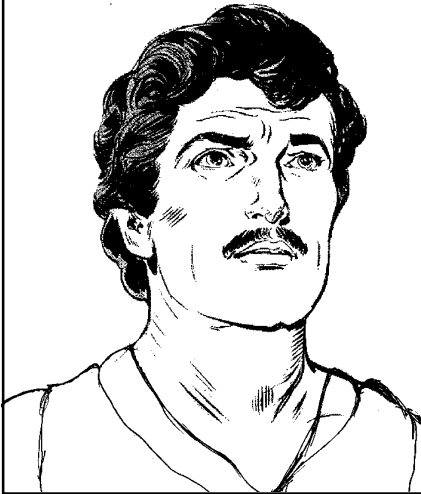
The Israelites needed help to defeat the Ammonites, but there was no one to lead them in battle. In their search for a leader, they vowed that whosoever led them to victory would become their leader. Who is a leader? A leader is someone that is chosen to lead others. God chooses leaders over people for a good purpose. This study is about a young man who rose from being nothing in the eyes of his family members, to become a hero. The study is in three parts:

1. JEPHTHAH'S REJECTION:

Judges 11: 1,2

Jephthah was a mighty warrior. His father was from the family of Gilead but his mother was a strange woman and not the right wife of his father. Though he had no choice in choosing who his mother was, Jephthah was rejected and thrown out of the family by his half-brothers. Jephthah was denied his father's property because he was the son of a strange woman. Some other street boys joined

Jephthah was rejected by men
but he trusted his life unto God.



themselves with Jephthah and he became their leader. He grew up to become a strong man, a warrior and leader over his people who had earlier rejected him.

Some other people like Joseph, David and Paul were rejected at a point in their lives but they later became great and were mightily used by God. This

shows that it is not what people say or do to you that determines your future, but God's plan for your life and your faith in Him.

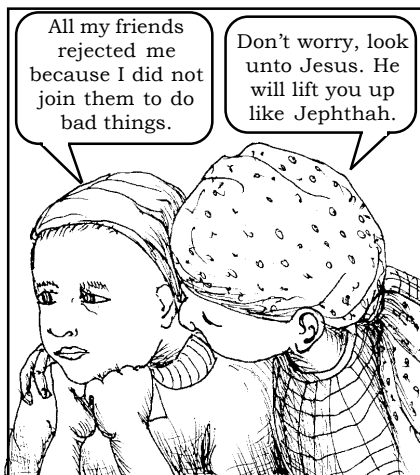
2. JEPHTHAH'S RISE TO LEADERSHIP:

Judges 11:3-8; I Samuel 2:8; Psalm 113:7,8.

Jephthah was courageous. He did not blame God for his misfortune; instead he had faith in God. He worked hard and became a mighty and strong man of war. Soon the very people who hated and rejected him, came and begged him to help them defeat their Ammonite oppressors (Judges 11:6,7). They promised to make him their leader if he would help them gain freedom. Jephthah sought the Lord's guidance and the spirit of God came upon him. He got the victory and he was made the head over all

the people of Gilead.

Give your life to Jesus and trust in God. He will make you great like he did to Jephthah. You might be despised or rejected in life. Look unto God and He will turn your rejection into victory. Always trust and believe in the Lord. Accept Jesus as your Lord and Saviour and He will lift you up.



3. PROMOTION COMES FROM GOD:

Judges 11:1-28; 1 Corinthians 1:27; Psalm 75:6,7.

God loves us and accepts us as His own. You may feel like an outcast and useless, but be assured that God loves you. He has great plans for your life. These are some lessons from the life of Jephthah.



(a) We can rise above any circumstance in life. It may be that you have some challenges in your body, failure in academic work, rejection by family members, loneliness, or any other problem. Do not be discouraged. Trust in the Lord and

He will promote you. (b) We can have confidence in God and in His power to change any situation. (c) When we feel discouraged, forsaken and unhappy, we must trust in God. (d) God chooses the things that men reject. God chooses the foolish things to confound the wise, and the weak things to confound the mighty (1 Corinthians 1:27). (e) Do not cheat in order to achieve success. Trust in God. The first step to succeed in life is to know God and put your trust in Him. Promotion comes from God alone.

Jephthah brought joy, glory and blessings to Israel. There is victory in Jesus. Believe God's promises and He will never fail you. Remember Jabez, God changed the hopeless situation of his life through prayers. He became more honourable than all his brethren. You will excel too! If you have not given your life to Jesus, be sorry and turn away from your sins today. As you accept Him as your Lord and Saviour, God will make you great.

QUESTIONS

1. Why was Jephthah rejected by his father's household? _____
2. Jephthah later rose to become the leader of those that rejected him. Yes/No?
3. Mention four lessons that you have learnt from Jephthah's life. _____
4. How can a sinful child become a successful leader in life? _____

MEMORY VERSE: “Jesus saith unto them, Did ye never read in the scriptures, The stone which the builders rejected, the same is become the head of the corner: this is the Lord’s doing, and it is marvellous in our eyes?” (Matthew 21:42).

LESSON: God’s plan and purpose will come to pass in our lives if we wait on Him.

THOUGHT: I will wait on the Lord so that His plan will be fulfilled in my life.

ACTIVITY: The teacher should lead the children to pray for those who are suffering because of their
(1) Faith in Christ (2) Painful childhood experiences
(3) Rejection by their families.

HOMEWORK: Search the Scriptures and write down names of five people who were rejected but later succeeded in life.

**CONGREGATIONAL SONGS: GHS 16 –
IF GOD BE FOR US**

CHORUSES: (1) Keep me true Lord Jesus keep me true (2) Until I reach my home (3) Give me grace to follow

DAILY BIBLE READING:

| | | |
|-----------|---------|------------|
| MONDAY | PSALM | 118:21-23 |
| TUESDAY | ACTS | 4:10-12 |
| WEDNESDAY | I PETER | 2:5-7 |
| THURSDAY | I PETER | 2:8-10 |
| FRIDAY | MATTHEW | 10:17 – 19 |
| SATURDAY | MATTHEW | 10:21-22 |
| SUNDAY | I PETER | 2:19-22 |

BIBLE WORD SEARCH

Find the meanings of these words. You can use your dictionary: 1. Desperation 2. Oppressed

3. Rejected 4. Reputation 5. Leadership.

LESSON 4

JEPHTHAH'S VOW AND VICTORY OVER AMMON

Judges 11:29-40

In our last lesson we saw how Jephthah who was rejected by his family later rose to become a great leader and hero in Israel. God always lifts up those who are humble and obedient.

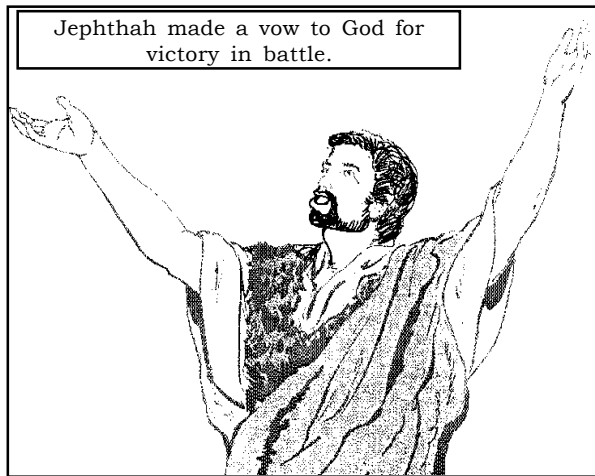
In this study, we shall see how Jephthah led Israel to fight against the Ammonites. He trusted God for victory. He knew that he could not do anything without God. Jephthah made a vow to God and asked God to make him victorious in the battle. Did he win the battle? Was he able to fulfill his vow? All these you will learn as you go through this important study.

The message is in three parts:

1. THE MEANING OF VOW:

Judges 11:30,31.

A vow is a solemn and serious promise made by a person to another person or to God. Vows in the Bible were voluntary promises to give or do something for God in return for special help, gift or favour from Him. Faithfulness is God's nature. He fulfilled all His promises to Israel (Judges 23:14). He therefore expects men to fulfill their promises to Him and to others even when the result is not as pleasant as expected (Psalm 15:4).



The making and fulfilment of vows is a common thing in the Bible as can be seen in these passages (a) Psalm 76:11 - as a mark of godly fear for God (b) Ecclesiastes 5:4-5 - teaches that God holds men strictly to their vows. (c) 2 Samuel 21:1,2 - God punished Israel with famine for three years because Saul broke a longstanding vow between Israel and the Gibeonites.

2. JEPHTHAH'S VOW AND VICTORY IN BATTLE:

Judges 11:29-40.

The king of Ammon rejected Jephthah's offer of a peaceful settlement. The Spirit of the Lord came upon Jephthah and he passed over to the land of Ammon with his army. Jephthah then vowed that if God would give him victory over the Ammonites, he would give to God anything that first comes out of his house to meet him on his return from the battle as a burnt offering to the Lord.



The Lord made Jephthah and his army victorious. He captured twenty cities, killed a lot of Ammonites and subdued their country. When he came back home, unfortunately, it was his daughter and only child, that came first out of his house with joy to celebrate her father's victory. His joy turned to sorrow despite his great victory. He still kept his vow to the Lord by

offering his daughter as he had promised. Other examples of people who made vows are: (a) Jacob- On his way to Laban's house, he vowed to serve and pay tithes to God if He would keep him and bring him back to his father's house in peace (Genesis 28:20-22). (b) Hannah vowed to give her son to God if He would give her a male child (I Samuel 1:11).

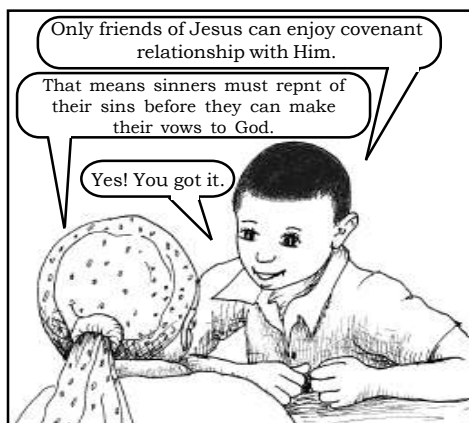
Christian boys and girls are expected to make vows to give their whole life to serve God in holiness and truth all lifelong (Luke 1:74-77).

3. RIGHT ATTITUDE TO VOW:

Psalms 15:4; 76:11; Ecclesiastes 5:4,5.

(i) God is interested in and watches over every vow or promise that we make to Him and our fellow men. (ii) Friends of Jesus must think carefully before making any vow to God or men. (iii) Like David, friends of Jesus can promise to love, honour, praise, serve and thank the Lord for His goodness.

These are things pleasing to God and yet easy to give. Sinners have no covenant relationship with God and so cannot give anything acceptable to Him. Therefore, every sinner must take the following steps: Realize his



sinful state. Be sorry for his sins and confess everything to God. Ask for pardon and cleansing in the blood of Jesus. Accept Jesus as Lord and Saviour and determine not to go back to his wicked ways anymore. Then make vow to serve God all the days of his life.

QUESTIONS:

1. What is a vow? _____
2. God's command is that all vows should be fulfilled. Yes/No?
3. Name three people who made vows in the Bible.

4. Jephthah honoured his vow despite his love for his only child. Yes/No?
5. Give three examples of vows friends of Jesus can make. _____

6. What steps must a sinner take to have a covenant relationship with God? _____

MEMORY VERSE: “Offer unto God thanksgiving; and pay thy vows unto the most High” (Psalm 50:14).

LESSON: Friends of Jesus are to be truthful to their vows all the time.

THOUGHT: I have vowed to serve the Lord all the days of my life.

ACTIVITY: Prayer session for God’s guidance before making any vow or promise.

HOMEWORK: Children are to ask their parents about vows they have made to God. Then pray for their parents to be able to fulfill such vows.

**CONGREGATIONAL SONG GHS: 89 –
O JESUS, I HAVE PROMISED**

CHORUSES: (1) I will praise God in my heart always.
(2) God must be honoured in my life (3) I have decided to follow Jesus.

DAILY BIBLE READING

| | | |
|-----------|--------------|----------|
| MONDAY | PSALM | 76:8-11 |
| TUESDAY | ECCLESIASTES | 5:4-6 |
| WEDNESDAY | PSALM | 50:13-15 |
| THURSDAY | NUMBERS | 30:1-4 |
| FRIDAY | I SAMUEL | 1:9-11 |
| SATURDAY | GENESIS | 28:20-22 |
| SUNDAY | DEUTERONOMY | 23:21-23 |

BIBLE WORD SEARCH

Find the meanings of these words. You can use your dictionary: 1. Vow 2. Voluntary
3. Faithfulness 4. Subdued 5. Solemn.

LESSON 5

STRIFE BETWEEN EPHRAIM AND GILEAD

Judges 12:1-15

Strife is an angry or violent disagreement between two people or groups of people. It is also called conflict. It occurs when people cannot settle their misunderstandings peacefully. Wherever you find yourself, as a friend of Jesus, you must avoid strife. It does not do good to anyone. Our Bible passage tells us about the strife between the Ephraimites and Gileadites under the leadership of Jephthah. Ephraim and Gilead are two tribes in Israel. They ought not to quarrel or fight. They were to live together in peace and love. In your family, do you quarrel with your siblings because of little offences? Beware, little quarrels can lead to big fights and hatred in the family, church and community. We shall see the consequences (results) of strife and why we must avoid it and live peacefully with all men.

Our study is in three parts:

1. JEPHTHAH'S ANGER AND STRIFE WITH THE EPHRAIMITES:

Judges 12:1-3.

Jephthah was the judge in Israel at this time. He was chosen to lead Israel to fight against their enemies. God made him victorious and he paid his



vows. It was after this that the men of Ephraim came and accused Jephthah of not involving them in the fight against their enemies (the Ammonites). They insulted him and his tribesmen and threatened to burn down his house including all that were in the house. They said so because they wanted to make gains from the spoils of the war (things taken from the enemies). He then reminded them that he had indeed asked for their help but they had refused. However, God helped and gave him victory over his enemies (Judges 11:32.33).

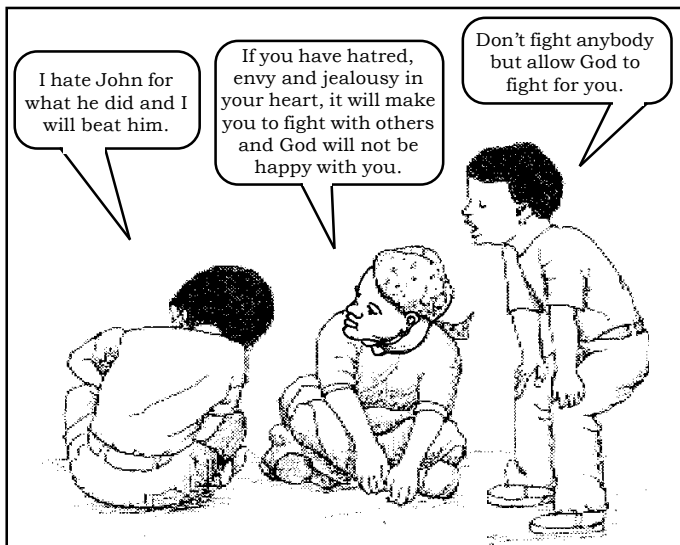
Their insult made Jephthah angry and he gathered his army to fight against the Ephraimites. They defeated the Ephraimites. Forty-two thousand (42,000) of them were killed in the battle. Strife

starts in a small way but if it is not stopped immediately, it will lead to war. This is the reason why there are wars and troubles all over the world today. Children of God must not get into any form of strife.

2. CAUSES AND CONSEQUENCES OF STRIFE:

Judges 12:4-6; Proverbs 10:12.

Strife is caused by hatred, envy, jealousy and lack of love for one another. Jephthah's action, which led to the death of many people, was caused by anger. Strife brings sorrow, loss, destruction,



and pain. Some people strive and disagree with others every day. Such boys and girls are sinners.

A friend of Jesus should not be involved in any strife. Do not join others in rioting either in the

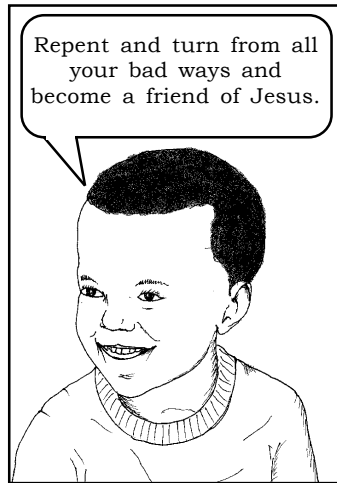
school or community. You must live peacefully with all men as the Bible commands us to: **“Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord”** (Hebrews 12:14). A friend of Jesus is an ambassador for Jesus Christ; so his life must shine for others to see. Do not pay back evil for evil but allow God to fight for you because He will always help you to defeat your enemies.

3. CALL TO LIVE PEACEFULLY:

Judges 12:8-15; Romans 12:17-21.

If everyone in this world will live at peace with one another, the world will be a very comfortable place to live in. All the religious and tribal wars will not exist. There will be no terrorists and murderers who go about destroying people’s lives. The world in which we live is filled with crises because people refuse to accept Christ, the Author of peace.

The only way out of strife is through the cross of Christ. A boy/girl who is not a friend of Jesus will not be able to live peacefully with other people. Only Jesus can help you to live a life that truly loves and cares for others. If you are still fighting, stealing, abusing people and doing other bad things, you need to repent now and become a friend of Jesus. You must take these steps:



(i) realize that you are a sinner, (ii) repent and confess your sins to God, (iii) ask Jesus for forgiveness and cleansing through His blood, (iv) invite Him into your life as Saviour and Lord and (v) thank God for making you a new person.

You can be at peace and follow peace with everyone only when you become a friend of Jesus and God will be happy with you.

QUESTIONS:

1. Who was Jephthah? _____
 2. How many Ephraimites were killed by the Gileadites? _____
 3. What causes strife? _____
 4. Who can give us peace? _____
 5. How can sinners be free from strife? _____
- _____

MEMORY VERSE: “Let nothing be done through strife or vainglory; but in lowliness of mind let each esteem other better than themselves” (Philippians 2:3).

LESSON: God expects all His children to live in peace with one another so as to avoid strife.

THOUGHT: I will live peaceably with all men.

ACTIVITY: Group Discussion: Children should read I Timothy 6:3-5. Then discuss the consequences of strife. They should also point out the counsel of God on how to avoid strifes.

HOMEWORK: The teacher should lead the children to pray for wisdom in all things.

**CONGREGATIONAL SONG GHS: 92 –
I SURRENDER ALL**

CHORUSES: (1) I will never let the devil win the battle. (2) My Lord knows the way through the wilderness. (3) I will love, I will love.

DAILY BIBLE READING

| | | |
|-----------|-------------|----------|
| MONDAY | HEBREWS | 12:13-15 |
| TUESDAY | GENESIS | 13:8-11 |
| WEDNESDAY | JAMES | 3:13-17 |
| THURSDAY | ROMANS | 12:17-19 |
| FRIDAY | ROMANS | 12:20,21 |
| SATURDAY | PHILIPPIANS | 2:1-3 |
| SUNDAY | PHILIPPIANS | 2:4-7 |

BIBLE WORD SEARCH

Find the meanings of these words. You can use your dictionary: 1. Sibling 2. Conflict
3. Ambassador 4. Surrender 5. Consecration.

LESSON 6

THE PRE-EMINENCE OF LOVE

I Corinthians 13:1-13

“But covet earnestly the best gifts: and yet show I unto you a more excellent way” (I Corinthians 12:31). The more excellent way is what we are considering in this study. The Bible clearly states that possessing spiritual gifts without love amounts to nothing. Love is greater than the best of gifts. It will remain constant when all other gifts will no longer be useful.

If someone can speak all the languages on earth or speak like an angel without love, it will simply mean, making an empty noise and useless sound (I Corinthians 13:1). It is love that makes you read, hear and obey the word of God. Love also helps friends of Jesus to preach to sinners and bring them to fellowship with other children of God. Love is the greatest!

We shall consider the topic under three sub-headings:

1. DESCRIPTION OF LOVE:

I John 4:8.

The society is filled with wrong ideas about love. Children often think that love is conditional or it is based on feelings and very temporal. If you want to

know what love really is, you need to take a look at the personality of God. Who is God? The Bible says, “God is love”. God’s love for you is a picture of perfect love. God loves you because He chooses to love you. None of us deserves God’s love but He has chosen to love us. God did something

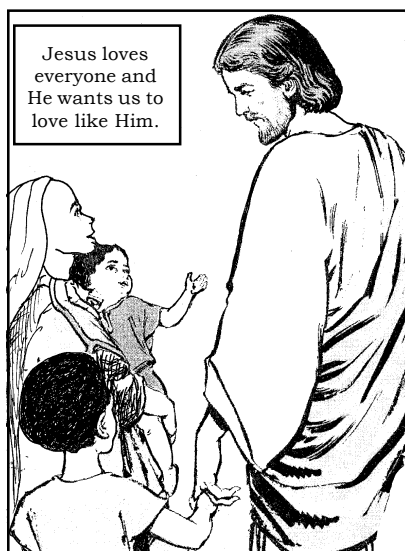
beautiful to show His love for us. He gave the most precious gift He could give – His own Son, Jesus Christ, to die for us and set us free from the punishment for sin (Romans 5:8,9). Believing this wonderful truth, allows you to become part of God’s family.

Once we become members of God’s family, God wants us to love others. You must love others around you not because of how you feel or because they also love you. Rather, you must love them because of God’s sacrificial love for you. When you love others, you show it by your actions as described in our Bible passage.

2. CHARACTERISTICS OF LOVE:

I Corinthians 13:4-8; Matthew 22:36-40;
Romans 12:9,10.

The word of God teaches us all we need to know about love. Jesus is the Son of God and He loves us



very much. The following are the characteristics of love as can be seen even in the life of Christ. God's kind of love:

(a) Suffers long, is kind, does not envy others and is humble. It is willing to wait patiently and kindly for others. It is not jealous of others because of who they are or what they have.

(b) Rejoices in the truth and not in the downfall of others. It does not boast or think it is better than others. It is not rude.



(c) Puts others first – not me first.

(d) Does not get angry easily or want to retaliate. It is willing and ready to forgive and forget all wrongs.

(e) Does not look for and think on the bad

character in others. It looks for and thinks about the good of them.

(f) Protects, defends, trusts and has confidence in others. Expects good things for others.

(g) Keeps on loving without complaining or quitting, never stops loving.

Is this the picture of your life? If you are a friend of Jesus, then you must have His character which is love. Remember, the greatest commandment is loving God with all your heart, mind and soul and also loving your neighbours as yourself.

Obedience to this commandment is what shows that we are true friends of Jesus **“This is my**

commandment, That ye love one another, as I have loved you” (John 15:12).

3. BENEFITS OF SHOWING LOVE:

Psalm 145:20

Jesus Christ said, **“By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another”** (John 13:35). Many benefits await those who show love to others. These benefits include: (i) Abiding in the light always (I John 2:10). (ii) Many children will come to the Lord and the Children Church will grow. There will be spiritual growth. (iii) Favour with God and man. Also Jesus will be happy with you. (iv) Victory over Satan (Luke 10:19). (v) Success in all you do. (vi) Oneness among friends of Jesus. (vii) Protection and provision from God (Philippians 4:19).

Only friends of Jesus can have the love of God abiding in them and enjoy these benefits. Sinful boys and girls should accept the love of God by repenting and turning away from their sins, invite Jesus into their hearts to be their Lord and Saviour.



QUESTIONS:

1. The excellent way according to I Corinthians 12:31 is _____
2. What is the meaning of love? _____
3. Mention four characteristics of love _____
4. Name three benefits of love _____
5. What must sinners do to enjoy these benefits?____

MEMORY VERSE: “And now abideth faith, hope, charity, these three; but the greatest of these is charity” (1 Corinthians 13:13).

LESSON: God’s command to all is that we should love one another.

THOUGHT: I will love others as God commands.

ACTIVITY: Sword drill: Leviticus 19:18; Matthew 22:39; I John 3:11; Ephesians 5:2.

HOMEWORK: Write five passages in the Bible where the Lord commands His friends to love others.

**CONGREGATIONAL SONG GHS: 202 -
WONDERFUL STORY OF LOVE**

CHORUSES: (1) Jesus loves me, He died for me
(2) I will love, I will love (3) Give me love for my brethren.

DAILY BIBLE READING

| | | |
|-----------|-----------------|----------|
| MONDAY | JOHN | 13:33-35 |
| TUESDAY | ROMANS | 12:9-11 |
| WEDNESDAY | JOHN | 3:16-18 |
| THURSDAY | EPHESIANS | 3:17-19 |
| FRIDAY | I THESSALONIANS | 3:11-13 |
| SATURDAY | I PETER | 4:8-10 |
| SUNDAY | I PETER | 1:22-23 |

BIBLE WORD SEARCH

Find the meanings of these words. You can use your dictionary: 1. Love 2. Gift 3. Compassion

4. Endure 5. Charity.

LESSON 7

LAWS FOR THE USE OF SPIRITUAL GIFTS

1 Corinthians 14:1-40

Laws are rules or set of instructions to be followed or obeyed when carrying out assignments or duties. Gifts are good things we receive from people without working for them. Many children love to receive gifts all the time. Gifts make you to be happy. The gifts you receive from people can be toys, shoes, books, money, dresses and others. These gifts will only last for a short time. They can easily be stolen, get lost or be destroyed. They can also get old with use. There are special gifts which when you receive will change your life totally. These are called spiritual gifts or gifts of the Spirit. These gifts are freely given to friends of Jesus for the benefits of everybody in the church.

1. THE MEANING OF SPIRITUAL GIFTS:

1Corinthians 12:1-6.

Spiritual gifts are God's special gifts that enable friends of Jesus to do extraordinary works in the service of God. When a child becomes a friend of Jesus, lives holy and is baptized in the Holy Spirit, he is qualified to receive these gifts of the Spirit. They are not for just a few people. They are for every believer (I Corinthians 12:7). The gifts are

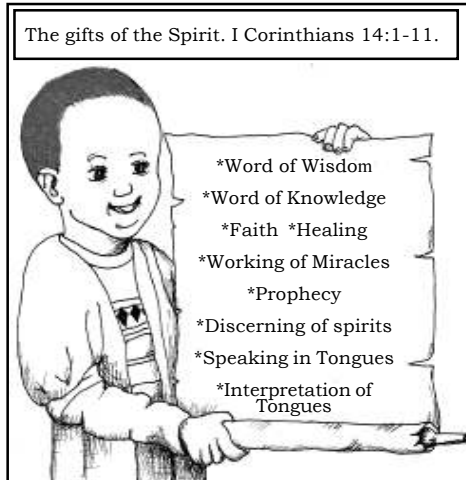
nine in number, just like in the fruit of the Spirit. The gifts of the Spirit are:

(i) **Word of Wisdom** – This is different from ordinary wisdom. It is the wisdom of God to understand and teach God's word.

(ii) **Word of Knowledge** – It is ability to give useful information on God's plan about a situation, people or place.

(iii) **Discerning of spirits** – This is power to know by the Spirit of God.

There are many people who use the power of Satan to do great work, while many have Satan's power in form of familiar spirits, mammy water spirit, witches and others. When you have the gift of discerning of spirits, you will be able to recognize them and cast them away. (iv) **Faith** - This is the act of believing God for extra-ordinary things. Moses believed God when he led the children of Israel through the Red Sea. (v) **Healing** – Special power to pray for the sick and for them to be healed. In the church today, many are being healed as a result of the prayer of men of God that have the gift of healing. (vi) **Working of Miracles** – This means power to do something that is beyond the ordinary. Like raising the dead, making the lame to walk, the blind to

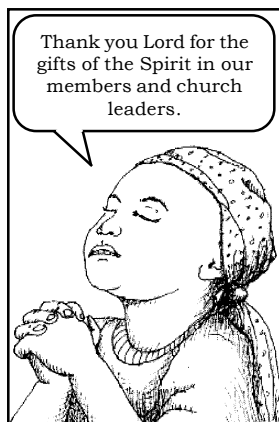


see, the dumb to speak and others. (vii) **Prophecy** – Ability to say things about the future through the inspiration of the Spirit of God. (viii) **Speaking in Tongues** – When a sanctified child receives the baptism in the Holy Spirit, he will speak in other languages which he has not learnt before. (ix) **Interpretation of Tongues** – This is ability to understand and explain the meaning of the unknown language.

2. LAWS FOR THE USE OF SPIRITUAL GIFTS:

I Corinthians 14:1-12,40; Romans 12:4-8.

A church with regular demonstration of the gifts of the Spirit will certainly fulfill the mission of Christ which is to bring sinful people to repent and be saved. However, the conduct or behaviour of people who claim to have these gifts will prove if actually they are true gifts from God. As believers, we must be watchful and avoid the following: (i) Sinners who fake spiritual gifts and use wicked powers to do lying wonders (Matthew 7:21). (ii) Those who have the gifts but use them for selfish, personal interest and behave disorderly in the Church.



Paul, the Apostle, in our text stated that for the gifts to be of benefit to everybody in the Church, the following rules must be observed: (i) Preachers of the gospel must always speak in a language that

everybody understands so that they can be taught, encouraged and comforted (1Corinthians 14:2-12). (ii) If anyone speaks, prays or sings in an unknown language, such must be interpreted so that everyone can understand the message from God (1Corinthians 14:13-17). (iii) Prophesying and teaching of the Word of God is much more important than speaking or praying in an unknown language (1Corinthians 14:19-25). (iv) Avoid actions that may lead to confusion in the House of God, **“Let everything be done decently and in order”** (1 Corinthians 14:33,40).

3. PROFITS FROM SPIRITUAL GIFTS:

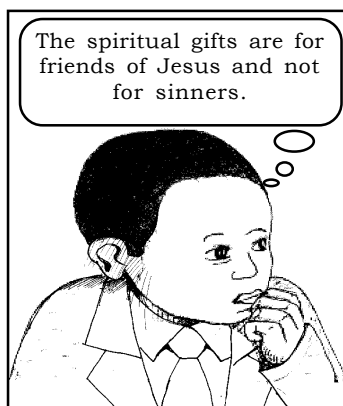
1 Corinthians 14:1-5; 12:7.

“But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to every man to profit withal” (1Corinthians 12:7).

Proper use of spiritual gifts will bring God’s blessings on everybody in the Church including boys and girls.

These are some of the profits: (i) Numerical and spiritual growth as people see wonderful things happening in the Church (ii) Healing and deliverance of people from strange sicknesses and torment of Satan (iii) Exposing evil

people and destroying the plan of Satan against God’s work and His children. (iv) Sound understanding of God’s word and willingness to



serve Him even in times of persecution and trouble.
(v) Promotion of godly behaviours in believers so that they will not conform with worldly standard.
(vi) Believers' sanctification, love for God, concern for others, purity of heart and sincere faith. These gifts are for you as well. If you are ready to forsake your sinful ways, desire them and pray earnestly to God.

QUESTIONS:

1. What is the meaning of (a) Laws (b) Spiritual gifts? _____

2. Mention five spiritual gifts. _____

3. Mention two groups of people you must avoid as far as the use of spiritual gifts is concerned _____

4. State three rules that must guide the demonstration of spiritual gifts _____

5. Mentions three profits of spiritual gifts to the church. _____

MEMORY VERSE: "Let all things be done decently and in order" (1Corinthians 14:40).

LESSON: Spiritual gifts are for the benefit of everybody in the Church.

THOUGHT: I will follow Jesus faithfully so that I will receive spiritual gifts.

ACTIVITY: The Teacher should allow the children to write down in their church notebook, three of the spiritual gifts they desire to have. Afterward, appoint four children to state the reasons why they need the gifts.

HOMEWORK: Children should spend ten minutes every day during the week to pray for spiritual gifts.

**CONGREGATIONAL SONG: GHS 151 –
THERE SHALL BE SHOWERS OF BLESSING**

CHORUSES: (1) Come Holy Spirit we need you.
(2) Spirit of the Living God come afresh on me (3) Holy Ghost power, power fall on me.

DAILY BIBLE READING

| | | |
|-----------|---------------|---------|
| MONDAY | I CORINTHIANS | 12:4-7 |
| TUESDAY | I CORINTHIANS | 12:8-11 |
| WEDNESDAY | ROMANS | 12:3-5 |
| THURSDAY | ROMANS | 12:6-8 |
| FRIDAY | ROMANS | 12:9-11 |
| SATURDAY | ACTS | 1:5-8 |
| SUNDAY | I CORINTHIANS | 13:9-13 |

BIBLE WORD SEARCH

Find the meanings of these words. You can use your dictionary: 1. Extraordinary 2. Supernatural
3. Demonstration 4. Interpret 5. Prophecy.

LESSON 8

THE RESURRECTION OF THE DEAD

I Corinthians 15:1-58

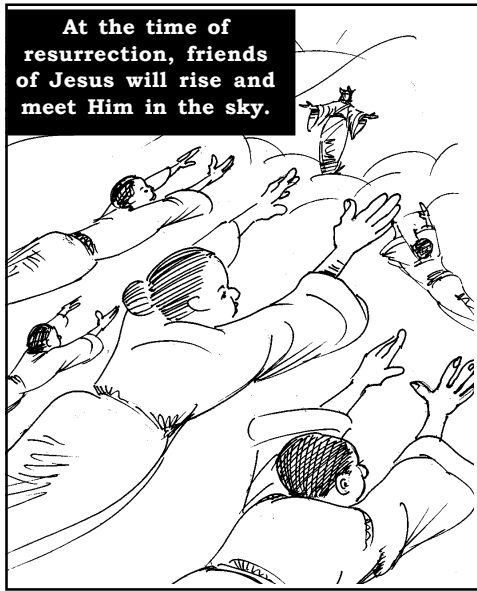
The resurrection of the dead is an important doctrine of the Bible. Resurrection means receiving life again after one has died. Jesus came into the world purposely to die for our sins. He accomplished this on the cross, after three days, Jesus rose from the dead. He rose up triumphantly and gave us the hope that one day, we would rise also to live eternally with Him. Therefore, everyone that has this hope, must keep himself pure and ready for the second coming of the Lord Jesus Christ. Those who do not believe in the resurrection will regret it at last.

The study is in three parts:

1. THE CERTAINTY OF RESURRECTION:

I Corinthians 15:1-23.

There were some false teachers during the time of Apostle Paul. They taught people that there was no resurrection of the dead. The Apostle then wrote to correct the false doctrine. The Bible has made it clear that there is resurrection. As a proof of the plan of God, Jesus died and rose from the dead on the third day. Jesus' resurrection is the foundation of the christian's faith. Without Christ's



resurrection, there will be no salvation and hope of heaven. Are you saved? Do you have the hope of rising on the last day to be with the Lord? You can make your decision now.

2. RESURRECTION OF THE DEAD:

I Corinthians 15:20-28,35-57.

The resurrection of the dead is going to be in different parts. The first part will take place during the Rapture. The Lord Jesus Christ who is the first fruit of the resurrection, will appear in the sky, after the trumpet has blown. Then boys and girls who died as Christians will rise up first. Their bodies will be changed to new bodies. They will fly to meet Jesus in the sky. Then Christians who are still alive will also have their bodies changed in the twinkling

of an eye. Then they will fly to meet Jesus in the sky. The Lord Jesus will take both the risen dead christians and christians who are alive to heaven (I Thessalonians 4:13-17).

The second part of the resurrection is the resurrection of the Tribulation and Old Testament saints. This will take place at the second coming of Jesus (Revelation 20:3-5; Daniel 12:2; Isaiah 26:19). All the saints will reign with Christ for one thousand years before the final judgment.



The last part of the resurrection will be for sinners (Revelation 20:10-15). This is called the resurrection of judgment. All people that ever lived in this world and died in their evil ways will rise at last. They will be resurrected in their bodily form to face God's judgment. No soul can stand before the Righteous Judge. Any child that dies in his sins will have himself to blame. God has already made provision for everyone to be saved (2 Peter 3:9).

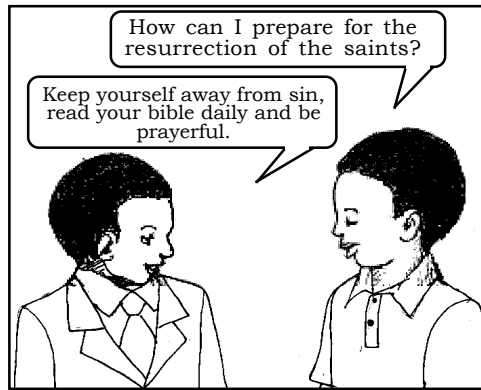
Are you still a sinner? Do not wait till the time of the resurrection. Repent now before it is too late.

3. PREPARE TO MEET YOUR GOD:

I Corinthians 15:28-34; Amos 4:10-12.

The resurrection of the dead is certain. No one knows the time but it can happen any moment from

now. Therefore, you must not be careless or linger in sin like Lot's wife. Believe the word of God and prepare yourself to meet with Jesus when He comes at the Rapture. If you are not yet born again, you



must take the following steps: (i) realize that you are a sinner (Romans 3:23). (ii) Confess and forsake your sins and say sorry to Jesus (Proverbs 28:13). (iii) Repent of all your sins. (iv) Ask God to wash away all your sins and cleanse your heart with the blood of Jesus. (v) Ask Jesus to be your Lord and Saviour. (vi) Believe that God has saved you and thank Him for your salvation (Romans 10:9-13; Psalm 32:1,2).

As you turn away from your bad and naughty ways, make up your mind not to go back to them. Keep away from bad behaviour and do not follow bad friends who do not love Jesus. Be obedient to the word of God all the time, be prayerful, and watch over your life as you patiently wait for the coming of the Lord.

QUESTIONS:

1. Resurrection means _____
2. Mention the two types of resurrection the Bible talks about and state which one you are preparing for. _____

3. Mention the four phases of the resurrection. _____

4. How can a sinful child take part in the first resurrection? _____

MEMORY VERSE: “For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first” (1 Thessalonians 4:16).

LESSON: Only true friends of Jesus will take part in the first resurrection.

THOUGHT: I must live a holy life and follow Jesus to the end so as to take part in the first resurrection.

ACTIVITY: Children are to mention five things they must avoid and five things they must do daily in order to qualify to partake in the first resurrection.

HOMEWORK: Children are to search their Bibles and write out two passages from the Old Testament and two from the New Testament where God gave us promises concerning the resurrection of the dead.

CONGREGATIONAL SONG GHS: 172 - WHEN THE ROLL IS CALLED UP YONDER

CHORUSES: (1) When you come to collect your people remember me O Lord. (2) He is coming back again, my Lord is coming back again. (3) On the last day only true believers shall be raptured.

DAILY BIBLE READING

| | | |
|-----------|-----------------|----------|
| MONDAY | I THESSALONIANS | 4:13-16 |
| TUESDAY | JOB | 19:25-22 |
| WEDNESDAY | ACTS | 24:14-16 |
| THURSDAY | JOHN | 5:24-27 |
| FRIDAY | JOHN | 6:38-40 |
| SATURDAY | JOHN | 11:25-26 |
| SUNDAY | REVELATION | 20:3-6 |

BIBLE WORD SEARCH

Find the meanings of these words. You can use your dictionary: 1. Resurrection 2. Saints
3. Rapture 4. Damnation 5. Tribulation.

LESSON 9

PAUL'S CARE FOR THE SAINTS

I Corinthians 16:1-24.

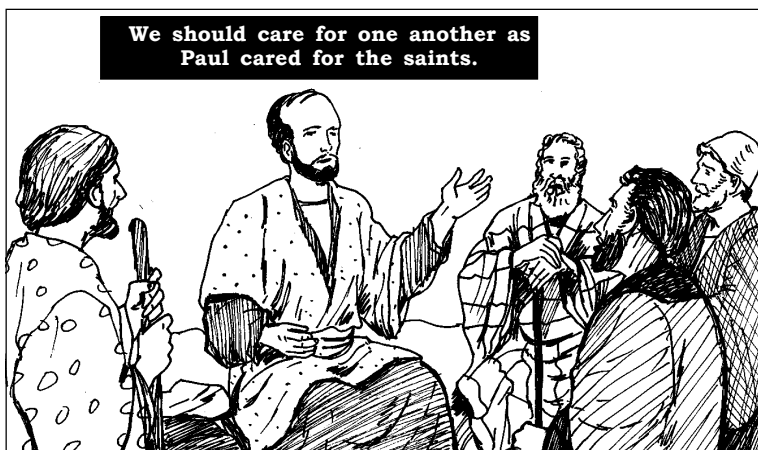
Saints are friends of Jesus. They are also called believers or Christians. They have repented of their sins, confessed them to God, received forgiveness and cleansing in the blood of Jesus. Such people are no longer living in sin (I Corinthians 1:2). While Paul was writing to the church in Corinth, he stated that they were called to be saints. Also in Ephesians 1:1; Philippians 1:1 and Colossians 1:2, Christians were called saints. Are you a sinner or a saint? God wants to make you a saint today, so that like Paul the Apostle, you will care for other saints and be rewarded by God here on earth and in eternity.

Our message is divided into three parts:

1. PAUL'S EXAMPLE OF CARE FOR THE SAINTS:

I Corinthians 16:1-18

Apostle Paul was so concerned about the saints that he did his best to care for them. His caring was to make sure they continued living as Christians and follow Jesus Christ to the end. Paul cared for the Christians in the following ways: (i) He wrote letters to encourage, direct, teach and correct them. He wrote to individual saints like Timothy and Philemon and also to groups of



Christians like the Ephesians, Corinthians, Thessalonians and others (2 Timothy 1:1,2). (ii) He prayed constantly for the saints– even the ones he had not seen face to face (Philippians 1:3,4; Romans 1:8-11). (iii) He visited them. While Paul was writing this letter to the Corinthians, he was in Ephesus and was still planning to visit the Corinthians. (iv) He provided for the needy. The saints in Judea needed certain provisions because their persecutors destroyed their goods. Paul wrote to the Corinthians to gather gifts to be sent to the brethren in Jerusalem. He did not only encourage others to give, he also worked hard to provide for those who had needs (Acts 20:34).

2. THE BELIEVERS' CARE FOR ONE ANOTHER:

I John 4:7,8.

“Beloved, let us love one another. For love is of God; and everyone that loveth is born of God, and knoweth God” (I John 4:7). God’s love for us

makes Him to care for us. The believers' love will make them to care for one another as Paul did. You can care for others by: (i) praying for other believers, our pastors, leaders in the church, new converts and children in your districts. (ii) Visiting those who are not regular in fellowship, praying together with them, sharing what you learned in the fellowship or quiet time with them. (iii) Helping those who are not doing well in school by teaching them. (iv) Making phone calls to encourage others. But you must not use your parent's phone or another person's phone without permission. (v) Giving food, clothes, books and some other things to those who are in need. Tell your parents before you give such things out, even when they are your own. Your parents can assist you to care for others.

Mary is visiting, encouraging and helping new converts to grow.

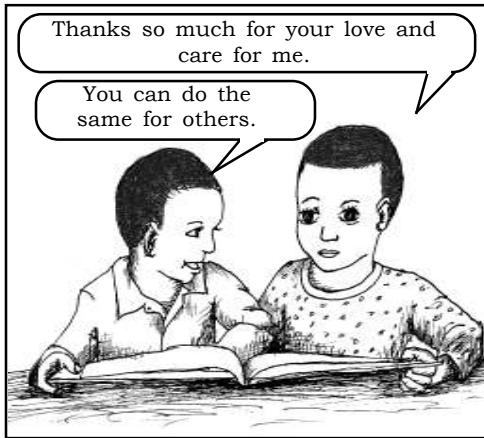


3. BENEFITS OF CARING FOR ONE ANOTHER:

John 13:34-35; Matthew 25:34,40.

The following are the benefits of caring for one another. (i) Believers' care for another is a proof to others that we are disciples of Christ. (ii) There will be great spiritual growth because of the love we are showing one another. Many friends of Jesus

will love the word of God, preach boldly, pray in faith and be able to make heaven at last. (iii) There will be no lack among the believers. (iv) Our prayers



will be answered because of our obedience to God's command (John 13:34). (v) At last, Jesus will welcome us into His kingdom because we cared for His friends.

Are you a sinner, telling lies, stealing, fighting, cheating

or doing any other bad thing? God wants to make you a saint today. Repent of your sins, confess them to God, ask Him to forgive you and wash you with the blood of Jesus. Believe that Jesus suffered and died for you. Invite Him to reign and rule in your heart. Now thank God for saving you.

Rise up and pray. Tell God to help you to see the needs in the lives of other believers so that you can be of help to them.

QUESTIONS:

1. Who is a saint? _____
2. Mention four ways through which Apostle Paul cared for the saints _____

3. State four ways you can care for other friends of Jesus today. _____
4. What are the benefits of believers' care for one another? _____
5. How can a sinner become a saint and enjoy these benefits? _____

MEMORY VERSE: “Beloved, if God so loved us, we ought also to love one another” (1 John 4:11).

LESSON: God cares for us and wants us to care for other believers.

THOUGHT: I will care for other believers.

ACTIVITY: Read the following passages and mention (i) Who Paul the Apostle cared for. (ii) How he cared for them (a) 1 Corinthians 16:1-3. (b) 1 Corinthians 16:10. (c) 1 Corinthians 16:13-14. (d) Philippians 1:1-4. (e) Romans 1:7,9-11.

HOMEWORK: Visit a member of your church who has been absent from fellowship for some time.

**CONGREGATIONAL SONG GHS: 114 -
BRIGHTEN THE CORNER WHERE YOU ARE**

CHORUSES: (1) Give me love for my brethren
(2) I will love, I will love (2 times), I will love Jesus'
people. (3) When He calls me, I will answer

DAILY BIBLE READING

| | | |
|-----------|---------|----------|
| MONDAY | ROMANS | 12:9-11 |
| TUESDAY | ROMANS | 12:12-13 |
| WEDNESDAY | MATTHEW | 25:34-36 |
| THURSDAY | MATTHEW | 25:37-40 |
| FRIDAY | JAMES | 2:14-17 |
| SATURDAY | I JOHN | 4:7-9 |
| SUNDAY | I JOHN | 4:10-12 |

BIBLE WORD SEARCH

Find the meanings of these words. You can use
your dictionary: 1. Care 2. Benefits 3. Proof
4. Encouragement 5. Saints.

LESSON 10

COMFORT FOR SUFFERING BELIEVERS

2 Corinthians 1:1-24.

A believer is said to be suffering when he or she is not enjoying the basic needs of life that God has provided in Christ Jesus. It is also, when a friend of Jesus is passing through persecution, sickness, oppression or failure. Some friends of Jesus who had these problems have stopped following Jesus and have gone looking for solution where there is none because they thought that God had forsaken them. Such people need to be reminded of the promise of God to help and to strengthen us in times of trouble. God has said, “**He will never leave you, nor forsake you**”. He has never forsaken any of His people. As He was, so He is, so He will always be.

The topic is divided into three parts:

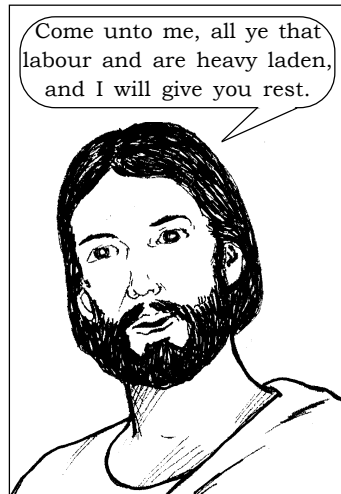
1. CAUSES OF BELIEVERS’ SUFFERING:

Job 2:7

The main cause of believers’ suffering is Satan, the arch enemy of God and man. He put sicknesses on people’s bodies as he did to Job. He sometimes causes hardship, difficulties, failure and lack of progress. Do you have any of these problems? Are you a friend of Jesus?. If you are, then seek the face of God in prayer and He will answer you (Psalm

50:15; Jeremiah 29:11-13). Many people also suffer because they are backsliders, that is, they have stopped loving Jesus. God will allow them to suffer so that they can seek the face of God and come back to Him.

Many people like Joseph, Daniel, Shadrach, Meshach, Abednego, Paul the Apostle and many other disciples of Jesus suffered because they loved the Lord. God was with them and comforted them in their trouble. If you find yourself in any problem, trust and believe God, He will never leave you comfortless.



2. BELIEVERS' ATTITUDE IN SUFFERING:

James 5:7-11.



As long as we are in this world, we are bound to experience suffering, one way or the other. This is because Satan does not want to go to hell fire alone. He will bring those problems so as to frustrate and make a believer change his mind to follow Jesus till the end. Remember,

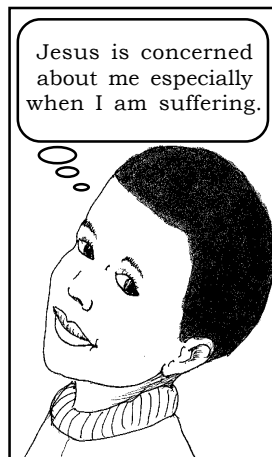
the Bible says: “... **we must through much tribulation enter into the kingdom of God**” (Acts 14:22). The fact that you are not passing through difficult times today doesn’t mean that problems do not exist. There are other children who are experiencing troubles now.

Suffering is part of the Christian life. Therefore, every believer must have the following attitude in times of suffering: (i) Examine yourself to know if there is any sin in your life. (ii) Read and meditate on the promises of God in the Bible. (iii) Seek the face of God through prayer. (iv) Seek for counseling and prayers from your godly parents and teachers. Do not blame anyone, but determine to continue to follow Jesus. He will stand by you. (v) If it is suffering because of persecution, count it all joy to suffer for Christ.

3. COMFORT FOR SUFFERING BELIEVERS:

Matthew 5:10-12; Hebrews 13:5b.

The good news is that believers who are suffering for their faith will be comforted. There is temporal comfort, and there is also permanent and everlasting comfort. The Holy Spirit gives comfort when you are suffering in order to be able to bear it. And you will come out victorious. God will give you permanent comfort when you endure till the end and you get to heaven. The apostles of Jesus



and other saints who suffered for Christ are now in heaven enjoying permanent comfort and consolation. For them, there is no more hunger, pain, persecution or trial. Are you passing through persecution, or any form of suffering? Cheer up, the Lord says He will be with you (Isaiah 41:10-13). Make sure you are born again and determine to endure till the end. Then everlasting comfort will be yours in Jesus' Name! But if you are still a sinner; fighting, stealing, telling lies and doing a lot of other naughty things, the Lord is calling you to surrender your life to Him. If you yield to Jesus now, you will escape suffering in hell fire.

All you need to do is realize that you are a sinner, confess and turn away from all your sins. Ask God to forgive you and cleanse your heart with the blood of Jesus. Invite Jesus into your heart to be your Lord and Saviour. Then thank Him for saving you. Jesus will comfort you in all your troubles and in heaven, you will also receive everlasting comfort and reward.

QUESTIONS:

1. What is suffering? _____
2. Who is the main cause of believers' sufferings?

3. What should be the attitude of believers when they are passing through problems? _____
4. (a) Mention some people in our study who suffered because of their faith in Christ _____

(b) Did God forsake them? _____

5. What must a sinful child do in order to enjoy everlasting comfort? _____

MEMORY VERSE: “Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in thee” (Isaiah 26:3).

LESSON: There is always comfort for suffering friends of Jesus.

THOUGHT: I will pray and seek the face of God in times of suffering.

ACTIVITY: The teacher should lead the children to pray for friends of Jesus who are suffering because of one thing or the other.

HOMEWORK: Search the scriptures and write in your homework book three people in the Old Testament and three in the New Testament who suffered for righteousness, how God delivered them and the lesson you learnt. Then bring it and to show your teacher next week.

CONGREGATIONAL SONG GHS: 196 - DOES JESUS CARE?

CHORUSES: (1) I will never let the devil win the battle. (2) Until I reach my home. (3) What is the hope you have?

DAILY BIBLE READING

| | | |
|-----------|-----------|----------|
| MONDAY | ROMANS | 8:26-28 |
| TUESDAY | I PETER | 4:12-14 |
| WEDNESDAY | DANIEL | 3:21-23 |
| THURSDAY | DANIEL | 3:24-30 |
| FRIDAY | 2 TIMOTHY | 3:10-12 |
| SATURDAY | ISAIAH | 43:1-3 |
| SUNDAY | JOHN | 16:32,33 |

BIBLE WORD SEARCH

Find the meanings of these words. You can use your dictionary: 1. Premature 2. Oppression
3. Frustrate 4. Temporal 5. Consolation.

LESSON 11

HOLY GHOST BAPTISM

Matthew 3:11; Acts 1:5-8; 2:1-4.

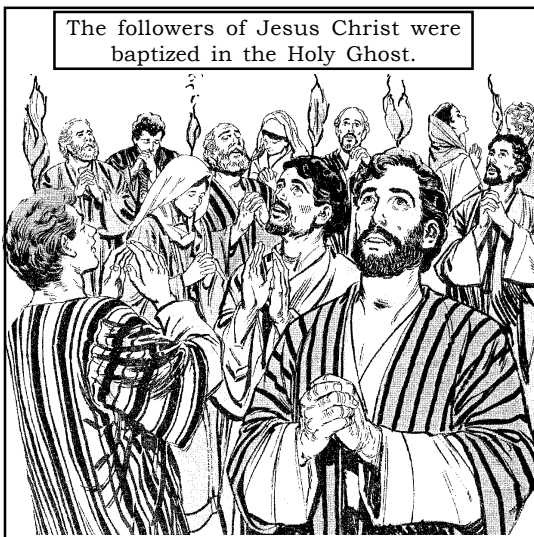
The Holy Ghost baptism is a very important experience a friend of Jesus receives after sanctification. It is an experience whereby God fills a saved, pure child with power to serve Him more effectively. The baptism in the Holy Ghost is one of the greatest teachings of the Bible.

Let us study under three points:

1. THE BAPTISM IN THE HOLY GHOST:

Matthew 3:11; Acts 2:1-4.

The baptism in the Holy Ghost is the third work



of God's grace which helps a christian child to live a victorious life. It helps Christian children to serve God better. Baptism in the Holy Ghost is God's power in the life of a child which

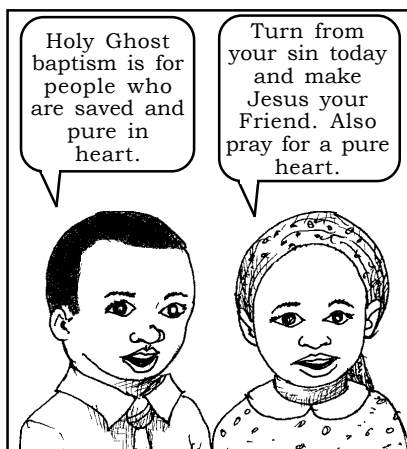
makes him useful in God's hand more than ever. Jesus, our Lord, had the power of the Holy Ghost before He started preaching the gospel (Luke 4:18,19). The early apostles were also given the power of the Holy Ghost. It made them very different. They were bold to live for Jesus and preach Him everywhere and to everyone. Speaking in other tongues is the sign which shows that a Christian has received the Holy Ghost. This is an experience different from salvation and sanctification (pure heart).

2. CONDITIONS FOR RECEIVING THE BAPTISM IN THE HOLY GHOST:

Ezekiel 36:24-26; Acts 1:4,5.

Everyone cannot just come up to God in prayers and be baptized in the Holy Ghost. There are certain conditions to receive the baptism in the Holy Ghost. (a) You must confess, turn away from sin and make Jesus your Friend. (b) The root of sin planted in the heart must be taken away (Deuteronomy 30:6). (c) Desire the experience strongly.

God does not pour His power on sinful, wicked children. He only baptizes clean, holy hearts. Children who steal, fight and do bad things but still

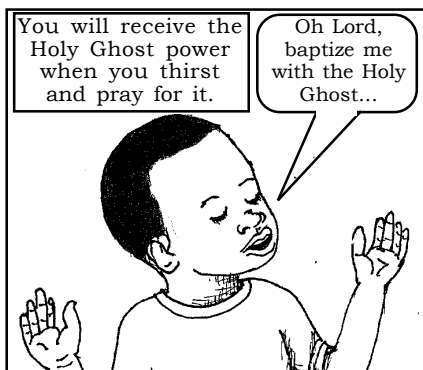


claim to speak in tongues are not born again. Do not copy such children.

3. HOW TO RECEIVE THE BAPTISM IN THE HOLY GHOST:

Luke 24:49; John 7:37-39; Acts 2:1-4.

To receive the baptism in the Holy Ghost, you must have a thirst for God's power just as you look



for water to drink when thirsty. The apostles at the upper room waited for the baptism, they were thirsty to receive the promise of the Father God (Luke 24:49). You must also pray very well and wait to be baptized. If you are

busy here and there, restless or unserious, you can never be baptized.

The teaching on the baptism is not a theory. You must take a practical step now and pray to receive the Holy Spirit baptism like on the day of Pentecost (Acts 2:1-4). Arise and pray now.

QUESTIONS:

1. What is the baptism in the Holy Ghost? _____
2. Mention two conditions you must fulfill to receive the baptism in the Holy Ghost. _____
3. Can a naughty child receive this power of God? Yes/No.

4. What must he do to be baptized in the Holy Ghost? _____
5. How can a pure child receive the Holy Ghost baptism? _____

MEMORY VERSE: “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” (Acts 1:8).

LESSON: The Holy Ghost baptism is for saved and sanctified children.

THOUGHT: I must receive the power of the Holy Ghost today.

ACTIVITY: OUR HELPER.

Sometimes the Bible is hard to be understood, but God has promised to help us. To find out whom God sent to help us understand the Bible, colour the boxes with the right colour. The answer is in the yellow boxes. Write it here _____
_____.

B = blue, G = green, R = red, Y = yellow.

| | | | | |
|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| O G | H Y | O Y | W B | L Y |
| Y Y | S Y | A R | P Y | I Y |
| C G | A R | R Y | R G | Y B |
| I Y | S B | N G | O R | T Y |

Read John 14:26, write out two things that the Holy Spirit will do in the life of a Christian child.

HOMEWORK: Pray and wait patiently to receive the Holy Ghost baptism.

**CONGREGATIONAL SONG GHS: 191 -
COME, HOLY GHOST, ALL-QUICKENING FIRE!**

CHORUSES: (1) God of Elijah send down fire.
(2) Holy Ghost fire. (3) Lord, send another Elijah.

DAILY BIBLE READING

| | | |
|-----------|------|----------|
| MONDAY | JOEL | 2:28-29 |
| TUESDAY | LUKE | 4:18-21 |
| WEDNESDAY | JOHN | 7:37-39 |
| THURSDAY | JOHN | 14:14-17 |
| FRIDAY | JOHN | 14:26-29 |
| SATURDAY | LUKE | 24:46-49 |
| SUNDAY | JOHN | 1:32-34 |

BIBLE WORD SEARCH

Find the meanings of these words. You can use your dictionary: 1. Baptism 2. Holy Ghost
3. Condition 4. Sanctification 5. Effective.

LESSON 12

QUIET TIME AND FAMILY DEVOTION

Genesis 19:27-29; 28:18-22; Exodus 34:2-17;
Mark 1:35.

Immediately a child is born into this world, he quickly breathes in air (oxygen) and cries to tell the world that he has arrived and is alive. The baby starts to take water and milk to be able to stay alive and to grow well. If these things are not sufficiently given to the child, he may not grow well and can even die. In the same way, a born again child needs spiritual food (word of God) and breath (prayer) to grow and live a consistent Christian life (I Peter 2:2).

For better understanding, let us divide the topic into three parts:

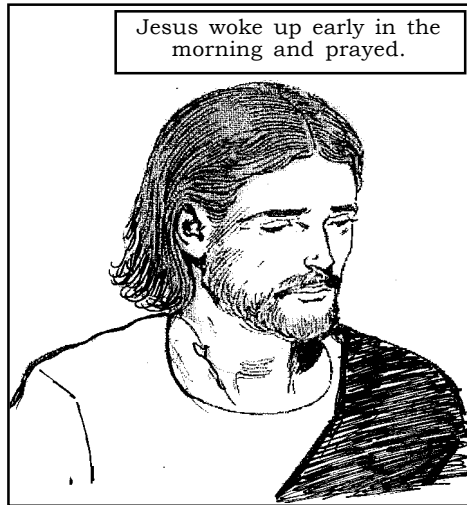
1. THE MEANING OF QUIET TIME AND FAMILY DEVOTION:

Mark 1:35; I Peter 2:1-3; Genesis 18:19.

Quiet time is a time you set aside for your personal fellowship with God. It is a period when a believer hears from God through the study of the Bible and the time he spends to talk to God through prayer. While family devotion is the period when all the members of the family (father, mother, children and others in the house) gather together

to praise God, study the Bible and pray. During family devotion, daddy leads or anyone he appoints. He uses Bible passages to teach everyone the way of the Lord like Abraham did (Genesis 18:19).

If your family members have not been observing family devotion, this is the time to pray so that your parents can start it today.



2. WHEN AND HOW TO DO QUIET TIME AND FAMILY DEVOTION:

Psalms 55:17; 88:13; Mark 1:35; Matthew 6:6.

From the Bible passages above, the best time to observe your quiet time and family devotion is early in the morning and in the evening before going to bed. They must be done every day. You observe the quiet time and family devotion at these times to avoid the noise of neighbours which can distract your attention from hearing or praying to God (Mark 1:35; Luke 6:12).

To get the best in observing quiet time and family devotion, you must do the following: (a) Wake up early enough to do your quiet time before family devotion in the morning. Immediately after family



devotion in the evening, do your quiet time. (b) Do not lie on the bed to read your Bible or pray to avoid sleeping. (c) Write down the lesson you learn from the Bible passages. (d) Think on the lesson as it affects your life and pray on it. (e) Participate in the Bible reading and reciting of memory verse during family devotion. (f) Listen to the teaching and avoid asking too many questions. (g) Join others in prayer.

3. THE BENEFITS OF OBSERVING QUIET TIME AND FAMILY DEVOTION:

Joshua 1:8; Matthew 7:7.

Obedience to the word of God brings blessings. Some of the blessings you will get from God when you do your quiet time and family devotion regularly are: (i) constant fellowship with God, such that He

will show you great things that you would not have known (Jeremiah 33:3). (ii) You will feed on God's word and grow up to live a victorious Christian life (Psalm 1:1,2; I Peter 2:2). (iii) It makes you ready for the rapture (Matthew 24:41-44). (iv) Your protection for the day is guaranteed through the blood of the Lamb (Revelation 12:11). (v) You will enjoy a prosperous and successful day. (vi) You will have sufficient grace to overcome temptations.

All these blessings will be yours only when as a friend of Jesus, you are diligent in daily observing your quiet time and family devotion. If you are not yet a friend of Jesus, repent of your sins now. Forsake them, ask God for forgiveness and cleansing in the blood of Jesus. Invite Jesus into your heart to be your Lord and Saviour (Revelation 3:20a).

The Lord spoke to me during my quiet time and I am sure of His protection, guidance and success.



QUESTIONS:

1. What is the difference between quiet time and family devotion? _____
2. Why is early in the morning the best time for quiet time and family devotion? _____

3. What should be your attitude towards family devotion? _____

4. Mention some Bible examples of those who did quiet time and family devotion. _____

5. How can a sinful child benefit from quiet time? _____

MEMORY VERSE: “And in the morning, rising up a great while before day, he went out, and departed into a solitary place, and there prayed” (Mark 1:35).

LESSON: Quiet time and family devotion are very important for the spiritual growth of friends of Jesus.

THOUGHT: I must be diligent in observing quiet time and family devotion so that I can get the benefits.

ACTIVITY: Visit a new friend of Jesus (new convert) during the week, say four things you will tell him to do during his quiet time or family devotion that will help him to grow in the Lord.

HOMEWORK: Draw your quiet time timetable, showing the time you will start and end.

**CONGREGATIONAL SONG GHS: 168 -
I NEED THEE EVERY HOUR**

CHORUSES: (1) In the morning, early in the morning. (2) Read your Bible, pray every day. (3) The B-I-B-L-E is good enough for me.

DAILY BIBLE READING

| | | |
|-----------|--------|----------|
| MONDAY | DANIEL | 9:1-3 |
| TUESDAY | DANIEL | 9:4-6 |
| WEDNESDAY | EZRA | 9:5-8 |
| THURSDAY | LUKE | 11:1-4 |
| FRIDAY | LUKE | 11:5-8 |
| SATURDAY | LUKE | 11:9-11 |
| SUNDAY | LUKE | 11:12,13 |

BIBLE WORD SEARCH

Find the meanings of these words. You can use your dictionary: 1. Quiet time 2. Diligent
3. Devotion 4. Spiritual 5. Guarantee.

LESSON 13

PRAYER AND FASTING

Esther 4:1-17; Luke 11:1-13; James 5:14-18.

Prayer and fasting are very important in the lives of every friend of Jesus. Fasting is when you do not eat or drink for a period of time for the purpose of seeking God's face in prayer. Prayer on the other hand is talking to God with the absolute trust of receiving answers to your requests.

In times of great need, God instructs us to pray and fast so as to lift up our faith to receive. Prayer helps the Christian to talk to God but prayer and fasting gives him more strength. Prayer and fasting go together.

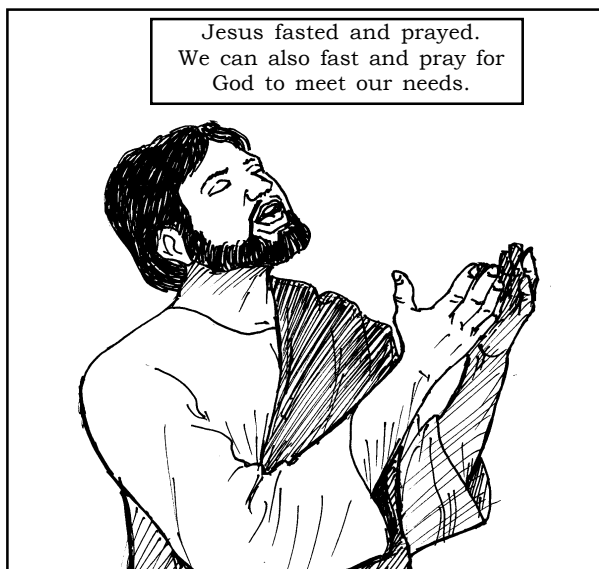
We shall consider three points in our study:

1. GOD'S ACCEPTABLE PRAYER AND FASTING:

Luke 11:1-13.

God accepts the prayer and fasting of His children who put their trust in Him. These are children who have confessed all their sins and have accepted Jesus into their lives as their Saviour and Friend. The prayer and fasting of children who are still committing sin are an abomination before God.

Friends of Jesus who pray and fast according to Bible standard (Matthew 6:16-18) will surely receive answers. Prayer and fasting can be done (i) individually (Matthew 4:2), (ii) with prayer partners, (iii) on family basis or (iv) in a group as a church.



The Bible makes us to understand that the effectual fervent prayer of the righteous is very powerful and all impossibilities will become possible in Jesus' Name (James 5:15,16; Matthew 21:22).

2. REASONS FOR PRAYING AND FASTING:

Joel 2:12-17.

We pray and fast for many reasons: (i) spiritual revival – when your love for Jesus is going down, when you cannot pray and read the Bible anymore and when you find it hard to tell others about Jesus, you should pray, fast and seek the face of God for renewal. (ii) Backsliding – through prayer of repentance, you seek God's forgiveness and restoration. (iii) When a problem comes and it is trying to take over your life and stop you from serving

the Lord, pray and fast (Luke 1:37).

(iv) For revival, when the hearts of people are growing cold for the things of God (Nehemiah 9:1-3).

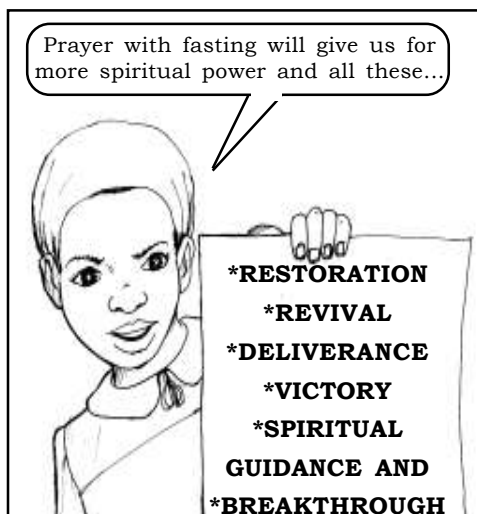
(v) For God's guidance and breakthrough in the work of God.

(vi) For the salvation and deliverance of people from sin,

sickness and Satan (Deuteronomy 9:18; Ezra 9:3-5).

(viii) When we need God's special help in the family, church or nation (2 Chronicles 20:2,3).

Jesus, the Son of God, fasted forty days and forty nights and had a successful ministry on earth. Moses, Ezra, Nehemiah and David fasted and prayed on behalf of others to save them from God's judgment. You are to use these weapons of prayer and fasting to be a winner every day of your life.



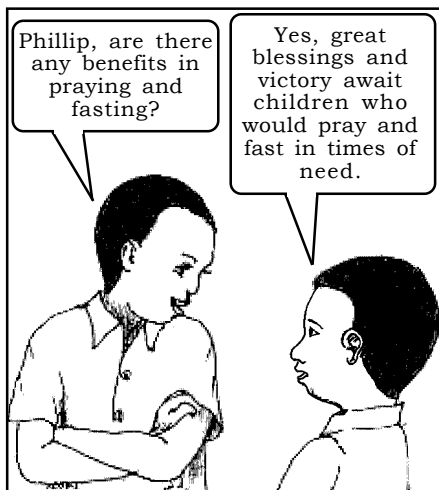
3. BENEFITS OF PRAYING AND FASTING:

James 5:14-18.

There are many benefits of praying and fasting. When you do your fasting properly, it purifies you physically and spiritually. The works of the devil are destroyed and demons are driven away. God's power increases in your life and you become strong

in your spiritual life. You also receive God's power and guidance for living the Christian life and you become bold and fearless.

U n c o m m o n blessings and victory await children who will take seriously the weapon of prayer and fasting to seek God's help in times of need.



QUESTIONS:

1. What is the difference between praying and fasting? _____
2. Prayer and fasting go together. Yes/No?
3. Mention three people in the Bible who prayed and fasted _____
4. Give three reasons why a Christian should pray and fast _____
5. Mention three benefits of praying and fasting. _____

MEMORY VERSE: "Howbeit this kind goeth not out but by prayer and fasting" (Matthew 17:21).

LESSON: Prayer and fasting are essential weapons in the hands of the believer to overcome Satan.

THOUGHT: To be strong in the Lord and to do exploits for Him, I will pray and fast always.

ACTIVITY: Sword drill: Deuteronomy 9:18; Psalm 35:13; Matthew 6:16; Mark 9:29.

HOMEWORK: Children should read the following Bible passages at home and write down the names of those who prayed and fasted. Matthew 4:2; Nehemiah 1:4; Esther 4:16.

**CONGREGATIONAL SONG GHS: 167 -
I MUST TELL JESUS**

CHORUSES: (1) Nothing prayer cannot do. (2) Paul and Silas. (3) Prayer is the key.

DAILY BIBLE READING

| | | |
|-----------|---------|---------|
| MONDAY | MATTHEW | 6:5-7 |
| TUESDAY | MATTHEW | 6:8-10 |
| WEDNESDAY | MATTHEW | 6:11-13 |
| THURSDAY | MATTHEW | 6:14-15 |
| FRIDAY | MATTHEW | 6:16-18 |
| SATURDAY | MATTHEW | 7:7,8 |
| SUNDAY | MATTHEW | 7:9-11 |

BIBLE WORD SEARCH

Find the meaning of these words. You can use your dictionary: 1. Prayer 2. Fasting 3. Sincerity
4. Humility 5. Purifies.

LESSON 1

THE MIRACULOUS BIRTH OF SAMSON

Judges 13:1-25.

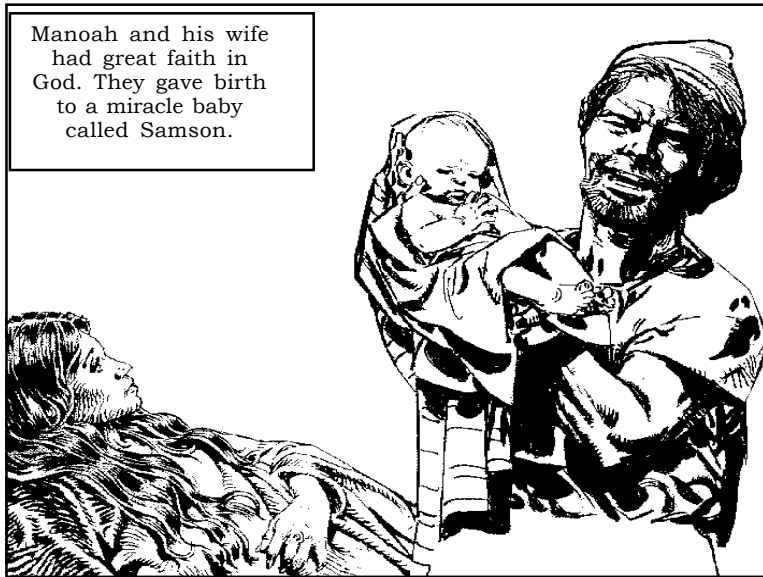
A miracle is a great act of God which is beyond the laws of nature. It is something glorious which brings joy and surprise in the heart of people. Some children are named 'Miracle', because of the circumstance of their birth. There are also children who are referred to as 'miracle babies' because they are born through God's special act of mercy and love, in situations where it had appeared impossible to have a child. However, every child is special to God and created to do something special and important. This means, God created you for a purpose. Make up your mind today that you will cooperate with God to fulfill the purpose for which you were born.

We shall consider our message under three subheadings:

1. SAMSON'S MIRACULOUS BIRTH:

Judges 13:1-24.

Samson's mother had no child; her husband's name was Manoah from the tribe of Dan. An angel of God appeared to her and told her that she would have a baby. God gave her a baby boy and she named him Samson. That was a miracle, something good



that people never thought would happen to her. Jesus attended a wedding in Cana of Galilee. When the wine at the wedding got finished, Jesus turned water into wine. They had enough wine for everybody at the wedding. That was a miracle! God can perform miracles in your life and your family if you trust Him.

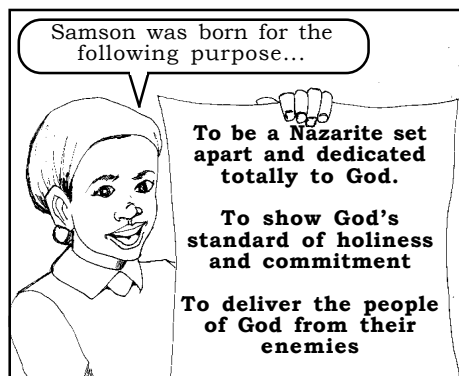
However, there is a miracle which is compulsory for everyone to receive from God. This is the greatest, highest and most important of all miracles. It is the miracle of the new birth also called salvation (II Corinthians 5:17). Everybody needs this miracle because all have sinned (Romans 3:23). Anybody who does not receive this miracle will surely end up in hell. Jesus said to Nicodemus in John 3:3 **“Except a man be born again, he cannot see the**

kingdom of God". Don't miss this miracle. Every sinful boy or girl must make a wise choice as they take these steps: (i) realize you are a sinner (Romans 3:23) (ii) repent of your sins (iii) confess your sins to God and ask Him to wash you with the blood of Jesus (I John 1:9). (iv) thank God for answering your prayer.

2. PURPOSE OF SAMSON'S MIRACULOUS BIRTH:

Judges 13:1-5,25; Matthew 1:18-21.

Samson's birth was through the supernatural intervention of God. It was not an ordinary birth, he was born to fulfill specific divine assignments which were: (i) To be a Nazarite – Samson was to be set apart and dedicated to the Lord. (ii) be an example that through his lifestyle, he would show God's standard of holiness and commitment in the presence of other people. (iii) deliver God's people from their enemies who have been under oppression



in the hands of the Philistines for forty years.

There were other children born through miraculous intervention of God. They also fulfilled the purpose for which they were born. These

include- Isaac,

Samuel and John the Baptist. There is an important purpose for which you are born into this world. You

must be determined to know and fulfill the purpose of God for your life. However, you must realize that the greatest purpose why you are born is to glorify and serve God all the days of your life. Therefore, you must seek first the kingdom of God and it's righteousness. Jesus was born so that God's purpose for our lives will be fulfilled. Are you a friend of Jesus? You must be born again (John 3:3).

3. YOU ARE UNIQUE:

Judges 13:4-5,24; Isaiah 1:19.

You are unique and specially created by God for a good purpose God wants to fulfill that purpose in your life. Samson's mother was told what to do and how to take care of her baby. If you obey God as Samson's mother did, God will work out His good purpose for which He created you. On the other hand, disobedience to God will open the door for the enemy Satan, to steal you away from God's plan. Jesus reveals to us the works of Satan who is our enemy and a thief (John 10:10). God says in Ezekiel 18:4 **"Behold, all souls are mine"** you are unique; no other person is exactly like you, you are important and God has a purpose for your life. Give your life to Jesus and always live in obedience to the word of God to fulfill His purpose for your life. You must not follow the crowd to live in disobedience to God.



Remember, God's thought for you is good and not evil to give you an expected end (Jeremiah 29:11).

QUESTIONS:

1. (a) What is the greatest and best miracle that every child must desire and receive? _____
(b) How can a child receive this very important miracle? _____
2. Mention two specific divine assignments that Samson was born to fulfil _____

3. What other Christian experiences must a friend of Jesus have so that God's purpose can be fulfilled in his/her life? _____
4. You are unique, specially created by God for a good purpose. Yes/No?

MEMORY VERSE: "And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins." (Matthew 1:21).

LESSON: Every child is specially created by God for a good purpose.

THOUGHT: I will obey the word of God so that God's plan for my life will be fulfilled.

ACTIVITY: Sword Drill: Isaiah 9:6; Genesis 18:10; II Kings 4:16; Luke 1:13; John 3:7.

HOMEWORK: Write the names of two children from the Old Testament and two from the New Testament whose births were miraculous. Write out God's purpose for the life of these children.

CONGREGATIONAL SONG GHS: 13 – TO GOD BE THE GLORY

CHORUSES: (1) My life shall be a testimony. (2) My life time, I will give God my life time. (3) Keep me true Lord.

DAILY BIBLE READING

| | | |
|-----------|----------|----------|
| MONDAY | GENESIS | 21:1-4 |
| TUESDAY | GENESIS | 25:21-26 |
| WEDNESDAY | EXODUS | 2:1-4 |
| THURSDAY | EXODUS | 2:5-10 |
| FRIDAY | JEREMIAH | 29:9-13 |
| SATURDAY | ISAIAH | 9:6,7 |
| SUNDAY | MATTHEW | 1:18-21 |

BIBLE WORD SEARCH

Find the meaning of these words. You can use your dictionary:

1. Miraculous
2. Purpose
3. Important
4. Unique
5. Nazarite.

LESSON 2

SAMSON'S SINFUL DESIRE

Judges 14:1-19.

Samson was a miracle child who was set apart even before he was born to serve God and save his people from their enemies. When Samson started to grow up he forgot and forsook God's purpose for his life because of his evil desire and association with sinners. The Bible clearly warns in Proverbs 1:10 that **"My son, if sinners entice thee, consent thou not."**

The study is in three parts:

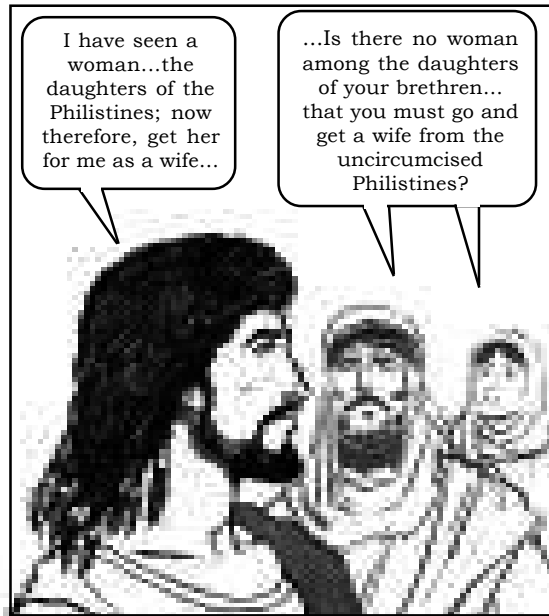
1. SAMSON'S CARELESS LIFESTYLE:

Judges 14:1-14.

Samson was conceived and born through a direct revelation by an angel of the Lord. He was to be a Nazarite (set apart for God's use) all the days of his life. He was also to judge Israel and lead them to defeat their enemies.

Samson could not fulfill the call of God upon his life because of his willful and careless way of life. Though the Lord blessed Samson and empowered him with uncommon ability and strength, he made wrong and sinful decisions that led to his spiritual downfall and death. Such mistakes were:

- (i) He showed lack of concern and respect for God's commandment.



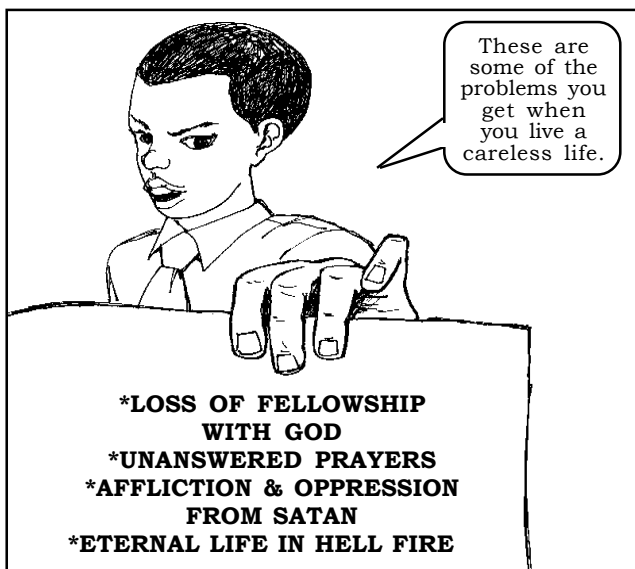
- (ii) He disregarded his parent's godly instructions and counsel.
- (iii) He rejected his godly heritage in order to satisfy his sinful desires.
- (iv) He used God's gifts and power for his personal advantage and not for the glory of God.

There are some boys and girls who were nurtured in the word of God right from childhood. But as they grow up, they became careless and eventually lost their godly heritage. You must be determined to stand by the word of God. Do not yield to the evil influences around you.

2. CONSEQUENCES OF CARELESS LIVING:

Judges 14:15-20.

Samson sought for a wife among idol worshippers and wicked people. His action led to much destruction and death. Solomon had all the wisdom and glory that anyone could ever imagine. Yet, he was ruined because of his ungodly desire in marrying strange wives (Nehemiah 13:16). Dinah was defiled and disgraced for forsaking her godly



family in search of the “daughters of the land” in a strange country (Genesis 34:1-7).

A child that forsakes the word of God and his parents godly instructions is in great danger because there will be (i) loss of fellowship and presence of God. (ii) unanswered prayers (iii) afflictions, oppression from Satan, (iv) judgment from

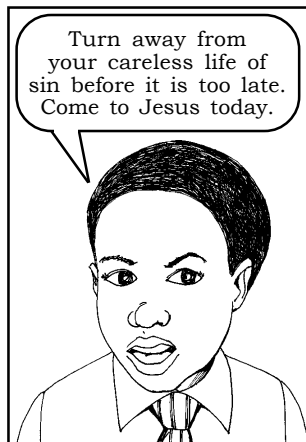
God and consequently hell fire. Therefore, be warned.

3. CALL TO REPENT:

Isaiah 1:18,19; I John 1:7-9; Luke 15:11-21.

If Samson had repented and turned from his evil desires, he would have been honoured. He would have been able to fulfill the purpose of God for his life.

Boys and girls are daily faced with temptations to forsake the righteous way and follow the



corruption in the world. You can learn from the example of Bible children who though lived in a corrupt society, yet, they were determined to live for the glory of God. Examples are Daniel and his friends, Samuel and Timothy.

If you have forsaken God's word as a result of negative influences around, you can repent like the prodigal son did now. Realize your sinful state, repent and ask for forgiveness and cleansing in the blood of Jesus. Open your heart for Jesus to be your Lord and Saviour. Be obedient to God's word; accept the counsel of your godly parents. Attend fellowship meetings with other friends of Jesus. Live a separate life of holiness and righteousness. Watch and pray. Set your affection on the things of God. Have faith in God and trust in Him to keep you till the end.

QUESTIONS:

1. Samson was a miracle child born to fulfill a specific purpose Yes/No?
2. Mention three of the reasons for Samson's birth

3. Did Samson fulfill the call of God for his life? ____
4. State three reasons why he could not fulfill God's purpose for his life _____
5. How can a Christian child live to please God? ____
6. How can a sinful child become a useful vessel in God's hand? _____

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

LESSON: Total separation from sinful desires is the way to live a life that pleases God.

THOUGHT: I will separate from every sinful lifestyle so as to please God.

ACTIVITY: Children should read II Timothy 2:19-23. Then write under each column things that Christian should do or not to do.

| Things to avoid | Things to do |
|-----------------|--------------|
| 1. | |
| 2. | |
| 3. | |
| 4. | |
| 5. | |

HOMEWORK: Children should search the scripture and write in their homework book, names of two men and two women who served Jesus to the end.

CONGREGATIONAL SONG GHS: 49 – LET OTHERS SEE JESUS IN YOU

CHORUSES: (1) Following Jesus every day by day. (2) You take the whole world and give me Jesus. (3) Give me grace to follow.

DAILY BIBLE READING

| | | |
|-----------|----------------|---------|
| MONDAY | DEUTERONOMY | 7:1-3 |
| TUESDAY | DEUTERONOMY | 7:4-6 |
| WEDNESDAY | II CORINTHIANS | 6:14-16 |
| THURSDAY | I CORINTHIANS | 5:6-8 |
| FRIDAY | I CORINTHIANS | 5:9-11 |
| SATURDAY | GALATIANS | 5:16-18 |
| SUNDAY | GALATIANS | 5:19-21 |

BIBLE WORD SEARCH

Find the meaning of these words. You can use your dictionary:

1. Counsel
2. Corruption
3. Lifestyle
4. Careless
5. Judgment.

LESSON 3

SAMSON'S VENGEANCE ON THE PHILISTINES

Judges 15:1-20.

God has different ways and methods of punishing those who disobey Him. The Philistines rejected God and worshipped wood, stone, sun, stars and hated God's people (the Israelites). Those who do bad things cannot find favour with God. Though Samson's action cannot be justified, yet it was a sort of way for the Philistines to pay for their disobedience against God and wickedness towards God's people.

Our lesson is divided into three parts:

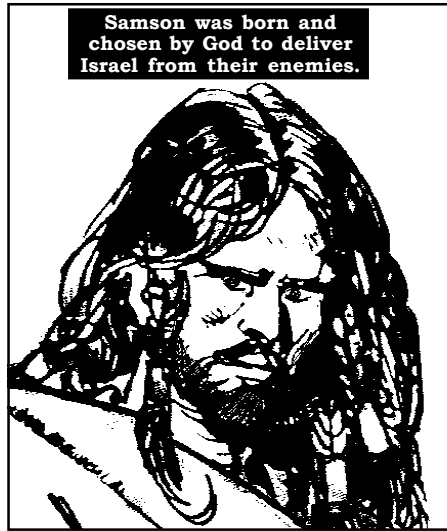
1. SAMSON'S ASSIGNMENT:

Judges 13:5.

Samson was born to the family of Manoah. The Angel of the Lord brought the message about His birth to his mother. As we have learnt in the previous lesson, the purpose of his birth was to deliver the Israelites from the Philistines' oppression which lasted for forty years. **"And the children of Israel did evil again in the sight of the Lord; and the Lord delivered them into the hand of the Philistines forty years."** (Judges 13:1).

Sin brings every child into the captivity of Satan. God gave Samson the special assignment of

delivering the children of Israel out of the hand of the Philistines (Judges 13:5). Friends of Jesus have also been given the special assignment of preaching the Gospel to sinful boys and girls. If they turn from their ungodly activities and trust Jesus Christ as their Saviour, they will be delivered from the bondage of Satan.



2. SAMSON'S VENGEANCE ON THE PHILISTINES:

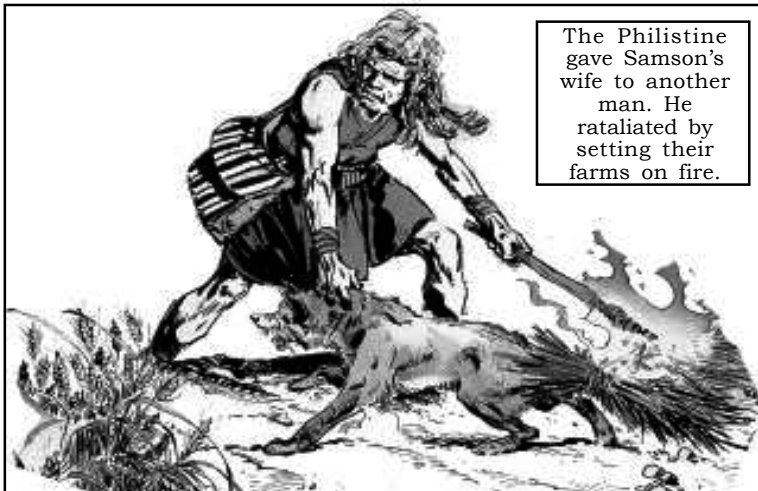
Judges 15:1-17.

Samson took a wife in the land of the Philistines (the enemies of God). However, Samson's wife was given to another man. In revenge, Samson set the farms of the Philistines on fire. Though he was raised up by God as a deliverer, yet his action was selfish. It was not for the benefit of his people, the Israelites. You should resist the temptation to use your God-given abilities, opportunity or blessings to afflict those who offend you.

Jesus does not want you to take revenge on others (Matthew 5:44,45; Luke 23:34). The Bible tells us that vengeance belongs to God **"Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but rather give**

place unto wrath: for it is written, Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord.” (Romans 12:19). Let God always defend and fight for you. Like Joseph, every friend of Jesus must make up his mind to forgive those who hurt him no matter how painful and allow God to defend you (Genesis 45:5).

If you are not a friend of Jesus yet; turn away from all your ungodly way and make Jesus your



Saviour. Then you will have the grace to always forgive those who offend you.

3. GOD'S VENGEANCE AGAINST UNREPENTANT SINNERS:

Psalm 9:16,17; II Peter 3:8-12; 2:4-9.

The anger and vengeance of Samson against the Philistines was also God's judgment upon the ungodly Philistines.

The day of God's judgment is fast approaching. The Bible from Genesis to Revelation is full of warning for sinners to repent before it is too late.

Noah preached of God's coming judgment for



about 120 years. The people refused to yield or repent; until the flood came unexpectedly and they all perished (Genesis 6:5,6,10,11,21-23).

Sinners and backsliders must not be careless because there is judgment and suffering awaiting sinners who refuse to repent. Repent now!! For the kingdom of God is at hand.

If you are still doing bad things, repent of all your sins and make Jesus your Friend and Saviour. Continue to follow Jesus by reading your Bible daily. Always think on its words and obey it. Fellowship with other saved boys and girls. Live holy and preach the gospel to sinners. Expect the coming of the Lord.

QUESTIONS:

1. What was the special assignment that God wanted Samson to carry out? _____
2. As friends of Jesus what is our primary duty to sinful boys and girls? _____

3. Why did Samson set the farms of the Philistines on fire? _____
 4. Samson's revenge was for his selfish desire. Yes/No?
 5. What was the judgment of God upon the people of the time of Noah who refuse to turn from their evil ways? _____
- _____

MEMORY VERSE: "Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath: for it is written, Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord." (Romans 12:19).

LESSON: God always defend and fight for His children.

THOUGHT: I will always pray for grace to overcome the temptation to retaliate.

ACTIVITY: What is the name of the animal that Samson used to spread the fire that burnt the farms of the Philistines? Suggest three reasons why Samson used the animals. Why did Jesus Christ refer to Herod as 'a fox' In Luke 13:32.

HOMEWORK: Write in your church notebook the names of four people in the Bible who did not take revenge for the wrong done to them. Submit the notes to your teacher for marking.

CONGREGATIONAL SONG GHS: 101 - MY FATHER KNOWS

CHORUSES: (1) Give me love for my brethren. (2) God must be honoured. (3) I will never let the devil win the battle.

DAILY BIBLE READING

| | | |
|-----------|-----------------|----------|
| MONDAY | MATTHEW | 5:43-45 |
| TUESDAY | I THESSALONIANS | 1:6-9 |
| WEDNESDAY | EPHESIANS | 4:30-32 |
| THURSDAY | ROMANS | 12:17-19 |
| FRIDAY | I JOHN | 2:1-3 |
| SATURDAY | ROMANS | 12:20,21 |
| SUNDAY | I JOHN | 2:1-3 |

BIBLE WORD SEARCH

Find the meaning of these words. You can use your dictionary:

1. Vengeance
2. Ability
3. Retaliate
4. Assignment
5. Opportunity.

LESSON 4

SAMSON'S LUST AND FALL

Judges 16:1-21.

Samson was dedicated as a Nazarite to God right from his mother's womb. God blessed him with supernatural power to deliver the people of Israel from the hands of the Philistines who oppressed them for forty years. As a Nazarite, he was to be set apart to be used of God, and no razor should touch his head. As an Israelite, Samson was not to marry a Philistine nor worship their man-made gods or any idol. He should not be unequally yoked together with unbelievers. But Samson disobeyed God and his parents. Through lust, he broke his Nazarite covenant, lost his God given power and fell. You must be obedient to God and obey your parents so as to enjoy God's unfailing mercy, favour and fulfil His purpose for your life.

The study is in three parts:

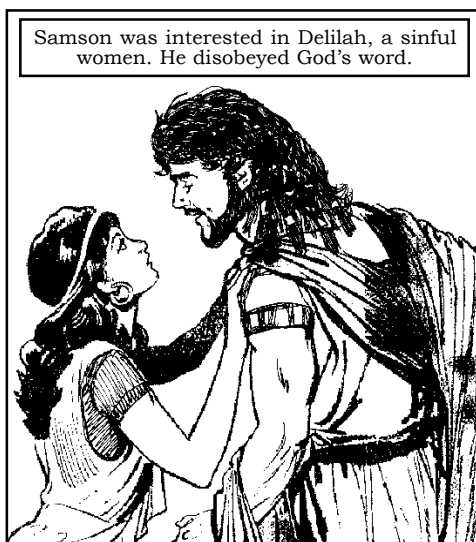
1. SAMSON'S LUST:

Judges 16:1-15; Exodus 20:14; Deuteronomy 7:1-4.

The Bible forbids intermarriage or close friendship between the children of Israel and idol-worshipping nations. Friendship with the world will make a child and enemy of God. Samson refused to obey God's command in the area of marriage. He was always interested in sinful women. This is called lust.

Lust means strong craving or desire for sinful pleasures. Lust can manifest in the lives of careless children in the following ways: (a) desire to engage in boyfriend/girlfriend immoral relationship. (b) cravings for other people's things for which your parents cannot afford, which is covetousness. (c) love of money, food, games, play and bad pictures on television/internet

(pornography). (d) desire to be like others in dressing, hairstyles, cheating in examination and doing other bad things. Anything that will steal your heart away from God's word and His commandments is lust.



Samson forsook the way of the Lord because of lust and he paid dearly for it. Children must beware of lust in these days of evil. When you meditate on God's word at all times, there will be no room for lust.

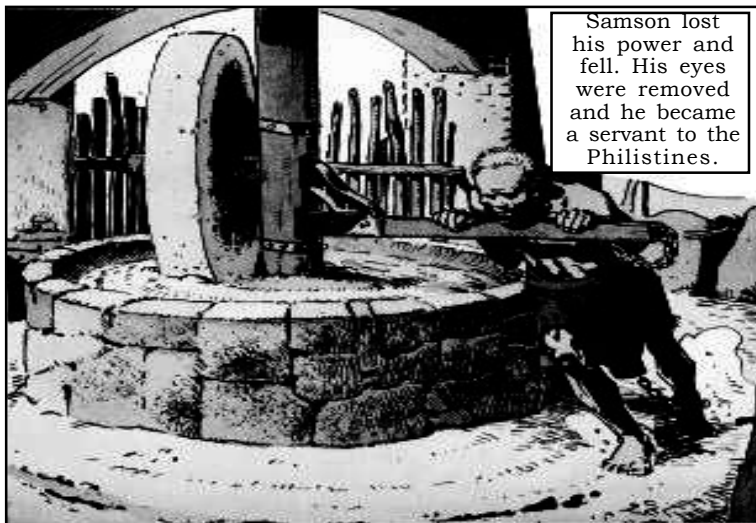
2. SAMSON'S FALL:

Judges 16:16-21; II Samuel 1:27; Proverbs 28:14; 29:1; I Corinthians 6:12-18.

There is always a price to pay for every wrong action we take. Samson's sinful desire led him into the room of Delilah. She pressed him to disclose the secret of his power. He did disclosed the secret and this led to his

downfall. He fell into the hands of his enemies who removed his two eyes. He became an object of ridicule and a laughing stock. What a shame!

The reasons for Samson's fall are: (a) overconfidence and pride. (b) he had hatred for God's word and lost honour, strength and God's presence. (c) disregard for his Nazarite vows/consecration which opened his life to temptation and eventual death. (d) disrespect for



parental godly instructions and counsel. (e) separation from the people of God which led him into the camp of the enemy.

Samson was like the prodigal son who left his family to go to a far country. Beware, when you are in the wrong place, you are opened to a lot of temptation and evil. The call of God to every child is in II Corinthians 6:17 which says "**come out from among them, and be ye separate,**". Have you heeded the call? As a sinner, come

out of your sinful ways, repent and ask for forgiveness and cleansing in the blood of Jesus. Open your heart to Christ, let Him be your Saviour, Lord and Friend.

3. HOW TO AVOID LUST:

Romans 6:11-13; I Corinthians 10:6;
Galatians 5:16-18.

To avoid lusts, friends of Jesus must: (i) shun bad companions and be separated from all appearances of evil. (ii) be prayerful in all situations. (iii) be obedient to the word of God and your parents. (iv) consecrate your life to the service of God and preach the gospel. (v) always be in fellowship with other friends of Jesus. (vi) always give thanks to God for all His gifts and goodness to you. (vii) be satisfied with what you have and avoid covetousness. (viii) live holy and shine as light in this present world.

If you know that you are a sinner or you have gone back from following Jesus, confess your sins, forsake them, ask for forgiveness from God. Ask Him to wash your sins with the blood of Jesus. Invite Jesus into your heart to be your personal Lord and Saviour.

To avoid sinful desire...
Avoid bad friends, Be
watchful and prayerful,
Always obey God's word,
Preach the Gospel, Attend
fellowship regularly and live a
holy life.



QUESTIONS:

1. What is the meaning of lust? _____
2. Describe two cases where Samson lusted and the result. _____

3. Identify three lessons of life we can learn from Samson's lifestyle? _____
4. Mention three ways that sinful children manifest lust. _____
5. How can (a) sinner (b) friends of Jesus be free from lust? _____

MEMORY VERSE: "Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, that ye should obey it in the lusts thereof."
(Romans 6:12).

LESSON: Disobedience and lust leads to defeat and fall.

THOUGHT: I will not allow disobedience and lust in my life, so that the enemy will not overcome me.

ACTIVITY: Search the book of Judges and write out the names of seven judges before Samson.

HOMEWORK: Write ten sentences about any one of the judges in the Bible.

CONGREGATIONAL SONG GHS: 6 – YIELD NOT TO TEMPTATION

CHORUSES: (1) I wandered far away, lost in the wilderness. (2) I stand upon the word of God. (3) Give me grace to follow.

DAILY BIBLE READING

| | | |
|-----------|----------------|----------|
| MONDAY | I CORINTHIANS | 6:15-17 |
| TUESDAY | I CORINTHIANS | 6:18-20 |
| WEDNESDAY | TITUS | 2:11-14 |
| THURSDAY | II CORINTHIANS | 6:14-16 |
| FRIDAY | II CORINTHIANS | 6:17-18 |
| SATURDAY | I PETER | 2:11,12 |
| SUNDAY | ROMANS | 13:12-14 |

BIBLE WORD SEARCH

Find the meaning of these words. You can use your dictionary:

1. Lust 2. Nazarite 3. Pride 4. Consecrate 5. Shame.

LESSON 5

SAMSON'S FINAL EXPLOIT AND DEATH

Judges 16:22-31.

Samson was the last judge of his generation. He was born miraculously and set apart to serve God, save his people from their enemies and lead them back to the worship of the Almighty. Did he fulfill all these expectations? The answer is No, as we saw in the previous lessons. However, God still spared his life and gave him a chance to repent. Sinners and backsliders are still alive today because God is merciful; He is patiently waiting for them to repent and surrender their lives to Him. Samson realized at the latter end of his life that God is merciful and is not willing that anyone should perish (II Peter 3:9).

Do not continue in your wicked ways. Don't take the love of God for granted. It is not every sinner that will have the opportunity like Samson to call upon God when they are about to die. Now is the time to be saved.

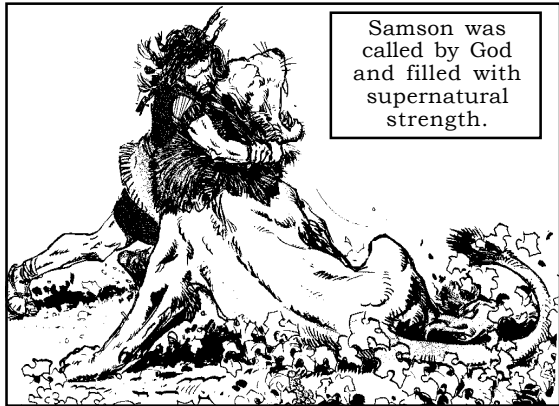
The study is divided into three parts:

1. THE CALL OF SAMSON:

Judges 13:24-26.

After forty years of suffering in the hands of the Philistines, God remembered Israel and raised a deliverer for them. Samson was chosen from his mother's womb and when he was born, he began to live his life in line with the prophecy of the angel that spoke about his birth.

Certain qualities were seen in him that made him qualified for the work: (i) he was a prayerful child (ii) he was led by the Spirit of God (iii) he was consecrated



unto God and (iv) endowed with supernatural strength.

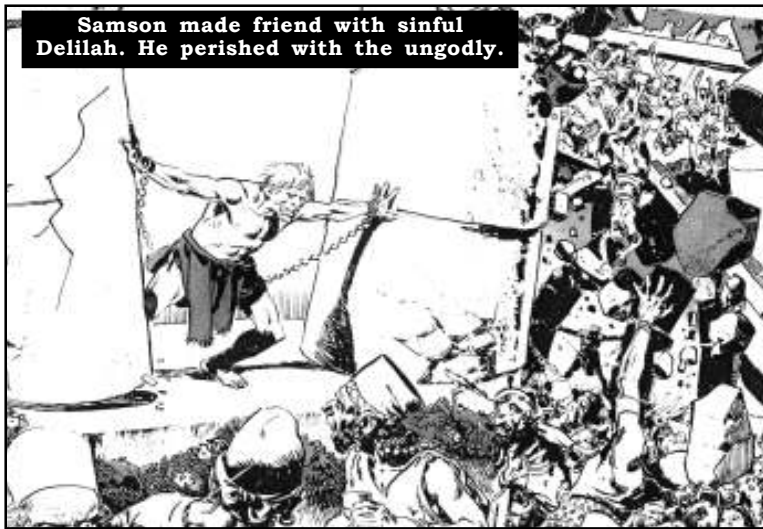
God is still looking for born again boys and girls who will volunteer to go and preach the gospel to sinful children; to pray for them and deliver them from the bondage of sin, sickness and Satan. Can God depend on you?

2. THE FALL OF SAMSON:

Judges 14:1; I Corinthians 10:11,12.

Samson forgot himself and was not willing to do the will of God. He did not listen to the counsel of his parents. This led to his fall. He began to misuse the power of God in his life. The following are some of the reasons for the fall of Samson: (i) he married a strange woman, who later betrayed him to his enemies. (ii) he sought for a marriage partner among the enemies of God's people. (iii) instead of giving himself to his ministry, he wasted his life in pleasure. (iv) he rejected his parents' advise not to marry from the unbelieving people. (v) he was self-willed and self-confident.

Samson paid dearly for his disobedience. His ministry came to a sudden end when he died with the



Philistines. Are you like Samson? Do you still disobey, fight, steal, tell lies and gossip? Then you must repent now.

3. SAMSON'S FINAL EXPLOIT AND DEATH:

Judges 16:23-30.

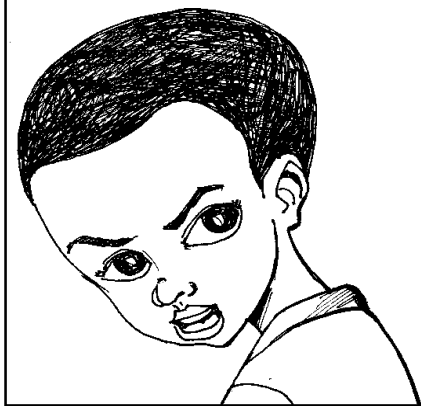
Samson was a man of faith and great strength. All the deliverers and judges before him (Othniel, Ehud, Deborah, Jephthah, Gideon and few others usually raised up an army when going to fight their enemies but Samson single handedly faced the enemies of God's people and defeated them. On one occasion, his wife was given to another man, he got angry and set their fields on fire. At another time he was bound with strong cords and when the Spirit of God came upon him, he broke the cords, and with the jaw bone of an ass slew a thousand men. By faith, Samson made a great slaughter

of the enemies of God. And finally, at the close of his ministry, the Bible tells us that he achieved far more than he ever did at the beginning of his life. By this time, Samson had started to regain his strength after his hair was shaven and his eyes plucked out by his enemies. He then prayed to God for mercy, and strength to take revenge on the Philistines. This was because the Philistines were now making mockery of him and his God. God heard the his prayer and he was able to pull down the building where the enemies were gathered. The building collapsed and about three thousand of the enemies died, including Samson. What a bad way to die!

The battle we face today is against sin, sickness and Satan. If you are born again, you can achieve far more than Samson. Pray seriously for God to use you. Then go out and preach the gospel to sinners who are lost in sin and also being oppressed by Satan.

If you are still wasting your life in sin, Jesus is calling you to come unto Him and be saved . You can do this by confessing and turning away from your sins. Ask for forgiveness and cleansing in the blood of Jesus. Promise Him never to go back to sin again and thank Him for

God can help us to fight and have victory over all enemies if we surrender our lives to Jesus.



saving you. You can then pray to God for power to do exploit and signs and wonders will follow you.

QUESTIONS:

1. Who were the enemies of Israel that Samson fought against? _____
2. Mention three things that led to the fall of Samson?

3. Samson's final exploit led to the destruction of his enemies and his own death. Yes/No?
4. What battle are friends of Jesus fighting today? _____
5. Who are those qualified to work for God? _____

MEMORY VERSE: "There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death." (Proverbs 14:12).

LESSON: Sin and disobedience brings defeat and oppression to God's people.

THOUGHT: I will not allow sin and disobedience in my life so as to be victorious.

ACTIVITY: From our passage of study, mention the reasons for the fall of Samson, then pray for grace to avoid such mistakes.

HOMEWORK: Search the scriptures and write out at least six people that God used to deliver His people from their enemies.

CONGREGATIONAL SONG GHS: 85 – GIVE OF YOUR BEST TO THE MASTER

CHORUSES: (1) Lord send another Elijah to bring Thy power down. (2) I will never let the devil win the battle. (3) Jesus conquered the world and gave us victory.

DAILY BIBLE READING

| | | |
|-----------|----------|----------|
| MONDAY | JOSHUA | 1:1-4 |
| TUESDAY | JUDGES | 3:9-11 |
| WEDNESDAY | I SAMUEL | 14:47,48 |
| THURSDAY | JUDGES | 3:28-30 |
| FRIDAY | JUDGES | 4:4-7 |
| SATURDAY | I SAMUEL | 16:11-13 |
| SUNDAY | II KINGS | 9:1-3 |

BIBLE WORD SEARCH

Find the meaning of these words. You can use your dictionary:

- Idolatry 2. Deliverer 3. Supernatural 4. Nazarite
5. Exploit.

LESSON 6

PAUL'S PASSION FOR GODLINESS IN THE CHURCH

II Corinthians 2:1-17.

Paul the Apostle was a great servant of the Lord Jesus. He got converted in a miraculous way. He was on his way to Damascus to persecute friends of Jesus when he got saved (Acts 9:1-31).

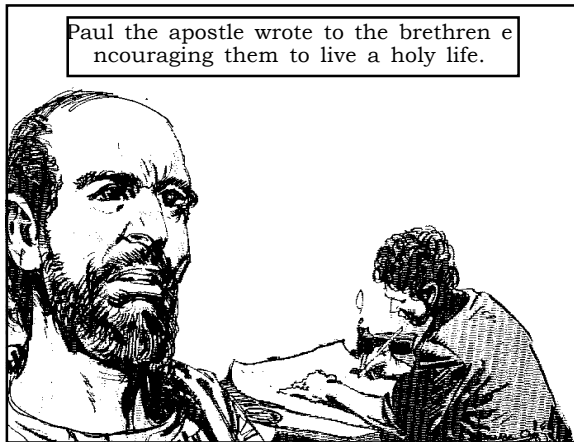
Paul became actively involved in the work of preaching the gospel to sinners after he became born again. His life changed from being an antagonist to an Apostle, a blasphemer to a believer, a persecutor to a preacher, a murderer to a great missionary. He loved God and lived a holy life.

We shall consider the topic under three sub-headings:

1. PAUL'S CONCERN FOR HOLINESS IN THE CHURCH:

II Corinthians 2:1-4; Romans 12:1,2; I Chronicles 16:29.

Apostle Paul wrote to the church in the city of Corinth on the need for godliness and holiness among friends of Jesus. In the church at that time, some people committed sin. This made the Apostle to be very sad. He wrote to instruct the church to discipline the backslider in order to : (i) preserve the truth of God's word in the church. (ii) serve as a warning to others so that they will not fall into the same error. (iii) maintain holiness and



instill the fear of God in the members of the church.
 (iv) seek for God's favour, mercy and continual presence.
 (v) prepare and present the church to Christ as a holy bride without spot or wrinkle (Ephesians 5:25-27).
 (vi) correct the sinner so that he can repent, receive forgiveness and be restored into fellowship with God and the church. (v) prepare saints for the rapture.

There is no "eternal security" for anybody. It is only friends of Jesus who have determined to live holy all the days of their lives that will get to heaven. Remember, you must follow peace with all men and holiness without which no man (child) shall see God (Hebrews 12:14).

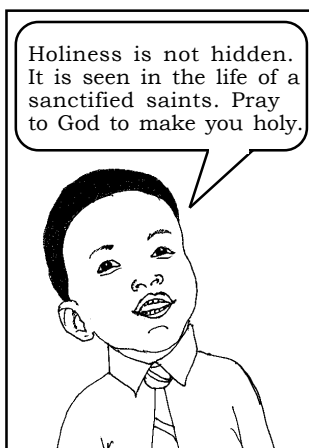
2. HINDRANCES TO LIVING A HOLY LIFE:

Romans 6:12-16; II Corinthians 2:5-11.

Every member of the church who desires to get to heaven must have a passion to live holy. However, there are some things that can hinder us from living a holy life: (a) lack of interest in reading and meditation on God's word. (b) prayerlessness, laziness in attending fellowship. (c) being careless and not watchful. (d) talkativeness

and “I don’t care” attitude. (f) association with sinners and unserious Christians. (g) jealousy and unforgiving attitude. (h) neglect of evangelism. (i) worldly influences among many others.

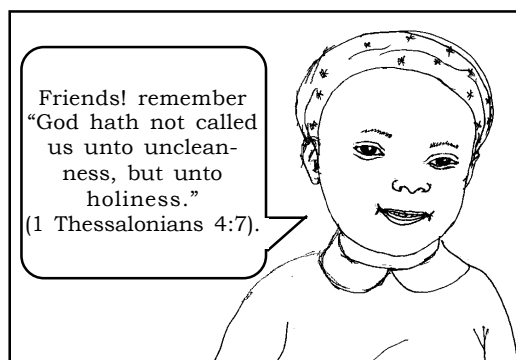
The Bible commands us to be holy because God is holy. Therefore, every friend of Jesus must put off all forms of hindrances, have strong desire and pray through for the holiness experience.



3. THE FRUIT OF A HOLY LIFE:

II Corinthians 2:12-17; Ephesians 4:20-32.

Holiness is a practical experience. Every member of the church must have a passion to live holy and righteous. Are you saved and sanctified? To be saved, a



sinner must repent from sin and receive pardon and cleansing through the blood of Jesus. This is the first basic Christian experience. After this, you must

have a strong desire and thirst for the sanctification experience. Pray in faith to receive. When you are sanctified, there will be an inner witness and certain

distinguishing marks to show that you are holy. These marks can be seen in the word 'HOLINESS'.

- H** - Humility - this is the mind of Christ (Philippians 2:3-10).
- O** - Obedience. Total obedience to God and His word (John 15:14).
- L** - Love for God, His word, believers, enemies, sinners and everyone around you (Matthew 22:37).
- I** - Integrity. Truthfulness at all times. To be honest in your ways even during trials, temptations and persecutions. (Job 2:9).
- N** - New nature. The mind is renewed and there is inward and outward purity (Ephesians 4:23,24).
- E** - Endurance. To suffer long for Christ's sake, no desire to pay back evil for evil (I Peter 2:18-20).
- S** - Self-denial - to deny yourself of personal comfort like food, play, sleep etc, in order to help others (Marks 8:34).
- S** - Separation from bad company, worldly amusement, sinful pleasures (II Corinthians 6:16-18).

QUESTIONS:

1. Who was Paul? _____
2. Paul was concerned about _____ in the church.
3. State three reasons why Paul desires believers to live holy. _____
4. Mention four things that can hinder holiness among believers _____
5. What steps should (a) sinner (b) friend of Jesus take to be holy _____
6. Mention four fruits of a holy life. _____

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

LESSON: Friends of Jesus must determine to live holy every day.

THOUGHT: I will love and serve God in holiness and righteousness all the days of my life.

ACTIVITY: Sword Drill. Psalm 7:3; I Chronicles 6:2; Hebrews 12:14; Isaiah 23:18; I Timothy 6:6.

HOMEWORK: Children should pray throughout the week for boys and girls in the church to love God and serve Him in holiness.

CONGREGATIONAL SONG GHS: 177 – SEARCH ME, O GOD

CHORUSES: (1) My lifetime. (2) Holiness, holiness. (3) I live for Jesus, day after day.

DAILY BIBLE READING

| | | |
|-----------|-----------------|----------|
| MONDAY | PSALM | 47:7-9 |
| TUESDAY | ISAIAH | 62:9-12 |
| WEDNESDAY | EPHESIANS | 5:25-27 |
| THURSDAY | MATTHEW | 5:6-8 |
| FRIDAY | REVELATION | 19:5-9 |
| SATURDAY | JOHN | 17:17-19 |
| SUNDAY | I THESSALONIANS | 5:22-24 |

BIBLE WORD SEARCH

Find the meaning of these words. You can use your dictionary:

1. Sanctification
2. Antagonist
3. Apostle
4. Passion
5. Discipline.

LESSON 7

THE SUPERIORITY OF GRACE OVER THE LAW

II Corinthians 3:1-18.

When something is said to be superior, it means that it is better in quality or of higher rank than others. The superiority of grace over the law therefore signifies that the period which we live in now 'dispensation of grace' is much better than when it was under 'the law'.

The time we live in now is the time of grace. This refers to the period when the death of Jesus to redeem us from sins and set us free from the bondage of the law is at work for all those who would believe Him. During the period of the law, the Israelites were ruled by the laws of the Ten Commandments and the sacrifice of animals as atonement for their sins.

We shall consider our topic under the following sub-topics:

1. THE TIME OF THE LAW:

II Corinthians 3:7-15; John 1:17; Galatians 3:24-25.

When the children of Israel came out of Egypt, on their way to the promised land, God gave them the law (The ten commandment) to guide them (Exodus 20:1-20). Moses was instructed by God to explain and teach the children of Israel the whole law. That is why the Bible says "**For the law was given by Moses,**" Meaning that the law came through Moses to the children of Israel.

God gave the ten commandments
to the children of Israel through Moses
their leader.



However, the children of Israel found it very difficult to keep the law. They were always breaking the law and receiving punishment from God because they lack the ability (grace) to obey the law. They could not stop themselves from doing bad things. **“Who have received the law by the disposition of angels, and have not kept it.”** (Acts 7:53). Many of the children of Israel died suddenly in the wilderness because they broke the law of God (Numbers 11:1,32-34; 14: 2, 27-29).

You need to understand however, that the law was given as a temporary measure to guide the people of God till Jesus’ death and redemption for us on the cross. **“Wherefore the law was our schoolmaster to bring us unto Christ, that we might be justified by faith.”**

(Galatians 3:24). Secondly, the law cannot bring salvation from sin or justification (Galatians 2:16; Acts 13:38,39). That is why Jesus Christ came to die for our sins.

2. THE TIME OF GRACE:

II Corinthians 3:4-6; John 1:17; Romans 6:14.

Grace is the love and mercy we receive from God. It is God's gift to us and it is free. It is the unmerited



kindness and favour from God to all human race. Grace comes through our Lord Jesus Christ. Grace has been described as "God's Riches At Christ's Expense". The period after the death and the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ until now is the time of grace. Grace is God's presence and love given through Christ Jesus. It is available now to all boys and girls so that they can receive

mercy, forgiveness, salvation and power to do God's will. The time of grace will soon be past when Jesus comes to take His friends with Him to heaven.

Do not allow the grace of God to pass you by. If you are not yet born again, repent of all your sins and accept Jesus' sacrifice for your cleansing. Believe now and be saved.

3. THE SUPERIORITY OF GRACE OVER THE LAW:

II Corinthians 3:1-18; Ephesians 5:19-21.

Grace and law are incomparable. Israel tried to keep the law but could not obtain salvation because it is by grace that we are saved.

God's grace allows for sinners to be convicted of their sins. Under the law, there is no such opportunity. That is why the people received instant punishment or death when they disobeyed the law like Achan and his family.

The superiority of grace over the law is evident in the following:

- (i) God gives a measure of grace as a gift to

sinner to make them

believe on the Lord

Jesus Christ and be saved (Ephesians 2:8,9).

- (ii) God gives grace to friends of Jesus to be "set free from sin" (Romans 6:20,22), "to will and do His good pleasure" (Philippians 2:13), to pray (Zechariah 12:10), to grow in Christ, live the Christian life, resist sin and serve God well (Romans 8:13,14; II Peter 3:18).

God's grace must be diligently desired and sought after (Hebrews 4:16). Some of the means of receiving God's grace are: reading, studying, meditation and obeying God's word (II Timothy 3:15), listening to the teaching of God's word (Romans 1:16), praying (I Thessalonians 5:22), fasting (Matthew 6:17,18), worship (Colossians 3:16),



being continually filled with the Holy Spirit (Ephesians 5:18) and fellowshiping with others (Acts 2:42).

Finally all friends of Jesus must be warned that it is possible to become careless and fall from grace. So you must be watchful and prayerful all the time. If you are not yet a friend of Jesus, or if you are rising and falling in sin, the grace of God is available for you today. Pray now and receive the grace to be born again and live a holy life.

QUESTIONS:

1. Explain what you understand by "Superiority of grace over the law". _____
2. (a) We receive grace through _____
(b) Mention one major weakness of the law? _____
3. Why did God give the law to His people? _____
4. (a) What period of time is referred to as the dispensation of grace? _____
(b) Mention, at least three ways in which grace is superior to the law. _____

5. (a) Is it possible to fall from grace? _____
(b) How can a sinful child receive salvation through grace? _____

MEMORY VERSE: "For the law was given by Moses, but grace and truth came by Jesus Christ." (John 1:17).

LESSON: We can only be saved through the grace of God.

THOUGHT: I will put my trust in Jesus and believe in Him to save me by His grace.

ACTIVITY: Prayer session. (a) for the unsaved to pray for salvation of their souls. (b) friends of Jesus to receive grace to live the christian life till the end.

HOMEWORK: Children should read the following passages and write in their homework book, how grace is better than law. (i) Romans 6:14; (ii) Romans 3:23,24; (iii) John 1:17; (iv) Romans 5:17,20.

CONGREGATIONAL SONG GHS: 129 – GRACE GREATER THAN OUR SIN

CHORUSES: (1) Give me grace to follow. (2) The grace of God is sufficient unto me. (3) No you can't get to heaven without SALVATION.

DAILY BIBLE READING

| | | |
|-----------|-----------|---------|
| MONDAY | JOHN | 1:15-17 |
| TUESDAY | EPHESIANS | 2:8-10 |
| WEDNESDAY | ROMANS | 6:1-4 |
| THURSDAY | ROMANS | 6:12-14 |
| FRIDAY | ROMANS | 6:15-18 |
| SATURDAY | TITUS | 2:11-13 |
| SUNDAY | TITUS | 2:11-14 |

BIBLE WORD SEARCH

Find the meaning of these words. You can use your dictionary:

- Grace 2. Law 3. Righteousness 4. Superiority
5. Convicted.

LESSON 8

CHARACTER OF CHRIST'S SERVANTS DURING TRIALS

II Corinthians 4:1-18.

Paul the Apostle loved to preach about the love of Jesus to people. In our study today, he gave account of how he suffered with other friends of Jesus and how they were able to stand during trials. Tope was a friend of Jesus. He loved to preach about Jesus to sinful children because of this, he was hated by other children. One day, as Tope was going home after school, some bad boys crossed his way, beat him up and tore his school uniform. He wept but was not discouraged. When he recovered, he went again and preached the love of Jesus to those who persecuted him. One after the other, they accepted Christ as their Saviour. The head teacher in Tope's school discovered that through Tope's preaching, many of the students got saved and became obedient to the rules and regulations of the school. God later rewarded Tope with a scholarship up to University level for his faithfulness.

Friends of Jesus should not be afraid to preach the gospel. God will give you the strength and courage to endure all trials.

The message is in three parts:

1. REASONS FOR BELIVER'S TRIALS:

II Corinthians 4:1-7; Philippians 1:29; II Timothy 3:12.

God in His gracious way uses various methods including difficulties, to make us to be like Christ.

God uses trials

to: (a) Make us develop Christ-like character such as love, joy, peace, self-control, patience etc. (Galatians 5:22,23).

(b) Strengthen us in time of suffering (Hebrews 12:3).

(c) bring us back

to God when we go astray. (d) Discipline backsliders (II Corinthians 4:7). (e) Help us to be faithful to God (John 15:2). (f) Provide an avenue to share the good news with others (I Peter 3:13-17). (g) Make us to be spiritually strong (Romans 8:35-39). (h) Teach us to rely on God and not ourselves (II Corinthians 1:8-10). (i) Prepare us to inherit our eternal glory (I Corinthians 4:17,18).

In every trial, friends of Jesus should remain steadfast in the Lord.

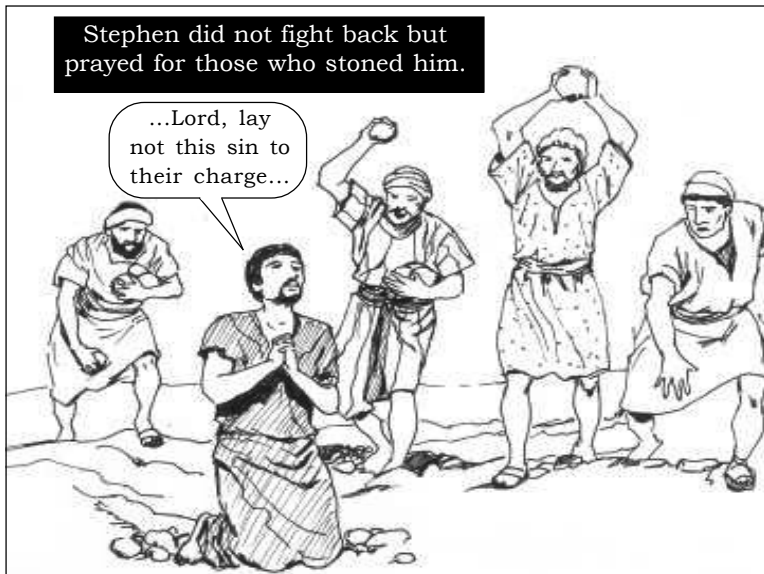
**Yea, and all
who will live a
godly life in
Christ Jesus
shall suffer
persecution**

(2 Timothy 3:12)

2. RIGHT BEHAVIOUR IN TIME OF TRIALS:

I Corinthians 4:8-11; I Peter 2:21-23.

As a friend of Jesus, you must realize that trials are part of a believer's life. You must trust in God's goodness and faithfulness.



when trials comes God does not forsake His own. In times of trials and sufferings, friends of Jesus should:

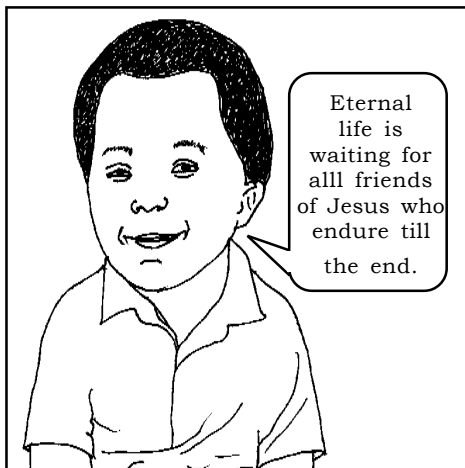
- (a) Maintain a lowly and humble spirit.
- (b) Be joyful
- (c) Be patient in the Lord.
- (d) Remain obedient to the word of God.
- (e) Trust in the Lord with all your heart.
- (f) Submit to God's will.
- (g) Overcome evil with good.

In the Bible, some of the people who passed through trials and overcame are- Joseph, Moses, Job, David, Paul, Stephen and many other men of God. As God was with them, so also, friends of Jesus who are passing through trials should be assured that God will help them to be victorious.

3. REWARDS FOR STEADFASTNESS IN TIMES OF TRIALS:

Daniel 12:3; James 1:11,12; II Timothy 4:7,8.

There are many rewards awaiting children who remain steadfast during trials. God will shower the following blessings on them: (i) success (ii) provision



of good things of life (iii) spiritual gifts (iv) a crown of life with stars (v) eternal life in heaven with Jesus.

Boys and girls should know that there is no crown for sinful children or those who surrender to trials and go back from following

Jesus. Are you still in sin? Repent now and accept Christ as your Saviour. As He lives in you, He will give you the grace to overcome all trials of life.

QUESTIONS:

1. Mention four purposes of God allowing trials in the lives of His children _____
2. State four good attitudes that friends of Jesus must put on in time of trials. _____
3. Mention four rewards for overcoming trials. _____

4. How can a sinful child escape God's judgment?

MEMORY VERSE: "These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world." (John 16:33).

LESSON: Trials are meant to strengthen friends of Jesus.

THOUGHT: I will trust and stand for Christ in time of trials.

ACTIVITY: The teacher should lead the children to pray for those who are suffering because of their faith in Christ.

HOMEWORK: Search the scriptures and write down the names of five people that suffered for Jesus and their attitude during trials.

CONGREGATIONAL SONG GHS: 41 – ONWARD, CHRISTIAN SOLDIERS!

CHORUSES: (1) When I remember what the Lord has done. (2) Give me grace to follow. (3) I live for Jesus day after day.

DAILY BIBLE READING

| | | |
|-----------|------------|----------|
| MONDAY | II TIMOTHY | 3:10-12 |
| TUESDAY | II TIMOTHY | 3:13-15 |
| WEDNESDAY | ACTS | 8:1-4 |
| THURSDAY | ACTS | 9:1-4 |
| FRIDAY | ACTS | 12:1-5 |
| SATURDAY | ACTS | 14:19-22 |
| SUNDAY | JOHN | 15:19-21 |

BIBLE WORD SEARCH

Find the meaning of these words. You can use
your dictionary:

1. Backslider
2. Courage
3. Sufferings
4. Distressed
5. Persecution.

LESSON 9

PAUL'S HOPE AND LABOUR FOR ETERNAL GLORY

II Corinthians 5:1-21.

The hope for one reward or another is behind all human activities or labour. It may be a reward for praise, love, success, money, power, salvation of souls. For example: children hope to be loved and cared for by their parents as they obey them, students work hard and hope to succeed and become responsible members of the society, workers work and hope to make money to take care of their families and preachers preach to turn souls from Satan to God.

Our Lord Himself stated in John 14:1,2 that He has gone to prepare a place for us in His Father's house where there are many mansions. He will come again to receive us to Himself. This is the hope of all true friends of Jesus. Are you prepared to go with Jesus to heaven?

Our topic is divided into three parts:

1. HEAVEN – THE ETERNAL HOME OF SAINTS:

II Corinthians 5:1-5; Revelation 21:18-26.

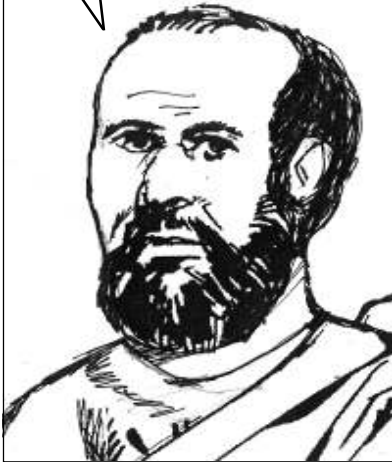
Paul knew and was well assured by faith that there is another and happy life in heaven after this present life is ended. Heaven is a place of rest and everlasting home with a beauty that is beyond human imagination.

Human language cannot adequately describe the beauty of the place called heaven.

It is a building whose maker is God and He has prepared it for those who love and serve Him (Revelation

Paul the Apostles spoke of the heavenly home for all friends of Jesus.

...we have a building of God,
an house not made with
hands, eternal in the heavens.



21:18-27). It is a holy place that sin or any defilement cannot enter. Only saints whose names are in the book of life will live there. Are you preparing to go there?

All have sinned and come short of the glory of God (Romans 3:23). All men are dead spiritually in sin and trespasses and under the judgment of God. But God so loved the world that He gave us Jesus, His only Son, to die for us that we may have everlasting life (John 3:16). A total

change of the heart through repentance and faith in the sacrifice of Christ on the cross makes the worst sinner a new creature in Christ (II Corinthians 5:17). Sinful boys and girls can start their preparation for heaven by turning away from their evil ways and giving their lives to Jesus.

2. PAUL'S LABOUR FOR ETERNAL GLORY:

II Corinthians 11:23-28; 5:6-11.

After his conversion, Paul received revelation from the Lord about the meaning of His sacrifice for humanity

on the cross and the fate of souls that died without salvation. He was then commissioned to preach the gospel of salvation. He denied himself of pleasure and position for the rest of his life laboring day and night to bring God's message of love to sinners. He was persecuted by the Jews and Gentiles that he labored to save (II Corinthians 11:23-25).

Apostles Paul and Barnabas obeyed Jesus' command to preach the good news. Their preaching made many people to become friends of Jesus.



Paul's life was an example of what God's grace can do in the lives of true believers. He labored more than any other apostle to save as many as possible from perishing. His life was a practical demonstration of Christ's desire that those He died for should live for Him alone.

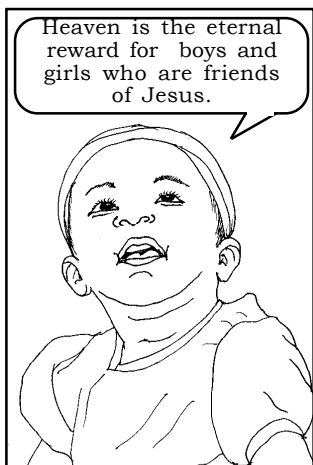
He was totally separated unto Christ and absolutely committed to His ministry. He had a Christ-like passion for the salvation of souls. He patiently suffered the loss of all things for his faith in Jesus. He is now in heaven

enjoying his well-deserved rest. How many of the above virtues can be seen in your life? You need to pray for grace to be like Paul.

3. BELIEVER'S HOPE AND LABOUR FOR ETERNAL GLORY:

II Corinthians 5:12-21.

A believer is a child that have repented and turned from his bad ways to make Jesus his Lord and Saviour. If you are a believer, your hope should be to live to please God and get to heaven at last. This hope will: (a) make



you to live holy each day, (b) help you to be watchful and prayerful. (c) help you to be separated from the world and live in the newness of life.

As we wait for the coming of the Lord, the believer should commit his life to labour for the gospel like Paul did. You are to preach the gospel everywhere and at all times. You must also be determined to endure persecution and trials. Keep on winning souls, teach them to obey God's word and to become true disciples of Christ. There are great rewards awaiting all those who will faithfully work for Christ and endure till the end. Your decision will determine your destiny.

QUESTIONS:

1. The hope of all believers is Christ's second coming. Yes/No?

2. Heaven is more beautiful than all the palaces on earth. Yes/No?
3. Mention three ways in which Paul suffered for the gospel. _____

4. Mention three things that believers must do in preparation for the coming of Christ. _____

5. How can sinners prepare for heaven? _____

MEMORY VERSE: “For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad.” (2 Corinthians 5:10).

LESSON: The hope of every saved child must be to get to heaven.

THOUGHT: I will labour to make heaven at last.

ACTIVITY: Prayer for grace to be able to labour for Christ like Paul did.

HOMEWORK: Share the love of Jesus with a sinful child.

CONGREGATIONAL SONG GHS: 139 – BEAUTIFUL HOME!

CHORUSES: (1) Heaven is full of joy. (2) Until I reach my home. (3) I have decided to follow Jesus.

DAILY BIBLE READING

| | | |
|-----------|-----------------|----------|
| MONDAY | REVELATION | 21:24-27 |
| TUESDAY | II CORINTHIANS | 6:1-3 |
| WEDNESDAY | I THESSALONIANS | 4:1-3 |
| THURSDAY | I THESSALONIANS | 4:4-8 |
| FRIDAY | I THESSALONIANS | 4:9-12 |
| SATURDAY | I THESSALONIANS | 4:13-15 |
| SUNDAY | I THESSALONIANS | 4:16-18 |

BIBLE WORD SEARCH

Find the meaning of these words. You can use your dictionary:

- Eternal 2. Labour 3. Believers 4. Glittering
5. Repentance.

LESSON 10

PAUL'S SUFFERINGS AND FAITHFULNESS IN MINISTRY

II Corinthians 6:1-13.

Apostle Paul, formerly called Saul of Tarsus (Acts 13:9) was highly educated. He kept the Jewish laws very faithfully. He was young and energetic and wanted to use his energy to serve God. He however used it the wrong way. God in his mercy, called and showed him the right way to serve Him. He did not remain the same again after his encounter with Jesus on the road to Damascus. Have you received Jesus Christ as your Saviour and Lord?

We shall study our topic under three sub-headings:

1. PAUL'S CALL INTO THE MINISTRY:

Acts 9:1-16; 26:15-18; II Corinthians 6:1-3.

Apostle Paul was saved in a dramatic way on the road to Damascus where he was going to persecute friends of Jesus. He heard a voice that stopped him and a bright light from heaven shone on his path. Jesus Christ made Himself known to Paul and this brought a change in his life. He became a different person from whom he used to be. He was changed from a sinner to a saint, persecutor of friends of Jesus to a friend of Jesus. His old lifestyle changed to a new one (II Corinthians 5:17).

When God wants to use a boy/girl to tell others about Jesus, He first calls and changes him/her from bad to good. Paul had this spectacular encounter with Jesus and he did not remain the

Paul was converted on his way to Damascus.



same for the rest of his life. He was called and commissioned to start winning souls for God's kingdom (Acts 26:15-18). Paul did not disobey or disappoint God. He did as he was commanded and completed his God-given assignment.

As a friend of Jesus, God has also called you to go and preach the gospel (Mark 16:15). God helped Paul to fulfil his ministry, He will also help you. Just trust and obey Him.

2. PAUL'S SUFFERING AND FAITHFULNESS IN THE MINISTRY:

Acts 9:15,16; 14:1-7,19,20; 26:15-18.

Jesus called Saul of Tarsus, He told him the work that he would do for Him. Jesus told him he would suffer many things for the sake of the gospel. Paul the persecutor became the persecuted. In the course of his ministry, Paul did many great things for the Lord because he surrendered to the Lordship of Christ. He saw himself as a debtor to divine grace. In his sufferings, he said **"... yet not I, but the grace of God which was with me."** (1 Corinthians 15:10).

Paul suffered for the sake of the gospel. The Jews planned to kill him but the disciples took him by night and let him down through the wall in a large basket.



In spite of the much suffering and rejection of this great apostle, he continued with the work of preaching of the gospel everywhere. He gave himself totally to the ministry. Many evil people rose up against him and his companion Barnabas but they continued their assignment (Acts 13:44-50). The enemy is not happy to see the gospel being preached but it must be done, whether he likes it or not. God saw Paul through all the persecutions, He will see you through as you remain faithful to Him.

3. REWARDS FOR FAITHFUL SERVICE:

II Timothy 4:7,8; Romans 8:38,39; Acts 13:49; 14:21-28; Revelation 2:10.

Apostle Paul remained faithful to his call into the ministry. He did not do it alone, he had companions (other friends of Jesus) who also preached the gospel faithfully till the end. Some of these saints are: Barnabas, Silas, John Mark, Timothy (whom he called his son). God expects all friends of Jesus to be faithful in carrying out this great commission of preaching the gospel to every creature. Before Paul departed from this earth, he declared with assurance **“I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith: Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness”** (2 Timothy 4:7,8a).

Paul enjoyed divine protection. In fact, he lived long to old age. When you are faithful in God's service, nobody will be able to harm you. God will keep you. Paul's ministry was accompanied with signs and wonders and opened the door of the gospel to many nations of the world. He established many churches, had many converts, trained many young pastors like Timothy and Titus who continued the work after him.

There are great rewards for those who will be faithful. Many souls will be saved, Jesus will be happy with you. Also, you will enjoy divine protection and at the end receive a crown with stars on it. Now is the time to serve the Lord and be faithful like Paul the Apostle.

However, before you can serve, you must be saved. If you are still a sinner, repent now and receive Jesus into your heart.



QUESTIONS:

1. What was Paul formerly called? _____
2. Where was he going when he had an encounter with Jesus? _____
3. Paul preached the gospel in many towns and cities. Yes/No?
4. Mention three of Paul's companions. _____

5. Mention three rewards for faithful servants _____

-
6. What must a sinner do to be qualified to preach the gospel? _____
-

MEMORY VERSE: “I must work the works of him that sent me, while it is day: the night cometh, when no man can work.” (John 9:4).

LESSON: True friends of Jesus must preach the gospel everywhere.

THOUGHT: I will preach the gospel everywhere I go.

ACTIVITY: Read Acts 13:4-6,13,14,49 and write out the names of the cities where Paul and his companions preached the gospel.

HOMEWORK: Children should be given tracts, Bible Study Outlines and other literature and encouraged them to preach the gospel during the week.

CONGREGATIONAL SONG GHS: 109 – TO THE WORK

CHORUSES: (1) I live for Jesus day after day. (2) Go tell it on the mountain. (3) I will go and tell them Jesus is alive.

DAILY BIBLE READING

| | | |
|-----------|---------------|----------|
| MONDAY | I CORINTHIANS | 3:6-8 |
| TUESDAY | I CORINTHIANS | 3: 9-11 |
| WEDNESDAY | ACTS | 14:1-3 |
| THURSDAY | ACTS | 14:4-7 |
| FRIDAY | ACTS | 14:8-10 |
| SATURDAY | ACTS | 14:19-23 |
| SUNDAY | ACTS | 14:24-27 |

BIBLE WORD SEARCH

Find the meaning of these words. You can use your dictionary:

1. Persecute
2. Loyalty
3. Companion
4. Encounter
5. Suffering.

LESSON 11

REDEMPTION, HEALING AND HEALTH

Isaiah 53:4,5; Matthew 8:16,17.

When God created Adam and Eve and put them in the Garden of Eden, they were perfect. There was no sickness, disease, affliction or suffering of any kind until Satan came to deceive man. Adam and Eve listened to Satan's advice which made them to disobey God. Their disobedience brought sicknesses, diseases, sorrow, death and separation from God.

Satan is a wicked person, he knows that he has lost his chance to be saved, therefore he makes people to commit sin so that they can forsake God and follow him to hell fire.

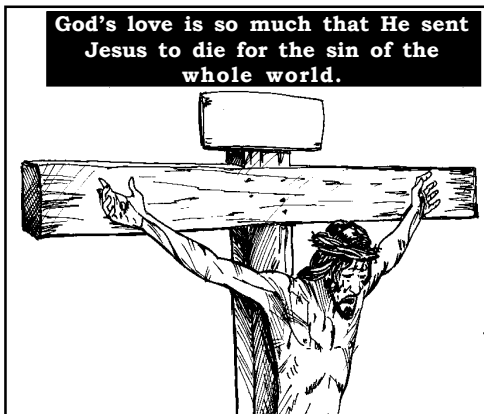
The good news is that, God is merciful and loving. He is not willing that we should suffer or perish. He has made provision for our redemption, healing and health. He did this by sending His only begotten Son Jesus Christ to die for all mankind. Jesus came into the world, suffered, died and shed His blood to: save sinners from sin and give healing and deliverance to those who are oppressed. by the devil. You have nothing to fear, Jesus has paid the price for your redemption, healing and health.

We shall examine this study under three sub-headings:

1. PROVISION FOR OUR REDEMPTION THROUGH JESUS' DEATH:

Isaiah 53:4,5; John 1:29; Romans 4:25.

Man would have been forever condemned to suffer in hell if God had not made provision for our redemption. Redemption means to pay a price in order to secure the release of something or someone. It is paying what is required in order to liberate from oppression and enslavement (I John 3:8; Hebrews 9:28).



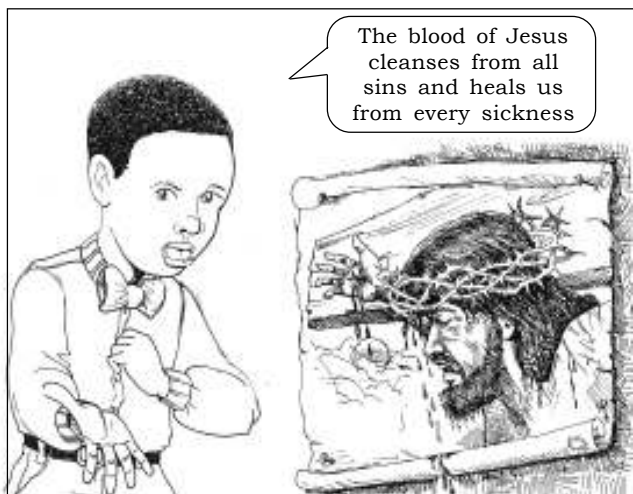
Jesus Christ is our redeemer, the Lamb of God who paid the price for our redemption. He died and shed His blood on the cross to redeem us from the curse of the law and set us free to become His own special children.

Are you free from sin? A sinner must realize his sinful state. Believe in the blood that was shed for him. Turn away from sin and receive forgiveness and cleansing through Christ's shed blood. Accept Jesus Christ as his personal Lord and Saviour.

2. PERFECT HEALING THROUGH HIS BLOOD:

Isaiah 53:4,5; I Peter 2:24.

The death of Jesus Christ on the cross accomplished total redemption for man. His blood cleanses from sin and also provides healing for all sicknesses. During His



earthly ministry, Christ went about doing good and healing all manner of sicknesses.

Jesus' sacrifice was complete for total redemption of the whole person spirit, soul and body.

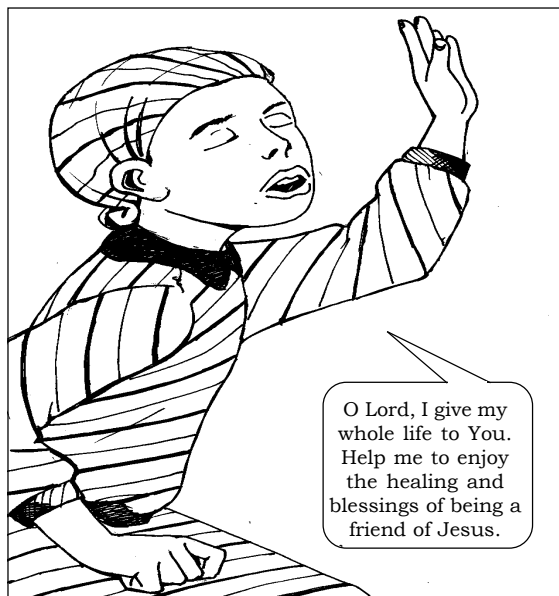
Whatever the sickness may be, Christ's suffering and shed blood will heal them all. As a friend of Jesus, if you are sick, believe and you will be made whole.

3. PROSPEROUS HEALTH THROUGH HIS RESURRECTION POWER:

Exodus 15:26; 23:25; III John 2.

Do you know that it is very possible to live without being sick? Yes, Jesus rose from death to give us power for healthy living. It is God's will for us to prosper in every area of our lives. There are conditions to fulfill in order to enjoy continuous healing and good health.

- (i) A sinner must be truly born again and free from all sins.



- (ii) Eat balanced diet, avoid 'junk foods' (sweets, biscuit, flavoured drinks).
- (iii) Keep your body and environment clean.
- (iv) Read and believe the promises of God concerning having a healthy life.
- (v) Be obedient to God's word, confess his promises daily, be prayerful and stay with Jesus till the end.

There are many people who walked with God and were never sick. These include: Abraham, Moses, Samuel, Joseph and the disciples of our Lord. The Lord is able to keep us healthy if we abide in Him.

QUESTIONS:

1. Sickness and disease is related to the problem of _____
2. The major cause of sickness is _____

3. How did God make provision for our redemption?

4. Believers can enjoy perfect healing and health through the blood of Jesus. Yes/No?
5. What steps should a sinful child take in order to be redeemed? _____

MEMORY VERSE: “But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed.” (Isaiah 53:5).

LESSON: God has made provision for our salvation, healing and health.

THOUGHT: I will remain with Jesus so that I can enjoy all-round divine health.

ACTIVITY: Write out five promises in the Bible for our healing and health. Then pray, claiming all those promises.

HOMEWORK: Pray for children who are sick or under the oppression of Satan.

CONGREGATIONAL SONG GHS: 131 – IN TENDERNESS HE SOUGHT ME

CHORUSES: (1) There is power mighty in the blood. (2) Jesus conquered the world. (3) And his name was Naaman.

DAILY BIBLE READING

| | | |
|-----------|---------|-----------|
| MONDAY | PSALM | 103:1-5 |
| TUESDAY | LUKE | 5:17-20 |
| WEDNESDAY | LUKE | 5:21-26 |
| THURSDAY | HEBREWS | 9:11-14 |
| FRIDAY | JAMES | 5:13-15 |
| SATURDAY | EXODUS | 23: 25-27 |
| SUNDAY | ACTS | 10:35-38 |

BIBLE WORD SEARCH

Find the meaning of these words. You can use your dictionary:

1. Redemption
2. Health
3. Divine
4. Liberate
5. Enslavement.

LESSON 12

HOLINESS WITH HOSPITALITY

Luke 10:30-37.

Jesus our Saviour is holy and kind. He wants all His friends to be like Him (Matthew 11:29). Holiness is having a pure and clean heart like that of Jesus. It is a gift of God for born again children. Caring and showing kindness to other children is called hospitality. The Lord Jesus wants us to show kindness to other children and to also be holy. Holiness should not be of the head knowledge but in the heart and in our actions. It must be genuine and full of love and grace. Such holiness is practical and not theory. Are you holy? You must show it through your kindness to others.

The study is in three parts:

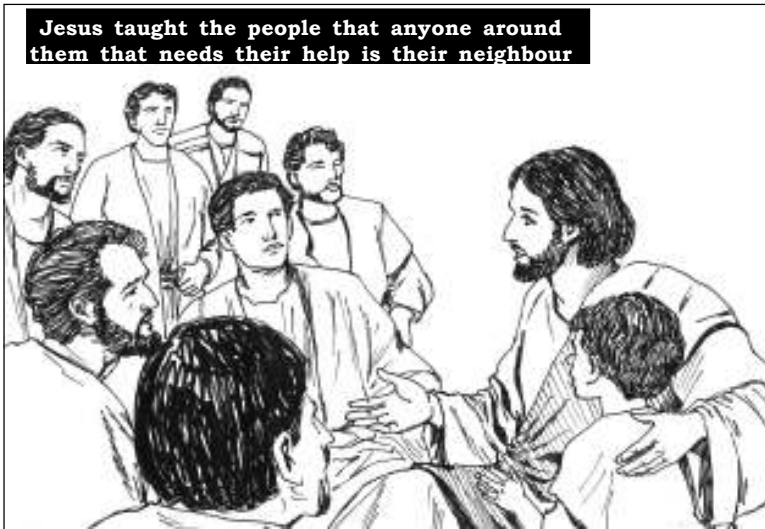
1. WHO IS YOUR NEIGHBOUR?

Luke 10:29; Colossians 3:12-14; II Peter 1:7.

The story in our text is the answer given by Jesus to the question asked by a lawyer in our Bible passage, "Who is my neighbour?" Jesus told him that a certain man was travelling from Jerusalem to Jericho. That man was attacked by armed robbers. They wounded him and left him half dead. A priest (or a pastor) who was supposed to pray for him passed by. A Levite also saw him and passed by. A Levite is like a full-time worker in the house of God. He spends all his time working for God and did

not do anything else. The priest and the Levite does not help him because they did not know him and he was not their friend or relation.

Many children are wounded by Satan and sin. They are about to die. Do not just pass by. Be their friend and

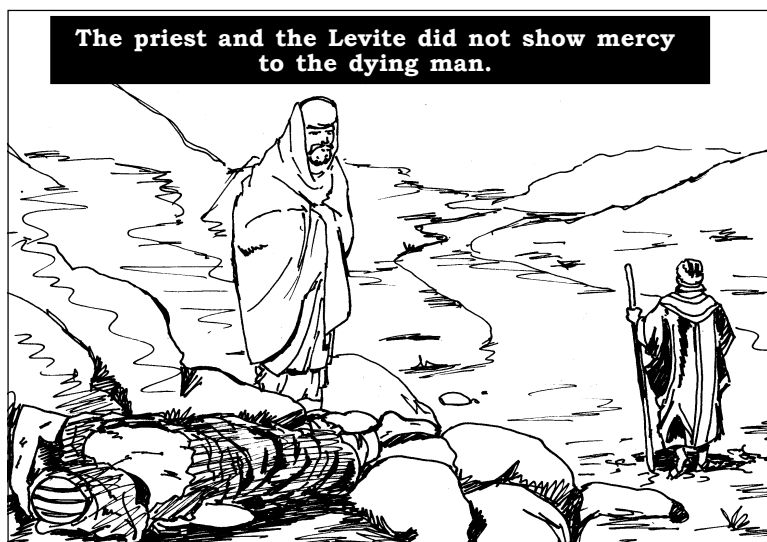


help them. Everyone that you show kindness to is your neighbour and friend. Do good to him or her. Preach to sinners so that Jesus can save them from hell fire. Pray for the sick and the oppressed to be delivered. Speak comfortable words to the unhappy child, visit the discouraged children and give to those who are in need. It is when you are born again that you will be able to do all these things and show kindness to others in the way that God will accept. Therefore, repent now of all your sins and give your life to Jesus (John 3:3). He will pardon you and you will live a beautiful life for Him.

2. THE PRIEST AND THE LEVITE:

Luke 10:31,32.

The priest and the Levite were workers in the temple. God chose them to do special work like praying for people and sacrificing to God on behalf of others. They were to keep the law, teach the people God's word and encourage them to obey it (Leviticus 10:11; Deuteronomy 17:18).



The priest saw the man that was half-dead and passed by another way. The Levite also came and looked at him and passed by another way. They did not show love and mercy to the wounded man. Mercy and love are more important than any other service. You can serve as a chorister without love and compassion in your heart. Such a service is not acceptable to God.

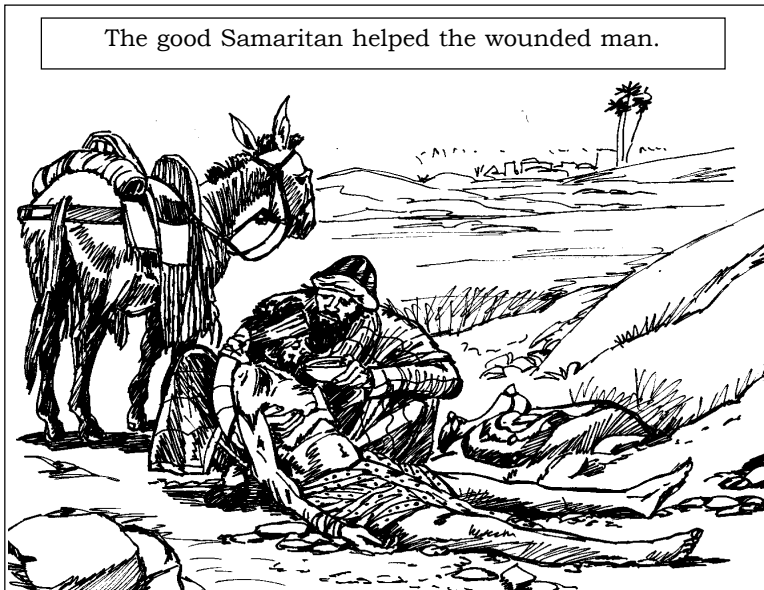
As you have been saved from sin, you are now a special child to God. Therefore, you must pray for other

people's salvation, healing and deliverance. Do not be like the priest and Levite in our story.

3. THE GOOD SAMARITAN:

Luke 10:33-35.

The good Samaritan showed actions of love to the wounded man: (i) he had mercy on him. (ii) he went to



him. (iii) he treated him by pouring oil and wine on his wounds. (iv) he carried him on his beast (horse). (v) he brought him to a clinic where he would receive good care. (vi) he paid the hospital bill and promise to visit him again.

This is real love which the Lord expects from every child in His church. This man had compassion like Jesus, and he showed kindness without expecting reward from the wounded man. At the end of the story,

Jesus said, “**Go, and do thou likewise.**” (Luke 10:37). He wants you to follow the good example of the Good Samaritan. If you follow his loving example, (i) many sinners will be attracted to Jesus and come with you to church. (ii) our church will increase with new converts. (iii) backsliders will be restored. (iv) our prayer will be answered (v) there will be spiritual and physical growth.

QUESTIONS:

1. What is holiness? _____
2. Who is your neighbour? _____
3. Mention three good things you can do for a neighbour. _____

4. Before you serve God, mercy and love are very important. Yes/No?
5. Who is the perfect example to copy? _____
6. What should a sinful child do before showing kindness to others? _____

MEMORY VERSE: “**For I desired mercy, and not sacrifice; and the knowledge of God more than burnt offerings.**” (Hosea 6:6).

LESSON: Saved children should be merciful and kind to other children.

THOUGHT: I will be merciful.

ACTIVITY: Children should act a short playlet on the good and kind behaviour of the Good Samaritan.

HOMEWORK: Write out four good things you want to do for other children and start praying to God to help you.

CONGREGATIONAL SONG GHS: 85 – GIVE OF YOUR BEST TO THE MASTER

CHORUSES: (1) Give me love for my brethren. (2) I will love, I will love. (3) I am ready to obey Thy word.

DAILY BIBLE READING

| | | |
|-----------|----------------|----------|
| MONDAY | LUKE | 1:70-75 |
| TUESDAY | TITUS | 1:5-9 |
| WEDNESDAY | I PETER | 1:14-16 |
| THURSDAY | II CORINTHIANS | 7:1-4 |
| FRIDAY | HEBREWS | 12:12-14 |
| SATURDAY | EPHESIANS | 5:25-27 |
| SUNDAY | HEBREWS | 13:1-3 |

BIBLE WORD SEARCH

Find the meaning of these words. You can use your dictionary:

1. Kindness
2. Holiness
3. Hospitality
4. Comfortable
5. Compassion.

LESSON 13

SERVING ONE ANOTHER IN LOVE

Romans 12:9-13.

Jesus our perfect example lived a life of love and humility. He left His throne in heaven to die for the sins of the whole world. God gave Him to us freely because of His perfect love for mankind. As disciples of Jesus, we are expected to live a life of sacrifice and love one another, be hospitable and not lazy. When we do these, we may entertain angels unawares (Hebrews 13:2).

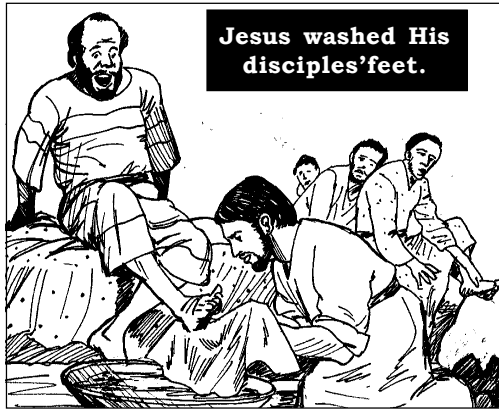
Our topic is divided into three parts:

1. JESUS' COMMAND TO SERVE ONE ANOTHER:

Matthew 20:27; 23:11; Mark 10:44; John 13:15.

It is our duty as friends of Jesus to serve one another.

Jesus our perfect example washed His disciples' feet. To be like Jesus, we need to put others first in all that we do. We must not be selfish. By doing this, we will be following the steps of our Master and

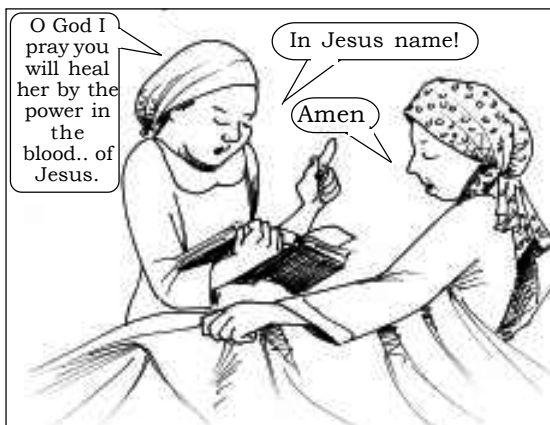


Saviour Jesus Christ.

2. SERVING OTHERS IN LOVE:

Leviticus 19:18; Matthew 19:19; Ephesians 4:1,2.

We are commanded to love our neighbour as

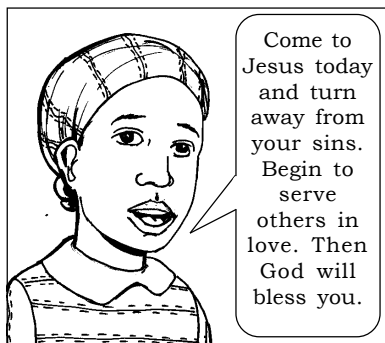


ourselves. If we love others they will love us as well. Our service to one another must be loving, practical, real, respectful, genuine and tender not just in words but in actions.

You are to show love, be kind and give freely to your friends who do not have. Pray for others and do to others what you want them to do to you.

3. BENEFITS OF SERVING OTHERS IN LOVE:

A lot of blessings awaits those who obey Jesus by loving others. Jesus will be happy with you; you will live with God in heaven and receive crowns with stars. Your prayers will be answered and you will be successful in your examinations.



Before a sinful child can serve others in love: (i) he must first accept that he is a sinner. (ii) come to Jesus and confess his sins of lying, stealing, fighting and backbiting. (iii) tell Jesus that he is sorry for his bad behaviours. (iv) ask God to forgive and wash him in the blood of Jesus. (v) invite Jesus into his heart as Lord and Saviour.

Rise up and pray.

QUESTIONS:

1. What does it mean to serve one another in love?

2. Who is our Perfect Example? _____
3. Can a sinful child serve others in love? _____
4. What must he do before he can serve others?

MEMORY VERSE: “Be kindly affectioned one to another with brotherly love; in honour preferring one another;” (Romans 12:10).

LESSON: Serving others in love is a command from Jesus.

THOUGHT: I will serve others in love.

ACTIVITY: Children should write ten things they will do for others in their house fellowship.

HOMEWORK: Visit those that have not been coming to church for a long time.

CONGREGATIONAL SONG GHS: 84 – DEEPER, DEEPER IN THE LOVE OF JESUS

CHORUSES: (1) I will love, I will love. (2) God must be honoured. (3) His banner over us is love.

DAILY BIBLE READING

| | | |
|-----------|---------------|---------|
| MONDAY | I CORINTHIANS | 13:1-3 |
| TUESDAY | I CORINTHIANS | 13:4-6 |
| WEDNESDAY | I CORINTHIANS | 13:7-10 |
| THURSDAY | PHILIPPIANS | 2:1-4 |
| FRIDAY | HEBREWS | 13:1-3 |
| SATURDAY | I JOHN | 4:7-10 |
| SUNDAY | I JOHN | 4:11-15 |

BIBLE WORD SEARCH

Find the meaning of these words. You can use your dictionary:

1. Command
2. Serve
3. Love
4. Affection
5. Hospitable.

LESSON 1

MICAH INTRODUCES IDOLATRY IN ISRAEL

Judges 17:1-13

The children of Israel were God's special people. They were delivered from slavery in Egypt and given the Promised Land as an inheritance. Through their leader Moses, God gave them commandments or laws to guide them so that they would have a good relationship with Him and with one another.

The first commandment that God gave Israel was **“thou shall have no other gods before me”** (Exodus 20:2,3). This was a very clear instruction from the God of heaven and earth. He expected Israel to obey but they did not.

Rather than obey the commandments, Israel forsook God to serve the idols of the nations around them. The people did whatever was right in their eyes. Their disobedience made God unhappy with them. They suffered greatly at the hands of their enemies. Idolatry of any kind brings despair (loss of hope), destruction, misery, suffering and death.

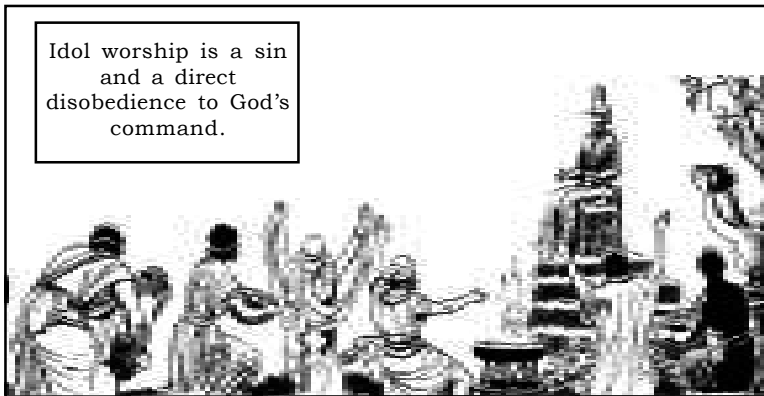
God is also instructing us today, not to serve idols. Obedience to this command will bring victory, joy and everlasting peace.

The study is in three parts:

1. THE NATURE OF IDOLATRY:

Judges 17:1-6; Exodus 20:1-5; Ephesians 5:5;
Colossians 3:5-6.

Idolatry is a major sin which occurred throughout the history of Israel as a nation. Micah was a member of the tribe of Ephraim in Israel. His name means “Who is like Jehovah?” What a contradiction. He disregarded the commandment of God and introduced idol worship to



his family and people. Micah was a bad influence to his people because: (a) he stole his mother's money, (b) returned the money because he feared the curse from his mother. (c) made idols and set them up for worship in his private shrine, (d) made his son to become an idolatrous priest and (e) influenced a young Levite to become priest in his shrine.

The lawless attitude of Micah is also very common in our own present days. Many children want to do whatever they like. The end of such is destruction (Proverbs 14:12). Idolatry is not just the worship of images, it includes: (i) love of money and worldly pleasure, (ii) friendship with sinners and their immoral and evil practices, (iii) covetousness and greed,

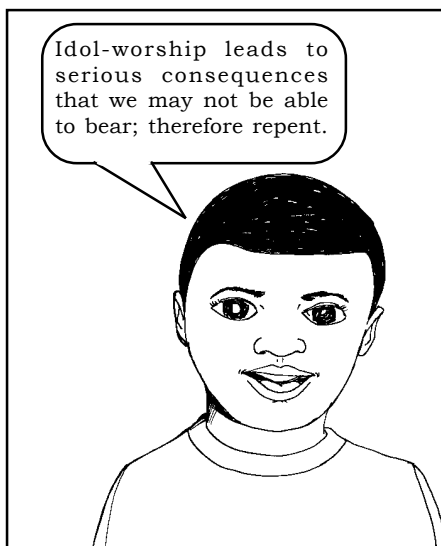
(iv) association with false prophets and their false doctrines, (v) witchcraft/familiar spirit, (vi) occultism and (vii) anything that one loves or values more than God.

The Bible commands that **“thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them; for I the Lord thy God am a jealous God, ...”** (Exodus 20:5). You must be warned; idol worship is a serious sin before God.

2. CONSEQUENCE OF IDOL-WORSHIP:

Exodus 20:5; Deuteronomy 28:15; Revelation 21:8; 22:15.

Disobedience to God’s commandments always attracts serious consequences that we may not be able to bear. Micah introduced idolatry and it spread to the whole community. From one generation to another generation the children of Israel continued to follow this bad example. Remember that whatever you do can affect your family and nation.



The whole world today is in trouble because many people have departed from the true God to serve idols. There is no peace for the wicked. Idolatry leads to: (a) loss of fellowship with God, (b) withdrawal of God’s favour, protection and blessings, (c) c o n f u s i o n , commotion and chaos, (d) divine

punishment, destruction, captivity, great sorrow and (e) eternal damnation in hell fire.

Deuteronomy chapter 28 clearly explains the consequences of forsaking God to serve idols. While the first 13 verses are pronouncements of blessings for the obedient, 54 verses are curses for those who disobey. It is wise to obey God's word so that you will inherit the blessings.

3. WARNING AGAINST IDOL-WORSHIP:

I John 5:21; I Corinthians 10:7,14-21.

God is too great to be represented by anything made by human hands.

It is impossible for any image or picture of God to truly represent the personal glory and character of God (Isaiah 40:18). God is so holy and unsearchable that any image of Him dishonours Him. This is why the Bible warns us to flee from idols. There should be no representation of God's image in

the form of symbols, crucifix, "holy water", "anointing oil", wrist band or any other object.



Friends of Jesus must worship God in truth and in spirit. Our thoughts and actions should be based on God's word and on His revelation through the work and life of Jesus Christ (John 17:3). For a sinner to serve God acceptably, he must repent of all his sins, ask for forgiveness and cleansing in the blood of Jesus. He must invite Jesus to be his Saviour, Lord and Master. You must do away with any image or property of Satan in your care and abstain from idol-worship.

QUESTIONS:

1. What is idolatry? _____
2. _____ introduced idolatry in Ephraim.
3. What are the consequences of worshipping idols?

4. Mention five things that are considered to be the same as worshipping of idols _____
5. How can a sinner be saved? _____

MEMORY VERSE: “**Thou shalt have no other gods before me**” (Exodus 20:3).

LESSON: There is great judgment awaiting all idol-worshippers.

THOUGHT: I will not serve man-made gods.

ACTIVITY: Group discussion. The children should be shared into different groups. They are to discuss the effects of idol-worship in the lives of the children of Israel throughout the period of the Judges. One of the children

should write out the outcome of the discussion in each group.

HOMEWORK: Children are to write in their homework book, five things they must do daily to avoid falling into the sin of idol worship.

**CONGREGATIONAL SONG GHS: 15 –
O WORSHIP THE KING**

CHORUSES: (1) I will not serve man-made gods. (2) All power belongs to Jesus. (3) Jesus power, super power.

DAILY BIBLE READING

| | | |
|-----------|---------------|----------|
| MONDAY | EXODUS | 20:1-4 |
| TUESDAY | EXODUS | 20:5-7 |
| WEDNESDAY | DEUTERONOMY | 4:14-17 |
| THURSDAY | DEUTERONOMY | 4:23-26 |
| FRIDAY | DEUTERONOMY | 5:6-9 |
| SATURDAY | I CORINTHIANS | 10:5-7 |
| SUNDAY | I CORINTHIANS | 10:14-20 |

BIBLE WORD SEARCH

Find the meanings of these words. You can use your dictionary: 1. Idolatry 2. Image 3. Worship

4. Lawlessness 5. covetousness.

LESSON 2

THE DANITES SEEK FOR MORE LANDS

Judges 18:1-31

Dan was one of the twelve sons of Jacob. His descendants are known as Danites and they are one of the twelve tribes of Israel. At the time of the Judges, Joshua had shared out the land to all the twelve tribes and settled in the Promised Land. The portion of land allotted to the Danites had never been fully occupied. Now the Philistines that were still left in the land were increasing. The Danites now decided to find more land which they could occupy. How did they go about possessing more lands? Did they seek counsel from God? This is what we shall examine in our study which is divided into three parts.

1. THE DANITES' PLAN TO EXPAND THEIR LAND:

Judges 18:1-10; Numbers 13:17-24; 14:6-8.

The children of Dan, in preparation to possess more lands, sent five men to spy the land of Laish. Spying is a strategy of warfare that involves sending secret agents to check the condition of the land, the strength and the watchfulness of the people living therein. There are important lessons to learn here: (a) The Danites were careful in sending out spies. They did not want to fail in their endeavour. Proper planning is very important in everything that we do. (b) Prompt obedience of the

The Danites planned to expand their land. It is good to plan well before taking any action.



spies - they set out to do the assignment given to them immediately. You are to obey the word of God you are being taught without delay. (c) The five spies were very observant and faithful. The spies observed that the

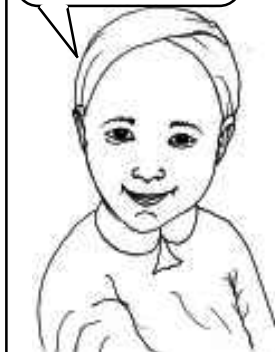
people of Laish were careless (Judges 18:7). The spies therefore encouraged the people to go forth and possess the land (Judges 18:10). Carelessness and self-confidence will lead to defeat and shame.

2. THE DANITES' WICKED DECISION:

Judges 18:11-27.

The good report from the spies encouraged the Danites to act promptly. They organized about six hundred armed soldiers to go and possess the land. They soon came to Laish and easily captured it, killing the inhabitants and burning their city with fire. In their quest to possess the land, the Danites made some costly mistakes:- (i) they did not pray or ask God for guidance. (ii) They disregarded God's commandment by stealing Micah's idols. (iii) They appointed the idolatrous Levite as priest for their stolen idols (graven

Children of God should seek counsel through prayer and the word of God before taking any step in life.



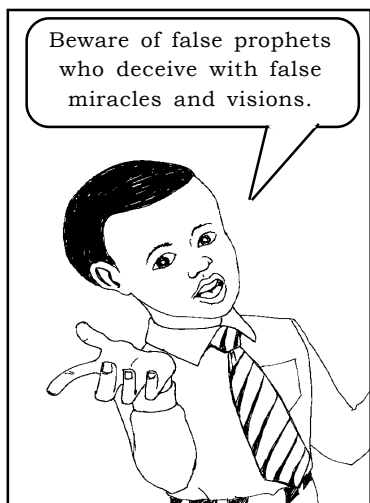
images). (iv) These idols were set up in their new land. (v) They killed innocent souls who were living in peace. These acts of the Danites became a grievous sin in the sight of God. They built a shrine for the idols where they continued to worship from generation to generation. They forgot God's word and turned to their wicked ways.

If they had sought the face of God, He would have given them their own portion of land without destroying innocent souls. You must let God guide you through sincere prayers, reading and meditation on the word of God, counsels from godly parents, teachers and pastors. As you do these, you will not make costly mistakes and you will prosper.

3. BEWARE OF FALSE TEACHERS:

Judges 18:28-31; Matthew 24:5,10-13,24; I Timothy 4:1; 2 Timothy 4:3,4; 2 Peter 2:1-3.

The Bible clearly warns that in the last days, false teachers and prophets will arise. Some will even perform



lying wonders to deceive careless boys and girls. You must not follow them. The Danites were easily deceived by the Levite who was a priest in the house of idols. They could not differentiate between false and true worship. They were influenced by the strange religion of the Canaanites.

Boys and girls must beware of false teachers who deceive people by

performing false miracles and seeing fake visions. Jesus is the Way, the Truth and the Light. Repent of your sins. Ask for pardon and cleansing in His blood. Make Jesus your Lord and Saviour. Be determined to follow and serve Him till the end. Do not follow the multitude to do evil. Live holily, watch and pray and expect the coming of the Lord. He is able to keep you as you focus your attention on Him by reading and meditating on God's word.

QUESTIONS:

1. Which tribe in Israel decided to seek for more lands in our lesson? _____
2. How many men were sent to spy the land of Laish? _____
3. Mention three lessons you learn from the way the Danites prepared for battle. _____
4. Identify four mistakes that the Danites made in their quest to possess the land. _____
5. Mention the steps sinful children must take to enjoy God's mercy and forgiveness. _____

MEMORY VERSE: “**And they said, Arise, that we may go up against them: for we have seen the land, and, behold, it is very good: and are ye still? be not slothful to go, and to enter to possess the land**” (Judges 18:9).

LESSON: God is not pleased when we are unthankful to Him and serve other gods.

THOUGHT: I will encourage others to fear, love and serve the living God only.

ACTIVITY: From the following passages, what does God command us to do to idols or images? (i) Exodus 34:13; (ii) Deuteronomy 12:3; (iii) Judges 2:2; (iv) Acts 15:20.

HOMEWORK: Search your Bible and write down in your church notebook three passages where God promised to give the land of Canaan to the children of Israel.

CONGREGATIONAL SONG GHS: 47 – JUST OBEY

CHORUSES: (1) I will never let the devil win the battle.
(2) I will never worship man-made god. (3) My life time,
I will give God my life time.

DAILY BIBLE READING

| | | |
|-----------|--------|----------|
| MONDAY | JOSHUA | 2:1-3 |
| TUESDAY | JOSHUA | 2:23,24 |
| WEDNESDAY | JOSHUA | 1:1-3 |
| THURSDAY | JOSHUA | 2:10-11 |
| FRIDAY | PSALM | 62:9,10 |
| SATURDAY | ACTS | 15:19,20 |
| SUNDAY | JOSHUA | 24:13-15 |

BIBLE WORD SEARCH

Find the meanings of these words. You can use your dictionary: 1. Descendants 2. Allotted 3. Ascertain
4. Strategy 5. Snare.

LESSON 3

THE IMMORAL LIFESTYLE OF THE PEOPLE OF GIBEAH

Judges 19:1-30

Immoral lifestyle is a way of living that is completely against God's righteous commands. Some animals such as dogs and pigs live dirty and immoral lives. God does not expect human beings created in His image to live like dogs or pigs that have no knowledge or intelligence.

Our text shows how the people of Gibeah lived a life that made God unhappy. From the Levite (a religious leader) to the common people on the streets of Gibeah, there was no shame or fear of God in them. They all did whatever they liked. They had no regard for God's word. We are to live by the word of God no matter what is going on in our society.

The study is divided into three parts:

1. THE UNGODLY LIFESTYLE OF THE PEOPLE OF GIBEAH:

Judges 19:1-26; Genesis 19:4-9; 2 Peter 2:14,15.

The Benjamites lived in the city of Gibeah. It was one of the cities that belonged to the children of Israel (Judges 19:12). At that time, there was no king in Israel and the people did not fear or respect God. Thus, the people did what they liked (Judges 17:6). The sins of the

people of Gibeah were so much that God made reference to it twice in the book of Hosea (Hosea 9:9; 10:9).

A certain Levite took a concubine from Bethlehem in Judah. This showed that the

Levite who was a servant of God did not follow God's word in his choice of marriage partner. So his concubine turned out to be a prostitute.

The summary of the lifestyle of the people of Gibeah include the following:

- i. Ungodly marriages, from the priest to the common people (Judges 19:1-2).
- ii. Unclean life of prostitution (Judges 19:2).
- iii. Self-indulgence which involved too much (excessive) eating and drinking (Judges 19:4,6,8).
- iv. Lack of love and hospitality to strangers (Judges 19:15).
- v. Wickedness and lack of mercy.
- vi. Immorality, rape and murder (Judges 19:25-27).

This was also the kind of life that the people of Sodom and Gomorrah lived which made God to bring His judgment upon them. Judgment awaits all who refuse to repent or turn from their sinful ways.



2. THE UNGODLY LIFESTYLE IN THE WORLD TODAY:

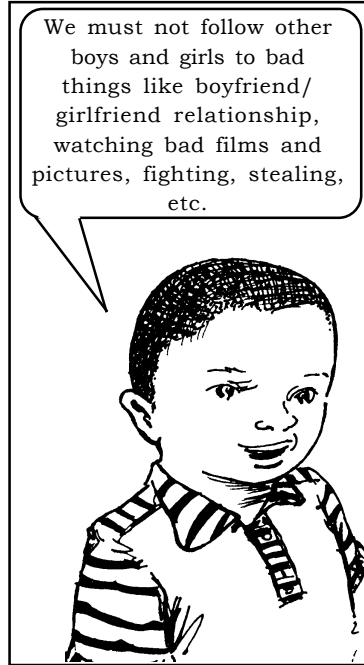
Judges 19:22-29; 2 Timothy 3:1-5.

As the people of Gibeah lived a carefree, unclean, self-indulgent and immoral life, so also boys and girls who are not friends of Jesus follow the same pattern of life today (2 Timothy 3:1-5).

It is common today to see sinful boys and girls all around us who engage in:

- i. Boy/girlfriend sinful relationships.
- ii. Watching immoral films and dirty pictures on the internet and in magazines.
- iii. Wicked acts of fighting, killing, stealing etc.
- iv. Gang-raping and defilement of little children.
- v. A life of ease, self-indulgence, over-eating, over-sleeping and idleness.
- vi. Lack of the fear of God and no regard for the word of God.

All these will bring the judgment of God upon such children except they repent.

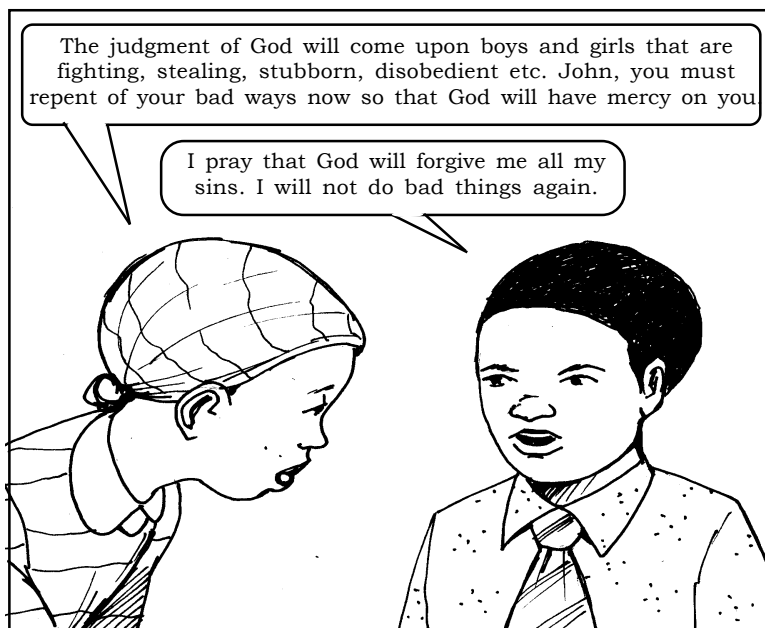


3. GOD'S JUDGMENT ON THE UNGODLY:

Judges 19:30; Genesis 19:24-26; 2 Peter 2:4-10.

When the other tribes of Israel heard what had happened in Gibeah, they were not happy. They gathered together

to fight and destroy the ungodly Benjamites. God is not happy with evil. The judgment of God is coming upon boys and girls who do evil if they do not repent.



If you are involved in any ungodly act like stealing, immorality, fighting, killing, witchcraft, cultism, stubbornness, being disobedient to your parents and many other bad things, Jesus is knocking at the door of your heart. Hear His voice and open your heart by repenting of your evil ways. Ask Him for forgiveness and cleansing in His shed blood. Forsake all your sins and promise never to go back to them. Ask Jesus to be your Saviour and Lord. This is the only way that you can escape the punishment of God upon sinners.

As a friend of Jesus, you must determine to stand for God. Do not follow multitudes to do evil. The fact that many people are doing bad things does not make it right. Separate yourself from evil company and obey God's word till the end.

QUESTIONS:

1. Explain what you understand by immoral lifestyle.

2. The Levite did not marry properly because he brought a girlfriend to live in his house. Yes/No?
3. Mention five things that the people of Gibeah did which showed that they were ungodly. _____

4. Mention three lifestyles of sinful boys and girls today.

5. How can an ungodly child escape the punishment of God? _____

MEMORY VERSE: “**They have deeply corrupted themselves, as in the days of Gibeah: therefore he will remember their iniquity, he will visit their sins.**” (Hosea 9:9).

LESSON: God will judge all sinners who remain in their sinful ways.

THOUGHT: I will live to please the Lord.

ACTIVITY: Children should read the following Bible passages and write out the names of the cities and the bad things that they did. (i) Genesis 13:13; (ii) Genesis 19:4-9.

HOMEWORK: Prayer for grace to live to please Jesus every day.

**CONGREGATIONAL SONG GHS: 205 –
HAVE YOU COUNTED THE COST?**

CHORUSES: (1) One day na one day. (2) Behold, I stand at the door and knock. (3) No, you can't get to heaven without S.A.L.V.A.T.I.O.N.

DAILY BIBLE READING

| | | |
|-----------|---------|----------|
| MONDAY | HOSEA | 9:8-9 |
| TUESDAY | EZEKIEL | 16:49,50 |
| WEDNESDAY | 2 PETER | 2:4-6 |
| THURSDAY | 2 PETER | 2:7-9 |
| FRIDAY | 2 PETER | 2:10-12 |
| SATURDAY | 2 PETER | 2:13-15 |
| SUNDAY | GENESIS | 6:5-7 |

BIBLE WORD SEARCH

Find the meanings of these words. You can use your dictionary: 1. Immoral 2. Ungodly 3. Lifestyle
4. Levite 5. Indulgence.

LESSON 4

ISRAEL DEMANDS JUSTICE FROM GIBEAH

Judges 20:1-17

It is written in the Bible that “**Righteousness exalteth a nation: but sin is a reproach** (shame) **to any people**” (Proverbs 14:34). This was the situation that the Israelites brought upon themselves. They were God’s chosen people; delivered from slavery and given the Promised Land as an inheritance. Despite all that God did for Israel, they forsook His righteous ways to serve idols. Their disobedience brought untold hardship upon them.

Nothing good can come out of disobeying God’s word as can be seen even in our present generation. There are confusions, wars, troubles, sicknesses and strange happenings in the world today all because of sin. God hates sin and will judge and punish all sinners who refuse to repent. As a sinner, you must repent and turn away from sin in order to enjoy the peace of God.

The study is divided into three parts:

1. THE SIN OF GIBEAH:

Judges 20:1-5; Hosea 9:9.

Jacob, also known as Israel had twelve sons. The descendants of these sons make up the twelve tribes of Israel. When Joshua led them into Canaan the Promised Land, he divided the land according to their tribes. The land they occupied was divided into several parts and given different names. Gibeah was one of the cities that belonged to the tribe of Benjamin.

All the twelve tribes were expected to be governed by God's commandment. Alas! They forsook God's word

The people of Gibeah had no regard for God's word. We must not follow their bad example.



to serve idols. This led them to do whatever they liked. Their departure from God's law exposed them to different kinds of evil and wickedness.

A man from another town came to Gibeah with his wife and needed a place to rest. Instead of showing love to the couple, the people of Gibeah treated them badly. Instead of helping them, some of the young men committed immorality with the man's wife and she died in the process. This is a great wicked act. The people of Gibeah refused to punish the evil doers. Instead, they determined to help and cover up their evil deeds.

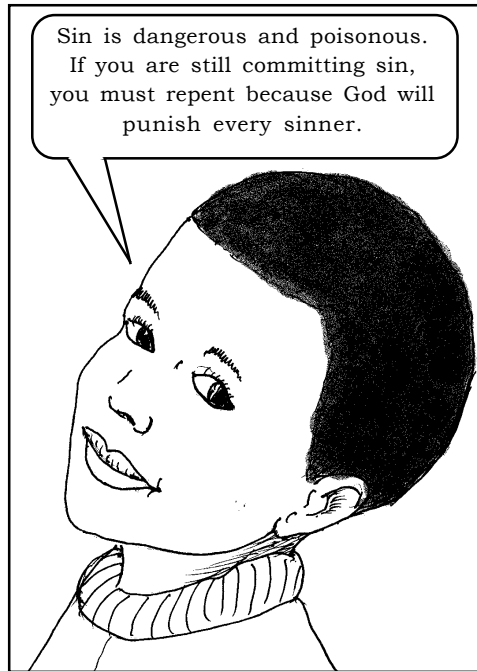
When one supports or encourages another child to do bad things, he is a partaker of that person's evil and the punishment for the evil deed. Do not cover up the sin of another child because he is your brother, sister or friend. Report any wrong doing to the teacher or your parents and do not be a partaker of the sin of another.

2. DEMAND FOR JUSTICE:

Judges 20:6-17.

The man whose wife was killed made a report of the wickedness of the people of the tribe of Benjamin in Gibeah. When the other children of Israel heard what was done, they were very angry. True friends of Jesus must be angry at sin. They must run away from sin and speak against sin in the lives of those around them. The other children of Israel first demanded that the inhabitants of the tribe of Benjamin should expose the wicked men who did the evil act to suffer for the evil they have done. The Benjamites of Gibeah refused to expose the wicked men. They preferred to protect the evil doers.

By their action, they showed that they: (a) had no regard for God's word, (b) have lost all the desire to honour and serve God, (c) do not have any human feeling or sense of shame, (d) do not value justice neither can they differentiate between what is right from what is wrong. Therefore, war was declared against the whole tribe of Benjamin.

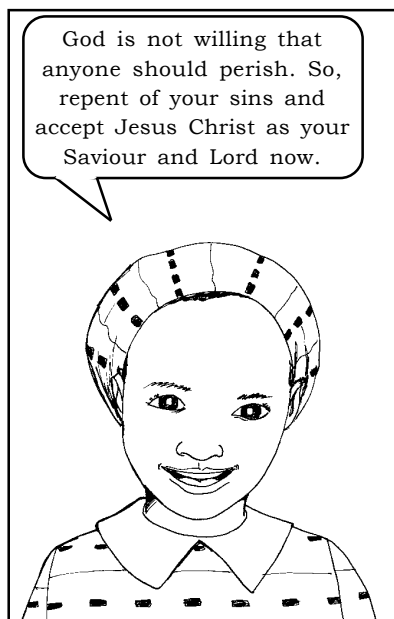


Boys and girls, you must beware! Sin is dangerous. No sinner will go unpunished. The only remedy is for sinners to repent and accept Christ as Saviour and Lord.

3. CALL TO REPENT:

Isaiah 1:16-20; Matthew 4:13-17.

What Israel demanded from the people of Gibeah was in line with God's command (Deuteronomy 17:8-12). If the people of Gibeah had cooperated by allowing the evil men to be punished, they would have saved the whole nation from war, destruction and death. Many sinners



today are like the people in Gibeah. They hear the word of God often, yet, they remain in their sins. Some children prefer to point accusing fingers at others instead of turning away from their bad ways. The Bible warns that the wicked shall be turned into hell and all the nations that forget God (Psalm 9:17).

However, God does not wish that anyone should perish. Therefore, He made provision for sinners to be saved through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Repent of sin today. Do not delay. Pray and confess all your sins to God. Ask for forgiveness and cleansing through the blood of Jesus.

Turn away from all your bad doings. Accept Jesus as your Saviour and Friend.

You must continue to follow Him till the end so that you will have a place in His heavenly Kingdom.

QUESTIONS:

1. _____ brought trouble to all the tribes of Israel.
2. What was the sin of the people of Gibeah? _____
3. What did Israel demand from the people of Gibeah?

4. What is the call of God to every sinner? _____
5. What steps should a sinful child take to be saved?

MEMORY VERSE: “Now therefore deliver us the men, the children of Belial, which are in Gibeah, that we may put them to death, and put away evil from Israel. But the children of Benjamin would not hearken to the voice of their brethren the children of Israel” (Judges 20:13).

LESSON: Sin brings trouble and judgment.

THOUGHT: I will run away from every appearance of sin.

ACTIVITY: Prayer session: Pray for: (a) sinners to be saved (b) revival in the church and (c) friends of Jesus to stand firm even in times of trouble.

HOMEWORK: Warn sinners around you about the danger of refusing to repent and tell them about the love of Jesus.

**CONGREGATIONAL SONG GHS: 40 –
WASH ME, O LAMB OF GOD**

CHORUSES: (1) Come to J.E.S.U.S, J.O.Y will follow
(2) I will never let the devil win the battle (3) Follow,
follow, I will follow Jesus.

DAILY BIBLE READING

| | | |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| MONDAY | LEVITICUS | 20:7-9 |
| TUESDAY | LEVITICUS | 20:10-12 |
| WEDNESDAY | LEVITICUS | 20:22-24 |
| THURSDAY | LEVITICUS | 19:15-17 |
| FRIDAY | LEVITICUS | 18:1-3 |
| SATURDAY | LEVITICUS | 18:4-6 |
| SUNDAY | 2 SAMUEL | 12:7-9,13 |

BIBLE WORD SEARCH

Find the meanings of these words. You can use your
dictionary: 1. Justice 2. Partaker 3. Immorality

4. Demand 5. Accusing finger.

LESSON 5

CONFLICT BETWEEN ISRAEL AND BENJAMIN

Judges 20:18-48.

When people have no fear of God and there is disobedience to His holy word, simple issues that could be peacefully settled will turn to disagreement, quarrelling, bitterness and fighting. Israel and Benjamin were brothers yet there was conflict among them because of wickedness and disobedience to the word of God. This led to war, destruction and death of many people. Beware of conflicts.

The study is in three parts:

1. CAUSES OF CONFLICT BETWEEN ISRAEL AND BENJAMIN:

Judges 20:11-14.

The children of Israel and Benjamin were brothers and descendants of Jacob also called Israel. They were not expected to fight or make wars with one another. Unfortunately, Israel as a nation departed from sincere obedience to God's word. This made the people to do whatever was right in their own eyes.

A group of young men among the Benjamites committed immorality with a man's wife and in the process she died. This was a great evil in the sight of God and man. The other tribes demanded that the evil men should be punished but the tribe of Benjamin refused. The entire tribe demonstrated that: (a) they did

not value justice and supported lawless people, (b) they have no regard for God's righteous standard. Because of this, God punished the whole tribe. The root cause of conflict is sin. If the people of God are obedient to the word of God, there will not be room for conflict, fighting, argument, quarrelling and any other form of disagreement which often lead to great loss of life and peace.

Sin led to conflict between the children of Israel and Benjamin.

If we obey God's word, there will not be room for conflict.

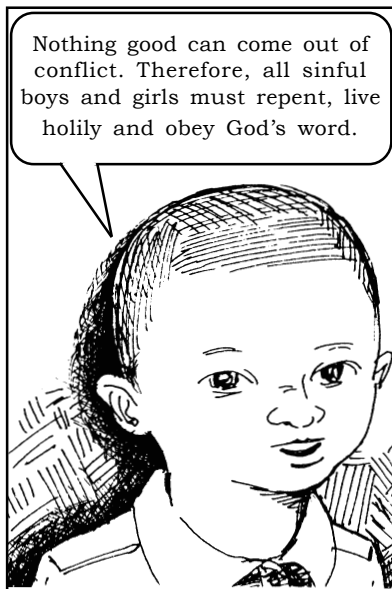


This is why every sinner must repent and turn from his evil doings. God is angry with the sinner every day. As a friend of Jesus, you must not hide any sin in your life or the sins of others around you. Hate sin and run away from every appearance of evil.

2. CONSEQUENCES OF CONFLICT BETWEEN ISRAEL AND BENJAMIN:

Judges 20:19-48.

There are serious consequences or grave results for every evil done by an individual, a family, a group of people or even nations. The refusal of Benjamin to punish the evil doers among them led to their destruction. War broke out between the two groups with thousands killed. The tribe of Benjamin was almost



completely wiped out. Nothing good can come out of conflict, it leads to hatred, confusion, fighting and all sorts of evil.

There is no peace in the world today because of conflicts. We hear of wars, murders, kidnappings, rituals, cultism, rape, robberies, terrorism and confusion. This is because people have refused to obey the word of God. However, you can make the difference like Abraham

did. He stood in the gap to plead for Sodom. You can stand in the gap for your family, church and nation through sincere prayer for God's mercy, and for holy living and obedience to God's word among the people. You also can do personal evangelism by calling all sinners around you to repent and live in peace with all men. The judgment of God is fast approaching, sinners must repent so as to escape and have peace.

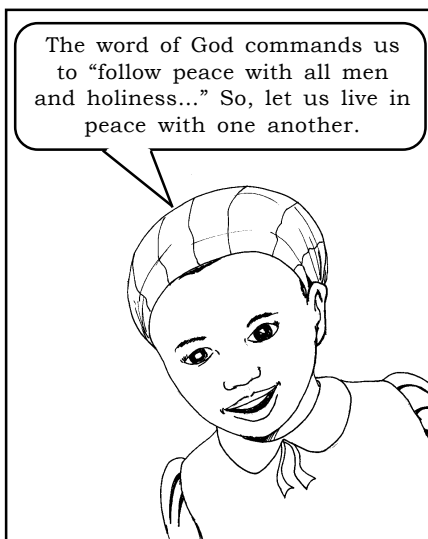
3. CALL TO LIVE PEACEABLY WITH ALL MEN:

Romans 14:19; 12:18; Hebrews 12:14.

Instead of correcting the evil they have done and making peace with their brethren, the children of Benjamin prepared for war. The sin of a few number of people who should have died as punishment for their own misdeed led to the death of many people and

destruction of a whole tribe. God places great value on our willingness to live in peace with others. He is calling everyone to live peaceably with one another. This can only be possible when we allow Jesus Christ who is the Prince of Peace, to reign and rule in our hearts and lives.

Sinners must accept Christ as Saviour and Lord, always obey the word of God, behave in a way that promotes peaceful co-existence, and pray always.



QUESTIONS:

1. Israel and Benjamin were brothers. Yes/No?
2. Mention the reason for the conflict between Israel and Benjamin. _____
3. What was the consequence of the refusal of Benjamin to punish the evil doers? _____
4. Mention three things that a Christian can do to make the difference when there are conflicts _____
5. What steps should a sinner take to make peace with God? _____

MEMORY VERSE: “For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord” (Romans 6:23).

LESSON: God’s desire is for sinners to be saved.

THOUGHT: I will keep away from every form of sin in order to have peace.

ACTIVITY: Pray for peace to reign in (i) families (ii) churches (iii) communities (iv) nations.

HOMEWORK: Be a peacemaker by sharing the love of Jesus with sinners in your neighbourhood.

**CONGREGATIONAL SONGS: 17 –
NOTHING BUT THE BLOOD OF JESUS**

CHORUSES: (1) No, you can’t get to heaven without SALVATION. (2) Give me love for my brethren. (3) I wandered far away lost in the wilderness.

DAILY BIBLE READING

| | | |
|-----------|---------------|----------|
| MONDAY | MATTHEW | 24:6-8 |
| TUESDAY | MATTHEW | 24:9-12 |
| WEDNESDAY | MATTHEW | 24:13,14 |
| THURSDAY | MATTHEW | 24:21,22 |
| FRIDAY | I CORINTHIANS | 5:1-3 |
| SATURDAY | I CORINTHIANS | 5:4-8 |
| SUNDAY | I CORINTHIANS | 5:9-13 |

BIBLE WORD SEARCH

Find the meanings of these words. You can use your dictionary: 1. Conflict 2. Value 3. Consequence
4. Peace 5. Co-existence.

LESSON 6

WARNING AGAINST UNEQUAL YOKE

2 Corinthians 6:14-18

Jehoshaphat king of Judah was a godly man. He served God with all his heart and God blessed and honoured him. However, he soon made friends with the king of Israel called Ahab, who was an idol worshipper. At a certain time, Jehoshaphat visited Ahab and a feast was held in his honour. Ahab also persuaded Jehoshaphat to go with him to fight against Syria. Jehoshaphat nearly died in that battle because his going into agreement with Ahab was an 'unequal yoke' (2 Chronicles 18:1-3, 28-32).

In our text, Paul the apostle warns friends of Jesus from going into agreement or friendship with those who are not friends of Jesus.

We are considering the study under three sub-headings:

1. THE MEANING OF UNEQUAL YOKE:

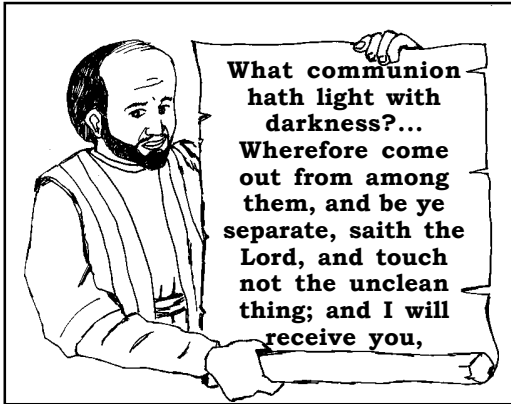
I Corinthians 15:33; 2 Chronicles 20:35-37;

2 Corinthians 6:14,15; Matthew 5:14.

Unequal yoke means friendship between a christian and a sinner. Unequal means that two things are not the same in size, weight, length, width and quality. A christian is a child that has repented of his sins and has been washed by the blood of Jesus. While a sinner is filled with disobedience and evil. When the two come

together in friendship or working relationship, it is referred to as unequal yoke.

A sheep is very gentle, meek and controllable. While a pig is rough, dirty and wild. If a sheep decides to make



friends with a pig, that friendship becomes unequal yoke. The sheep will also become rough, dirty and wild as the pig. This is why the Bible commands friends of Jesus to be separate

from sinners, come out from among them and to live holily. Unequal yoke is dangerous. Do not make friends with sinners and children that are not serious with God's word. **"Be not deceived; evil communications corrupt good manners."** Jesus says, you are the light of the world. Light cannot have communion with darkness. The command is **"come out from among them, and be ye separate"**.

If you are still doing bad things, it means you are living in darkness. You can come to the light today by becoming a friend of Jesus: (i) Realize that you are a sinner and repent of your sins. (ii) Confess your sins to God and ask for cleansing in the blood of Jesus and (iii) believe that God has answered your prayer and thank Him.

2. EXAMPLES AND CONSEQUENCES OF UNEQUAL YOKE:

I Kings 11:1,2,4,9-11; Judges 16:18-21.

Some people in past generations went into unequal yoke with unbelievers and suffered for it. Examples are:

(i) Solomon – he married women that worshipped idols and they turned his heart from following God. God was angry with Solomon and raised up enemies against him. God also divided the kingdom after his death (Nehemiah 13:23-26; I Kings 11:14). (ii) Dinah – she went out to make friends with the ungodly daughters of the land.

Dinah went after bad friends. She was defiled and disgraced.



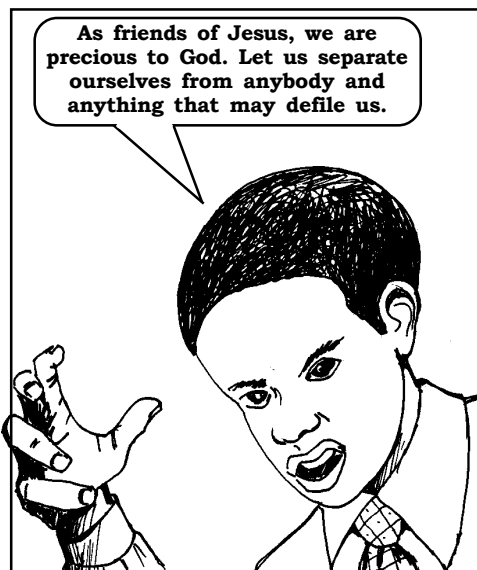
Samson made friend with sinful Delilah. He perished with the ungodly.



The end result was tragedy, guilt and shame for her, the entire family and the whole community (Genesis 34:1,2).

(iii) Asa king of Judah joined himself to the king of Syria in his time of trouble and God was not happy with him. Asa took ill and died as a backslider (2 Chronicles 16:2,3,12). (iv) Samson – he loved Delilah an idol worshipper. Delilah betrayed Samson to his enemies and he lost his two eyes.

Friendship with the world will make a Christian child an enemy of God. The consequences of unequal yoke with sinners include: (a) Loss of fellowship with God and His people. (b) Loss of God's protection and blessings. (c) Lack of spiritual progress and vision for heavenly things. (d) Total



backsliding. (e) Finally, death and eternity in hell fire. As a friend of Jesus, your home is heaven, your goal is to get there. Therefore, you must not be unequally yoked with unbelievers. If you are already in such a relationship, break it today and come out from among them and be separate.

3. HOW TO AVOID UNEQUAL YOKE:

2 Corinthians 6:14-18; Psalm 1:1-3; Matthew 26:41.

Unequal yoke with sinful children will lead you back into a life of sin. Therefore you must do all you can to avoid going into any sinful relationship. In order to avoid unequal yoke, a friend of Jesus must: (i) fully surrender his/her life to God, (ii) read and meditate on the word of God daily, (iii) observe quiet time and pray daily, (iv) faithfully work for God especially preaching the word to sinners. Tell them about Jesus' love, instead of

listening to their own bad stories and thereby copying their bad lifestyle, (v) make friends with friends of Jesus whose lives are really shining for Christ.

QUESTIONS:

1. What is the meaning of 'unequal yoke'? _____
2. Mention three people in the Bible who went into unequal yoke and state what happened to them.

3. Friendship with unserious children in the church can make a friend of Jesus not to love Jesus fervently. Yes/No?
4. Mention four things that a friend of Jesus must do to avoid unequal yoke. _____
5. How can a child living in darkness come into the light of God? _____

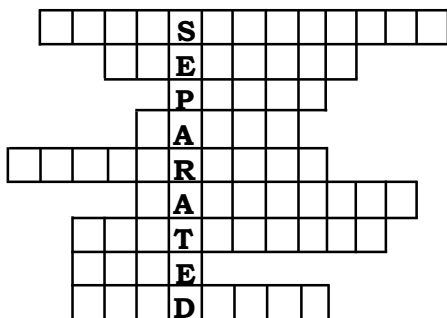
MEMORY VERSE: “Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness?” (2 Corinthians 6:14).

LESSON: Unequal yoke will make a believer to become an enemy of God.

THOUGHT: I must completely separate myself from sinners.

ACTIVITY: FRUIT OF A SEPARATED LIFE

LOVE, JOY (HAPPINESS), PEACE, LONGSUFFERING, GENTLENESS, GOODNESS, FAITH, MEEKNESS, TEMPERANCE.



Fill these squares with letters to form the fruit of a separated life. The fruit is found in Galatians 5:22,23. Note that 'JOY' has been substituted with the word Happiness.

HOMEWORK: (a) Read the Bible passages and write down the names of people who made friends with sinners and what eventually happened to them (Genesis 34:1,2; Joshua 9:3,2). (b) Write down a definite step you will take to avoid the mistake of making friends with sinners.

CONGREGATIONAL SONG GHS: 6 – YIELD NOT TO TEMPTATION

CHORUSES: (1) The best friend to have is Jesus (2) Jesus is the sweetest name I know (3) I will never let the devil win the battle.

DAILY BIBLE READING

| | | |
|-----------|---------------|----------|
| MONDAY | 2 CHRONICLES | 18:1-3 |
| TUESDAY | 2 CHRONICLES | 18:4-7 |
| WEDNESDAY | 2 CHRONICLES | 18:28-30 |
| THURSDAY | 2 CHRONICLES | 18:31-34 |
| FRIDAY | 2 CHRONICLES | 19:1-3 |
| SATURDAY | PROVERBS | 1:10-15 |
| SUNDAY | I CORINTHIANS | 15:33,34 |

BIBLE WORD SEARCH

Find the meanings of these words. You can use your dictionary: 1. Yoke 2. Warning 3. Communication
4. Corrupt 5. Adversary.

LESSON 7

THE PURSUIT OF PURITY IN THE CHURCH

2 Corinthians 7:1-16

Purity means to be holy and righteous in words, thoughts and actions. **“Keep thyself pure”**, is an important command found in the word of God (I Timothy 5:22). The Psalmist asked two questions at the same time thus: **“Who shall ascend into the hill of the Lord? or who shall stand in his holy place? He that hath clean hands, and a pure heart; who hath not lifted up his soul unto vanity, nor sworn deceitfully”** (Psalm 24:3,4).

At an alarming rate, things that are not pure are now accepted and defended in our society. Impure practices are very common and often encouraged. Jesus our Saviour taught us that **“Blessed are the pure in heart for they shall see God”** (Matthew 5:8). This tells us that those whose hearts are dirty will not see God.

Our study is in three parts:

1. THE NEED FOR PURITY IN THE CHURCH:

2 Corinthians 7:1-4; Hebrews 12:14; I Peter 1:14-16.

A pure life is perfect, clean, spotless and free from corruption. God is holy and does not like anything that is unclean. During the time of worship in the Old Testament, the high priest usually performed some sacrifices to cleanse himself before entering into the holy temple. If he was careless and allowed any form of uncleanness in his life, he could possibly die at the altar.

This happened to the two sons of Aaron - Nadab and Abihu. They offered strange sacrifices and died at the altar.

The body of a Christian child is the temple of God. For such a Christian to enjoy God's continual presence, mercy, favour and blessings, he must be pure. Purity is required in

our relationship with God and with one another in and outside the church. For the church to experience God's move and supernatural power, there must be purity.

It is only children that are born again that are true members of the church. If you are still doing bad things, you must repent, ask God for forgiveness and cleansing in the blood of Jesus. Ask Jesus to be your Lord and Saviour. Then press on and pray for the sanctification (holiness) experience.

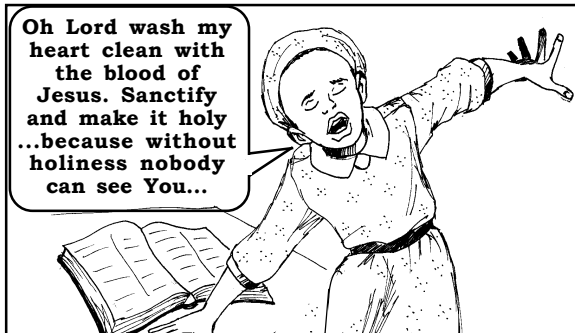


2. PURSUIT OF PURITY IN THE CHURCH:

2 Corinthians 7:1-16; Romans 12:1,2; I John 3:1-3.

The society in which we live is full of corruption and pollution. We can see the signs of the endtime everywhere. Jesus is coming very soon to take a righteous, sanctified and purified church to heaven. This is why every true member of the church must pursue holiness of life. In pursuit of purity, the Christian must (a) have a strong desire to be sanctified, (b) pray earnestly to be cleansed and made holy, (c) receive the sanctification experience through faith, (d) be separated from the world, (e) set his affection on heavenly things.

(f) do things that are pleasing in God's eyes, defend the gospel and live by the commandment of God.



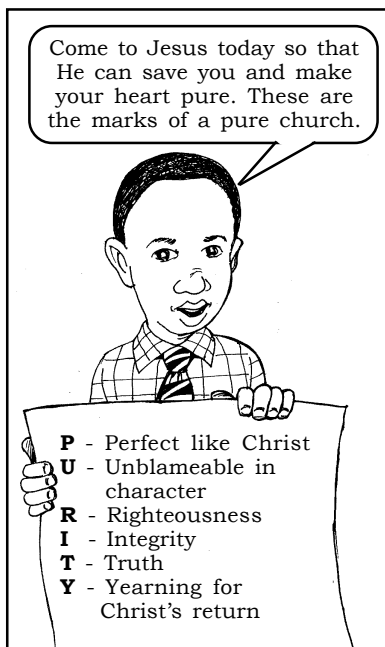
One of the important requirements that will qualify a church for the rapture is purity. Therefore, every member of the church must desire and seek God for the holiness experience.

3. MARKS OF PURITY IN A LIVING CHURCH:

2 Corinthians 7:1-16; I Thessalonians 3:13; I Timothy 1:5.

A pure church is free from pollution and sin, no matter how little. The members are pure in thoughts and actions. They are like the church in Philadelphia who kept the word of God and did not deny Christ (Revelation 3:7-12). The marks of a church that is holy can be seen in this acronym.

- P** - Perfect like Christ– The Bible says you should be perfect as your heavenly Father is perfect; without any blemish, spot or wrinkle (Matthew 5:48; Ephesians 5:27).
- U** - Unblameable in character– Sinners will not have any bad thing to say about them. Their lives will attract others to Christ (I Thessalonians 3:13).
- R** - Righteous within and without– They hate unrighteous deeds. They correct and discipline those who go astray from the way of righteousness (Titus 1:9-14).



I - Integrity– They stand out from others. They are separated from worldly influences, earnestly contending for the faith once delivered unto the church (Jude 3).

T - Truth– They accept the truth of God's word, believe it, teach it and spread it abroad (Ephesians 4:14,15).

Y - Yearning– For Christ's return. The members are daily living in expectation of Christ's second coming.

Therefore, they are watchful and prayerful like the five wise virgins (Matthew 25:1-13).

These marks will attract a lot of blessings to the church such as: answers to prayer, uncommon miracles, signs and wonders, God's presence and favour, promotion, open doors of blessings, eternity with Jesus and crown of righteousness.

QUESTIONS:

1. Purity means _____
2. We need to be holy because _____
3. What steps should a Christian take in order to be pure? _____
4. What are the marks of a pure life? _____
5. What steps must a sinner take to become a member of the living church? _____

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

LESSON: The pure in heart will see God.

THOUGHT: I will live a holy life so as to see God.

ACTIVITY: Read Colossians 3:8-17. Identify and write in the book below, the things to put ‘Off’ and things to put ‘On’.

| PUT OFF | PUT ON |
|---------|--------|
| 1. | |
| 2. | |
| 3. | |
| 4. | |
| 5. | |
| 6. | |
| 7. | |

HOMEWORK: Read the Bible and write in your homework book five names of people who lived pure, undefiled lives and the blessings they enjoyed.

**CONGREGATIONAL SONG GHS: 189 –
TAKE TIME TO BE HOLY**

CHORUSES: (1) Keep me through Lord Jesus. (2) Give me grace to follow. (3) My body is the temple of the Holy Spirit.

DAILY BIBLE READING

| | | |
|-----------|---------|----------|
| MONDAY | PSALM | 15:1-3 |
| TUESDAY | PSALM | 24:3-5 |
| WEDNESDAY | PSALM | 119:1-3 |
| THURSDAY | MATTHEW | 5:8-10 |
| FRIDAY | I PETER | 1:14-16 |
| SATURDAY | HEBREWS | 12:12-15 |
| SUNDAY | TITUS | 2:11-13 |

BIBLE WORD SEARCH

Find the meanings of these words. You can use your dictionary: 1. Purity 2. Preserve 3. Undefined
4. Pursuit 5. Supernatural.

LESSON 8

PATTERN AND PRECEPTS FOR GODLY GIVING

2 Corinthians 8:1-24

Pattern means the way something ought to be done while precept means command to do something in a particular way. Giving is a very common action in the Bible. God is the first and greatest giver of all things (James 1:17). God gives life to all His creatures, great and small. He provides all that we need to sustain us. God's greatest gift to man is Jesus Christ, His only begotten Son. He sent Him to shed His blood and die on the cross for the redemption of mankind. Giving is one of the ways to please God. Giving shows sincerity of our love.

Our topic is divided into three parts:

1. PATTERN OF GODLY GIVING:

Genesis 22:10-12; I Samuel 1:27,28; Acts 9:36-39; Mark 12:41-44; 2 Corinthians 9:6-10.

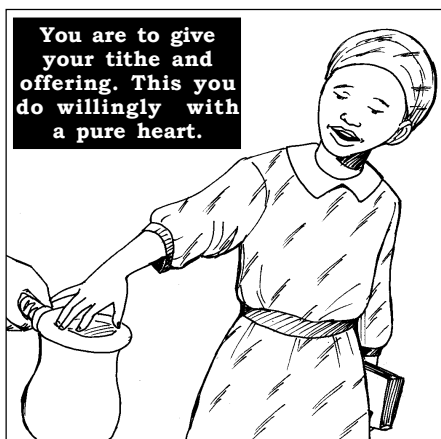
There is a long list of givers in the Bible, from Abraham, Hannah, Dorcas, the poor widow to the Macedonian Christians. They gave different things to God and the people around them. They gave sacrificially. In our text, the Macedonian Christians, though poor themselves, willingly contributed to the needs of their poorer brethren in Jerusalem. Paul in his letter to the Corinthian churches encouraged them to follow the Macedonian' example and give sacrificially.



Paul testified that the Macedonian Christians first gave their lives (I Corinthians 8:5) before giving their money. You also must first give your life to Jesus before your talent, money and services can be accepted and rewarded by Jesus.

2. PRECEPT FOR GODLY GIVING:

Luke 6:38; Matthew 5:42; Colossians 3:17.



The Bible commands us not only to give but specifies whom to give to, what to give and how to give. We are to give God thanks, glory and honour (Ephesians 5:20). We should give to needy saints and those who ask of us (Romans 12:13; Luke 6:30). We are to give

our money, time and talent for the spread of the gospel. We should give ourselves totally to the service of God (1 Samuel 1:27,28). We should also give willingly from the heart, cheerfully, and not grudgingly (2 Corinthians 9:7). We are not to give with the attitude of pride (showing off) like the Pharisees but with humility (Matthew 6:1).

As you obey God's command in giving, you will receive great blessings.

3. BLESSINGS OF GIVING:

Malachi 3:10-12; Luke 6:38.

Giving is a form of saving. It results in great benefits for those who give willingly and cheerfully. The following blessings are for godly givers.

- God's presence and love.
- Good measure, pressed down and running over.
- Uncommon favour.
- The Lord will rebuke the devourer for your sake.
- Abundant food to eat, clothes to wear and all good things.

A sinner cannot enjoy these blessings. If you are still living in hatred, disobedience, malice, stealing, lying etc. Repent today and give your life to Jesus by turning away from your sins. Your giving will then be acceptable and rewarded by God.



QUESTIONS:

1. Who is the first and greatest giver of all? _____
2. Giving shows the sincerity of our love. Yes/No?
3. What does God want us to give first before bringing other gifts? _____
4. Sacrificial giving means giving something that is valuable to you. Yes/No?
5. What are the blessings of giving? _____
6. How can a sinner give acceptably to God? _____

MEMORY VERSE: “Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give into your bosom. For with the same measure that ye mete withal it shall be measured to you again” (Luke 6:38).

LESSON: Giving is proof of our love to God.

THOUGHT: I will give willingly and cheerfully.

ACTIVITY: Sword Drill. John 10:28; Acts 3:6; Malachi 3:10; 2 Corinthians 9:6.

HOMEWORK: Find out and write in your homework book what these Bible characters gave, Abraham, Hannah, Obbededom, Dorcas.

**CONGREGATIONAL SONG GHS: 92 –
I SURRENDER ALL**

CHORUSES: (1) Giving glory to the Lord He reigns. (2) All that I have I give to Jesus. (3) Jesus loves me, He died for me.

DAILY BIBLE READING

| | | |
|-----------|---------------|----------|
| MONDAY | 2 CORINTHIANS | 9:6-8 |
| TUESDAY | PHILIPPIANS | 4:15-17 |
| WEDNESDAY | PHILIPPIANS | 4:18-20 |
| THURSDAY | 2 CHRONICLES | 24:8-11 |
| FRIDAY | EXODUS | 25:1,2 |
| SATURDAY | DEUTERONOMY | 14:22,23 |
| SUNDAY | MALACHI | 3:10-12 |

BIBLE WORD SEARCH

Find the meanings of these words. You can use your dictionary: 1. Abundance 2. Utterance 3. Precept
4. Cheerfully 5. Service.

LESSON 9

THE PRACTICE OF ACCEPTABLE GIVING

2 Corinthians 9:1-15

God has shown us the perfect example on how to give. He gave us His only begotten Son who gave His life as a ransom to save us. Jesus gave **all** for us to be eternally rich (2 Corinthians 8:9). God is the giver of every good thing (James 1:17). He has given us life and all that is necessary for our physical well-being. We have the sun as a source of light; plants and animals for food, water, clothing; rain for the crops; families and friends for companionship; wisdom, intellect and many other wonderful things.

God's gifts to us should prompt us to surrender totally all that we have to Him, share our gifts with others and use those gifts for the expansion of God's kingdom.

The message is in three parts:

1. PRINCIPLES OF ACCEPTABLE GIVING:

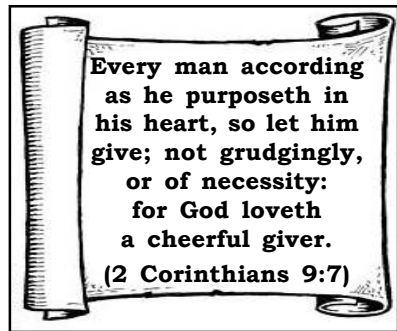
2 Corinthians 9:1-7; Proverbs 11:24,25.

A lot of people love to give for the work of God and to the needy, but it is not every gift that God accepts. Although it is good to give since God has commanded it, there are still some guiding principles we must follow for our gifts to be acceptable to God.

First, a sinner must repent, ask for forgiveness and cleansing in the blood of Jesus and give his heart to Christ to reign as Saviour and Lord. This is the first and

greatest gift that you can offer to God. The following are principles to follow in giving: (i) Realise that you belong to God and whatever you have is given to you by Him.

(ii) Make a solid decision to surrender all that you have for God's glory, to



expand His kingdom and for the needy. (iii) Your giving must be with a pure motive like Abel. His gift was accepted because he was sincere (Genesis 4:4; Hebrews 11:4). (iv) Giving must be sacrificial. Abraham was ready to sacrifice his only son Isaac to God. Your giving must cost you something (Genesis 22:9-12). (v) Give willingly without being forced. The churches in Macedonia were very liberal in giving to the poor (2 Corinthians 8:12). (vi) Give your **all** like the poor widow. She gave little but it was all that she possessed (Luke 21:1-4). (vii) Give generously and bountifully. The children of Israel gave much for the building of the temple of God. Remember, it is whatever you sow that you will reap. God commands us to give, let us give freely having these principles at the back of our mind.

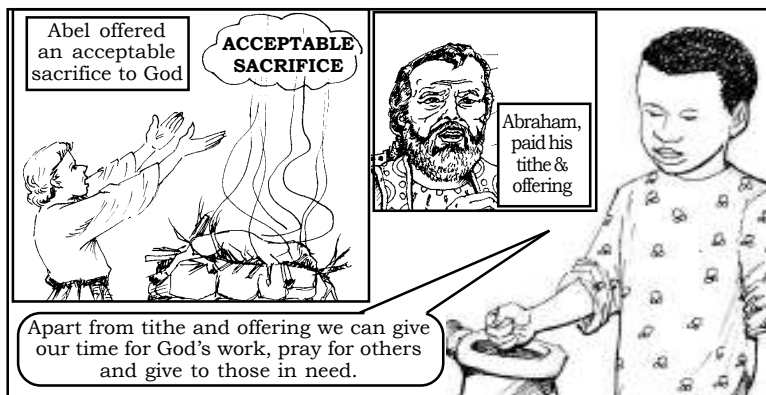
2. THE PRACTICE OF ACCEPTABLE GIVING:

2 Corinthians 9:1-5; Genesis 4:2-7; 14:17-20;

1 Corinthians 8:1-5; Acts 2:44,45.

The act of giving is as old as man. God created man and gave him the breath of life. In return, man is expected to surrender his life and substance to God in worship and total consecration to His service.

Bible record clearly shows us that God commands us to give. Those who obeyed and gave also received in abundance. From Abel, Abraham, David through to the New Testament saints, children of God have given a lot



for God's work and to those in need. Do not withhold anything from God, give willingly and cheerfully.

Giving is like sowing seeds. The farmer sows natural seeds such as rice, millet, corn and beans, but friends of Jesus are expected to sow spiritual seeds, such as:

- (a) The word of God in the heart of sinners (Psalm 126:5,6).
- (b) Kindness to all saved boys and girls especially to the needy.
- (c) Serving God in the church by singing, drawing, painting, cleaning the church, visiting the sick and going out on evangelism.
- (d) Money and other materials to support church work like crusades, retreats, mission work and printing of tracts.
- (e) Tithes and offerings for the expansion of God's kingdom.

- (f) Giving material things like shoes, clothes, biros, pencils, books and other things to children who are in need.

Your giving to God is a sign of love and obedience to Him. It is also a way of thanking Him for what He has done and what He will still do in your life. Many boys and girls who desire God's blessings but do not demonstrate the habit of giving will not enjoy His blessings. When you give, you are not expected to boast about it, but believe that God who sees in secret will reward you openly.

3. PROFIT OF ACCEPTABLE GIVING:

Malachi 3:10-12; Luke 6:38.

Giving is not a loss, but a form of saving with God. It



results in substantial benefits for those who give generously and willingly. The following are some of the profits you will reap as you give bountifully. (i) The devourer will be rebuked and stopped for your sake. (ii) You will enjoy good health. (iii) You will receive and enjoy all the good things of life. (iv) Success and prosperity in all you do. (v) Unspeakable joy.

As you remain with Jesus till the end, you will inherit your own mansion in heaven.

QUESTIONS:

1. God gave _____
2. Mention three principles of acceptable giving. _____

3. Mention two people in the Bible who gave willingly to God and what was the result? _____
4. God commands us to give. Yes/No? _____
5. Mention five things that friends of Jesus can sow to show their willingness to give. _____
6. The profit of giving acceptably include _____
_____ and _____

MEMORY VERSE: “Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give into your bosom. For with the same measure that ye mete withal it shall be measured to you again” (Luke 6:38).

LESSON: Friends of Jesus must give so as to reap great blessings from God.

THOUGHT: I will give willingly and acceptably so as to reap great blessings from God.

ACTIVITY: Children should read Genesis 4:1-7 and Hebrews 11:4. Then write out the differences between Cain and Abel’s offering and what God said about both offerings.

HOMEWORK: Write down in your homework book, two people from the Old Testament and two others from the New Testament who gave to God and how they were rewarded.

CONGREGATIONAL SONG GHS: 85 – GIVE OF YOUR BEST TO THE MASTER

CHORUSES: (1) Give, it shall be given unto you. (2) All that I have, I give to Jesus. (3) All I have is given to me by the Lord.

DAILY BIBLE READING

| | | |
|-----------|-------------|----------|
| MONDAY | DEUTERONOMY | 26:1-4 |
| TUESDAY | DEUTERONOMY | 26:8-11 |
| WEDNESDAY | DEUTERONOMY | 26:12-15 |
| THURSDAY | PROVERBS | 3:9-10 |
| FRIDAY | MALACHI | 3:10-12 |
| SATURDAY | MATTHEW | 6:2-4 |
| SUNDAY | LUKE | 6:36-38 |

BIBLE WORD SEARCH

Find the meanings of these words. You can use your dictionary: 1. Bountifully 2. Sacrificially 3. Principle
4. Acceptable 5. Consecration.

LESSON 10

SAINTS' SPIRITUAL WARFARE

2 Corinthians 10:1-6.

In the second letter to the Corinthians, Apostle Paul discussed a number of things that have to do with the Christian life. He teaches how a Christian ought to live and respond to various situations of life and satanic forces that act as hindrances to the Christian on his journey to heaven.

In today's text, Apostle Paul responds to the accusations brought against him that he was doing the work of God by the strength of the flesh. But his response here was meek and gentle (2 Corinthians 10:1,2). As a friend of Jesus, you too should be meek and gentle like Jesus when you answer those who oppose you because of your Christian faith and other matters of life. Apostle Paul uses the opportunity also to explain the nature of the spiritual warfare which friends of Jesus are engaged in.

We shall divide the study into three parts:

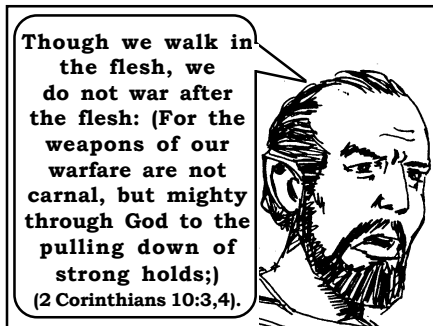
1. THE WARFARE OF SAINTS:

2 Corinthians 10:3-6.

There is a war on going. It affects everybody on earth, including those who are born again. The enemies fighting us are not visible to the eye. The conflict or fight itself cannot be seen with our physical eyes. It is spiritual. That is why it is called 'spiritual warfare'. The

weapons which the saints are using to fight are also spiritual and not physical. They are from God. That is why the Bible says: **“For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war after the flesh: For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds”** (2 Corinthians 10:3,4).

The saints are those who have been saved from their sins through faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. People who



have not received this kind of change of life are sinners. Both saints and sinners are involved in spiritual warfare. The sinner is a captive and slave of Satan. He is already defeated and wounded in the warfare. He

easily does all the evil things Satan wants him to do.

The devil uses sinners as instruments of warfare against God's people. As part of the warfare, the devil makes sinners to be: (a) disobedient and rebellious to the word of God, parents, godly teachers and leaders, (b) violent, killing and committing crimes, (c) wicked, hateful, ungodly, corrupt, hating things that are good and holding tight to things that are evil. Sinners do not have the proper weapon and power to fight and be free from his bondage. But the saints' weapons of warfare are not physical. We do not fight with such things as gun, spear, arrow and cutlass. Neither do we fight by boxing or wrestling with human beings.

Our fight is against the devil and evil spirits. **“For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of**

the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places” (Ephesians 6:12). That is why saints do not fight or say offensive words against those who do them wrong. Instead, they pray and resist the devil who makes people to do wrong and evil things.

The saints also fight against sin. The word of God commands us not to allow sin to reign in our mortal bodies (Romans 6:12). You don't have to be afraid or be discouraged. The Lord has provided all that we need to be winners in every spiritual warfare.

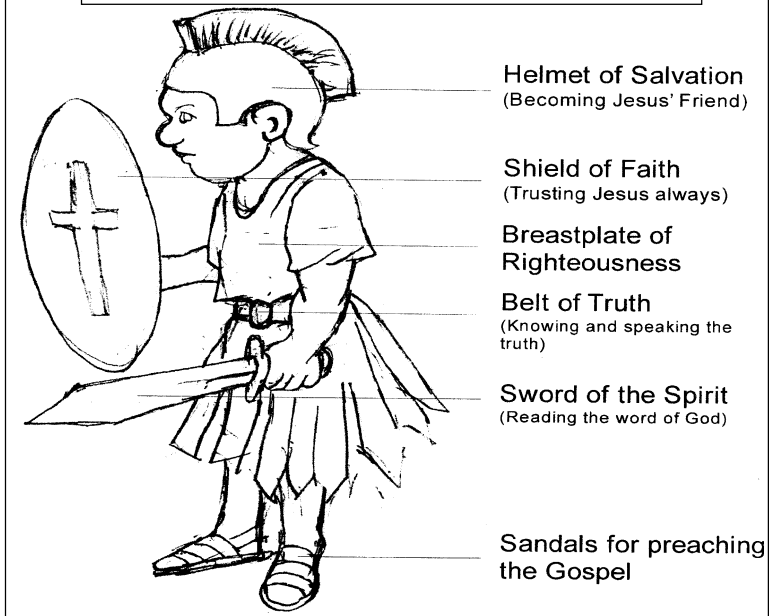
2. THE WEAPONS OF OUR WARFARE:

2 Corinthians 10:4-6; Ephesians 6:10-18; Revelation 12:11.

Sometimes, the fact that soldiers carry the best weapons does not guaranty victory. The weapons may fail them. However, the weapons believers have in fighting the spiritual warfare cannot fail. The weakest of saints will always overcome Satan and all his powers at the slightest use of these weapons. This is because “... **the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds**” (2 Corinthians 10:4).

As a friend of Jesus, you must resist the devil and all his temptations. The weapons of our warfare to defeat Satan and all the enemies of our faith include: (a) **The Truth** – Fill your heart with the unchanging and powerful word of God – The Bible. This will help you overcome all the lies of the devil (Ephesians 6:14; Revelation 12:11); (b) **Righteousness** – Live without sin daily. This will help you to fight boldly and win (Proverbs 28:1). (c) **The gospel of peace** - The gospel is powerful to win and save sinners from Satan's hold. Preach it (Romans 1:16). (d) **Faith** – Believe in God's promises to make you overcome in all spiritual warfare (I John 5:4);

Friends of Jesus are to put on the Whole Armour of God so as to defeat the enemy (Ephesians 6:10-18)



(e) **Salvation** – This is the hope of entering heaven at last to live with Jesus forever. Hold on to Jesus, remain as His friend till the end (I Thessalonians 5:8); (f) **The Word of God** – Read the Bible regularly, meditate on it, live by it and confess it (Joshua 1:8) (g) **Prayer** – Pray always (I Thessalonians 5:17); and (h) continue steadfastly in the Lord. This is the whole armour of God. As you use these weapons to fight and stand firm, the Lord will give you victory in every battle of life in Jesus' Name.

A naughty child or backslider cannot defeat Satan because he cannot use the saints' weapons of warfare. It is only the saints' weapon that we can use to conquer Satan. In order to be victorious, you must take the following steps: (i) realize that you are a sinner,

(ii) confess your sins and forsake them, (iii) ask God to cleanse your heart with the blood of Jesus and believe that your sins have been forgiven. (iv) Now invite Jesus into your heart.

3. WINNERS AND THEIR REWARDS:

Romans 8:38,39; Daniel 1:8.

As a friend of Jesus, determine never to let the devil win the battle. Fight the good fight of faith and refuse to be defeated. There are examples of people who have overcome: (i) **Moses**– He refused to follow the ungodly ways of the Egyptians. God made him a deliverer and law giver of his people, Israel (Hebrews 11:24-28). (ii) **Joseph**– He endured persecution by his brothers. He overcame the temptation to sin. God was with him. He prospered and became a great leader in a foreign land (Genesis 39:7-9,23).

(iii) **David**– He put his trust in the Lord and conquered Goliath. Also, God made him king over Israel (I Samuel 17:37,45,50). (iv) **Daniel**– and his godly friends. God made them very successful and they were promoted (Daniel 1:8; 3:16,17).

(v) **Esther**– She refused to be afraid, and overcame the enemies of Israel by faith in the Lord with prayer and fasting (Esther 4:16; 7:3-7). (vi) The early church. God answered their prayers and Peter was miraculously released from prison and death (Acts 12:5-9).

(vii) **Stephen**– He stood to

Only true friends of Jesus can overcome and enjoy these blessings (answer to prayers, success, good health, favour from God and man).



defend the faith. He was killed because of this, but he was received straight into heaven (Acts 6:8-15).

You too can overcome and receive the overcomers' rewards as: peace, good health, protection, success in all you do, crown of life and eternity with Jesus in heaven. Rise up and pray to remain victorious till the end.

QUESTIONS:

1. The warfare that Christians are involved in cannot be seen with our physical eyes. It is _____
2. Who are the saints? _____
3. How can a sinner become a saint? _____
4. Mention the spiritual weapons that saints must use in order to win in the warfare. _____
5. Mention three people who overcame their spiritual battles. _____

MEMORY VERSE: “**For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds**” (2 Corinthians 10:4).

LESSON: The weapons of our warfare are mighty through God.

THOUGHT: I will put on God's whole armour in order to win the warfare.

ACTIVITY: Led by the teacher, children should pray, renewing their commitment to Christ and ask for grace to remain victorious in the spiritual warfare.

HOMEWORK: Search the scripture and write in your homework book, two other examples of friends of Jesus who were victorious in their Christian lives and the rewards they received. Pray that God will help you to be victorious like them.

**CONGREGATIONAL SONG GHS: 21 –
WILL YOUR ANCHOR HOLD?**

CHORUSES: (1) We are soldiers, soldiers of the Lord (2) For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal. (3) We are victorious, glory be to God who gave us the victory.

DAILY BIBLE READING

| | | |
|-----------|----------|---------|
| MONDAY | I PETER | 5:8-11 |
| TUESDAY | ROMANS | 7:22-25 |
| WEDNESDAY | ROMANS | 8:35-39 |
| THURSDAY | JUDE | 3-5 |
| FRIDAY | I JOHN | 4:1-4 |
| SATURDAY | JEREMIAH | 1:1-5 |
| SUNDAY | JEREMIAH | 1:6-10 |

BIBLE WORD SEARCH

Find the meanings of these words. You can use your dictionary: 1. Response 2. Foreign 3. Resist
4. Guaranty 5. Carnal.

LESSON 11

TOTAL FREEDOM FROM SIN

I John 3:1-10

The word '**sin**' has three letters. It is very short yet very poisonous and damaging. It is **Satan's Identification Number**. Sin makes a sinner to be a slave of Satan. He does whatever is right in his own sight. He does not care for the word of God and obeys and does the work of Satan who is his Master. God is holy and hates sin. Therefore, He has made a way for all sinners to be free from sin. Will you follow this way?

This study is divided into three parts:

1. THE ORIGIN OF SIN:

Genesis 3:1-8

God made Adam and Eve in His own image. He gave them everything that should make them happy and comfortable. His plan for them was that they would live in fellowship with Him forever. However, man lost this great privilege because of disobedience. It is this disobedience to God's command that brought sin and curse upon all mankind. Sin originated from Adam and Eve through Satan, the father of all sinful people. He deceived Adam and Eve to disobey God. He is still working even now in the lives of disobedient and wicked children.

All children that have been born since the time of Adam and Eve till now were born as sinners. Our mothers

conceived us in sin (Psalm 51:5). God hates sin and will surely punish all sinners who remain in their sins.

The disobedience of Adam and Eve brought sin into the world.



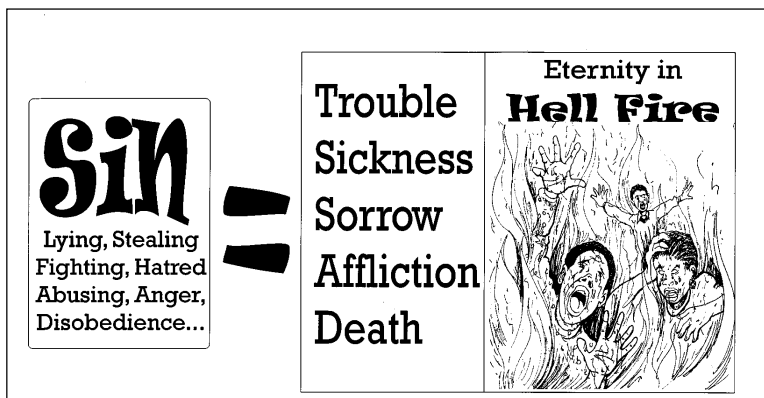
2. CONSEQUENCES OF SIN:

Genesis 3:14-24; Romans 6:23a; Hebrews 9:27

In the beginning, God gave a command to Adam and Eve that they should not eat of the fruit that was in the middle of the garden. He said that the day they ate it, they would die. They disobeyed God's command and then 'died'. This means they died spiritually, that is, they were separated from fellowship with God. Their sin brought both physical and spiritual consequences to the human race. (i) Physically: sickness, troubles, sorrows, afflictions and death came to man. The original plan of God for us is that we should live in perfect health and be free from every trouble. Sin destroyed that plan. (ii) Spiritually: separation and loss of fellowship with God. Lack of peace in the heart. Depraved conscience, loss of sweet fellowship

one with another.

These are serious consequences of sin, yet the most grevous consequence is eternal separation from God and

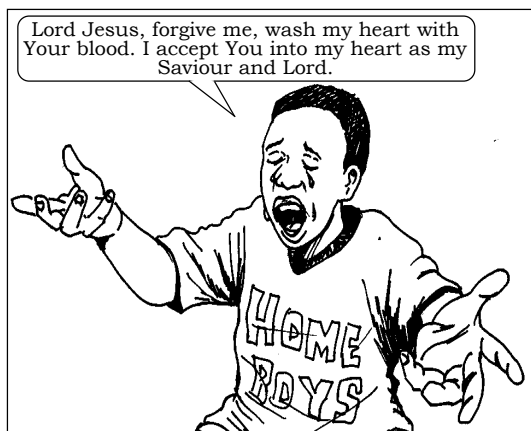


punishment in hell fire. God has made a way of escape for you. Are you ready to accept His provision for your salvation?

3. TOTAL FREEDOM FROM SIN:

John 3:16; I John 1:7-9; 3:4-8

Having seen the consequences of sin, what sinners ought to do is to seek for the way of escape. The way is through Jesus Christ. All you are to do is to take these simple steps: (i) Accept that you are a sinner - Romans 3:23; I John 1:8. (ii) Be sorry and repent of all your sins - Acts 3:19. (iii) Confess those sins to God through prayer; (lying, witchcraft, familiar spirit, stubbornness, wicked attitude, bad behaviour, stealing, immoral relationship and others) - I John 1:9. (vi) Pray and ask God for forgiveness and cleansing in the blood of Jesus - I John 1:9. (v) Pray and ask Jesus to come into your heart to be your Lord, Saviour and Friend - Revelation 3:20. (vi) Forsake your bad ways



and never return to them.

You become a friend of Jesus and a child of God when you take these steps - John 1:12; I John 3:9. You will then continue to live in obedience to God's word. You must also press forward to receive other Christian experiences like sanctification and Holy Ghost baptism. This will enable you live a victorious Christian life and at the end you will see Jesus in heaven.

Rise to pray now and be free from your sins.

QUESTIONS:

1. What is sin? _____
2. Mention five common sins among children _____

3. Identify five consequences of sin _____

4. What are the steps a sinner can take to have total freedom from sin? _____

5. Are you totally free from sin? _____

MEMORY VERSE: “Whosoever is born of God doth not commit sin; for his seed remaineth in him: and he cannot sin, because he is born of God” (I John 3:9).

LESSON: Jesus Christ gives total freedom from sin.

THOUGHT: I will continue to follow Jesus so as to remain free from sin.

ACTIVITY: Prayer for the salvation of sinners.

HOME WORK: Preach the love of Jesus to a child in your neighbourhood.

**CONGREGATIONAL SONG: GHS 39 -
POWER IN THE BLOOD**

CHORUSES: (1) You can't get to heaven without. (2) He set me free with Holy Spirit power. (3) I wandered far away lost in the wilderness.

DAILY BIBLE READING

| | | |
|-----------|--------|---------|
| MONDAY | JOHN | 1:9-12 |
| TUESDAY | JOHN | 8:7-11 |
| WEDNESDAY | JOHN | 8:12-14 |
| THURSDAY | JOHN | 8:31-32 |
| FRIDAY | JOHN | 8:34-36 |
| SATURDAY | I JOHN | 5:1-3 |
| SUNDAY | I JOHN | 5:4-6 |

BIBLE WORD SEARCH

Find the meanings of these words. You can use your dictionary. 1. Freedom 2. Consequence 3. Grievous
4. Damaging 5. Conceived.

LESSON 12

THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT

John 15:1-8; Galatians 5:22, 23

Fruits are good for the body. In fact, the medical people say that when you eat good fruits, they help to protect your body against disease. This is because you derive what is known as vitamins and minerals from eating different types of fruits. It is these vitamins and minerals that help the body to fight against diseases.

God has blessed us with different types of fruits. We have orange, mango, banana, apple, lemon, pawpaw, pineapple and others. Different trees bear different fruits. For example, a mango tree will only bear mango fruits and not pawpaw. As it is in the physical, so also it is in the spiritual. When a sinful child repents and becomes a friend of Jesus, his sins are washed away through

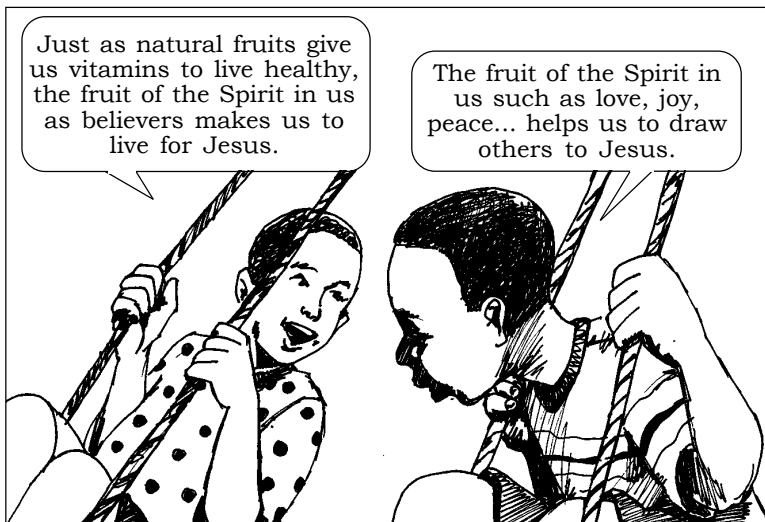
The fruit of the Spirit must be seen in the life of a true friend of Jesus.



the blood of Jesus. God then will expect him to live as a new person and bear the fruit of the new life. His new life will show the fruit of the Spirit. The **fruit** of the Spirit is nine in one. No part must be missing in the life of a true friend of Jesus. That is why it is not called **fruits** of the Spirit but **fruit** of the Spirit. The **fruit** of the Spirit includes:-

1. LOVE: I John 4:8,16; John 3:16;
I Corinthians 13:4-8,13

God is love. He gave us His only begotten Son Jesus Christ to die for our bad ways. As you accept God's love



and become a friend of Jesus, He fills your heart with His love so much that you can share with others. To love others is to show care and seek for the good of other people. You will treat others the way you want them to treat you.

2. JOY: Romans 14:17; I Thessalonians 5:16

When you understand that God loves you, and truly know that Jesus paid for your sins, joy comes into your heart. When you are passing through trials and problems, you will always remember God's word and His love. Then your heart will be filled with joy and you will share this joy with others.

3. PEACE: Isaiah 26:3; Hebrews 12:14a

Peace is a deep assurance in the heart that all is well because we serve a loving, wonderful God. When we commit ourselves to God and trust Him completely, He gives us perfect peace. We then have peace with God, peace with other people and peace within ourselves.

4. LONGSUFFERING: Ephesians 4:2

This means endurance, patience and being slow to be angry. You will not want to pay back evil for evil. You will wait for your turn when things are being shared and will be happy with whatever God provides for you.

5. GENTLENESS: Ephesians 4:32; Colossians 3:12

You will not want to hurt someone or give him or her pain. You are quiet and not a talkative or troublemaker. You put others first.

6. GOODNESS: Matthew 21:12, 13

This makes you to be good to people. You will also be kind to share the word of God with sinners and also share what you have with others.

7. FAITH: Romans 3:3; Hebrews 11:1

This means absolute trust in God and His word. You believe God that He will do all that He has promised even when you have not seen it.

8. MEEKNESS: Numbers 12:3

To be meek is to be humble. Even when you come first in your examination or your parents are rich, you will not show off. You will put yourself in the position of others.

9. TEMPERANCE: I Corinthians 9:25; Titus 1:8; 2:5

This is self control. Many children cannot control themselves when it comes to food, writing an examination, buying things, playing games and watching films. As a Christian child, the Bible wants you to be moderate in all that you do.

A sinful child cannot bear the fruit of the Spirit. He needs to be sorry and turn away from his bad ways,



Turn away from your bad ways and accept Jesus into your heart. You will then be able to bear the fruit of the Spirit.

confess them to God and ask Him for forgiveness and cleansing in the blood of Jesus. Finally, he should receive Jesus into his heart to be his personal Saviour and Lord. Then he can receive the grace of God to bear the fruit of the Spirit.

QUESTIONS:

1. What do fruits do in the body? _____
2. What is the difference between the fruits we eat and the fruit of the Spirit? _____
3. Mention the nine parts of the fruit of the Spirit.

4. How did God show His love to us? _____

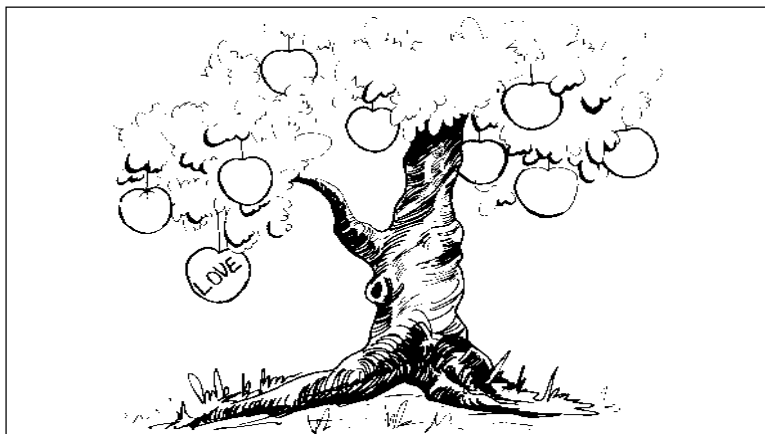
5. Mention the fruit of the Spirit that you can see in your own life. _____

MEMORY VERSE: “But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law” (Galatians 5:22, 23).

LESSON: A Christian child is known by the fruits he bears in his life.

THOUGHT: My life must show the fruit of the Spirit.

ACTIVITY: The children are to fill in the remaining eight parts of the fruit of the Spirit on the tree below.



HOME WORK: Let your life show to others at school and at home what the fruit of the Spirit is.

**CONGREGATIONAL SONG: GHS 49 -
LET OTHERS SEE JESUS IN YOU**

CHORUSES: (1) I will dig a little deeper. (2) I will love, I will love. (3) This little light of mine.

DAILY BIBLE READING

| | | |
|-----------|------------|---------|
| MONDAY | EPHESIANS | 3:17-19 |
| TUESDAY | EPHESIANS | 5:8-11 |
| WEDNESDAY | EPHESIANS | 4:23-25 |
| THURSDAY | COLOSSIANS | 3:12-14 |
| FRIDAY | COLOSSIANS | 3:15-17 |
| SATURDAY | JOHN | 15:1-4 |
| SUNDAY | JOHN | 15:5-8 |

BIBLE WORD SEARCH

Find the meanings of these words. You can use your dictionary. 1. Self control 2. Longsuffering 3. Deep assurance 4. Humble 5. Moderate.

LESSON 13

PERSONAL EVANGELISM

John 1:35-51

Personal evangelism is a God-given assignment of sharing the good news with sinful boys and girls. It is good news from a loving God to a lost world. The news is that, through the death, burial and resurrection of Christ, there is salvation (John 3:16,17). Our Bible passage shows us the principle of personal evangelism. John the Baptist made Christ known to his disciples and they followed Him. One of them was Andrew, who also found his own brother (Simon Peter) and brought him to Jesus. Philip also found Nathanael and called him to 'come and see' Jesus the Saviour. Therefore, personal evangelism is the person-to-person sharing of this good news of salvation with the aim of winning and leading the sinner to repent and turn to God through accepting Jesus Christ our Saviour (John 1:40-42; Acts 8:26-37). Jesus commands and God requires every believer to be a loving and fruitful soul-winner (Matthew 28:19,20).

The study is in three parts:

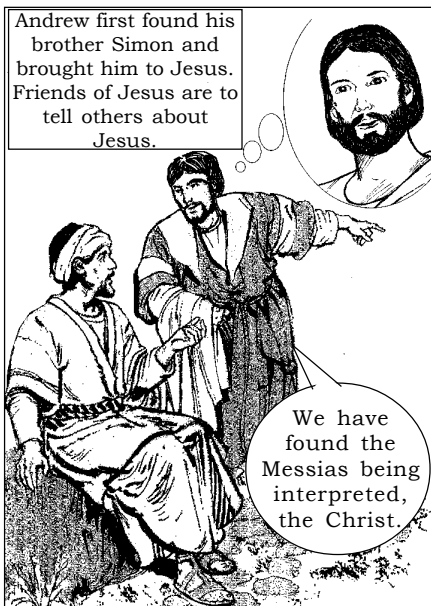
1. THE PURPOSE OF PERSONAL EVANGELISM:

Mark 16:15; 2 Peter 3:9.

To explain how important personal evangelism is, a man of God said "If you have one hundred empty bottles before you and threw a pail of water over them, the water will splash into some of the bottles but most of them will fall down empty. If you wish to fill the bottles, the best

way is to take each bottle separately and fill it with water.”

Personal evangelism is essential and compulsory for every friend of Jesus because: (a) God loves sinners and does not want them to perish (2 Peter 3:9). (b) Jesus commanded it (Mark 16:15). (c) God is happy with its result (Luke 15:10). (d) Jesus did it (John 4:21-30). (e) It is the heart desire of God (Ezekiel 33:11). (f) It is a mark of true wisdom (Proverbs 11:30). (g) The harvest is plenteous (Matthew 9:36,37). (h) Life is short while eternity is endless. Sinners are dying daily and going to hell (I Corinthians 7:29-31). (i) Powers of darkness and cultism are growing daily (2 Timothy 3:13). (j) It is the primary purpose of our salvation and there is great reward for those who do it (John 15:16; Daniel 12:3).



Are you a real friend of Jesus? Then you must arise and preach the gospel.

2. PATTERN OF DOING PERSONAL EVANGELISM:

John 1:35-51; Matthew 28:19,20; Romans 1:14-16; 10:1.

To be involved in personal evangelism, you must be born again. It is also important to live holily, be baptized

Personal evangelism can also be done through sharing of Christian literature to sinners. You can share the gospel at home, among friends and neighbours.

What is this?

It is a children magazine. I know you will enjoy it.



Tunde, remember I told you that Jesus loves you so much. He wants you to be born again.



with the Holy Ghost power and have compassion for sinners.

Opportunities for personal evangelism are open to us daily on the streets, bus stops, homes of neighbours, schools, markets and our communities. An effective pattern of doing evangelism is by making friends with sinners. Friendship evangelism is the art of leading a soul to Christ by making friends with him. Acts of kindness, love, service and friendliness can be the bait that will get a sinful child interested in our gospel message. Jesus ate with sinners to share His love with them (Luke 19:5-7).

Other ways of doing personal evangelism include:

- (a) sharing of personal testimony of salvation with sinners.
- (b) The use of Christian literature such as tracts, Tender Life magazine, Christian books etc.
- (c) Fervent secret prayers to open the hearts of sinners to God (Psalm 2:8).
- (d) Going out for morning and evening cry

(preaching very early in the morning or evening in an open place) at the bus stop and around the community.
(e) Door to door preaching.

Millions of souls are rushing towards hell fire, therefore, friends of Jesus should arise **now**, pray and preach the gospel.

3. PROFIT IN PERSONAL EVANGELISM:

John 15:16; Acts 8:4-8; Daniel 12:3.

A song writer wrote this song on evangelism:- *“If you will bring the one next to you, and I bring the one next to me, in no time at all, we will have them all, so win them, win them, one by one.”* Personal evangelism is profitable to the church, the soul-winner and the kingdom of God.

There are lots of blessings in doing personal evangelism such as:

(i) many souls will be saved and added to the church. (ii) Signs and wonders will be a common experience in the church. (iii) Answers to prayer. (iv) Bad things will decrease and there will be peace. (v)

There will be joy in heaven and God will be happy with soul-winners. (vi) living with Jesus eternally and receiving crowns with stars.

If you are not a friend of Jesus, you have no good news to share with sinners. A blind person cannot lead another blind person. You must accept the love of Christ and repent of your wicked ways. Accept Jesus as your personal Saviour, Lord and Friend. Then you can obey the command to go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature.

Jesus commanded all His friends to preach the gospel. If you are a sinner, turn to Jesus today so that you also can work for Him and He will bless you.



QUESTIONS:

1. Define personal evangelism _____
2. State three reasons why we must do personal evangelism. _____
3. (a) One effective way of doing personal evangelism is _____
(b) Mention three other methods of doing personal evangelism _____

4. Mention three rewards in doing personal evangelism.

MEMORY VERSE: “Philip findeth Nathanael, and saith unto him, We have found him, of whom Moses in the law, and the prophets, did write, Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph” (John 1:45).

LESSON: Personal evangelism is a must for every child who is born again.

THOUGHT: I will preach the love of Jesus to sinners.

ACTIVITY: (i) Children that are not yet born again should be led to pray for the salvation experience. (ii) Friends of Jesus should be paired two by two to go out for evangelism during the week.

HOMEWORK: Follow-up of the activity. The children should go out in pairs to preach on an appointed day of the week.

**CONGREGATIONAL SONG GHS: 112 –
WIN THEM ONE BY ONE**

CHORUSES: (1) Go and tell them. (2) Go tell it on the mountain. (3) Isaiah heard the voice of the Lord.

DAILY BIBLE READING

| | | |
|-----------|---------|----------|
| MONDAY | ROMANS | 10:13-15 |
| TUESDAY | MATTHEW | 3:1-3 |
| WEDNESDAY | MATTHEW | 3:4-6 |
| THURSDAY | MATTHEW | 3:7-11 |
| FRIDAY | ACTS | 8:4-8 |
| SATURDAY | ACTS | 11:19-21 |
| SUNDAY | ACTS | 11:22-24 |

BIBLE WORD SEARCH

Find the meanings of these words. You can use your dictionary: 1. Evangelism 2. Soul-winner
3. Conversion 4. Fervent 5. Eternity.

LESSON 1

REMNANTS OF BENJAMIN RE-ESTABLISHED

Judges 21:1-25.

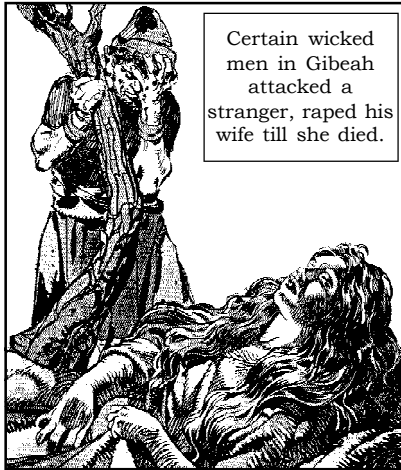
The remaining eleven tribes of Israel were very angry with the children of Benjamin for the grievous sins they committed, yet they did not allow their anger to last forever. Their good intention to seek the welfare of their brothers as we read from our text testifies to their willingness to forgive and forget their brother's offences. How easily and quickly do you forgive those who do wrong to you? (Ephesians 4:31,32).

Our lesson will be considered in three parts:

1. THE WICKEDNESS OF THE CHILDREN OF BENJAMIN:

Judges 20:4,5,11-13.

A man and his wife were travelling through the land of Gibeah to their own city. By night fall, they could not continue with their journey. They decided to lodge with an old man in the town of Gibeah. In the middle of the

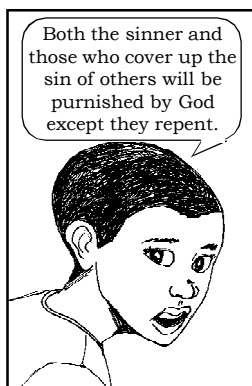


night, certain wicked men in the town attacked the house, took the woman out to a dark place and raped her till she died.

Rape is a wicked and terrible sin. In many countries, someone found guilty of rape or sexual assault could be imprisoned for several years or even killed. As a young Christian girl, you must run away from boys or men who try to lure you, sometimes with gifts, to secret or lonely places in order to fondle with your body and commit sin with you. It doesn't matter whether he is your brother, uncle, neighbour or even a close family relation. You must flee from all appearance of evil. The children of Benjamin refused to punish the men that did evil in their land.

We must report and not cover up the evil of others. Any child that covers the evil deeds of others is a partaker of such evil. Every sinner will definitely be judged. Therefore, speak out against sin and be separate from sinners and stand for righteousness.

2. PUNISHMENT FOR THE CHILDREN OF BENJAMIN:



Judges 20:35-48; 21:1.

When the other tribes in Israel heard what the Benjamites in Gibeah had done, they were very angry. They demanded that the offenders should be brought out to be punished. The children of Benjamin refused and decided to protect the wicked men from being punished. Their action led to conflict between them and the

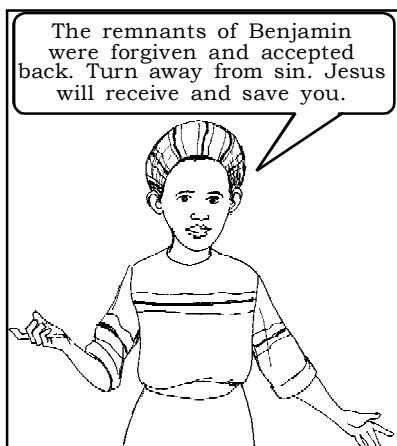
other eleven tribes. The sin of some few children of Belial led to war and needless destruction of the entire tribe of Benjamin. Repent now, and do not follow the way of the Benjamites so that iniquities will not be your ruin nor the iniquities of others around you (Ezekiel 18:30).

3. REMNANTS OF BENJAMIN RE-ESTABLISHED:

Judges 21:6,7,16-24; 2 Peter 3:9.

At the end of the war, only few of the children of Benjamin were alive. The few of the men who escaped ran into the mountain to hide. Then the remaining eleven tribes became concerned because one tribe out of twelve tribes of Israel was almost totally cut off. They decided to forgive and re-establish the remnants of the children of Benjamin. They therefore provided the means whereby they could marry wives, have children so that they could grow and become a big family again.

This is the picture of what Jesus did for us on the cross. We sinned and deserved to be punished and cast away. But God in His love and mercy gave us Jesus to die on the cross for us. As a sinner or backslider, repent of your sins. Ask God for



forgiveness and cleansing in the blood of Jesus. Accept Jesus to be your Saviour and Friend. Then you will be re-established into the family of God.

QUESTIONS:

1. What evil did the children of Benjamin do? _____
2. How were they punished? _____
3. What does it mean to be re-established? _____
4. What did the other eleven tribes do to re-establish the Benjamites? _____
5. How can sinners be re-established into the kingdom of God? _____

MEMORY VERSE: “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” (2 Peter 3:9).

LESSON: God is not willing that anyone should perish.

THOUGHT: I must repent of every sin and seek for forgiveness to escape God’s judgment.

ACTIVITY: Sword Drill: Judges 21:15; Ephesians 4:32; Isaiah 18:30; Genesis 45:4,5.

HOMEWORK: Write down in your church notebook, five reasons why JESUS commanded His friends to forgive those who offend them according to Matthew 5:38-48.

CONGREGATIONAL SONG GHS: 122 – SOMEBODY NEEDS YOUR LOVE

CHORUSES: (1) I will dig a little deeper, Jesus' love must be sweeter. (2) Give me love for my brethren. (3) I wandered far away, lost in the wilderness.

DAILY BIBLE READING

| | | |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| MONDAY | PSALM | 103:1-3 |
| TUESDAY | PSALM | 103:4-7 |
| WEDNESDAY | PSALM | 103:8-10 |
| THURSDAY | PSALM | 103:11-13 |
| FRIDAY | PSALM | 103:14-16 |
| SATURDAY | PSALM | 103:17-19 |
| SUNDAY | EPHESIANS | 4:31,32 |

BIBLE WORD SEARCH

Find the meanings of these words. You can use your dictionary: 1. Remnant 2. Re-established
3. Belial 4. Commendable 5. Grievous.

LESSON 2

ELIMELECH'S JOURNEY TO MOAB

Ruth 1:1-5

The events recorded in the Book of Ruth took place during the time of the Judges in Israel. The story in the book shows how true love and godly living can exist in days when the culture in general has become immoral, corrupt and against God's righteous standard.

Despite the fact that many families forsook God and did what was right in their own eyes; Elimelech's family stood out as a shining light in a dark world. Elimelech's family consisted of Elimelech (father), Naomi (mother), Mahlon and Chilion (the two sons). This family travelled from Bethlehem-Judah to settle in the country of Moab.

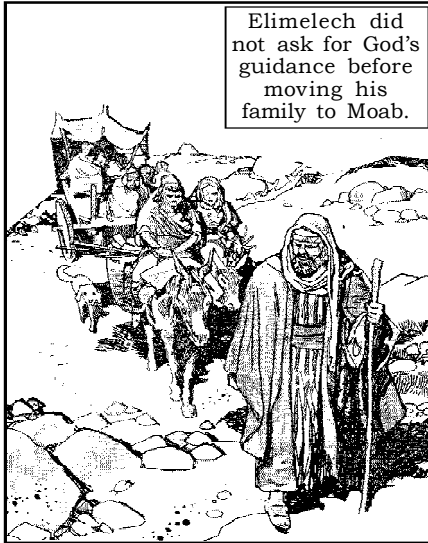
Today, many families still travel from one country to another and settle down temporarily or permanently. One of the reasons for this action is to be able to find a better and more comfortable form of living. Although the family of Elimelech passed through many trials, through it all, God showed His faithfulness in fulfilling His purpose for the family.

Our study is divided into the following sub-headings:

1. THE JOURNEY OF ELIMELECH'S FAMILY TO MOAB:

Ruth 1:1,2.

Moab, the country of the Moabites was founded by a man named Moab the son of Lot (Genesis 19:30-38).



Elimelech's family left their country, Bethlehem-judah to live in the pagan land of Moab because of famine. This decision to relocate led to serious regret for the family. Elimelech should have prayed very well to know if it was the will of God for him to relocate or not.

Some decisions we take are very important and can affect the future.

Therefore, it is important to seek God to know His will before taking such decisions as travelling out to another country or place to settle, the course or career to choose in life, school to attend, friends to move with, whether to travel or not. When you pray, God will guide you to make the right decisions.

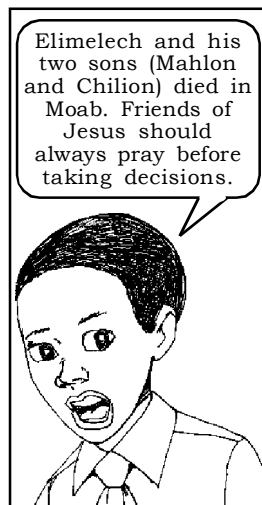
2. THE PROBLEMS OF ELIMELECH'S FAMILY IN MOAB:

Ruth 1:3-5

While living in the country of Moab, the family of Elimelech passed through many problems. First, Elimelech died, then his two sons Mahlon and Chilion also died after they had married. They left behind their mother, Naomi, and their two wives Orpah and Ruth. These were serious problems indeed. But their mother continued to serve God despite all the troubles that came her way.

There are many lessons to learn here:

- (i) Believers should always pray before taking decisions.
- (ii) Friends of Jesus should never walk by sight like Elimelech and Lot did (Genesis 13:9-13).
- (iii) As Naomi continued to serve God, we should also continue to serve God, no matter what may come our way.



3. BELIEVERS' JOURNEY TO HEAVEN:

John 14:2-4; Hebrews 11:8-10,16.

Friends of Jesus are on a journey to **"a city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God"**. This country is heaven. The journey to heaven begins when a child turns from all his bad ways completely. Such a child repents, confesses

his sins and invites Jesus Christ into his heart. He believes Christ has forgiven him. He also must continue to pray, read and obey God's word and follow Jesus daily.

As you journey to heaven, trials, oppositions, persecutions, disappointments and other challenges may come your way but you must never be discouraged or give up. Keep on serving Jesus until you get to heaven.



QUESTIONS:

1. Mention the names of all the members of Elimelech's family. _____
2. What is the name of Elimelech's country? _____
3. Did Elimelech pray before going to settle in Moab? _____
4. Mention three lessons you learnt from the decision of Elimelech's family. _____
5. (a) Today, believers are on a journey to _____
(b) What should be our attitude as we continue on the journey to heaven? _____

6. How can a sinful child join believers in their journey to heaven? _____

MEMORY VERSE: “In famine he shall redeem thee from death: and in war from the power of the sword.” (Job 5:20).

LESSON: It is a dangerous thing to neglect God’s counsel in our daily decision.

THOUGHT: I will wait upon God to receive counsel and direction in all that I do.

ACTIVITY: Mention three members of each of the following families in the Bible. (i) Family of Abraham, (ii) Family of Isaac, (iii) Family of Jacob.

HOMEWORK: Search the scriptures and mention four categories of people (2 in the Old Testament and 2 in the New Testament) who undertook a journey. Write their names, the places they travelled to, their mission and the Bible passages.

CONGREGATIONAL SONG GHS: 2 – COME UNTO ME

CHORUSES: (1) I am a stranger in this world. (2) We are marching on to the victorious city, goodbye Satan. (3) Until I reach my home.

DAILY BIBLE READING

| | | |
|-----------|---------|----------|
| MONDAY | GENESIS | 12:1-3 |
| TUESDAY | GENESIS | 12:4-5 |
| WEDNESDAY | GENESIS | 12:6-9 |
| THURSDAY | PSALM | 33:11-13 |
| FRIDAY | PSALM | 33:17-19 |
| SATURDAY | PSALM | 46:1-5 |
| SUNDAY | HEBREWS | 11:14-16 |

BIBLE WORD SEARCH

Find the meanings of these words. You can use your dictionary: 1. Decision 2. Believer

3. Persecution 4. Disappointment 5. Stagger.

LESSON 3

NAOMI RETURNS WITH RUTH TO BETHLEHEM-JUDAH

Ruth 1:6-22

The problem of famine and hunger in Israel made Naomi and her husband Elimelech to leave the land of Bethlehem-judah to an idolatrous country called Moab. The problem of the famine affected everybody in Bethlehem-judah. Both husband and wife thought that the best solution was to leave and go to another country.

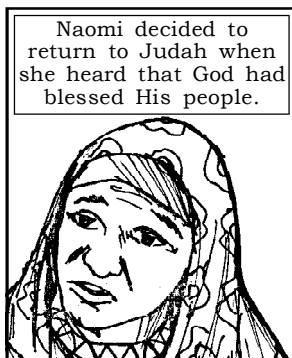
The family did not pray to know the mind of God before they moved to Moab. They went with their two sons Mahlon and Chilion who got married to two women Ruth and Orpah in Moab. Elimelech died, and not long after, both sons, Mahlon and Chilion died also. Naomi was left alone with her sons' wives. God wants us to pray and seek His face before taking any step in life. The decision you make today will determine your future and destiny. Trust in God and commit your way into His hands. Let God be your guide.

The study is in three parts:

1. NAOMI'S DECISION TO RETURN TO BETHLEHEM-JUDAH:

Ruth 1:6-10

The tragedy in Naomi's family made her to realize that she should return to Bethlehem-judah the place of God's blessing. She has also heard that God had visited and blessed His people with food and other good things of life. However, Naomi's need was more than food. She longed for the true worship of Jehovah – God. She had lived long in the midst of idol worshippers.



Naomi's two daughters-in-law were both ready to follow her. They must have been touched by her godly character. Naomi in spite of her troubles and suffering, still loved the Lord. She therefore decided to return to Bethlehem-judah, where she could serve the true God.

If you are passing through any form of suffering or you have found yourself in a wrong company or place and you have gone astray from the Lord, this is the time to return to God. Behold He stands at the door of your heart. If you will open, He will come in and give you rest (Revelation 3:20,21).

2. NAOMI RETURNS WITH RUTH TO BETHLEHEM:

Ruth 1:11-22.

A writer wrote thus "Tough times never last but tough people do". This statement could be clearly

seen in the choices that presented themselves before Orpah and Ruth the daughters-in-law of Naomi. They had both lost their husbands, but they were still young women. They were natives of Moab the land of idol-worship, but they chose to marry



Naomi's sons and became members of the family of the true God and His covenant people – Israel. Now it was time to make a choice and decide between going back to their idol-worship and remaining with the people that serve the true God.

After a little persuasion, Orpah decided to go back to her people and their idols. On the other hand, Ruth made a choice that put down her name in heaven. The statement she made has become a reference point or guiding principle for all who are determined to serve God and get to heaven. **“And Ruth said, Intreat me not to leave thee, or to return from following after thee: for whither thou goest, I will go; and where thou lodgest, I will**

lodge: thy people shall be my people, and thy God my God” (Ruth 1:16).

Follow the example of Ruth, determine to hold unto the word of God and remain with God’s people. Do not go back into ungodly fellowship. Remain in the place of God’s blessings. Wait to see the goodness and provision of God for your life.

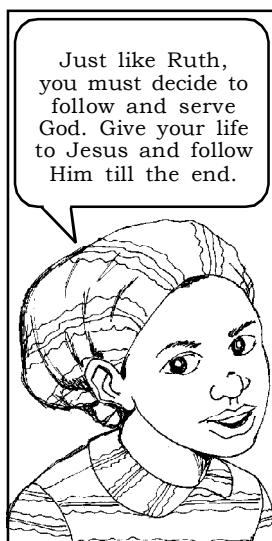
3. DECIDE TO FOLLOW THE LORD:

Ruth 1:16,22.

The decision you take now will determine your future both here on earth and in eternity.

Naomi’s decision and Ruth’s choice led them to a blissful and rewarding future. They came into the land of blessing and rest. Heaven is a place that Christ has gone to prepare for His friends (John 14:1-3). Jesus has made provision for every child that wants to go with Him to heaven. To follow Jesus and enjoy God’s blessings and get to heaven, a sinner/backslider must repent and forsake his old ways of sin. Ask for pardon and cleansing in the blood of Jesus and make Jesus to be his Saviour, Lord and Friend.

He also must desire and pray to be sanctified, live holily every day, and obey God’s word, follow Jesus and serve Him all the days of his life. Do not change your decision to follow the Lord. As Ruth



clave unto Naomi (Ruth 1:14), you also must cleave unto the Lord Jesus Christ until the end.

Children who refuse to make this decision now will suffer in this world and suffer forever in hell fire. Decide now to follow the Lord.

QUESTIONS:

1. Why did Elimelech and Naomi leave Bethlehem-judah for Moab? _____
2. What happened to Elimelech's family in Moab?

3. Mention two important reasons why Naomi decided to return to Bethlehem-judah. _____

4. _____ returned with Naomi to Bethlehem-judah.
5. What should sinners/backsliders do to return to God? _____

MEMORY VERSE: "And Ruth said, Intreat me not to leave thee, or to return from following after thee: for whither thou goest, I will go; and where thou lodgest, I will lodge: thy people shall be my people, and thy God my God" (Ruth 1:16).

LESSON: The choices we make today will determine our future.

THOUGHT: I will follow Jesus every day of my life so that I will have a secured future.

ACTIVITY: Search the Bible, find out one person that experienced famine. Write out the passage and the instruction God gave to the person.

HOMEWORK: Prayer for grace to remain faithful to God's word.

**CONGREGATIONAL SONG GHS: 60 –
WHERE COULD I GO?**

CHORUSES: (1) I have decided to follow Jesus.
(2) Move on, move on don't be tired. (3) Because He lives I can face tomorrow.

DAILY BIBLE READING

| | | |
|-----------|-------|----------|
| MONDAY | PSALM | 1:1-3 |
| TUESDAY | PSALM | 1:4-6 |
| WEDNESDAY | PSALM | 37:1-3 |
| THURSDAY | PSALM | 37:4-6 |
| FRIDAY | PSALM | 37:7-9 |
| SATURDAY | PSALM | 37:10,11 |
| SUNDAY | PSALM | 37:17-19 |

BIBLE WORD SEARCH

Find the meanings of these words. You can use your dictionary: 1. Persuasion 2. Covenant
3. Eternity 4. Determination 5. Heavyladen.

LESSON 4

RUTH'S PIETY AND HARD-WORK

Ruth 2:1-23

Two important words stand out in our topic for this lesson. These are “**Piety** and **hard-work**”. The two words explain the different qualities in the character of Ruth. Piety means complete consecration, submission and whole hearted devotion to the worship of God. Also, the word hard-work means to be dutiful, diligent and totally committed to whatever you are given to do. Laziness is the opposite of hard-work.

Ruth's decision and conduct showed that she had deep love for God and her mother-in-law. She was also very hard-working and diligent. She kept herself holy and pure even though her husband had died. Her life of holiness, piety and hard-work brought the blessings of God upon her life. You too will be blessed if you can take a wise decision today to surrender your life to Jesus and turn away from all the bad and naughty things in your life.

The study is divided into three parts:-

1. RUTH'S DETERMINATION TO WORK HARD:

Ruth 2:1-7,17,18; I Thessalonians 4:11.

Ruth returned to Bethlehem-judah with her mother-in-law without any earthly possession. There was no guaranty of where to live, what to eat

or any form of comfort. Yet Ruth was determined to make the best use of whatever work was available



for her. They returned at the time of harvesting of crops. She decided to join the farmers to work so as to get food for her mother-in-law and herself.

The Bible commands us to work hard, stating clearly that those who would not work should not eat (2 Thessalonians 3:10). Children who are lazy will not receive anything. Learn from the ants. They are tiny insects, almost worthless creatures, yet they work hard to gather their food (Proverbs 6:6-8).

Children must learn to work hard in their studies, at home and in the church. It pays to work hard. God rewarded Ruth's labour that she and her mother-in-law had enough to eat and to keep for the future. She is a worthy example. Let your parents, teachers and others around you testify that you are a hard-working child.

2. RUTH'S EXAMPLE OF A HOLY LIFE:

Ruth 2:8-11; Titus 2:11-14.

As a young lady, Ruth kept herself pure and free from all kinds of immorality, even when her husband was no more alive. She did not follow the young men in the farm to do bad things. She was obedient to her mother-in-law and always took permission from her before going anywhere. She was respectful, humble and honoured God by her life of piety and hard-work. We can clearly see the character of Ruth in the letters of her name.

R – Righteous. **U** – Uncommon faith. **T** – Teachable. **H** – Humble. Ruth was submissive, faithful and gracious in her conduct and speech. Despite the situation she found herself, she was not bitter or angry.

There are other examples of pious, that is, holy women in the Bible. These include: Esther – she was chaste and beautiful within and without. She was found to be a virgin and qualified to be a queen (Esther 2:7,9,15-17). Mary the mother of Jesus – She is often referred to as virgin Mary. It means she was perfect, holy and righteous in everything. No wonder, she was found worthy to be the mother of our Lord and Saviour Jesus (Luke 1:26-35).

Follow the example of Ruth. Be holy in thought, action, appearance, speech and in your relationship with people around you. Do not spoil your body with

Ruth was holy,
humble, respectful
and teachable.



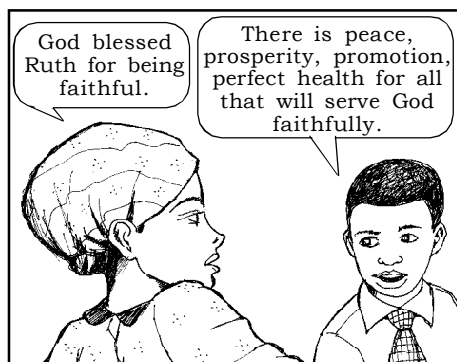
immorality. Avoid all uncleanness and keep yourself pure. There are great rewards for those who live holily.

3. REWARD FOR FAITHFULNESS:

Ruth 2:8-23; Psalm 101:6.

God watches over those who obey and put their trust in Him. The story of Ruth shows how God helps and provides for those who trust in Him and follow His ways. Ruth's trust in the Lord made her not to return to her country but to follow her mother-

in-law Naomi and serve her God.



God rewarded her by giving her a blessed family. She was honoured by becoming one of the ancestors of our Saviour and Lord Jesus Christ. There are great rewards awaiting

all boys and girls that will be faithful in following the Lord and serving Him whole heartedly. They will enjoy peace, prosperity, promotion, perfect health and many more. At last, they will get to heaven and live with Jesus forever. If you are still a sinner, you must repent and forsake all your bad ways of life. Accept Jesus as Lord and Saviour. Live for Christ daily and you will be blessed.

QUESTIONS:

1. What is piety? _____
2. Outline the characteristics of Ruth in the letters of her name. _____

3. Mention two other women in the Bible who lived holily _____
4. Mention three practical ways that a Christian child can live holily. _____
5. Mention three rewards for the faithful. _____
6. How can sinful boys and girls enjoy such rewards?

MEMORY VERSE: “**The Lord recompense thy work, and a full reward be given thee of the Lord God of Israel, under whose wings thou art come to trust**” (Ruth 2:12).

LESSON: I must live a holy life, be faithful in all things and hard-working to enjoy the favour of God.

THOUGHT: I will work hard and live holily every day.

ACTIVITY: Children should rehearse the story of how Ruth returned to Bethlehem-judah and why God blessed her.

HOMEWORK: Search the scriptures and write down names of four children in the Bible who obeyed the word of God and the blessings they received.

CONGREGATIONAL SONG GHS: 52 – COUNT ME

CHORUSES: (1) There is none holy as the Lord.
(2) I want to be a good child. (3) Give me grace to follow.

DAILY BIBLE READING

| | | |
|-----------|-----------------|----------|
| MONDAY | I PETER | 2:9-12 |
| TUESDAY | JOSHUA | 24:13-16 |
| WEDNESDAY | PROVERBS | 6:6-8 |
| THURSDAY | PROVERBS | 6:9-11 |
| FRIDAY | 2 THESSALONIANS | 3:6-8 |
| SATURDAY | 2 TIMOTHY | 2:20-22 |
| SUNDAY | I THESSALONIANS | 5:22-24 |

BIBLE WORD SEARCH

Find the meanings of these words. You can use your dictionary: 1. Piety 2. Decision
3. Hard-work 4. Holiness 5. Devotion.

LESSON 5

RUTH FINDS FAVOUR WITH BOAZ

Ruth 3:1-18.

Ruth worked tirelessly on the farm of Boaz till the end of the harvest. Her labour helped to sustain her and her mother-in-law. Her faith in God, brought her into God's purpose and blessing for her life. She trusted and confidently waited for God and she was satisfied.

Children who wait patiently for God's plan and purpose to be fulfilled in their lives will receive many blessings from God. Trust God, wait upon Him and be faithful to His word.

The study is in three parts:

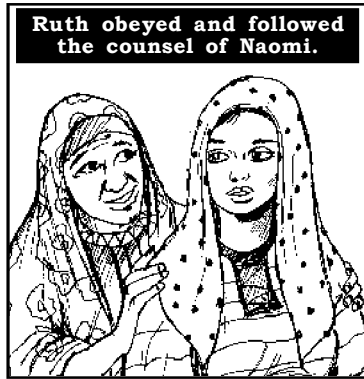
1. NAOMI'S WISE COUNSEL:

Ruth 3:1-4; Deuteronomy 25:5-10.

Ruth was still very young and needed to get married again. According to the word of God, Ruth could marry a close family member of her late husband. Naomi was concerned about Ruth's future. She therefore counselled Ruth to meet with Boaz who was a close relative of her husband.

Naomi's counsel to Ruth teaches us the following lessons: (a) we must always consider the word of God in any decision that we want to take. The word of God is a lamp to our feet and a light to our path.

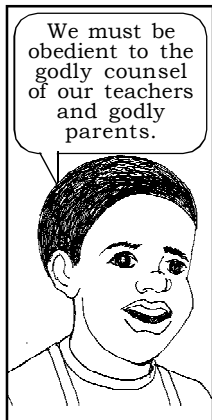
(b) Naomi instructed Ruth to wash and anoint herself; symbolizing the Christian preparation to meet Jesus at the rapture. Jesus is the Bridegroom whom believers are waiting for. Therefore, to be qualified to be the bride of Christ, your heart and life must be washed with the blood of Jesus. Are you saved? Are you washed in the blood of the Lamb? This is the time to answer Christ's call.



2. RUTH'S OBEDIENCE OF FAITH:

Ruth 3:5-10; I Samuel 15:22.

Obedience brings blessings. Obedience and faith are two important virtues that go hand in hand.



When Ruth's mother-in-law instructed her on what to do before going to meet with Boaz who later became her husband, she did not argue. She obeyed without asking questions. The element of obedience must always be present in the exercise of faith. Ruth believed and obeyed, "**And she said unto her, All that thou sayest unto me I will do**" (Ruth 3:5). Therefore, God worked things out in her favour.

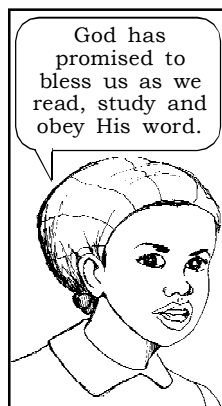
We should be obedient and have faith in God's unchanging word. Read God's

word daily, think upon its commandments, obey them and claim all that the Bible promises. Your future is then settled. This is the only way that we can receive the blessings of God.

3. ASSURANCE OF BLESSINGS:

Ruth 3:11-18; Deuteronomy 28:1,2.

In obedience to her mother-in-law, Ruth made her intentions known to Boaz (the close relative of her husband). Meanwhile, Boaz, had been observing Ruth's conduct since she came back with Naomi to Bethlehem-judah. Her character more than her beauty, attracted him. He had taken the time to learn all he could about her. The loving kindness and loyalty she had shown to her mother-in-law portrayed her as a woman of virtue. She was committed to the family of her late husband and to the God of Israel. Her faith and obedience brought her blessings that she never dreamt of. Boaz gave her enough food and promised to marry and take care of her.



The word of God is filled with clear, great and precious promises for His children. There is nothing to fear. Read, study, think on and act upon God's promises. Then your faith will grow and you will be able to enjoy all the promised blessings.

Remember, the key to blessings is obedience. If you are still a sinner, Jesus is waiting for you to

take the step of faith and come to Him. He will receive you and take care of you.

QUESTIONS:

1. Who was Boaz? _____
2. Identify two qualities in the life of Ruth that made her to find favour with Boaz. _____

3. How did Ruth reply to Naomi's counsel? _____

4. State two lessons you learnt from Naomi's counsel _____

5. What should a sinful child do to enjoy God's favour? _____

MEMORY VERSE: “And now, my daughter, fear not; I will do to thee all that thou requirest: for all the city of my people doth know that thou art a virtuous woman” (Ruth 3:11).

LESSON: God rewards those who have faith and obey His word.

THOUGHT: I will obey God's word so as to enjoy His favour.

ACTIVITY: Sword Drill: Ruth 1:16; Esther 4:16; Romans 8:13,14; Proverbs 31:30.

HOMEWORK: Read Ruth 1:16; and Esther 4:14. Write out one similarity in the action of the two women.

CONGREGATIONAL SONG GHS: 128 – VICTORY IN JESUS

CHORUSES: (1) He loves me, I cannot say why.
(2) He has done so much for me. (3) Following Jesus
every day by day..

DAILY BIBLE READING

| | | |
|-----------|----------|-----------|
| MONDAY | PROVERBS | 31:25-27 |
| TUESDAY | PROVERBS | 31:28,29 |
| WEDNESDAY | PROVERBS | 31:30,-31 |
| THURSDAY | JOHN | 6:67-69 |
| FRIDAY | MATTHEW | 11:27-30 |
| SATURDAY | PSALM | 5:11,12 |
| SUNDAY | MATTHEW | 19:28,29 |

BIBLE WORD SEARCH

Find the meanings of these words. You can use
your dictionary: 1. Counsel 2. Favour 3. Sustain
4. Faithfulness 5. Bridegroom.

LESSON 6

PAUL DEFENDS HIS APOSTLESHIP

2 Corinthians 10:7-18

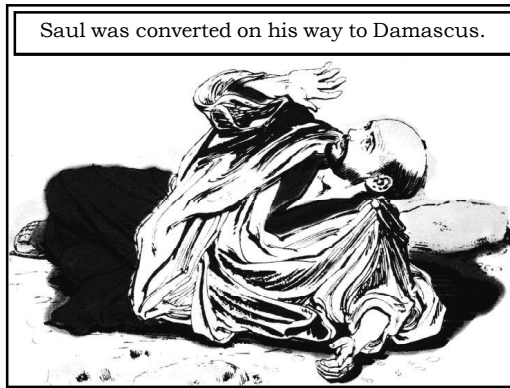
Paul the Apostle was very faithful to Christ. Many sinners were saved through his preaching. Despite all the persecutions, trials and hatred from people, he continued serving the Lord without being discouraged. In this chapter, Paul the apostle in a humble manner confirmed the power behind his preaching. He reasoned with the Corinthians about his relationship with Jesus as His Apostle. God expects every friend of Jesus to give himself/herself totally to the work of our Master and Saviour Jesus Christ.

The message is in three parts

1. PAUL'S CONVERSION:

2 Corinthians 10:7; Acts 9:1-9.

Paul did not become an apostle in the same manner as the rest of the apostles. His conversion after seeing Jesus while on the road to Damascus was dramatic. In Romans 1:1, Paul said he was called an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God. After he obeyed the command to be baptized (Acts 22:16), he immediately began to proclaim Jesus in the synagogues saying, **“He is the Son of God”** (Acts 9:20). Considering his past, it should not be surprising that Paul was not readily accepted by



the church. As he arrived in Jerusalem, he tried to associate with the disciples, but they were all afraid of him. They did not believe he had become a disciple.

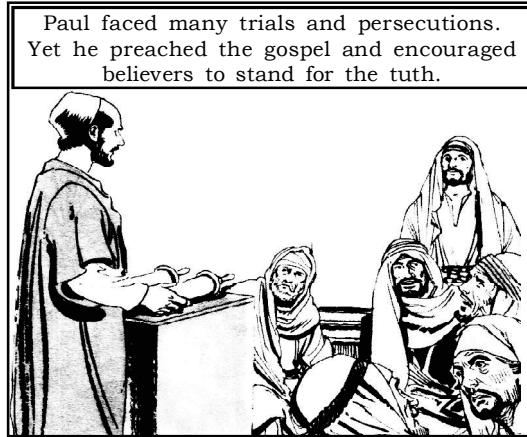
It was Barnabas who convinced the brethren that Paul had really been converted. Paul cherished his call into the ministry and he was always ready to defend it. He was never ashamed of Christ and the work of preaching the gospel. As God helped Paul to fulfil his ministry, He will also help you. Just trust and obey Him.

2. PAUL AS AN APOSTLE OF CHRIST:

I Corinthians 9:1-3; 2 Corinthians 10:8-12.

Some false believers came to the church in Corinth wanting to deceive friends of Jesus. They questioned the authority and call of Paul. He rose up and defended his call to be an apostle. He proved to them that his calling came directly from God and not from man. He made the following points to establish his authority. (a) His words were not to

terrify or frighten the obedient. (b) He used his authority to help them spiritually and not to destroy their faith. (c) He wrote only against the deeds of the disobedient. (d) Those who believed and stood



for the truth were an evidence of Paul's true apostleship (2 Corinthians 10:14,15). (e) The signs, wonders and miracles performed among them were from God. (f) His authority as an apostle was from God. He intended to build them not to tear them down (2 Corinthians 13:10).

The boldness, faith and grace in the life of Paul is an encouragement for all friends of Jesus. As a Christian, you must be ready to stand for the truth and defend the faith by living a life that glorifies God. Be separate from the evil practices of the world, endure persecution and boldly declare the word of God in this wicked and corrupt world.



3. REWARDS FOR FAITHFUL SERVANTS:

2 Timothy 4:6-8

Despite his defense at the church in Corinth, Paul actually felt very humble about his former way of life and his later conversion and apostleship. Apostle Paul remained faithful to his call into the ministry, therefore he enjoyed the following: (a) He had many converts and established many churches. (b) His ministry was accompanied by signs, wonders and miracles. (c) Divine protection and long life. (d) He trained many pastors such as Timothy, Silas and Titus who took over his ministry. (e) He finished well and received a crown of righteousness.

Now, it is your turn to serve the Lord as Paul did. But for you to serve, you must be saved. Repent now and receive Jesus as your Lord and Saviour. You must also remain steadfast in the face of trial

and persecution. God will help and use you like Apostle Paul .

QUESTIONS:

1. Paul preached in many towns and cities. Yes/No?
2. State two reasons why Paul defended his apostleship. _____
3. State three reasons why God loved Paul and commended him. _____
4. Mention three rewards for faithful servants. _____
5. How can a sinful child become a follower of Christ? _____

MEMORY VERSE: “I must work the works of him that sent me, while it is day: the night cometh, when no man can work” (John 9:4).

LESSON: Paul obeyed Jesus and worked hard to please Him.

THOUGHT: I will obey and preach the gospel always like Paul did.

ACTIVITY: The teachers should lead the children to pray for those who are suffering because of their faith in Jesus Christ.

HOMEWORK: Search the scriptures and write down the names of five people who suffered for Jesus and their attitude during persecution (with Bible references).

CONGREGATIONAL SONG GHS: 16 – IF GOD BE FOR US

CHORUSES: (1) I'm a soldier in the army.
(2) Covenant-keeping God there is no one like You.
(3) Jesus the same yesterday, today and forever.

DAILY BIBLE READING

| | | |
|-----------|---------------|----------|
| MONDAY | ACTS | 22:1-3 |
| TUESDAY | ACTS | 22:4-6 |
| WEDNESDAY | ACTS | 22:7-9 |
| THURSDAY | ACTS | 22:10-13 |
| FRIDAY | ACTS | 22:14-16 |
| SATURDAY | I CORINTHIANS | 9:1-3 |
| SUNDAY | 2 CORINTHIANS | 12:11-13 |

BIBLE WORD SEARCH

Find the meanings of these words. You can use your dictionary: 1. Apostle 2. Dramatic
3. Commendation 4. Discredit 5. Accompanied.

LESSON 7

PAUL'S CONCERN AND SUFFERING FOR THE CHURCH

2 Corinthians 11:1-33

The gospel is the good news of Christ's suffering and death for the salvation of all men. In our Bible passage, Paul the apostle was concerned about the Christians in Corinth. He was not happy because some people were teaching them another doctrine that was not of Christ. That was a wrong teaching that would make them lose their salvation and end up in hell. Paul the apostle made them to know how he suffered to bring the gospel to them and other people.

Today, there are also false teachers who try to lead people away from the gospel. As a christian, you will not only be watchful and refuse to be led astray, it is also your duty to encourage others to continue in the truth to the end.

The message is divided into three sub-headings:

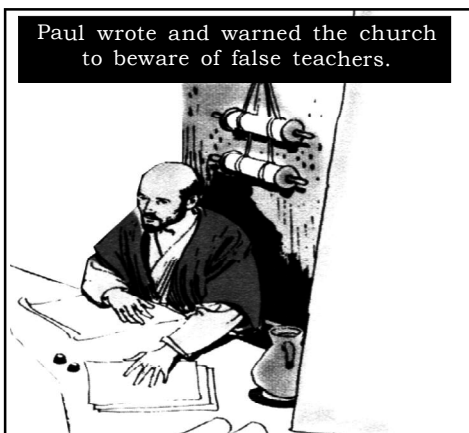
1. PAUL'S CONCERN FOR THE CHURCH:

2 Corinthians 11:3,13-15; Romans 16:17,18;
Philippians 2:4-11.

The church is made up of people who have turned away from their sinful ways of life and received

Jesus Christ as Saviour and Lord. When they gather together regularly at a place to worship God, they form a local church. Paul the apostle travelled to many places to preach the gospel and God used him to establish local churches in places like Corinth (I Corinthians 1:2), Galatia (Galatians 1:2), Ephesus and many others.

As the church began to grow, many people who were not true believers also joined them. After a while, these non-believers in the church, started to cause confusion among the brethren by spreading false doctrines. Many of them were pretenders and agents of Satan. They were out to deceive people, gather followers and take them to hell.



Apostle Paul expressed great concern. He therefore wrote letters to the churches to warn them about these false brethren and teachers. Today, there are still lots of false teachers around us. They teach errors and do a lot of things to make people shift their attention from the word of God to worldly things.

As true friends of Jesus, you also can show concern like Paul by: praying for the church, pointing to those who are not standing on the true

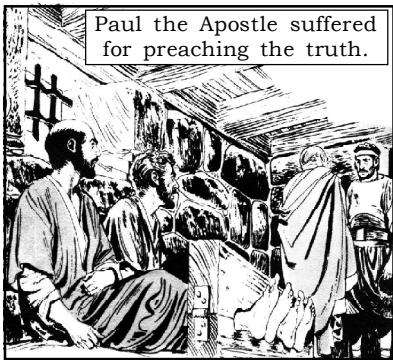
word of God and warning them about the danger of departing from the Lord.

Do not keep company with unserious children who make jest of God's word. The Bible clearly commands that we should mark those who cause division in the church and avoid them (Romans 16:17).

2. PAUL'S SUFFERING FOR THE CHURCH:

2 Corinthians 11:22-29.

The false teachers that went to the church at Corinth tried to prove that they were superior to Paul the apostle. That was why Paul the apostle



had to explain to the Corinthians that he was not in any way inferior to the false teachers. He also told them how much he had suffered before the churches were established through the preaching of the gospel. He was beaten,

imprisoned, stoned and suffered shipwreck.

Apostle Paul suffered many things and worked very hard to preach the gospel. He established churches in Philippi, Lystra, Iconium, Ephesus and many other places (Acts 14:19,20; 16:23,26).

Everyone who will serve God and live godly will suffer persecution. Jesus suffered and the Apostles also suffered. Friends of Jesus should not be afraid of suffering for Christ. Whatever difficulty you face

today in your effort to preach Christ, will never be in vain. You will be fruitful like Apostle Paul.

3. CALL TO FOLLOW CHRIST'S EXAMPLE:

Philippians 2:4-11; I Corinthians 11:1.

“Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus” (Philippians 2:5). Jesus laid aside His divine nature and came to the world in the likeness of men. He humbled Himself and took the form of a servant (Matthew 20:28). He suffered and died on the cross because of His great love for us. Paul the apostle had the mind of Christ; his concern made him to suffer for the church. He was a good example to all his converts and the church (I Corinthians 11:1). God wants us to also be good examples of believers so much that those who have not believed will through our lifestyle know what it means to be a follower of Christ.

If you are still a sinner, telling lies, stealing or being disobedient, repent of all your sins now, confess them to God and ask for forgiveness and cleansing in the blood of Jesus. Surrender your life for God's service, live holily and shine as light in your community and preach the gospel everywhere.

God is calling you to follow Jesus and stand for the truth. Give your life to Jesus and make Him your friend today.



QUESTIONS:

1. The church is _____
2. What was Paul's concern for the church? _____
3. What should be the concern of every friend of Jesus for (i) other friends of Jesus (ii) sinners?

4. Mention two ways through which you can confess Christ before men. _____

5. (a) A sinner cannot confess Christ before men. True/False?
(b) What must he/she do? _____

MEMORY VERSE: "And ye shall be hated of all men for my name's sake: but he that endureth to the end shall be saved" (Matthew 10:22).

LESSON: Christian boys and girls must be concerned for the welfare of the church by standing for the truth.

THOUGHT: I will stand for the truth and defend the faith.

ACTIVITY: Prayer of consecration.

HOMEWORK: Read the passage in column A: and match each passage with the experience of Paul's suffering described in column B.

| COLUMN A | COLUMN B |
|-----------------------|--------------------|
| Acts 16:22-25 | Hunger and thirst |
| Acts 20:31 | Stoning |
| I Corinthians 4:11-13 | Shipwreck |
| Acts 14:19,20 | Beating |
| Acts 27:41-44 | Warning with tears |

CONGREGATIONAL SONG GHS: 100 – CHRIST, OUR MIGHTY CAPTAIN

CHORUSES: (1) I live for Jesus day after day.
(2) When He calls me I will answer (3) Give me
grace to follow.

DAILY BIBLE READING

| | | |
|-----------|---------|----------|
| MONDAY | MATTHEW | 10:17-20 |
| TUESDAY | MATTHEW | 10:21-23 |
| WEDNESDAY | MATTHEW | 10:24,25 |
| THURSDAY | MATTHEW | 10:26-30 |
| FRIDAY | MATTHEW | 10:31-33 |
| SATURDAY | MATTHEW | 10:37-39 |
| SUNDAY | MATTHEW | 10:40-42 |

BIBLE WORD SEARCH

Find the meanings of these words. You can use
your dictionary: 1. Concern 2. Establish
3. Justify 4. Inferior 5. Shipwreck.

LESSON 8

SUFFICIENCY OF GOD'S GRACE

2 Corinthians 12:1-21

“Marvelous grace of our loving Lord, Grace that exceeds our sin and our guilt, marvelous, infinite, matchless grace, freely bestowed on all who believe”

The above quotation from a popular Christian song presents grace as a free gift of God to all who believe. This grace in the sight of God is greater than our sin and guilt. What then is grace?

Grace is the undeserved, unmerited love, mercy, kindness and favour which God shows to fallen (sinful) man through Christ's suffering and death on the cross. Through Adam's disobedience, man came under God's judgment of eternal separation in hell fire. But God showed mercy. He sent His Son Jesus Christ who willingly took on our guilt and offered Himself as a sacrificial Lamb on the cross to make peace with God. He did this to redeem us from eternal destruction (Psalm 103:4).

Because of the suffering, death and resurrection of Jesus, God granted man forgiveness and restored our lost relationship with Him. Like the father of the prodigal son, God restored man again to His Kingdom and made us joint heirs with Jesus His only Son.

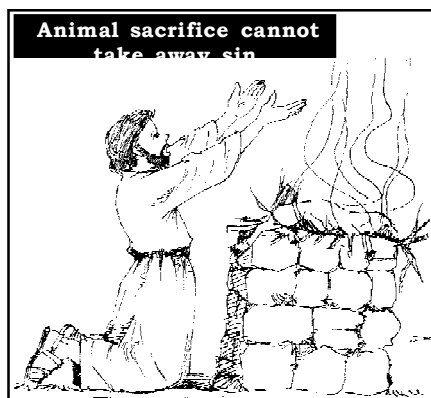
Grace also means divine ability (God-given power) given to man to overcome sin and self, excel and do God's will in spite of our weakness.

The topic is divided into three points:

1. THE IMPORTANCE OF GRACE:

I Corinthians 12:1-10; Ephesians 2:8,9; John 1:12.

When the children of Israel left Egypt, God through Moses, gave them the law (Ten Commandments) to guide and help them live godly lives as they journeyed to settle in Canaan. Israel tried to keep the law through regular animal



sacrifices. However, they could not receive salvation and justification (freedom from condemnation) because it is only by grace that we are saved and justified. What the law could not give for over thousands of years ago, (from the time of

Moses till Jesus came) is now available through grace, (Ephesians 2:8,9; John 1:12).

The grace that brings salvation and helps us to do God's will, is available now for every boy and girl through the Lord Jesus Christ. If you are still living in the sin of disobedience, cheating, fighting, fornication, idolatry etc, repent now and accept the sacrifice of Jesus for your salvation.

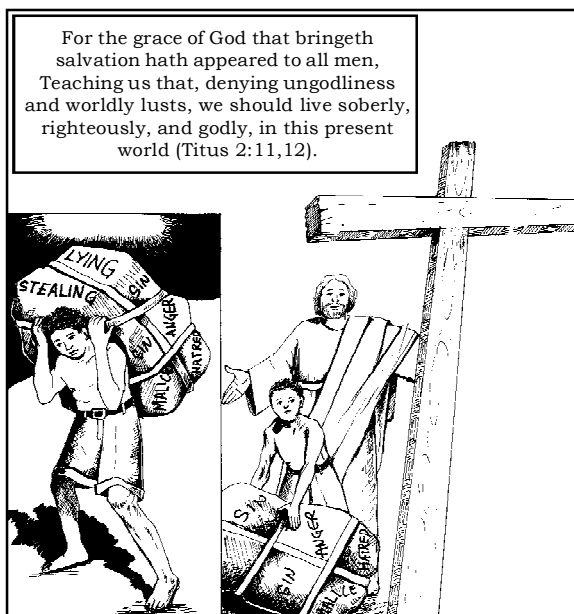
2. THE WORK OF GRACE:

I Corinthians 12:11-21; Titus 2:11-14.

The world is evil. Friends of Jesus in their daily walk with God often experience temptations and challenges that threaten our decision to continue to follow the Lord. At such times, your attitude should be to trust God, believe and obey His word no matter how difficult it may be. Grace is what God has given to help friends of Jesus to overcome the tests and trials of life and faith.

God's grace will enable you to: (a) live a godly life of prayer, reading and meditating on God's word and

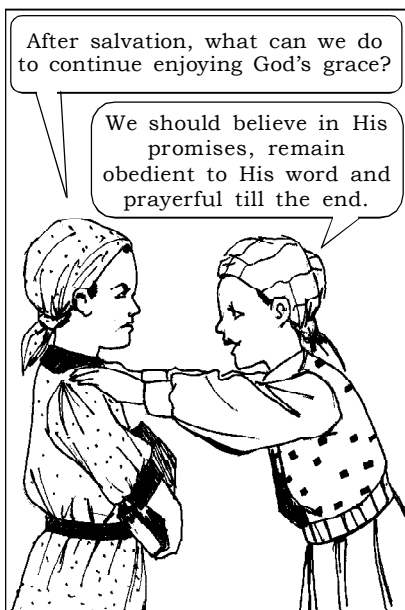
telling sinners about His love. (b) Have victory over worldly lust and temptations, that is, the desire to live, dress and enjoy sinful pleasures like the unbelievers around you. (c) Be watchful and prayerful in these last days. (d) Live holily and be ready for the rapture.



3. SUFFICIENCY OF GOD'S GRACE:

2 Corinthians 12:7-9.

The sufficiency of God's grace can be seen in the life of Paul and the Apostles in the early church. Despite Paul's physical handicap, (2 Corinthians



12:7-9) he laboured and suffered more than others in order to save the Gentile world from perishing (2 Corinthians 11:23-27). The Apostles were regarded as weak and ignorant by the religious leaders of their time. Yet God used them to convert the world to Christ (Acts 4:18-20,31).

Whatever your situation or challenges, as a friend of Jesus, God's grace is

sufficient unto you. Believe in God's promises, remain obedient and prayerful. You will be victorious at last in Jesus' Name. If you are a sinner, the grace of God is available to save you. Be sorry and turn away from your sins. Ask God for forgiveness and cleansing in the blood of Jesus and accept Jesus as your personal Lord and Saviour. Then, pray for grace to live victoriously.

QUESTIONS:

1. Grace is the free gift of God to all who believe in the sacrifice of Jesus on the cross. Yes/No?
 2. Why did Israel fail to receive salvation and justification for sin through animal sacrifices?
 3. Mention three things that grace can do in the life of friends of Jesus. _____
 4. Mention five people whose lives show the sufficiency of God's grace. _____
 5. What should a sinner do to enjoy God's grace?
-

MEMORY VERSE: “And he said unto me, My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness. Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me” (2 Corinthians 12:9).

LESSON: Grace is the free gift that is available to everyone who desires it.

THOUGHT: The grace of God is enough for me.

ACTIVITY: Sword Drill: Psalm 84:11; Romans 3:24; Titus 2:11,12; Romans 5:15.

HOMEWORK: Children are to write in their homework books, four things that they must do daily to avoid falling from grace.

**CONGREGATIONAL SONG GHS: 129 –
GRACE GREATER THAN OUR SIN**

CHORUSES: (1) I am in the number saved by grace.
(2) The grace of God is sufficient unto me. (3) Give me grace to follow.

DAILY BIBLE READING

| | | |
|-----------|-----------|---------|
| MONDAY | ROMANS | 5:14-16 |
| TUESDAY | ROMANS | 5:17-19 |
| WEDNESDAY | ROMANS | 5:20-21 |
| THURSDAY | ROMANS | 6:1-4 |
| FRIDAY | 2 TIMOTHY | 2:8-11 |
| SATURDAY | EPHESIANS | 2:7-9 |
| SUNDAY | TITUS | 2:11-13 |

BIBLE WORD SEARCH

Find the meanings of these words. You can use your dictionary: 1. Bestowed 2. Sufficiency
3. Justification 4. Soberly 5. Atonement.

LESSON 9

EXHORTATION TO LIVE HOLILY

2 Corinthians 13:1-13

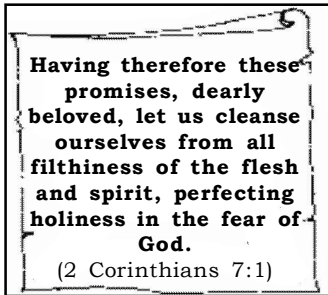
Parents and guardians always encourage, instruct and guide children in the way they ought to behave in order to be good citizens in their communities. The Holy Bible is the perfect guide for Christians. It is the compass that shows us the way so that we can live to please God and get to heaven at last. If you follow the instructions in the Bible, you will adequately prepare yourself to live for Christ, and also enjoy lots of blessings in this world. One of the greatest instructions in the Bible to friends of Jesus is the command to be holy. There is no shortcut to it. You must be holy.

The study is in three parts:

1. THE MEANING OF EXHORTATION AND HOLY LIVING:

Proverbs 2:1-5; 3:1-7.

Exhortation is the act of convincing and encouraging someone to do something good or commendable. It is also a form of giving advice to people. Other words for exhortation are, to urge, convince, advise, encourage. On the other hand, holiness means living a life that is free from sin. It is the way of life of true friends of Jesus who



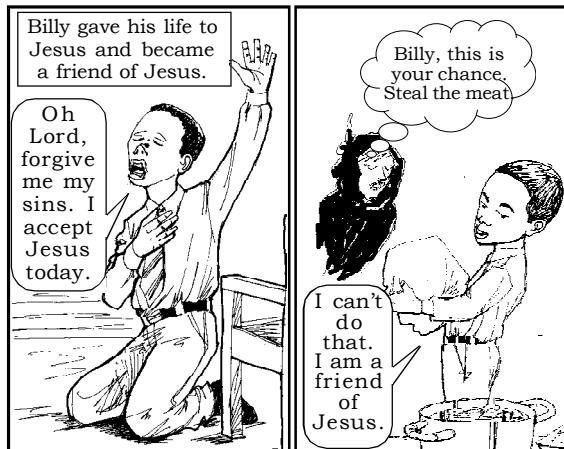
carefully obey the commandments of the Almighty God and do His perfect will. It is also a life of total surrender and separation from the world. A life dedicated to God in true worship and service.

2. CHARACTERISTICS OF A HOLY LIFE:

Galatians 5:22-25; Colossians 3:12-17.

The Bible exhorts all believers in Christ to live holy. Holiness is a practical way of life. It is a life that conforms to the image of Christ. It helps us to be pure like God. The Bible says **“Be ye holy for I am Holy.”** Holiness is characterized by the following qualities:

- (a) Perfect love for God, His word and people around us. It is love that is genuine and deep in the heart (Matthew 22:37-40).



- (b) Absolute obedience to God's word. There will be no question or doubt in your mind as to believing or obeying any part of the Bible (John 8:31; 14:23).
- (c) Humility. Meek and lowly like Jesus Christ. He surrendered himself and obeyed the Father by dying on the cross (Philippians 2:5-8).
- (d) Forgiveness. God gives you the grace to forgive all offences, no matter the wrong done to you (Colossians 3:13).
- (e) Hunger for the things of God. You hunger and thirst for righteousness and the preservation of God's righteous standard (Matthew 5:6).
- (f) Perfect hatred for sin. You will avoid every appearance of evil. Your life will be holy within and without; clean in the secret and in the open (I Thessalonians 5:21,22).
- (g) Longsuffering and self-denial. You must be ready to suffer for Christ's sake. You will endure suffering and persecution because of God's word (Colossians 3:12).
- (h) Unity and oneness with members of God's family (Ephesians 4:3,4).

Jesus calls us to be holy. Therefore, we must be holy.

3. EXHORTATION TO LIVE HOLILY:

Titus 2:11-15; I Peter 1:13-16.

This present world is full of corruption and evil. It is only children that are determined to be holy that will make it to heaven. This is why the Bible commands us to be holy. The call to friends of Jesus is **"Follow peace with all men, and holiness,**

Turn away from
all sins and
make Jesus your
Friend today.
Without
holiness, no man
shall see the
Lord.
(Hebrews 12:14).



without which no man shall see the Lord” (Hebrews 12:14).

If you want to live victoriously all the time, you must be holy. Thirst after holiness, seek to be holy and pray until you are totally cleansed.

However, a sinner cannot be holy. You must first seek God in repentance, ask for forgiveness and cleansing of your heart. Then ask Jesus to reign in your heart as Saviour and Lord. Thereafter you also press forward and pray

for sanctification (holiness) experience. When you are sanctified, you will receive power to be separated from the world and live a holy life.

Holiness will lead us into the presence and power of God and eternal inheritance in heaven. Always strive to be holy and do not allow anything or anyone to spoil your life. The Lord will keep you.

QUESTIONS:

1. What is exhortation? _____
2. (a) Mention five characteristics of a holy life.
(b) Are these qualities found in your life? _____
3. How can (a) sinner, (b) a saved child become holy? _____

MEMORY VERSE: “Finally, brethren, farewell. Be perfect, be of good comfort, be of one mind, live in peace; and the God of love and peace shall be with you” (2 Corinthians 13:11).

LESSON: God commands us to be holy.

THOUGHT: I will live a holy life to please God at all times.

ACTIVITY: Write the names of five people in the Bible who lived to please God.

HOMEWORK: Pray for grace to live righteously every day of your life.

**CONGREGATIONAL SONG GHS: 189 –
TAKE TIME TO BE HOLY**

CHORUSES: (1) Lord, I want to be like Jesus in my heart. (2) Holiness, holiness, the Kingdom of God is holy. (3) Until I reach my home.

DAILY BIBLE READING

| | | |
|-----------|-----------------|---------|
| MONDAY | ROMANS | 6:1-4 |
| TUESDAY | ROMANS | 6:11-13 |
| WEDNESDAY | ROMANS | 6:16-18 |
| THURSDAY | ROMANS | 12:1-3 |
| FRIDAY | I THESSALONIANS | 4:2-5 |
| SATURDAY | TITUS | 2:11-13 |
| SUNDAY | I PETER | 1:14-16 |

BIBLE WORD SEARCH

Find the meanings of these words. You can use your dictionary: 1. Exhortation 2. Sanctification
3. Temperance 4. Meekness 5. Instruct.

LESSON 10

DANGER OF CORRUPTING THE GOSPEL OF CHRIST

Galatians 1:1-10.

The gospel means good news or good tidings about Jesus Christ, the only Son begotten of God. It is the good news about His life, love, work, suffering, death and resurrection. The gospel of Christ is the central truth of the Bible. From Genesis to Revelation, the focus of the message is Jesus Christ. This is the message that has been preached from generation to generation. All who believe will be saved. Do you believe the gospel? If yes, hold onto it, do not forsake or corrupt it. If you have not believed the gospel, the appeal to you is that you should not reject it. Accept the gospel now by repenting of your sins.

The study is in three parts:

1. THE PICTURE OF A CORRUPT GOSPEL:

Galatians 5:1-7; 2 Peter 2:1-3.

Apostle Paul spent all his life preaching the gospel. He established many churches in the course of his missionary work. He did not abandon these churches, but was always in contact with them. Thus, he was able to know when false teachers came in, wanting to deceive the believers.

False teachers had come to the Galatians, trying to persuade them to reject the word of God and accept “another gospel”. This strange gospel stated that salvation through Christ was not enough except they also observed certain laws. They spoke evil of God’s word and the ministers of the gospel.

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

(2 Peter 2:1)

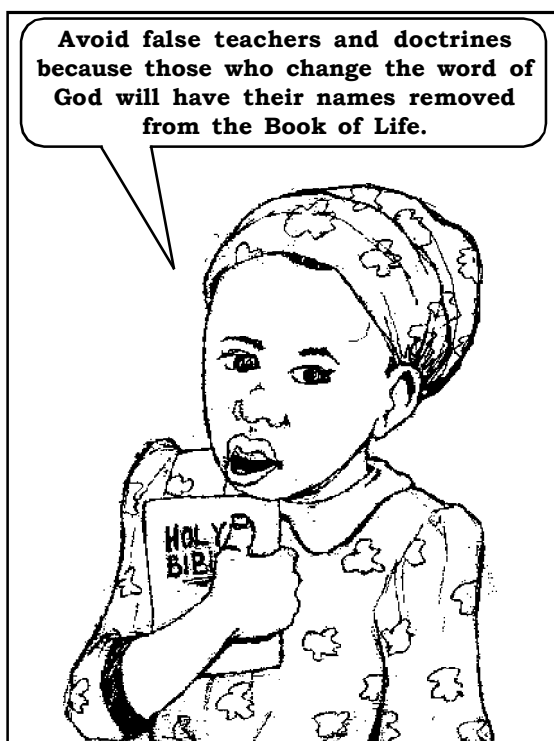
False teachers are still going about today deceiving many people. They forsake the truth, twist the word of God and teach people errors. Some of them teach that symbols such as ‘holy water’, anointing oil, church emblems, crucifix, mantle and wrist bands can be used for protection instead of believing only in Jesus Christ and His power. They pray in the name of angels or church founders. Others establish ‘praying mountains’ where they pray for people in exchange for money and other gifts. False teachers have little regard for God’s word. Their teachings are based on human thinking, doctrines and philosophies. They are sinners playing with hell fire. The Bible warns that true friends of Jesus must run away from false teachers and their wrong doctrines.

2. DANGER OF CORRUPTING THE GOSPEL OF CHRIST:

Galatians 1:6-10; 2 Peter 2:4-22; Revelation 22:18,19.

The Holy Bible is the word of God and it is complete. Anyone who adds to it or subtracts from it is corrupting the word and God frowns at this. There is a very serious curse and punishment for those that corrupt the word of God (Revelation 22:18).

False teachers always change the word and teach from their wicked minds and books. They thereby lead many people astray. They also bring



confusion into the church and make innocent friends of Jesus to backslide.

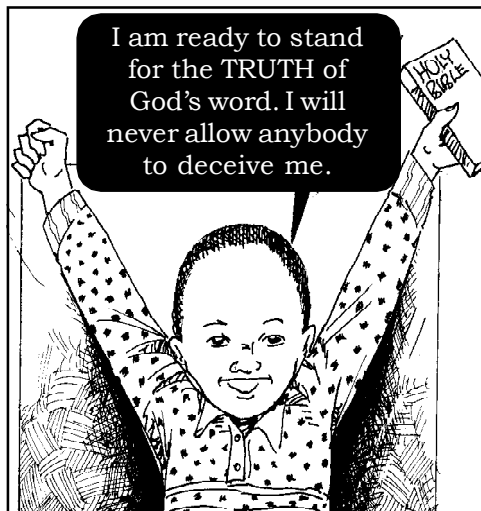
Those who change the word of God will have their names removed from the book of life. This is why the Bible has clearly warned us to avoid false teachers and their doctrines. If we want to enjoy the power and presence of God in our midst and get to heaven at the end, we must identify those who corrupt the word of God, reject their teachings and materials and never have fellowship with them (Ephesians 5:11).

3. STAND FOR THE TRUTH:

2 Peter 3:14-18; Jude 3.

True believers are commanded to “contend for the faith” which has been given to us. This ‘faith’ consists of the entire gospel proclaimed by Christ and His Apostles. It is the truth that is fixed and which cannot be changed (Psalm 119:89).

To contend and stand for the faith means to be bold, to be under great zeal or power to fight to maintain the truth of the gospel. It is a must for every true believer to defend God’s



word, stand firm, strong and be uncompromising on its truth. Contending for the faith involves (a) taking your stand against all those who deny the authority and power of the Bible. When they come to entice you with their false teaching and doctrine, you should reject and say no (Proverbs 1:10). (b) Living out the word of God in your conduct, speech and association. (c) Proclaiming the word as the only truth that can save sinners and deliver from hell. Therefore all friends of Jesus must preach the gospel everywhere.

As you stand for the truth and defend the faith, be watchful, prayerful and set your desire on spiritual things. The Lord will defend and keep you till the end. However, all sinners must repent and believe the gospel so as to be saved from God's judgment.

QUESTIONS:

1. To corrupt the gospel means _____
2. Who were the people corrupting the gospel from our study of today? _____
3. Mention three dangers of corrupting the gospel.

4. Mention three ways to stand for the truth. _____

5. How can a sinner escape the judgment of God?

MEMORY VERSE: “As we said before, so say I now again, If any man preach any other gospel unto you than that ye have received, let him be accursed” (Galatians 1:9).

LESSON: Forsaking the gospel of Christ will lead to loss of fellowship with God and eternal punishment in hell.

THOUGHT: I will stand for the gospel to the end so as to escape eternal punishment.

ACTIVITY: Write in your church notebook the names of five people who loved Jesus and obeyed God all the days of their lives.

HOMEWORK: Write in your homework book what you should do daily to avoid forsaking the Lord.

**CONGREGATIONAL SONG GHS: 205 –
HAVE YOU COUNTED THE COST?**

CHORUSES: (1) Until I reach my home (2ce) I will never, never stop my journey halfway. (2) Move on,

move on, don't be tired. (3) When I remember what the Lord has done, I will never go back anymore.

DAILY BIBLE READING

| | | |
|-----------|---------------|----------|
| MONDAY | I CORINTHIANS | 15:33,34 |
| TUESDAY | I TIMOTHY | 6:9-12 |
| WEDNESDAY | HEBREWS | 12:14-17 |
| THURSDAY | 2 PETER | 2:9-12 |
| FRIDAY | 2 PETER | 2:13-17 |
| SATURDAY | 2 PETER | 2:18-22 |
| SUNDAY | REVELATION | 2:4,5 |

BIBLE WORD SEARCH

Find the meanings of these words. You can use your dictionary: 1. Corrupting 2. Command
3. Control 4. Forsake 5. Gospel.

LESSON 11

THE FAMILY-LIFE OF A CHRISTIAN HOME

Philippians 4:5; Ephesians 5:22,23, 28-33; 6:1-3

The word family means father, mother and children living together in a house. God's desire for every family is that each member pleases Him in everything. You cannot please God if you are still doing bad things. When each member of the family realizes how sinful he or she is, humbles himself and pleads for mercy and forgiveness, invites Jesus into his or her heart, then we can call such a family a Christian family. It is at this time that they can live a life pleasing unto God. In the Bible, we have the families of Priscilla and Aquilla (Romans 16:3). Zacharias and Elizabeth (Luke 1:5) and Stephanas (I Corinthians 16:15).

For better understanding, the topic is divided into three points.

1. DUTIES OF THE FATHER IN A CHRISTIAN FAMILY:

Ephesians 5:28,29; I Timothy 5:8.

God expects the father to love his wife and children. He must care and provide for their physical and spiritual needs. He disciplines, rebukes and corrects the children when necessary and in love.

He will pay visits to the children in their schools to see to their school work and behaviour. He leads morning devotion and prays for the children. He answers the children's questions and creates time to advise them. He guides and directs them in making choices in their career and the friends to move with.

The father, mother and child make up the family.



2. DUTIES OF THE MOTHER IN A CHRISTIAN FAMILY: Ephesians 5:22,23; Titus 2:4,5.

The Christian wife who is the mother in a Christian home, is to love, respect and obey her husband who

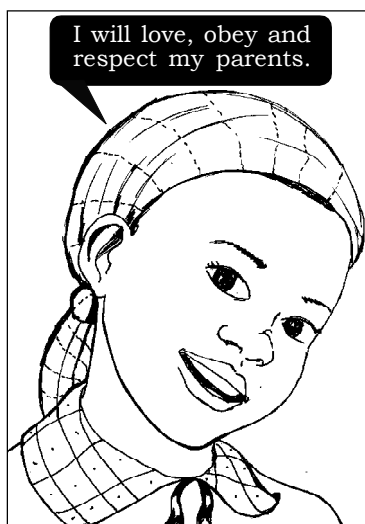
Children are expected to listen to their parents as they are instructed and taught the word of God.



is the head of the home. It is her duty to make the house clean at all times. Through her efforts, the home is peaceful, joyful and all family members will feel happy. She loves, teaches and trains the children in the fear of the Lord. She makes sure that food is prepared in the house. She takes care of the children's clothes. She prays and cares for the children whenever they are sick. She also takes the children to Church fellowship.

3. DUTIES OF THE CHILDREN IN A CHRISTIAN FAMILY: Ephesians 6:1-3; Exodus 20:12.

In the Christian family, God commands the children to respect, honour, obey and help their parents in domestic work, like washing, sweeping and fetching of water. Whenever each member of a family (father, mother and children) carries out his or her God-given duties, the home will be like heaven on earth. There will be peace, love, joy and togetherness. When Jesus is living in the heart of each member of a family, what a joyful Christian home that will be. As a member of your own family, are you born again? Do you sometime get angry? Do you run away from home whenever mummy or daddy rebukes you? Do you fight in your



neighbourhood or school and bring shame to your mother and father? How about stealing and lying in your life? Repent today and give your life to Jesus. Ask God for forgiveness and cleansing in the blood of Jesus. Remember the promise of God, **“For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.”**

QUESTIONS

1. What does the word, family, stand for?

2. Mention three duties of a father in a Christian family. _____

3. How can a Christian mother make her children happy? _____

4. Mention two Christian families you know in the Bible. _____

5. Can a naughty child make his Christian parents happy? _____
6. What can the child do to make God happy? _____

MEMORY VERSE: “Honour thy father and thy mother: that thy days may be long upon the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee”(Exodus 20:12).

LESSON: The family that abides in Jesus stays together.

THOUGHT: I must love and obey my parents at all times as long as they do not tell me to do or say anything that offends God.

ACTIVITY: Children are to read the following Bible passages and outline the characteristics of each of the families. They should point out those that were real Christian families.

| | | |
|------------------|---------|----------------------------|
| Abraham | - - - - | Genesis 18:19; I Peter 3:6 |
| Joshua | - - - - | Joshua 24:15 |
| Achan | - - - - | Joshua 7:24,25 |
| Eli | - - - - | I Samuel 3:13 |
| Noah | - - - - | Genesis 7:1 |
| John the Baptist | - - - | Luke 1:6 |

HOME WORK: Compose a poem for your father and mother. Write it in your homework book.

CONGREGATIONAL SONG: GHS 46 - A CHRISTIAN HOME

CHORUSES: (1) With Jesus in the family, happy happy home. (2) Obedience is the very best way to show that you believe. (3) I am a blessed child.

DAILY BIBLE READING

| | | |
|-----------|------------|----------|
| MONDAY | GENESIS | 1:26-28 |
| TUESDAY | GENESIS | 1:29-31 |
| WEDNESDAY | PSALM | 127:1-5 |
| THURSDAY | COLOSSIANS | 3:16-19 |
| FRIDAY | COLOSSIANS | 3:20-24 |
| SATURDAY | MATTHEW | 12:46-50 |
| SUNDAY | EPHESIANS | 6:1-3 |

BIBLE WORD SEARCH

Find the meanings of these words. You can use your dictionary. 1. Duty 2. Humility 3. Moderate
4. Discipline 5. Naughty.

LESSON 12

DAILY CHRISTIAN SERVICE

Romans 12:1-18

Who is a Christian? A Christian is someone who has repented of his sins and accepted Jesus as his personal Lord and Saviour.

The call of God to every boy and girl is in various forms. The first is the call to be saved from sin. Second is the call to serve. When a sinner becomes saved he is expected to continue to serve God faithfully. In God's service, you are to be faithful and as you do this, you will reap great rewards.

The study is divided into three parts:

1. PATTERN OF CHRISTIAN SERVICE:

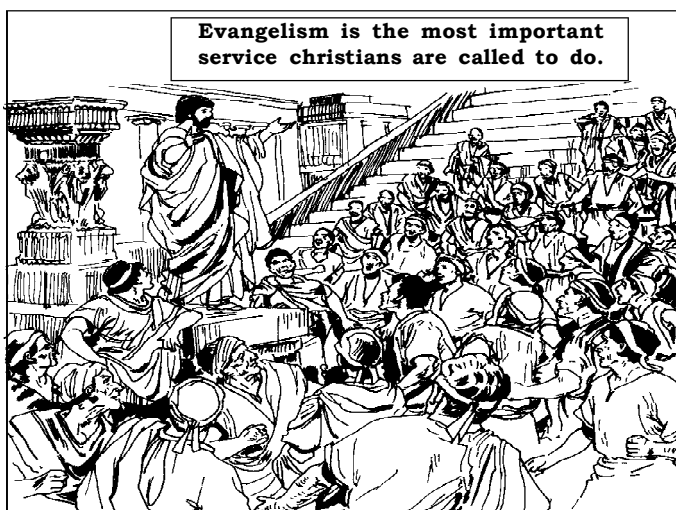
Romans 12:1,2

Christians are called to serve in the following ways:

(i) Service to God - Romans 12:1,2 - You must willingly offer your body to God as a living sacrifice. This means you should use all parts of your body to please God. Your life must be separate from the things of this world so that you will bring honour and glory to God.

(ii) Service to the church - Romans 12:3-16. This is a call to serve in the church and to serve one another. God has given us gifts according to our abilities. He expects us to use these gifts for the benefits of members of the church. You can use

your gifts in different areas of work like (a) prayer warrior ministry, (b) ushering, (c) teaching, (d) singing and playing musical instruments (e) counselling (f) cleaning of the church (g) giving to the needy and helping others. (iii) Service to the

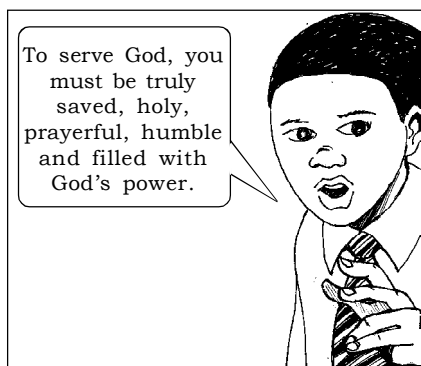


world: Mark 15:16; Romans 12:17-21. The most important service Christians are called to do is evangelism. It is the purposeful and prayerful effort of sharing the gospel with sinners in order to win them to Jesus. You can do this by sharing tracts and Christian magazines, witnessing to unsaved boys and girls and praying for them to be saved. Are you saved? Then you must answer the call to serve God.

2. PRINCIPLES OF CHRISTIAN SERVICE:

Romans 12:1,2; Luke 1:74,75; 2 Timothy 2:19,20.

There are conditions we must meet before we can serve God acceptably. (i) Be a real friend of



To serve God, you must be truly saved, holy, prayerful, humble and filled with God's power.

Jesus. You must be sorry and turn from your bad ways and make Jesus your Friend. (ii) Be holy in your heart and character. (iii) Serve with humility and love. (iv) Be filled with the power of the Holy Spirit. (v) Be prayerful and

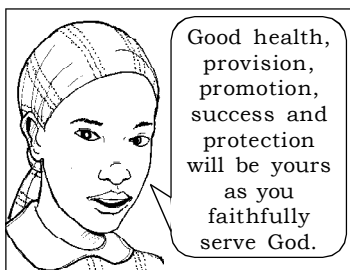
filled with the knowledge of God's word. As you serve God be assured that He will bless you.

3. PROMISES FOR CHRISTIAN SERVANTS:

Exodus 23:25; John 12:26.

There are many promises for Christians who serve God in an acceptable way. They will enjoy good health, success, promotion, protection, provision, preservation and honour. At the end, they will live and reign with Jesus in His Kingdom.

Pray now and consecrate yourself to the service of Jesus our Master.



Good health, provision, promotion, success and protection will be yours as you faithfully serve God.

QUESTIONS:

1. Who is a Christian? _____
2. Christians are called to _____
3. Mention two areas that Christians are called to serve _____
4. The principles of Christian service include _____, _____
5. List four rewards for faithful Christian servants _____

MEMORY VERSE: “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” (Romans 12:1, 2).

LESSON: God has called every Christian boy and girl to serve Him.

THOUGHT: I will serve God faithfully.

ACTIVITY: Write in the boxes below, the kind of services you will render to God as a Christian.

HOME WORK: Share the love of Jesus with one person during the week. Invite him or her to the Sunday Worship Service.

**CONGREGATIONAL SONG: GHS 85 -
GIVE OF YOUR BEST TO THE MASTER**

CHORUSES: (1) I will love, I will love Jesus.
(2) I will make you fishers of men. (3) Solomon
built the temple of God.

DAILY BIBLE READING

| | | |
|-----------|-----------|---------|
| MONDAY | 2 TIMOTHY | 2:1-3 |
| TUESDAY | 2 TIMOTHY | 2:4-7 |
| WEDNESDAY | 2 TIMOTHY | 2:8-12 |
| THURSDAY | 2 TIMOTHY | 2:13-16 |
| FRIDAY | 2 TIMOTHY | 2:19-21 |
| SATURDAY | 2 TIMOTHY | 2:22-24 |
| SUNDAY | 2 TIMOTHY | 2:25-26 |

BIBLE WORD SEARCH

Find the meanings of these words. You can use your dictionary. 1. Consecration 2. Counselling
3. Witnessing 4. Devotion 5. Preservation.

LESSON 13

JESUS' PATTERN OF WINNING SINNERS

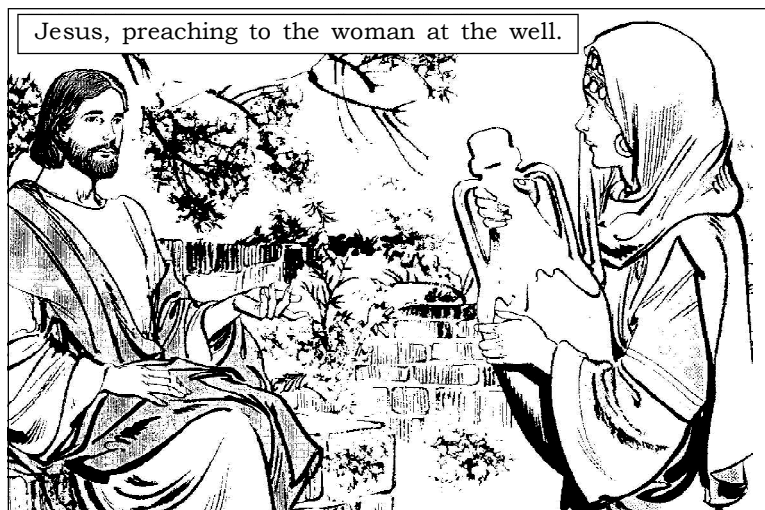
Matthew 4:1-25; 9:9-13.

Our Lord Jesus Christ loves everybody. He gave His life for the salvation of every boy and girl. Before He went to the cross at Calvary to die for our sins, He went from place to place preaching the gospel, healing the sick, casting out devils and teaching the people about God, His word and Kingdom. Many of the people surrendered their lives and followed Him.

1. WHAT TO DO TO WIN OTHERS FOR JESUS:

John 3:3; I Peter 1:15.

Our Saviour Jesus Christ loves all sinners (Romans 5:8). He does not want anyone to perish. He preached the word of God with wisdom. He healed the sick and prayed for the salvation of sinners. As our perfect Example, He has shown us how to win souls. Before you can talk to sinful boys and girls about the love of Jesus, you must (i) Be born again and live a holy life (John 3:3; Hebrews 12:14); (ii) Pray always for sinful boys and girls to turn away from their sins; (iii) Study and meditate on the word of God regularly (2 Timothy 2:15;



Joshua 1:8); (iv) Show compassion on all sinful boys and girls (Matthew 9:13). If you are willing, God will give you grace to win sinful children for Jesus.

2. FOLLOWING JESUS' EXAMPLE:

Matthew 5:12-17; Luke 4:16-19,40-44.

The Lord Jesus Christ preached the gospel of repentance to the people He met (Matthew 4:17). He was never tired. He went everywhere reaching out to sinners and the needy. Jesus did not stay in one place and expect the sinners to come to Him. He went everywhere preaching the gospel and healing all that were sick. Where He could not go, He sent His disciples. Jesus has called you to be His friend. You must also preach the love of Jesus and repentance to sinful children.



Jesus cast out devils, opened the eyes of the blind, raised the dead and performed many miracles, signs and wonders. These manifestations of God's power made the people to believe in God and to follow Him (Matthew 4:23).

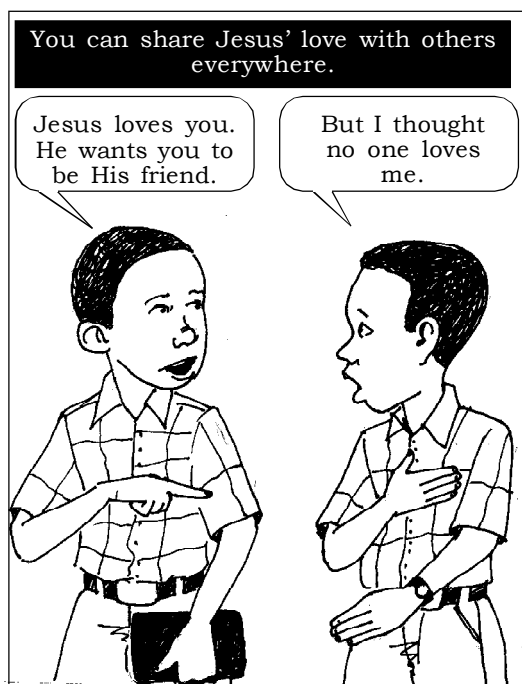
You have to pray and claim the promises of God and go out to preach the gospel with authority and power like Jesus did. Jesus has promised that signs and wonders will follow you as you go to the sinners (Mark 16:15-18).

3. HOW AND WHERE TO WIN SOULS:

Mark 16:15; Acts 8:4.

Our wonderful Jesus preached to sinners everywhere He went. He also taught them the word

of God with wisdom. He was a Friend of sinners but committed no sin (Matthew 9:13). You are to preach everywhere - at home, school, playground, in the market, on the street and anywhere sinners can be found (Acts 8:4).



Sinful boys and girls must repent and give their lives to the Lord Jesus. Even if a child is called a bad name, love him and tell him about the love of Jesus. But do not follow him to commit sin. The word of God in your mouth and the power of the

gospel in your life will make sinful boys and girls and backsliders to come to Jesus.

As saved children, you are to invite sinful boys and girls to fellowship, crusade and children's special church programme to hear the word of God and give their lives to Jesus. There are great blessings awaiting those who will be faithful in winning others to Christ.

QUESTIONS

1. How did Jesus win sinners to Himself? _____
2. What are you to do as a child of God in order to win sinners as Jesus did? _____
3. Where can saved boys and girls win sinners?

4. Complete this: A friend of Jesus must love a sinful child but must not _____
5. What must a sinful child do before he can win other sinners to Christ? _____

MEMORY VERSE: "It is enough for the disciple that he be as his master, and the servant as his lord" (Matthew 10:25a).

LESSON: Jesus wants His friends to follow His example and preach the gospel.

THOUGHT: I will show love to sinners and preach the gospel to them.

ACTIVITY: Circle the following words as seen in the life of Jesus (1) Holy life (2) Scriptures (word of God) (3) Preaching (4) Healing (5) Signs and wonders (6) Power (7) Authority (8) Wisdom (9) prayer.

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|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| A | B | C | B | N | H | B | U | P | R | T | T | P | S | R | H |
| X | C | D | E | E | E | G | R | O | N | I | P | R | C | L | O |
| S | I | G | N | S | A | N | D | W | O | N | D | E | R | S | Y |
| L | B | Q | S | O | L | S | I | E | Q | N | E | A | I | W | Y |
| A | D | K | L | U | I | R | M | R | T | Y | I | C | P | I | L |
| F | R | W | P | P | N | E | O | I | I | I | R | H | T | G | I |
| O | G | J | K | M | G | Y | D | O | P | D | B | I | U | L | F |
| S | E | F | Y | T | U | A | S | C | X | A | N | N | R | P | E |
| K | A | U | T | H | O | R | I | T | Y | O | G | G | E | U | U |
| W | L | H | E | F | C | P | W | B | H | W | Z | D | S | U | H |

HOME WORK: Born again children should go out and preach the gospel to at least, one sinful child in order to win him for Jesus. Then come and share with the class next Sunday.

CONGREGATIONAL SONG: 109 - TO THE WORK

CHORUSES: (1) Give me love for the sinners
(2) I am ready to obey Thy word (3) I want everybody to know.

DAILY BIBLE READING

| | | |
|-----------|---------|----------|
| MONDAY | MATTHEW | 10:1-3 |
| TUESDAY | MATTHEW | 10:4-7 |
| WEDNESDAY | MATTHEW | 10:8-11 |
| THURSDAY | MATTHEW | 10:13-16 |
| FRIDAY | MARK | 3:13-15 |
| SATURDAY | MARK | 16:14-16 |
| SUNDAY | ACTS | 5:40-42 |

BIBLE WORD SEARCH

Find the meanings of these words. You can use your dictionary. 1. Cross 2. Pattern 3. Performed
4. Authority 5. Repentance