

Promise and Deliverance

Student Workbook

Volume 18

Level 2

Harvey De Groot

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Preface

When S.G. De Graaf wrote his four-volume series, *Promise and Deliverance*, he showed educators how to teach Bible stories from a redemptive-historical perspective. Rather than turning Bible stories into moralistic tales, De Graaf taught us how all the Bible shows God revealing himself as the God of the covenant, who is working out His redemptive plan for humanity and all of creation.

The 80 workbooks written by Harvey De Groot are meant to supplement De Graaf's work. They are divided by volume and level number: 20 volumes with four levels per volume. Workbook lessons are written at four levels so that families with students in various grades can study the same Bible stories during the week in preparation for their classes on Sunday. Prior to class, the Sunday School teacher should study the lesson in De Graaf's book. The teacher and students can go through the workbook during class.

The levels are divided according to the following grades:

- **Level One:** Grades K-1
- **Level Two:** Grades 2-3
- **Level Three:** Grades 4-6
- **Level Four:** Grades 7-8

Each volume contains 12 or 13 lessons, and each lesson has the following sections:

- **Reference:** The volume and lesson number in De Graaf's series.
- **Scripture:** The passage from Scripture on which the lesson is based.
- **Memory Verse:** A memory verse related to the lesson.
- **Lesson Truth:** A short statement to help the class focus on the main point of the lesson.
- **Lesson:** The lesson itself, which the teacher can read in class. For older grades, the teacher may opt to assign it as homework.
- **Questions:** Items to be discussed in class. For older grades, the teacher can assign these questions as homework but should also use them as a basis for class discussion. These are not the only questions that could or should be asked. Teachers should encourage students to come with their own questions as well.

This edition was written by Harvey De Groot and edited by his son Norlan De Groot.

Lesson 1
Life's Joy

Reference: De Graaf, *Promise and Deliverance*, Volume 4, Lesson 10

Scripture: John 7

Memory Verse: “Ho! Everyone who thirsts, come to the waters: and you who have no money, come buy and eat. Yes, come buy wine and milk without money and without price.” (Isaiah 55:1)

Lesson Truth: Jesus brings true joy to life. He brought this joy when He asked anyone who was thirsty to come to Him and drink. Rivers of living water would flow from the hearts of believers.

Lesson

It was at the Feast of Tabernacles that Jesus offered drink to anyone who thirsted. Rivers of living water would flow from the hearts of those who believe. Sadly, the Lord's brothers did not believe that He was the Christ. They urged Him to go to the feast to show His miracles. At the feast the division between believers and unbelievers became sharp. Some people loved Him, and others hated Him. Still, Jesus offered to restore communion with God to any who believed. Anyone who was thirsty could come to Jesus and drink. Instead of coming to Jesus to drink, the Jewish leaders rejected Him. They were self-sufficient in their pride.

More and more the people became divided about Jesus. His own brothers did not believe in Him. The Lord's brothers were preparing to go to the Feast of Tabernacles. They urged Jesus to go with them and show His miracles. But Jesus knew that the Jews in Judea wanted to kill Him. So, He told His brothers that His time had not yet come. The world hated Jesus because He said the law would not save them. But it did not hate His brothers because they did not claim Jesus as the Redeemer. It was not yet time for Jesus to suffer and die for the sins of the people.

Later Jesus did go to the feast in secret. At the feast He found the people were divided about who He was. Some said that Jesus was good, and others said that He deceived the people. Toward the middle of the feast Jesus went to the temple. At the temple He taught the Scriptures. The people were amazed at the way He taught. They asked how He knew so much about the Scriptures. They were amazed because Jesus had not been to school to study. Jesus said that He could teach because He taught what God had

given Him. He did not teach His own doctrine. But Jesus knew that they questioned Him because they clung to the Law. Then He reminded them that Moses had given the Law. But sadly, they did not keep it. They did not keep it because they wanted to kill Him. Now the people were upset, and they said that Jesus had a demon. Jesus warned them not to judge by what they saw, but by the truth. The division between believers and unbelievers became sharper than ever. The law of life became either loving Jesus or hating Him. Some were convinced that He was the Christ because he spoke boldly. Others said that He was the One the Jews sought to kill.

In this way the tension between believers and unbelievers grew. The believers asked, “When the Christ comes, will He do more signs than these which this Man has done?” (John 7:31). The Pharisees became very upset when they heard these things. They went to the chief priests and agreed with them that Jesus should be arrested. So, they sent soldiers to arrest Him. But Jesus talked to the soldiers. He told them that He would be with them only a little while longer. Then He was going to return to the One who sent Him. The Jews mocked Him about going away. They asked if He would go to the captive Jews.

Despite the mocking and questions, Jesus offered life’s joy. On the last day of the feast, He cried out to the people, “If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink” (John 7:37). What a beautiful offer of the joy of life to those who believe. He said, “He who believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, out of his heart will flow rivers of living water” (John 7:38). This living water meant that they were restored to communion with God.

Then the sharp division between the believers and unbelievers was seen again. Some said, “Truly this is the Prophet” (John 7:40). Others said, “This is the Christ” (John 7:41). But the unbelievers were certain that the Christ could not come from Galilee. Unbelievers rejected Him because God’s Word had not made them thirsty for living water. The leaders of the Jews rejected Him because they were proud. They thought they could rely on their own strength to keep the law. They could earn their own salvation. Thankfully one of the leaders was different. This was Nicodemus who had come to Jesus at night. He asked if they could judge a man before they heard what He had to say. Then the leaders asked Nicodemus if He was also from Galilee. The time of grace for the Jewish leaders was running out. They rejected the source of life’s joy. They rejected the offer of living water. Pray that God will give us the grace to thirst for Jesus. If we believe in Him, rivers of living water will flow from our hearts. That is life’s true joy!

Questions

Fill in the blanks.

1. “His _____ therefore said to Him, ‘Depart from here and go into Judea, that your disciples also may see the works that You are doing.’” (John 7:3)
2. “Then _____ said to them, ‘My time has not yet come, but your time is always ready.’” (John 7:6)
3. “Then the _____ sought Him at the feast, and said, ‘Where is He?’” (John 7:11)
4. “And there was much _____ among the people concerning Him. Some said, ‘He is good.’ Others said, ‘No, on the contrary, He deceives the people.’” (John 7:12)
5. “On the last day, that great day of the feast, _____ stood and cried out, saying, ‘If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink.’” (John 7:37)
6. “He who believes in Me, as the _____ has said, out of his heart will flow rivers of living water.” (John 7:38)

Lesson 2
Come to Save

Reference: De Graaf, *Promise and Deliverance*, Volume 4, Lesson 11

Scripture: John 8

Memory Verse: “Then Jesus spoke to them again saying, ‘I am the light of the world. He who follows me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life.’” (John 8:12)

Lesson Truth: Jesus came to seek and to save lost sinners.

Lesson

The lesson today is about the reason Jesus came to earth. He came to seek and to save the lost. The scribes and Pharisees wanted Him to condemn a woman. But Jesus made them aware of their own sin. He did this when He challenged the one without sin to throw the first stone at the woman. The Lord also gave a wonderful assurance to those who believed in Him. He said that they would be His disciples. And His disciples would know the truth and the truth would make them free.

It was the day after the Feast of Tabernacles. Early in the morning, Jesus went to the temple. Many people gathered to hear Him teach. While He was teaching, some scribes and Pharisees came in. They dragged a woman in and threw her at Jesus’ feet. They told Jesus that they caught the woman in terrible sin. These evil men wanted to test Jesus. They knew that Jesus loved sinners. They knew that He was ready to forgive people who were sorry for their sins. These men also knew the Law of Moses. The Law of Moses said that an adulteress should be put to death. Such a person should die by stoning. The scribes and Pharisees wanted to see if Jesus would forgive this woman. They wanted to find out if He would disobey the Law of Moses.

Do you know what Jesus did? He stooped down and wrote on the ground. He acted like He didn’t hear the scribes and Pharisees. These evil men thought they trapped Jesus. If He forgave the woman, He would disobey the Law of Moses. So, they kept on asking Him what His answer was. At last, Jesus stood up. He told them they could do what the Law of Moses said. They could throw stones at the woman until she died. But there was one condition. Jesus said that the man who had never sinned should throw the first stone. Now the scribes and Pharisees were in trouble. They all knew that they were sinners. None of them dared to throw the first stone. One by one, they walked away.

At last Jesus and the woman were the only ones left in the middle of the crowd. Now Jesus talked to this woman. He asked her what happened to her accusers. Didn't any of them stay to accuse her? Weren't any of them ready to throw stones at her? She told Jesus that no one stayed. No one dared to condemn her. Then Jesus said to the woman that neither would He condemn her. He told her that she should not sin anymore; then she could go. The woman must have been filled with joy of God's grace. She knew that she deserved to die. But she was sorry for her sin, and she had been forgiven. Jesus showed this woman and the people why He came to earth. He came to seek and to save the lost. Do you know what He told the people? He told them that He was the light of the world.

Were the scribes and Pharisees wrong about the Law of Moses? Did this law say that people had to be put to death for such a sin? Yes, it did. But why did God make the punishment for sin so terrible in the Law? God did this to help His people understand His righteousness. Only those who are righteous like God could escape death. He wanted His Old Testament people to know that any sin leads to death. But now Jesus had come. He paid for all the demands of the Law on the cross. He paid for the sins of all those who believe in Him. That is why the woman could go away as a forgiven sinner.

Do you know what Jesus said to those who believe in Him? He said, "If you abide in My word, you are My disciples indeed. And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free" (John 8:31-32). This made the Jewish leaders angry. They said they were sons of Abraham, so they were not slaves. How could they be made free? Sadly, they did not know that they were slaves to sin. Satan kept these leaders from seeing their sin and God's grace. This wonderful lesson helps us know that Jesus came to save! He came to save those who believe in Him!

Questions

Fill in the blanks.

1. "Then the scribes and _____ brought Him a woman caught in adultery." (John 8:3a)
2. "Now _____ in the law commanded us that such should be stoned. But what do You say?" (John 8:5)

3. “This they said, _____ Him, that they might have something of which to accuse Him. But Jesus stooped down and wrote on the ground with His finger, as though He did not hear.” (John 8:6)

4. “So when they continued asking Him, He raised Himself up and said to them, ‘He who is without _____ among you, let him throw a stone at her first.’” (John 8:7)

5. “She said, ‘No one, Lord.’” And _____ said to her, ‘Neither do I condemn you; go and sin no more.’” (John 8:11)

6. “If you abide in My word, you are my _____ indeed.” (John 8:31)

Come For Judgment

Reference: De Graaf, *Promise and Deliverance*, Volume 4, Lesson 12

Scripture: John 9

Memory Verse: “He answered and said, ‘A Man called Jesus made clay and anointed my eyes and said to me, Go to the pool of Siloam and wash. So I went and washed, and I received sight.’” (John 9:11)

Lesson Truth: Jesus brings sight to the blind. He also removes the sight of those who think they see.

Lesson

Jesus came to the world to save His people. But He also came into the world to judge those who do not believe. The Lord showed both His salvation and His judgment when He healed a blind man. He also corrected a mistaken idea of His disciples. Jesus made it clear that He can make the blind to see. He can also make those who trust in themselves to be blind. That is the judgment for which He came.

The leaders of the Jews were angry with Jesus. They were angry because He said they were not really Abraham’s children. They were angry because Jesus said that He existed before Abraham. They were so angry that they took up stones to stone Him. But it wasn’t time for Jesus to die, so He walked away. Now as he left the temple Jesus saw a blind man. This man had been born blind. The Lord’s disciples wondered why this man was blind. They thought it was because He sinned. But since He was born blind, maybe it was because his parents had sinned. They asked Jesus who it was that sinned: this man or his parents. Jesus had to correct that mistaken idea. He told them neither the man nor his parents had sinned. The man was born blind so they could see the works of God. Jesus told His disciples that He was the light of the world.

After Jesus taught His disciples, He did something wonderful. He made some clay with His saliva. Jesus took this clay and put it on the blind man’s eyes. He then told the blind man to go and wash his eyes in the pool of Siloam. Something wonderful happened when the man washed his eyes. He could see! For the first time in his life, he could see. The man rushed home to his friends and neighbors. Some of them thought that he only looked like the blind man. But he told them that he was the man who had been blind. So, the neighbors took the man to the Pharisees.

The Pharisees asked the man how he was made to see. He told them that Jesus put clay on his eyes. Jesus then told him to wash his eyes at the pool of Siloam. The man said he did what Jesus told him to do, and now he could see. This upset the Pharisees. They were upset because it was the Sabbath Day. They thought that Jesus was sinful to heal on the Sabbath Day. Then they asked the man what he thought about Jesus. He said that Jesus was prophet. Now the Pharisees said the man only pretended to be blind. So they sent for his parents to ask them. They said the man was their son and that he was born blind. But they didn't dare to say how he was made to see. They were afraid because the leaders said they would cast out anyone who said that Jesus was the Christ.

Now the Pharisees tried to frighten the man. They told him to give God the glory. They wanted him to say that God healed him and not Jesus. They insisted that Jesus was a sinner. The man said he didn't know if Jesus was a sinner. But he did know that he was blind and now he could see. The Pharisees then asked the man to tell them again how Jesus did it. The man asked, "Do you also want to become His disciples?" (John 9:27b). The Pharisees said that they were disciples of Moses. They did not know about Jesus. The man testified, "If this Man were not from God, He could do nothing" (John 9:33). Then the Pharisees cast the man who had been blind out of the synagogue.

Later, Jesus found the man. He asked him, "Do you believe in the Son of God?" (John 9:35). The man answered that he didn't know who the Son of God was. Jesus then assured him that He was the Son of God. Now the man knew, and he said, "Lord I believe!" (John 9:38). Jesus then told him that He was sent to help His people walk in the light. However, He was also sent to take away the light of those who refuse to believe. In Christ Jesus the blind receive their sight and those who see become blind.

Questions

Fill in the blanks.

1. "And His _____ asked Him, saying, 'Rabbi, who sinned this man or his parents, that he was born blind?'" (John 9:2)
2. "Jesus answered, 'Neither this man nor his _____ sinned, but that the works of God should be revealed in him.'" (John 9:3)
3. "As long as I am in the world, I am the _____ of the world." (John 9:5)

4. “And He said to him, ‘Go wash in the pool of _____’
(which is translated sent). So he went and washed, and came back seeing.” (John 9:7)

5. “He answered and said, ‘Whether He is a _____ or not
I do not know. One thing I know: that though I was blind, now I see.’” (John 9:25)

6. “And _____ said, ‘For judgment I have come into
this world, that those who do not see may see, and that those who see may be made
blind.’” (John 9:39)

The Good Shepherd

Reference: De Graaf, *Promise and Deliverance*, Volume 4, Lesson 13

Scripture: John 10

Memory Verse: “I am the good shepherd; and I know My sheep, and am known by My own. As the Father knows Me, even so I know the Father; and I lay down My life for the sheep.” (John 10:14-15)

Lesson Truth: Jesus said that He was the Good Shepherd who gave His life for His sheep.

Lesson

Jesus said that He was the Good Shepherd. He said that His sheep listen to His voice. The Lord calling Himself the Good Shepherd is a figure of speech. Calling His people sheep is also a figure of speech. In this lesson, Jesus used a second figure of speech. He said that he was the door to the sheepfold. Jesus could call Himself the Good Shepherd because He gave His life for His sheep. Even more He gave His sheep eternal life.

Jesus said the He came to make the blind to see. He also said the He came to make blind those who think they see. This made the Pharisees upset. They thought that Jesus said they were blind. This was true because they were blind to the Redeemer. Now Jesus accused them of being strangers to His people. He said this by talking about sheep and the sheepfold. The Lord said that anyone who gets into the sheepfold except by the door is a thief. The shepherd goes into the sheepfold by the door. He calls his sheep by name, and they know His voice. They follow him because they know his voice. The sheep will not follow a stranger because his voice is strange. The sheep will flee from a stranger. Sadly, the Pharisees did not understand what Jesus was talking about. They were strangers to the truth.

Even though the Pharisees did not understand, Jesus showed His grace. He spoke to them clearly about what He meant. Jesus said, “I am the door. If anyone enters by Me, he will be saved” (John 10:9). Anyone who enters by Jesus will go in and out and find pasture. But those who came before Jesus and led people astray are thieves and robbers. But Jesus was more than the door to the sheepfold. He said, “I am the Good Shepherd. The Good Shepherd gives His life for His sheep” (John 10:11). The Good Shepherd is different from a hired hand. A hired hand runs away when he sees danger. But the good shepherd takes care of his sheep. Now the Lord told them about His relationship with

the Father. He said the Father in heaven knew Him. And He knew the Father. It was the Father that said He had to give His life for His people. That is why Jesus offered to give His life. He had the power to give His life and to take it again.

Jesus said that He was the Good Shepherd. He also said that He and the Father were one. This made the Jews upset. Still, the people were divided. Some of them said that Jesus had a demon. They said that He was mad. But others said that a demon would not say such things. They asked if a demon could make a blind man see. Now the Jews asked Him to tell them if He was the Christ. Jesus said that He told them before, but they didn't believe. He said that the miracles He did in the Father's name told them who He was. But they did not believe because they were not of His sheep.

The Lord Jesus then reminded them that His sheep hear His voice. His sheep know the Lord and follow Him. To those who follow Him He gives eternal life. He then added a wonderful promise. Those to whom He gave eternal life would never perish. The Father in heaven gave Him His sheep. The Father was greater than all, so no one could take them from the Father's hand.

Now the Jews were so upset that they wanted to stone Jesus. Jesus asked them which miracle made them want to stone Him. The Jews answered that it wasn't for the miracles. It was because He said that He was God. How could they say it was wrong for the Redeemer to say He was God? Jesus told them to check what he did. If He did not do the works of God, they should not believe Him. Again the Jews tried to arrest Him. But it was not His time, so He walked away. Isn't it terrible that some of the Jews did not believe He was the Good Shepherd? Still others did believe in Him. They said that all the things that John said about Him were true. Do you believe that Jesus is the Good Shepherd?

Questions

Fill in the blanks.

1. "Most assuredly, I say to you, he who does not enter the _____ by the door, but climbs up some other way, the same is a thief and a robber." (John 10:1)
2. "But he who enters by the door is the _____ of the sheep." (John 10:2)

3. "I am the _____. If anyone enters by Me, he will be saved, and will go in and out and find pasture." (John 10:9)
4. "I am the good _____. The good shepherd gives His life for the sheep." (John 10:11)
5. "As the _____ knows Me, even so I know the Father; and I lay down My life for the sheep." (John 10:15)
6. "And I give them _____ life, and they shall never perish; neither shall anyone snatch them out of My hand." (John 10:28)

The Resurrection and the Life

Reference: De Graaf, *Promise and Deliverance*, Volume 4, Lesson 14

Scripture: John 11

Memory Verse: “She said to Him, ‘Yes, Lord, I believe that You are the Christ, the Son of God, who is to come into the world.’” (John 11:27)

Lesson Truth: Jesus said to Martha that He is the resurrection and the life. And he who believes in Him shall never die.

Lesson

Christ Jesus has the power over death. He was able to raise Lazarus from the dead. The raising of Lazarus was to show the glory of God. Jesus did God’s work and said that was like walking in the daylight. He told His disciples that those who walk in the daylight would not stumble. Jesus also assured Martha that those who believe in Him would never die. Because He has the power over death, He could call Lazarus from the grave. In a strange way, an enemy of Jesus predicted His death when he said it would be fitting for one man to die for the people.

Jesus and His disciples were in the region of the Jordan River. They left Jerusalem because the people there wanted to stone Jesus. At this time some friends from the town of Bethany sent a message to Jesus. These friends were Lazarus and his sisters Mary and Martha. The messenger told Jesus that Lazarus was very sick. Mary and Martha probably thought that Jesus would hurry to see Lazarus. But He didn’t. Instead, He said to His disciples that Lazarus’ illness was not unto death. Jesus knew that He was going to do a great miracle. This miracle would be for God’s glory. The Son of God would also be glorified through this miracle. Jesus then waited two more days before He went to His friends.

After two days Jesus said to His disciples that He wanted to go to Judea. This made the disciples afraid. They were afraid because the Jews in Judea tried to stone Jesus. But Jesus said that He did the Father’s work. Doing the Father’s work was like walking in the daytime. He told His disciples that they would not stumble if they walked in the daytime. He would go back to Judea and visit His friends. This made Thomas think that Jesus would die in Judea. So, he said to the others let’s go along with Jesus so that we may die with Him. As Jesus left for Judea, He told the disciples that Lazarus was asleep. They thought this was good news and that he would get well. But Jesus corrected them

and said that Lazarus was dead. He also said that He was glad that He wasn't there. He said this because He wanted the disciples to believe when they saw the miracle He would do.

Now Jesus arrived at Bethany at the home of His friends. He was told that Lazarus died and had been in the grave for four days. Lazarus' sister Martha said to Jesus, Lord, if you had been here my brother would not have died. Jesus then comforted Martha, saying, "Your brother will rise again" (John 11:23). Martha said that she knew he would rise again in the resurrection at the last day. Jesus then said something that is a comfort to believers of all ages. He said to Martha, "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live. And whoever lives and believes in Me shall never die" (John 11:25-26). Martha confessed, "Yes, Lord, I believe that You are the Christ the Son of God" (John 11:27).

After that Jesus went to Lazarus' tomb. He told the keepers to take the stone away from the door. At first Martha objected; she said the body would smell. But Jesus assured her that if she would believe, she would see the glory of God. Jesus then prayed to the Father. He did this so the people would know that the Father sent Him. Then He called out in a loud voice, "Lazarus, come forth!" (John 11:43). And, wonder of wonders, the man who had been dead became alive. Jesus told the people to remove his grave clothes and set him free.

This wonderful miracle helped many people to believe in Jesus. But it also made the Jewish leaders upset. They called a meeting to decide what to do. They decided that Jesus had to die. If He lived, all the people would follow Him. And they did not want to lose their authority. Then Caiaphas, the high priest spoke a prophecy. He did this even though he hated Jesus. The Holy Spirit allowed him to say, "It is expedient (fitting) that one man should die for the people" (John 11:50). This was a true statement because Jesus alone would die for His people. But that is not the way Caiaphas meant it.

Jesus said to Martha that those who believe in him will never die. He then asked Martha, "Do you believe this?" (John 11:26). That is the same question we must answer. Do you believe in Jesus? Do you believe that you will never die?

Questions

Fill in the blanks.

1. "Now a certain man was sick, Lazarus of _____, the town of Mary and her sister Martha." (John 11:1)

2. "Then Jesus said to them plainly, '_____ is dead.'" (John 11:14)

3. "Now _____ said to Jesus, 'Lord, if You had been here, my brother would not have died.'" (John 11:21)

4. "Martha said to Him, 'I know that he will rise in the _____ at the last day.'" (John 11:24)

5. "Jesus said to her, 'I am the _____ and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live.'" (John 11:25)

6. "Now when He had said these things, He cried with a loud voice, '_____ come forth!' And he who had died came out bound hand and foot with grave clothes, and his face was wrapped with a cloth." (John 11:43-44a)

The Reproducing Kernel of Wheat

Reference: De Graaf, *Promise and Deliverance*, Volume 4, Lesson 15

Scripture: John 12:20-33

Memory Verse: John 14:3 “And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself: that where I am, there you may be also.”

Lesson Truth: Jesus is like the grain of wheat. His death would bear much fruit in bringing believers to God.

Lesson

In this story, Jesus used the illustration of a grain of wheat. He used this illustration in answer to some Greeks. The Greeks were worshiping at the feast and wanted to see Jesus. The principle of the grain of wheat is also the principle of God’s Kingdom. Jesus also asked that the Father’s name be glorified. He wanted this more than to be delivered from the cross. In His death He drew all people to Himself. By dying He bore much fruit for His Kingdom.

Hatred for Jesus grew when he raised Lazarus from the dead. It grew even more when the people shouted Hosanna as He rode into Jerusalem. The Pharisees complained that the whole world was following Jesus. That claim seemed to be true when some Greeks came to the feast. Now these Greeks wanted to see Jesus. They were not part of the covenant people. So, they had to remain in the outer court of the temple. They decided to ask Philip if he could bring them to Jesus. Philip didn’t want to bother Jesus, so he went to Andrew. Then Andrew and Philip told Jesus that some Greeks wanted to see Him.

Jesus answered them in a surprising way. He said, “The hour has come that the Son of Man should be glorified” (John 12:23). This was surprising because before He had said that His hour had not yet come. Jesus knew that the Greeks were interested in the salvation that the Jews rejected. But there was a principle of the Kingdom that they had to understand. This principle or law of the Kingdom is that there must be death to produce life.

Jesus made it clear that this spiritual law is the same as nature’s law. In nature a grain of wheat must die in order to produce more wheat. The Lord was first of all talking about Himself. He knew that He had to die for the sins of His people. But His death would

bring a harvest of people for His Kingdom. This law was also true for those who wanted to follow Him. It would be true for both Jews and Greeks. Jesus spoke of how this law works in the lives of people when He said, “He who loves his life will lose it, and he who hates his life in this world will keep it for eternal life” (John 12:25). Jesus gave His life as a sacrifice to save His people. In that same way His people must sacrifice their lives for His Kingdom.

After this Jesus thought about His death. He was troubled that He had to die. The Lord wondered if He should ask the Father to save Him from death. Still, He knew that He could not do that. The reason he came to earth was to die. Instead, He asked The Father to glorify His name. The glory of God’s name was the most important thing. The Father answered Him with a voice that could be heard. He said, “I have both glorified it and will glorify it again” (John 12:28). The people that heard this voice thought that it thundered. A few thought that an angel talked to Jesus. But Jesus told the people that the voice was not for Him. It was for the people so that they might believe.

Jesus then told the people that the time for judgment had come. He would cast out Satan, the ruler of this world. But a much more glorious thing would occur. Jesus said, “and I, if I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all men to Myself” (John 12:32). By His resurrection and ascension, the Lord Jesus was lifted up. Through the Holy Spirit He draws His people to Himself. Christ Jesus was the kernel of wheat that died. Through His death He bore much fruit. He brought His people into His Kingdom.

Questions

Fill in the blanks.

1. “Now there were certain _____ among those who came to worship at the feast.” (John 12:20)
2. “Then they came to _____, who was from Bethsaida of Galilee, and asked him, saying, ‘Sir we wish to see Jesus.’” (John 12:21)
3. “But Jesus answered them, saying, ‘The hour has come that the _____ should be glorified.’” (John 12: 23)

4. “Most assuredly, I say to you, unless a grain of _____ falls to the ground and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it produces much grain.” (John 12:24)

5. “He who _____ his life will lose it, and he who hates his life in this world will keep it for eternal life.” (John 12:25)

6. “And I, if I am lifted up from the earth, will _____ all peoples to Myself.” (John 12:32)

Love to the End

Reference: De Graaf, *Promise and Deliverance*, Volume 4, Lesson 16

Scripture: John 13:1-17

Memory Verse: “A disciple is not above his teacher, nor a servant above his master.”
(Matt. 10:24)

Lesson Truth: Jesus showed His complete love for His disciples when He washed their feet. In His love He wanted to free them from pride and selfishness.

Lesson

Do you know how John introduced the story about Jesus washing His disciple’s feet? He said that Jesus knew it was time for Him to depart from this world. It was time for Him to go to be with His Father. John then said that Jesus loved His own. He had loved them to the end. How did He show this love? He became a servant by doing the humble task of washing His disciples’ feet. Jesus pointed out that this was a symbol of washing sins away. He then urged His disciples to do what He had done. He urged them to become servants and wash one another’s feet.

Jesus and His disciples gathered in an upper room to eat the Passover meal. As they entered this room there was water and a basin to wash their feet. But there wasn’t a servant to do the washing. None of the disciples offered to be the foot washer. This was a very lowly task that only a servant would do. Still, it was the custom for guests to have their feet washed when they were invited in. This time the disciples had dusty feet as they sat at the table. They may have grumbled because no one washed their feet. It was sad to for them to be in a bad mood when this was their last supper with Jesus.

But Jesus knew the hearts of His disciples. John said that He loved them to the end. Now in this love He knew what He would do. Jesus even knew that Judas would betray Him. He also knew that God the Father had given all things into His hands. Jesus knew that He came from the Father and that He would return to the Father. Still, He would show a special love to His disciples. He got up from the table and took off His outer garment. Then He poured water into a basin and began to wash His disciple’s feet. He wiped them dry with a towel He had around His waist. The disciples must have been astonished. Their Teacher and Lord was washing their feet. What did this mean?

All the disciples allowed Jesus to wash their feet until He came to Peter. Peter could not believe that His Master would do such a lowly task. He asked, “Lord, are You washing my feet?” (John 13:6). Jesus said to Peter that he didn’t understand right now but some day he would understand. Peter then said to Jesus, “You shall never wash my feet!” (John 13:8). Now the Lord had to help Peter understand. He told him that it was spiritually important for him to have his feet washed. This washing was a symbol of washing sins away. So, Jesus told Peter that if he did not have his feet washed, he had no part of Jesus. Peter wanted more than anything to be part of Jesus. So, he said to Jesus, “Lord, not my feet only, but also my hands and my head!” (John 13:9) Jesus then reminded Peter of a spiritual truth. Those who are bathed only need the dust removed from their feet. Peter belonged to Jesus. He only needed the dust of daily sins removed.

Jesus then said that His disciples were clean, but not all of them. He knew that Judas was going to betray Him. He also knew that He had to free His disciples from the sins of pride and selfishness. That is why He showed them how to be a servant. He did this because He loved them to the end. Now Jesus asked His disciples if they knew what He had done. He then answered His own question when He said, “If I then, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another’s feet” (John 13:14). Jesus then stated even more clearly what he meant. He said, “For I have given you an example, that you should do as I have done to you” (John 13:15).

What a beautiful story of the Lord’s love for His disciples. He showed them how they could avoid the sins of selfishness and pride. They could do this by being servants. Jesus then encouraged His disciples. He said that it wasn’t enough to know about the servant’s kind of love. They would be blessed if they practiced this love. Are you ready to show your love for Jesus by being a servant?

Questions

Fill in the blanks.

1. “Now before the feast of the Passover, when _____ knew that His hour had come that He should depart from this world to the Father, having loved His own, who were in the world, He loved them to the end.” (John 13:1)
2. “After that, He poured water into a basin and began to _____ the disciples’ feet, and to wipe them with the towel with which He was girded.” (John 13:5)

3. “Then He came to _____ . And Peter said to Him, ‘Lord, are you washing my feet?’” (John 13:6)
4. “Peter said to Him, ‘You shall _____ wash my feet!’ Jesus answered him, ‘If I do not wash you, you have no part with Me.’” (John 13:8)
5. “Simon Peter said to Him, ‘Lord, not my feet only, but also my _____ and my head!’” (John 13:9)
6. “For I have given you an _____, that you should do as I have done to you.” (John 13:15)

Lesson 8
The Rock

Reference: De Graaf, *Promise and Deliverance*, Volume 4, Lesson 17

Scripture: John 18:1-27

Memory Verse: “So Jesus said to Peter, ‘Put your sword into the sheath. Shall I not drink the cup which My Father has given Me?’” (John 18:11)

Lesson Truth: Jesus is the Rock on which His people may build. This was made plain in His suffering.

Lesson

At God’s appointed time Jesus was prepared to suffer. Through His suffering, He was like a rock. He was immovable. He surrendered willingly to His arrest. He looked at Peter with compassion after his denial. Later Peter was restored as a disciple. The Lord faithfully confessed that He taught nothing in secret. He confessed that He was the Redeemer.

The Lord Jesus was in the Garden of Gethsemane with His disciples. Judas knew that He was there. So, he led a squad of soldiers to arrest Him. Jesus knew that the time for His suffering had come. For that reason, He went to meet the soldiers. He asked them for whom they were looking. They said they were looking for Jesus of Nazareth. Jesus answered that He was the one they sought. When He said this, the soldiers drew back and fell to the ground. Jesus could never have been arrested unless God allowed it. Now He asked them again for whom they were seeking. They once again said they were looking for Jesus of Nazareth. Jesus again answered that He was the one they were seeking. He then volunteered to go with them if they would not bother His disciples. The Lord’s arrest was a disgrace. The soldiers came with clubs and spears ready to fight. But the Lord gave Himself up. He had done everything in the open. His work was the basis for life.

Jesus gave Himself up. But Peter wasn’t ready to accept that. He took out his sword and began to fight. Peter cut off the ear of the high priest’s servant. But Jesus instructed Peter to put His sword back into the sheath. He then pointed out that He was ready to suffer. He was ready to do what the Father called Him to do. The soldiers then led Him to the house of Annas. He was the father-in-law of Caiaphas the high priest. As the Lord was led away, Peter followed. At the courtyard of the high priest Peter could not get in. Another disciple talked to the girl that kept the door and asked that Peter be

allowed in. Now when Peter entered, she had a question for him. She asked if he was one of the Lord's disciples. Then an amazing thing happened. Peter was the disciple that said he would lay down his life for Jesus. Yet, this time he was afraid, and he said he was not a disciple.

In the meantime, Annas and Caiaphas questioned Jesus. They wanted to know about His disciples and His teaching. Jesus then confessed freely that He was the Redeemer. He said that He had taught everything in the open. He never taught anything in secret. He always taught in the places where the Jews met. Jesus taught in the synagogues and the temple. For that reason, He told the high priest to ask the people what He said. At this response an officer struck Jesus. He said, "Do you answer a high priest like that?" (John 18:22). Jesus then asked the officer what evil He had spoken. And if He had not spoken any evil why did the officer strike Him? Jesus asked because the officer was putting down the honor of His work. He did not recognize that the Father called Jesus for His work.

After Annas and Caiaphas questioned Jesus, He was taken to the Sanhedrin. These officials would also question the Lord. Peter continued to follow. Two more times he was asked if he was a disciple of the Lord. Each time he denied that he knew the Lord. After the third denial, the rooster crowed. When Peter heard the rooster crow he remembered. He remembered the Lord's words of warning. Now he came to know that these were words of love. It was this love of the Lord Jesus that brought him to repentance. Through the Lord's suffering he was the Rock. He was immovable in doing the work that the Father called Him to do. Jesus is the Rock on which His people can build!

Questions

Fill in the blanks.

1. "So Jesus said to _____, 'Put your sword into the sheath. Shall I not drink the cup, which My Father has given Me?'" (John 18:11)
2. "Then the detachment of troops and the captain and the officers of the Jews _____ Jesus and bound Him." (John 18:12)
3. "And they led Him away to _____ first, for he was the father-in-law of Caiaphas who was high priest that year." (John 18:13)

4. “Then the servant girl who kept the door said to _____, ‘You are not also one of this Man’s disciple’s, are you?’ He said, ‘ I am not.’” (John 18:17)

5. “Jesus answered him, ‘I spoke openly to the world. I always taught in _____ and in the temple, where the Jews always meet, and in secret I have said nothing’” (John 18:20)

6. “Now _____ stood and warmed himself. Therefore they said to him. ‘You are not also one of His disciples, are you?’ He denied it and said. ‘I am not!’” (John 18:25)

Not of this World

Reference: De Graaf, *Promise and Deliverance*, Volume 4, Lesson 18

Scripture: John 18:28–19:16

Memory Verse: “Jesus answered, “You could have no power at all against Me unless it had been given you from above. Therefore the one who delivered Me to you has the greater sin.” (John 19:11)

Lesson Truth: Jesus has a Kingdom not of this world. If you reject Christ, you reject this Kingdom.

Lesson

Jesus told Pilate that He was the King of a Kingdom not of this world. This Kingdom is a Kingdom of truth. All who know the truth hear the voice of the King. Pilate thought he had the power to execute Jesus or to set Him free. However, Jesus informed him that he would have no power unless God gave it to him. The Jews rejected Christ when they said they had no King but Caesar. When they rejected Christ, they also rejected the Kingdom of heaven.

Two high priests questioned Jesus about His disciples and His teaching. After their questions they took Him to the Sanhedrin. The Sanhedrin was the Jewish governing body. The Sanhedrin decided that Jesus should be put to death. But they did not have the authority to execute people. The Romans ruled the Jews. Only the Romans could execute a person. That is why the Sanhedrin brought Jesus to the Roman governor, Pilate. They wanted Pilate to sentence Jesus to death.

The Jews of the Sanhedrin would not go into Pilate’s palace. The Romans kept leavened bread at the palace. This leavened bread would defile these pious Jews. Still, they wanted to make sure that Jesus was sentenced to death. Because the Jews would not come in, Pilate went out to them. He asked them what accusation they brought against Jesus. This made the Jews upset. They said that if Jesus were not an evildoer, they would not have brought Him. How could the Roman governor question their judgment? Pilate told the Jews to judge Jesus by their own laws. But they said that Pilate should judge Him, because they could not put anyone to death. Still, there was another reason why Pilate had to judge Jesus. This had to happen because Jesus had prophesied that it would happen. And all of the Lord’s prophecies are true.

Pilate brought Jesus into the palace and asked Him, “Are You the King of the Jews?” (John 18:33). Jesus asked Pilate if this was his own question or if someone else asked it. Pilate reminded Jesus that it was His own people who accused Him. He asked, “What have You done?” (John 18:35). Then Jesus told the Roman governor that He was a King. He said that His Kingdom was not of this world. If His Kingdom were of this world His servants would fight to save Him from the Jews. Jesus added that His Kingdom was a Kingdom of truth. Those who know the truth are part of His Kingdom. When Pilate heard Jesus talk about truth he asked, “What is truth?” (John 18:38). Pilate did not know about God’s grace and the truth that it brings. Only those to whom the Lord makes himself known will know the truth. Now Pilate tried to release Jesus another way. He offered to release Him as the prisoner who would be set free at the Passover. This was the Passover custom.

The Jews rejected Pilate’s offer to release Jesus. Instead, they cried out that they wanted the robber Barabbas released. In order to please the people, Pilate had the soldiers scourge Jesus. He also allowed them to put a purple robe and a crown of thorns on Jesus. The soldiers then mocked Jesus, saying, “Hail, King of the Jews!” (John 19:3). Again, Pilate brought Jesus out to the people wearing the crown of thorns and the robe. He said to them. “Behold the Man!” (John 19:5). This upset the Jewish leaders and they cried out, “Crucify Him! Crucify Him!” (John 19:6). But Pilate insisted that he could find no fault with Jesus. The Jews however said that Jesus claimed to be the Son of God. That is why He had to die.

This made Pilate afraid, so he asked Jesus where He was from. Jesus knew that Pilate did not believe, so He did not answer. Now Pilate tried to show his authority. He said to Jesus, “Do You not know that I have power to crucify You, and power to release You?” (John 19:10). Jesus then warned Pilate that he had no power against Him. The only power that Pilate had was the power that God gave him.

One more time Pilate brought Jesus out and said, “Behold your King!” (John 19:14). But the people cried out, “Away with Him! Crucify Him! Crucify Him!” Then Pilate asked, “Shall I crucify your King?” The chief priest answered, “We have no king but Caesar!” (John 19:15). With this rejection of Jesus, the Jews also rejected the Kingdom of heaven. You and I must remember that the Lord has a Kingdom that is not of this world. Do you believe that Jesus is your King?

Questions

Fill in the blanks.

1. “Pilate then went out to them and said, ‘What _____ do you bring against this Man?’” (John 18:29)

2. “Then _____ said to them, ‘You take Him and judge Him according to your law.’ Therefore the Jews said to him, ‘It is not lawful for us to put anyone to death.’” (John 18:31)

3. “Jesus answered, ‘My _____ is not of this world. If My Kingdom were of this world, My servants would fight so that I should not be delivered to the Jews; but now My Kingdom is not from here.’” (John 18:36)

4. “The Jews answered him, ‘We have a _____ and according to our law he ought to die, because He made Himself the Son of God.’” (John 19:7)

5. “Then Pilate said to Him, ‘Are You not _____ to me? Do You not know that I have power to crucify You, and power to release You?’” (John 19:10)

6. “Jesus answered, ‘You could have no _____ at all against Me unless it had been given you from above.’” (John 19:11a)

Lesson 10

The Love Offering

Reference: De Graaf, *Promise and Deliverance*, Volume 4, Lesson 19

Scripture: John 19:17-42

Memory Verse: “So when Jesus had received the sour wine, He said, ‘It is finished!’ And bowing His head, He gave up His spirit.” (John 19:30)

Lesson Truth: Jesus willingly gave His life on the cross. This was His love offering for His people.

Lesson

The suffering that Jesus endured on the cross was a love offering. Scripture was fulfilled by His love. A prophecy of Scripture said that they would gamble to divide His clothes. Scripture said that not one of His bones would be broken. It also said that they would look on Him whom they pierced. All this happened when Jesus was on the cross. The Lord provided for His mother by His love. In love He suffered terrible thirst. And in love He allowed Himself to be buried in another man’s tomb.

The Jews rejected Jesus as their king. They said they had no king but Caesar. Pilate then had the soldiers take Jesus away to be crucified. At Golgotha they crucified Jesus between two others. Pilate made a sign that read, “Jesus of Nazareth, the king of the Jews” (John 19:19). He placed this sign above the Lord’s cross. This made the Jewish leaders upset. They asked Pilate to change the sign to read, “He said, I am the king of the Jews” (John 19:21). But Pilate refused to change the sign. He said, “What I have written, I have written” (John 19:22). He was probably unhappy that the Jews forced him to crucify Jesus.

While Jesus was hanging on the cross the soldiers divided His clothes. But when they saw His one-piece tunic, they didn’t want to tear it. So, they decided to cast lots to see who would get it. Still there was a much greater reason why they gambled for His tunic. The reason was because Scripture foretold that this would happen. Psalm 22 foretold that the soldiers would divide His garments among them. This psalm said that they would cast lots for His clothing. All the Scriptures foretelling what would happen to Jesus had to be fulfilled. Jesus was willing to allow this to show His love.

As Jesus looked down from the cross, He saw His mother. She was filled with grief to see Jesus on the cross. Now in His love He reached out to His mother. He also saw

John standing there. So, Jesus said to His mother, “Woman, behold your son.” Then He spoke to John and said, “Behold your mother” (John 19:26-27). This was the way Jesus offered His love. He provided for His mother by having John care for her.

After Jesus spoke to John and His mother, He knew that Scripture was fulfilled. He then said, “I thirst!” (John 19:28). Not only did Jesus suffer terrible pain on the cross, but also terrible thirst. His body thirsted for water and His soul for God. God had forsaken Him on the cross to pay for the sins of His people. The soldiers heard His cry and offered Him sour wine. They soaked a sponge with this wine and touched His lips. This time He did not refuse to drink as He did before. Before they tried to give Him drugged wine. This Jesus refused so He would be fully conscious as He suffered. Now after Jesus sipped this wine He said, “It is finished!” (John 19:30). Jesus showed the depth of His love by being willing to die. He bowed His head and freely gave up His spirit. Jesus gave Himself to regain the world for His Father.

It was Friday when Jesus died. This was the day the Jews had to prepare for the Sabbath. The Jewish Sabbath was on Saturday. The Law said that no bodies could stay on a cross on the Sabbath Day. At times it took days for a crucified person to die. What could the Jews do with the three men they had crucified? They asked Pilate to have the soldiers break their legs. This would cause them to die sooner. The soldiers did as they were told and broke the legs of the two criminals. But when they came to Jesus, they saw that He was already dead. So, they decided not to break His legs. But one of the soldiers did pierce His side with a spear. These things also happened so that Scripture would be fulfilled. Scripture said, “Not one of His bones shall be broken” And also, “They shall look on Him whom they pierced” (John 19:36-37). In His offering of love Jesus fulfilled all of Scripture.

The Lord’s offering of love also reached out to two secret disciples. Joseph from Arimathea, and Nicodemus were disciples of Jesus. But they never dared to show it because they were afraid of the Jews. Now the Lord’s love drew them. Joseph asked for the Lord’s body so he could bury it. Nicodemus brought spices to anoint the Lord’s body. They laid Jesus’ body in Joseph’s new tomb. Scripture was also fulfilled with His burial. Isaiah foretold that He would be buried in a rich man’s grave. The Lord’s suffering, death, and burial was an offering of His love. In this way He paid for the sins of His people.

Questions

Fill in the blanks.

1. “And He, bearing His cross went out to a place called the _____ _____ _____, which is called in Hebrew, Golgotha.” (John 19:17)
2. “Now _____ wrote a title and put it on the cross. And the writing was: ‘Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews.’” (John 19:19)
3. “They said therefore among themselves. ‘Let us not tear it, but _____ _____ for it, whose it shall be,’ that the Scripture might be fulfilled which says: ‘They divided My garments among them, and for My clothing they cast lots.’ Therefore the soldiers did these things.” (John 19:24)
4. “So when Jesus had received the sour wine, He said, ‘_____ _____!’ And bowing His head, He gave up His spirit.” (John 19:30)
5. “For these things were done that the _____ should be fulfilled, ‘Not one of His bones shall be broken.’” (John 19:36)
6. “And again another Scripture says, ‘They shall _____ on Him whom they pierced.’” (John 19:37)

The Resurrection of Love

Reference: De Graaf, *Promise and Deliverance*, Volume 4, Lesson 20

Scripture: John 20:1-18

Memory Verse: “Then the other disciple, who came to the tomb first, went in also; and he saw and believed.” (John 20:8)

Lesson Truth: Jesus rose from the dead. When He rose, love rose with Him. With this love He drew His people to Himself.

Lesson

Jesus rose from the dead. With Him love has also arisen. With His love He drew His people to Himself. In this lesson we will learn how He drew Mary Magdalene, Peter, and John. He drew them to believe in the resurrection. Jesus brought them from faith in His presence to faith in His Word.

The Sabbath must have seemed long for Jesus' followers. They wanted to go out to the tomb to show their respect. But this was not allowed on the Sabbath Day. So early in the morning on the first day of the week, some women went to the tomb. Mary Magdalene was with these women. She was the woman from whom Jesus had cast out seven demons. Mary was so attached to Jesus that she wanted to be near His body. It was still dark when the women came to the tomb. They were shocked when they saw the stone rolled away from the tomb's entrance. Mary was filled with grief when she saw that the Lord's body was not in the tomb. She thought someone had stolen His body. She said, “They have taken away the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid Him” (John 20:13). The wonder is that Jesus had risen from the dead. His love for His people had risen with Him. With His love He drew Mary to the tomb. And with His love He would teach her to believe His Word. Then she would be sure of His love, even when He was no longer present.

When Mary told the disciples that the tomb was empty, Peter and John ran to see. John got to the tomb first, but did not go in. When Peter arrived, he went into the tomb. There he saw the grave clothes lying. The kerchief that had been around the Lord's head was folded separately. John also went into the tomb and saw the grave clothes. He knew that the Lord's body had not been stolen. The tomb would not have been so orderly if someone had stolen the body. This made John remember the things Jesus had

said about rising from the dead. Then he believed. Still, John had to learn and believe God's Word. God's Word said that Jesus would rise from the dead.

Peter was not yet ready to believe. His denial of the Lord Jesus was in the way. He could not yet believe that his sin could be forgiven. Before that happened Jesus had to draw Peter to Himself with His love. This He did, and brought Peter to repentance. Then Peter knew that he was forgiven. He knew that he was set free from the bondage of sin. That is also our assurance. God's people who believe in the resurrection are set free from the slavery of sin.

Mary Magdalene stayed by the empty tomb after the disciples left. She stood by the tomb and wept. When she looked into the tomb, she saw two angels. One was at the head and the other at the feet of where Jesus had lain. The angels spoke to Mary. They asked why she was weeping. Her answer showed her mistaken trust. She said they had taken away her Lord. She also said that she did not know where they laid Him. Mary's trust was in being near the Lord's body. Just then she turned around and there was Jesus. He had risen from the dead. His love had also risen with Him. With this love He drew Mary to Himself. At first, she did not know Jesus. When Jesus said her name, her eyes were opened. Now she knew her Lord and cried, "Rabboni!" (John 20:16). Rabboni means teacher. In His love, Jesus brought Mary from faith in His presence to faith in His Word.

Now the Lord told Mary not to cling to His flesh. Instead, she had to rely on His Word. He asked her to tell the other believers that He would ascend to His Father. She could tell them that Jesus had risen from the dead. Because Jesus was alive, fellowship with God had been restored. Jesus asked Mary to tell the others that He was ascending to "My Father and your Father, and to My God and your God" (John 20:17). When Jesus rose from the dead love rose with Him. With this love He draws believers to Himself. That is why He could say that His God and Father was the God and Father of believers. Mary Magdalene was given the honor of telling others that Jesus had arisen from the dead.

Questions

Fill in the blanks.

1. "Now on the first day of the week _____ went to the tomb early, while it was still dark, and saw that the stone had been taken away from the tomb." (John 20:1)

2. “Then she ran and came to _____ and to the other disciple whom Jesus loved, and said to them, “They have taken away the Lord from the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid Him.” (John 20:2)

3. “So they both ran together, and the other disciple outran _____ and came to the tomb first.” (John 20:4)

4. “Then the other _____, who came to the tomb first, went in also; and he saw and believed.” (John 20:8)

5. “But _____ stood outside by the tomb weeping, and as she wept she stooped down and looked into the tomb.” (John 20:11)

6. “Jesus said to her, ‘Do not cling to Me, for I have not yet _____ to My Father; but go to My brethren and say to them. I am ascending to My Father and your Father, and to My God and you God.’” (John 20:17)

Christ, the Son of God

Reference: De Graaf, *Promise and Deliverance*, Volume 4, Lesson 21

Scripture: John 20:19-29

Memory Verse: “Jesus said to him, ‘Thomas, because you have seen Me, you have believed.’ Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.” (John 20:29)

Lesson Truth: Christ Jesus rose from the dead and is known as the Risen One, the Son of God.

Lesson

After Jesus rose from the dead, He revealed Himself to His disciples. He showed them His hands and side, so they knew it was truly the Lord. Jesus then told His disciples that their work was to tell the story of His resurrection. They were to go to the ends of the earth to tell this story. Jesus also rebuked Thomas for not believing God’s Word.

The day that Jesus rose from the dead was a day filled with wonder. Early that morning some women went to the tomb. They found an empty tomb and an angel told them that Jesus had arisen. When they told the disciples, Peter and John went to see and also found the tomb empty. Jesus then appeared to Mary Magdalene in the garden. He also appeared to two of His followers on the road to Emmaus. Toward evening on this resurrection day, the disciples were together. They locked themselves in a room for fear of the Jews. The disciples talked about Jesus rising from the dead. Could it be true that Mary had seen the Lord alive? If this was true, then Jesus had won the victory over sin and death. Then all of a sudden it happened. Without opening the doors, Jesus stood in their midst.

Jesus said to His disciples; “Peace be with you” (John 20:19). Then He showed them His hands and His side. The disciples knew that these were the marks of His suffering. Now they knew that Jesus had risen from the dead. By faith they began to understand that Jesus won the victory over sin death. This victory was not only for Jesus, but also for His disciples. No wonder that John said, “Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord” (John 20:20). Now they remembered and believed that Jesus told them that He would rise from the dead. By faith the disciples were now ready to follow the instructions the Lord would give them. Once again Jesus said to them, “Peace to you!” (John 20:21). This was not just a wish. Jesus really gave them peace through His resurrection. That peace can also be ours if we believe that Jesus rose from the dead.

The disciples now believed that Jesus rose from the dead. This made them ready to do the Lord's work. The disciples were no longer filled with fear. So Jesus could tell them, "As the Father has sent Me, I also send you" (John 20:21). The disciples had the honor to tell the story of Jesus' resurrection. They had the joy of telling this story to the whole world. But Jesus knew that they needed the power of the Holy Spirit to do this task. So, He breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit" (John 20:22). The Holy Spirit in the hearts of the disciples would give them the power to do their work. By the power of the Holy Spirit this Word of God would either free mankind from sin or it would condemn them. Thankfully, the Word of God that the disciples carried to the whole world has been saved. It has been saved in the Bible. Today the church must proclaim this Word. This Word continues to have the power to bring repentance and forgiveness, or it condemns. Do you believe the Word of the resurrection of Christ, the Son of God?

What a joy for the disciples to have Jesus in their midst! What a joy to know that their Lord had risen from the dead! Sadly, one of the disciples did not experience that joy. Thomas was not with the others when Jesus showed Himself. He did not believe the Word of God that Jesus would rise from the dead. Neither did he believe the other disciples when they told them that Jesus had arisen. He said that unless he saw the nail prints in Jesus' hands and the wound in the Lord's side he would not believe.

Thankfully, the Lord was willing to claim Thomas with His grace. Eight days after Jesus' first appearance He again appeared to the disciples. This time Thomas was with them. Again, Jesus greeted the disciples with His blessing by saying, "Peace to you!" (John 20:26). He told Thomas to look at His hands and side. Jesus then rebuked Thomas by telling him, "Do not be unbelieving, but believing" (John 20:27). The Lord's grace did work in Thomas' heart. By grace he was able to say to Jesus, "My Lord and my God!" (John 20:28). Jesus then urged believers to remember, "Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed" (John 20:29). Do you believe that Christ, the Son of God rose from the dead?

Questions

Fill in the blanks.

1. "Then the same day at _____, being the first day of the week, when the doors were shut where the disciples were assembled, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood in the midst, and said to them. 'Peace be with you.'" (John 20:19)

2. “When He said this, He showed them His _____ and His side.” (John 20:20)
3. “So _____ said to them again, ‘Peace to you! As the Father has sent Me, I also send you.’” (John 20:21)
4. “And when He said this, He _____ on them, and said to them, ‘Receive the Holy Spirit.’” (John 20:22)
5. “Then He said to _____: ‘Reach your finger here, and look at My hands; and reach your hand here, and put it into My side. Do not be unbelieving, but believing.’” (John 20:27)
6. “Jesus said to him, ‘_____, because you have seen Me, you believed. Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.’” (John 20:29)

His Bond to this Life

Reference: De Graaf, *Promise and Deliverance*, Volume 4, Lesson 22

Scripture: John 21

Memory Verse: “This is now the third time Jesus showed Himself to His disciples after He was raised from the dead.” (John 21:14)

Lesson Truth: Even after Christ Jesus rose from the dead; He kept ties to this life.

Lesson

After Jesus rose from the dead, He showed Himself to His disciples. John tells us that this was the third time He appeared to His disciples. This time He did more than just appear. Jesus also revealed that He would always be with His people. He would be with them to bless their work. Christ would attract them with His love. The disciples would learn that the Lord was the supreme ruler over their lives.

The disciples were in Galilee at the Sea of Tiberias. Jesus said that He would see them in Galilee. Now as they waited for the Lord to appear, Peter decided to go fishing. When he told the other disciples, a number of them decided to go with him. It was on this fishing trip that an amazing thing happened. The disciples fished all night and did not catch anything. In the early morning light, they rowed to shore. As they neared the shore, they saw a stranger. This stranger asked them if they had any fish to fry. When they told Him they had none He made a surprising suggestion. He told them to cast their net on the other side of the boat. Imagine the disciple’s surprise when they saw the net fill with fish.

As soon as this happened John knew that the stranger was Jesus. Peter immediately put on his outer garment and swam to shore. When Jesus asked him to bring some of the fish to fry, Peter pulled the net to shore. With the net on shore, the disciples counted 153 fish. There were so many fish it nearly broke the net. They gave some of these fish to Jesus to fry on His coals of fire. As Jesus prepared the fish and bread, none of the disciples dared to ask Him if He was the Lord.

After they had eaten breakfast, Jesus asked Peter, “Simon, son of Jonah, do you love Me more than these?” (John 21:15). Peter may have been surprised that Jesus asked only him. Still, He answered Jesus saying, “Yes, Lord, You know that I love You” (John 21:15). Jesus then asked Peter a second and finally a third time; “Simon, son of Jonah,

do you love Me?” (John 21:17). After the third time, Peter was hurt. He answered Jesus, “Lord, You know all things; You know that I love You” (John 21:17). This was the Lord’s way of giving back to Peter’s his office of apostle. Peter had lost that office when he denied the Lord. Jesus questioned him three times as a reminder of the three times he denied that he knew his Lord. Jesus concluded His questions for Peter with a command. He told Peter to feed His sheep. He also told Peter that now it would be different than when he was young. When he was young, he could go where he wanted to go. Now others would lead him where he did not want to go. He would die a painful death. Even though he would die a painful death, Jesus commanded Peter to follow Him.

When Peter heard this command, he did something very small. He worried about another disciple. He saw the apostle John and asked Jesus, “But, Lord what about this man?” (John 21:21). Now Jesus had to correct Peter by saying, “If I will that he remain till I come, what is that to you? You Follow Me.” (John 21:22). Peter had to learn that Jesus is the supreme ruler over the lives of men. Jesus may call His followers to suffer, or He may keep them from suffering. You and I must also follow Jesus. We need not be concerned about what He asks of other believers.

We learn something about Jesus when He appeared to His disciples after rising from the dead. He showed that He kept a tie to this life. He is the supreme ruler over the lives of His followers. He drew them with His love. He also blesses the daily work of believers. Do you believe in the risen Redeemer?

Questions

Fill in the blanks.

1. “After these things Jesus showed Himself again to His _____ at the Sea of Tiberias, and in this way He showed Himself.”(John 21:1)
2. “_____ said to them, ‘I am going fishing.’ They said to him, ‘We are going with you also.’ They went out and immediately got into the boat, and that night they caught nothing.” (John 21:3)

3. “And He said to them, ‘_____ your net on the right side of the boat, and you will find some.’ So they cast, and now they were not able to draw it in because of the multitude of fish.” (John 21:6)

4. “Therefore that disciple whom Jesus loved said to _____, ‘It is the Lord!’” (John 21:7a)

5. “He said to him a third time, ‘_____, son of Jonah, do you love Me?’ Peter was grieved because He said to him a third time, ‘Do you love Me?’ And he said to Him, ‘Lord, You know all things; You know that I love You.’ Jesus said to him, ‘Feed My sheep.’” (John 21:17)

6. “Jesus said to him, ‘If I will that he _____ until I come, what is that to you?’ You follow Me.” (John 21:22)