

Promise and Deliverance

Student Workbook

Volume 15
Level 1

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
Christ the Lord

Reference: De Graaf, *Promise and Deliverance*, Volume 3, Lesson 51

Scripture: Luke 2:1-20

Memory Verse: “For there is born to you this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.” (Luke 2:11)

Lesson Truth: Christ Jesus was born in Bethlehem. He is Lord and Master of all things.

Lesson

Jesus was born in Bethlehem. An angel told some shepherds about His birth. They said that He was the Savior. They also said He was Christ the Lord. Do you know what it means to be the Lord? It means that Jesus is the Master of all things. It is wonderful that God broke the power of sin. He did this when He sent a Savior who is Christ the Lord.

It is amazing that Jesus was born in Bethlehem. Joseph and Mary did not live in Bethlehem. They lived in Nazareth in Galilee. But Jesus had to be born in Bethlehem. The prophet Micah said He would be born there. How could Jesus be born in Bethlehem when His parents lived in Nazareth? Do you know what happened? God worked in the heart of the Roman Emperor. He caused Caesar to want to register all the people. Caesar said that each father had to go the city that his family came from. This meant that Joseph had to go to Bethlehem to register. He was from the family of David. And Bethlehem was the city of David. God’s grace brought Joseph and Mary to Bethlehem.

A sad thing happened at Bethlehem. Joseph and Mary could not find a place to stay. The inn was full. The only place they could stay was in a stable. A stable is where animals live. Then the time came for Mary’s child to be born. She gave birth to a Son. Mary wrapped her Son in swaddling clothes. Then she laid Him in a manger. Mary and Joseph must have been very excited.

They remembered what the angel Gabriel had told Mary. He said that Mary would have a Son and she would call His name Jesus. Mary knew that her baby was the Son of God. He was born as a human baby. This made it possible for Him to pay for the sins of His people. Isn't it amazing that God's Son was born in such a humble place? This pointed to His suffering that would come later. Just think, Jesus was born so that He could suffer and die for our sins!

God then announced the birth of His Son. He sent an angel to tell some shepherds about Jesus' birth. God told the shepherds because they would believe His message. The light of God's glory shone around the angel. This made the shepherds afraid. But the angel told them not to be afraid. He said that he had a message of great joy. This joy would be for all those who believe. His message was that a Savior was born in the city of David. This Savior is Christ the Lord. The angel then gave the shepherds a sign that his message was true. He said they would find the baby at a stable in Bethlehem.

Then suddenly a whole group of angels filled the sky. These angels praised God. They said, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, goodwill toward men!" (Luke 2:14). The shepherds never saw anything like this before. As soon as the angels left, they hurried to Bethlehem. They wanted to see the Savior that was born. They found Joseph and Mary and the baby just as the angel said they would. The shepherds believed that He was Christ the Lord. So they told everyone they saw about the birth of the Savior. God showed His grace to all who believe by the birth of Christ the Lord.

Questions

Choose the correct answer.

1. It was amazing that Jesus was born in (Nazareth – Bethlehem) because His parents did not live there.
2. God worked in the heart of (Caesar – Joseph) causing him to want to register all the people in the Roman Empire.

3. Joseph had to go to (Bethlehem – Galilee) to register.
4. Mary and Joseph’s baby, Christ the Lord, was born in a (palace – stable).
5. (Shepherds – Angels) said, “Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, goodwill toward men.”

The Consolation of Israel

Reference: De Graaf, *Promise and Deliverance*, Volume 3, Lesson 52

Scripture: Luke 2:21-39

Memory Verse: “For my eyes have seen Your salvation which You have prepared before the face of all peoples.” (Luke 2:30-31)

Lesson Truth: Christ Jesus was made known to Simeon and Anna at the temple. They looked for Him as the Consolation of Israel.

Lesson

The prophets said that the Messiah would come. He would be the Savior of the world. But the children of Israel were not really waiting for the Messiah. They acted like they did not need a Savior. Still there were some Israelites who did look for the Messiah. Luke tells us that a few believers were waiting for the Consolation of Israel. The Savior was the Consolation of Israel. These believers were eager for the Savior to come.

Simeon and Anna were believers who were waiting for the Messiah. God used the faithfulness of Joseph and Mary to introduce Jesus to these believers. Joseph and Mary were faithful in keeping the law. When Jesus was eight days old He was circumcised. This was the sign of God’s covenant with His people. It was also the sign of putting sin to death. Jesus received this sign to show that He carried the sins of His people.

Joseph and Mary also obeyed another law. This was the law of presenting a firstborn son to the Lord. This took place forty days after the son’s birth. Forty days after a child’s birth a mother was again pure. At that time God claimed each firstborn son as His priest. This was the law that God first gave to Moses. Later the Israelites sinned at Mount Sinai. Because of their sins God rejected the firstborn sons as priests. Instead, God claimed the Levites as His priests. Still every father and mother had to bring a sacrifice to the temple. This sacrifice was made to excuse the firstborn son from being a

priest. Joseph and Mary came to the temple when Jesus was forty days old. They brought their sacrifice and presented Jesus to God. But Jesus was the Messiah. He would sacrifice His life on the cross. By His sacrifice Jesus fulfilled that law. Now Gods' people can worship in spirit and truth. Jesus set them free to worship without these laws. A wonderful thing happened when Joseph and Mary brought Jesus to the temple.

There was a man named Simeon at the temple. He was strong believer. Simeon was waiting for the Messiah. The Messiah was the Consolation of Israel. Simeon was also filled with the Holy Spirit. When he saw Jesus, he knew that He was the Messiah. God promised Simeon that he would not die until he saw the Messiah. Now he saw Him! Simeon said he was no longer afraid to die. His eyes had seen God's salvation. He was the first to tell believers that Jesus came to save both Jews and Gentiles. He also told Mary that her Son would be spoken against. He would cause both the rising and falling of many in Israel. Some would believe and love the Lord. Others would reject Him in unbelief and hate. This would cause Mary and Joseph much sorrow.

The Holy Spirit also helped Anna know that Jesus was the Messiah. Anna served God at the temple. She prayed and fasted night and day. She longed for the Messiah to come. When Anna saw the infant Jesus, she gave thanks to God. Then she told everyone who was looking for the Redeemer. Because Joseph and Mary were faithful, they brought Jesus to the temple. That was how God made Him known to Simeon and Anna. They opened their hearts to Jesus. But others did not understand that He was the Messiah. They were not looking for the Consolation of Israel. Do you know the Consolation of Israel?

Questions

Choose the correct answer.

1. Simeon and (Elizabeth – Anna) were believers who were waiting for the Messiah.

2. Joseph and Mary were (faithful – careless) in keeping God’s law.
3. Joseph and Mary presented Jesus at the temple when He was (forty – eight) days old.
4. Simeon was the first to tell (believers – unbelievers) that Jesus came to save both Jews and Gentiles.
5. The Holy Spirit helped (Anna – Jezebel) to know that Jesus was the Messiah.

In His Father's Work

Reference: De Graaf, *Promise and Deliverance*, Volume 3, Lesson 53

Scripture: Luke 2:40-52

Memory Verse: “And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature and in favor with God and men.” (Luke 2:52)

Lesson Truth: Christ Jesus came to do His Father's work.

Lesson

Jesus' Father is God in heaven. The Father in heaven sent Jesus to do His work. Joseph and Mary were Jesus' human parents. They had to learn that Jesus came to do the work of His Father in heaven. Joseph and Mary learned this in the temple. Jesus told them that He had to do His Father's work.

Joseph and Mary presented Jesus to God when he was forty days old. At that time Simeon and Anna saw Jesus. They knew that He was the Redeemer. After that Joseph and Mary brought Jesus to Nazareth. In Nazareth He grew to be a fine lad. Luke tells us some wonderful things about Jesus. He became strong in spirit. Jesus was filled with wisdom. And the most wonderful thing, the grace of God was upon Him.

At this time Jesus was twelve years old. This meant that He was expected to keep the Feast of the Passover. The Passover Feast took place in Jerusalem. Each year Joseph and Mary went to Jerusalem for the Passover. They would travel in a group with friends and relatives. This time they took Jesus along.

Because Jesus was twelve years old, He did not need to stay with His parents. He was allowed to go places on His own. This became a problem when the Passover ended. After the feast was over Joseph and Mary started for home. They went with a group of friends and relatives. They thought that Jesus would surely stay with the group. But He didn't. He stayed behind and went to the temple. Joseph and Mary traveled all day before they looked for Jesus.

Then they were not able to find Him. He was not in the group with their relatives. This made Joseph and Mary afraid. Where was their Son? Jesus' parents decided to go right back to Jerusalem. They would look until they found their Son. For three days they looked everywhere. At last, they found Him!

Do you know where they found Jesus? They found Him in the temple. He was talking to the teachers of the law. Jesus listened to them and asked them questions. The people who heard His words and questions were astonished. He showed that He had great understanding. But Jesus' mother was upset. She scolded Him for staying at the temple. She asked Him why He did this to His parents. She reminded Him that she and Joseph were worried as they looked for Him.

Then Jesus helped His mother understand. He asked her why they looked for Him. Then He asked if they didn't know that He had to do His Father's work. But Joseph and Mary did not understand what He was telling them. Mary remembered the things Jesus said. She kept them in her heart. Later she and Joseph would understand. In the meantime, Jesus was obedient to Joseph and Mary. He lived with them in Nazareth.

All this time Jesus grew in wisdom. He changed from a boy to a man. Everyone could see that He also grew in favor with God. As He grew in favor with God the people in Nazareth also respected Him. That was the way that Jesus told Joseph and Mary that He had to do His Father's work.

Questions

Choose the correct answer.

1. When Jesus was (eighteen – twelve) years old he was expected to keep the Passover.
2. The Passover Feast took place in (Jerusalem – Bethlehem) each year.

3. Joseph and Mary looked for Jesus for (four – three) days.

4. Joseph and Mary found Jesus in the (synagogue – temple) talking to the teachers of the Law.

5. Jesus asked (His parents – the teachers of the Law) if they didn't know that He had to do His Father's work.

Lesson 4
Exodus

Reference: De Graaf, *Promise and Deliverance*, Volume 3, Lesson 54

Scripture: Luke 3:1-20

Memory Verse: “And all flesh shall see the salvation of God.” (Luke 3:6)

Lesson Truth: John the Baptist got the people ready to meet Jesus. He urged them to repent.

Lesson

Today we will learn about John the Baptist. He was the prophet who preached in the wilderness. He urged the people to repent. Then they would be ready to meet Jesus. The title of our lesson is “Exodus.” Exodus means to go out or to leave. John called the people to leave their bondage of sin.

Do you remember Zacharias and Elizabeth? God gave them a son when they were old people. Their son was called to make the way ready for Jesus. This son was now thirty years old. He lived in the wilderness near the Jordan River. Out in the wilderness he began to do what God wanted him to do. He preached to the people. John told them they must repent. They had to leave their evil ways. A sign that they were sorry for their sins was baptism. John would baptize them in the Jordan River.

It was a hard time for John to begin preaching. The leaders of the country were Romans. The Romans never heard of a promised Messiah. They were not ready to listen to John. The religious leaders hated the gospel of grace. They did not want people to repent. They wanted them to follow their rules. These leaders said that following their rules made the people right with God. John said that only the Lord’s grace would make people right with God. He said the people who were sorry for their sins were ready for the Messiah. That is why John urged them to repent.

John was the preacher that Isaiah told about. Isaiah the prophet said there would be a voice crying in the wilderness. He would urge the people to prepare the way for the Lord. John said the Lord would come as a King. That is why a highway had to be made for this King. Every valley had to be filled. Every mountain had to be graded down. The highway had to be straight and smooth. This highway was for the King. John used the picture of a highway to tell the people to make their hearts ready. Then all who believe would see the salvation of God.

John told the people to show that they were sorry for their sins. They would not be saved just because they were Abraham's children. Then the people asked John what they had to do. He told them to remain at their work. But they had to do things differently. Those who had two coats should give one to a person who had none. He said the tax collectors should be honest. The soldiers should be fair. The people should know that all they had was a gift of God's grace.

Some people wondered if John was the Messiah. He quickly told them that he was not worthy to fasten the sandals of the Messiah. John also said that he baptized with water. But the Messiah would baptize with the Holy Spirit. The Messiah would baptize with fire. The Messiah would separate the people like a farmer does his crop. He would separate the wheat from the chaff. The chaff is like unbelievers. The wheat is like believers. The Messiah would bring grace or judgment.

John led the people in the exodus from the bondage of sin. But the leaders were afraid of him. He told Herod that he sinned. Herod was the ruler in Galilee. He put John into prison. Has God worked His grace in your heart? Then you are ready for the Lord.

Questions

Choose the correct answer.

1. John lived in the wilderness near the (Nile – Jordan) River.

2. John urged the people to (serve the Romans – repent) to get ready to meet the Lord.
3. John said that (the rules of the religious leaders – the Lord’s grace) would make people right with God.
4. John was the preacher that (Isaiah – Jeremiah) the prophet told about.
5. John said the Messiah would baptize with (water – the Holy Spirit).

The Lord's Anointed

Reference: De Graaf, *Promise and Deliverance*, Volume 3, Lesson 55

Scripture: Luke 3:21–4:30

Memory Verse: I “This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.”
(II Peter 1:17b)

Lesson Truth: The Holy Spirit anointed Jesus at His baptism. Jesus was anointed to be the Redeemer. Christ Jesus is the Lord's Anointed.

Lesson

Jesus was anointed to be the Redeemer. Anoint means to pour oil on someone. Kings and priests were anointed with oil to show that they had a special task. Jesus was anointed, but not with oil. The Holy Spirit anointed Jesus. The Spirit looked like a dove and rested on Jesus. This was the sign that Jesus was the Redeemer.

The Holy Spirit anointed Jesus at His baptism. John the Baptist baptized many people. Jesus also went to John to be baptized. John thought that Jesus should baptize him. He knew that Jesus was the Redeemer. But Jesus told John that He had to be baptized. This would be the sign that He carried the sins of His people.

Jesus prayed as he went into the water to be baptized. Then a wonderful thing happened. The heavens were opened. The Holy Spirit came from the heavens. God made the Spirit look like a dove. Do you know what the Spirit did? It rested on Jesus. This was the sign that Jesus was anointed. He was anointed for a special task. His special task was to be the Redeemer. God the Father approved Jesus' special task. His voice spoke from heaven. The Father's voice said: “You are My beloved Son; in You I am well pleased” (Luke 3:22). The Father was pleased that Jesus would be the Redeemer.

The Holy Spirit went with Jesus after His baptism. The Spirit led Jesus into the wilderness. Satan was going to tempt Jesus in the wilderness. Before Jesus could do His task as the Redeemer, He had to defeat Satan. Satan tried to get Jesus to use His power in a wrong way. He promised Jesus kingdoms if He would worship Satan. The Holy Spirit gave Jesus strength. Jesus was able to trust God's Word and defeat Satan. Later Jesus went to Galilee by the power of the Holy Spirit.

The people in Galilee were excited to see Jesus. They wanted to see Him do miracles. But sadly, they did not believe that He was the Redeemer. They showed their unbelief at the synagogue in Nazareth. Jesus went to the synagogue to worship. There they asked Him to read from the book of Isaiah. He read a passage about the Spirit of the Lord being upon Him. The Spirit had anointed him to preach the gospel to the poor. The Spirit had sent Him to heal the brokenhearted and tell the captives they were free.

Jesus told the people at the synagogue that He fulfilled that prophecy. He was the One anointed to do the work of the Redeemer. The people liked His words until He warned them about their unbelief. Then they became angry. Jesus reminded them that God sometimes showed his grace to Gentiles instead of to Jews. Elijah multiplied the oil of the widow at Zarephath instead of Israel's widows. Elisha healed a leper in Syria instead of lepers in Israel. These reminders made the people very angry.

They drove Jesus out of the city. They planned to push Him off a cliff. But then Jesus showed His majesty. He walked through the crowd of people. The people of Nazareth saw the majesty of the Lord's grace. But they did not believe. Because they did not believe, they would see the majesty of His judgment. Do you believe that Jesus is the Lord's Anointed? Then you will see the majesty of His grace!

Questions

Choose the correct answer.

1. Jesus went to (John the Baptist – the priest) to be baptized.

2. God made the Holy Spirit look like (an angel – a dove) at Jesus' baptism.
3. Before Jesus could do His work as the Redeemer He had to defeat (Satan – The Holy Spirit).
4. The people in (Syria – Galilee) did not believe that Jesus was the Redeemer.
5. Jesus said that He was the One (anointed – baptized) to do the work of the Redeemer.

Fisher of Men

Reference: De Graaf, *Promise and Deliverance*, Volume 3, Lesson 56

Scripture: Luke 5:1-11

Memory Verse: “Follow Me, and I will make you become fishers of men.”
(Mark 1:17b)

Lesson Truth: Jesus is known as the Fisher of Men. He called four fishermen to also be fishers of men.

Lesson

Jesus taught the people near the Sea of Galilee. He taught them from Simon Peter’s boat. Jesus showed that He was the Fisher of Men. This meant that He touched people with the miracle of God’s grace. Only grace could move people to work in His Kingdom.

The Lord Jesus continued with His ministry in Galilee. He had been rejected at Nazareth. Now He taught on the shores of Lake Gennesaret. This lake was also called the Sea of Galilee. A huge crowd pressed around Him. They wanted to hear the word of God.

How could Jesus keep the crowd from pressing Him? He saw two boats tied on the shore. He asked Simon if he could sit in his boat. Then Jesus taught the people from Simon’s boat. He used everyday examples to teach the people. Jesus talked about farmers and shepherds. He talked about households and fishing. But with every example Jesus told about the Kingdom of God’s grace. He said that God shows His grace in everyday things. Jesus showed that all of life is a miracle of God’s grace.

Then Jesus asked Simon to do something unexpected. He asked him to row his boat into deep water. He also asked him to let down his net to catch fish. This surprised Simon. It surprised him because Simon had fished all night. All night Simon and his helpers did not catch any fish. Why would Jesus ask

him to fish in the morning? Night was always a better time to fish. But Simon knew that the Lord's grace controls all things. So, he listened to Jesus and let down his net.

An amazing thing happened! Simon's net filled with fish. It was so full that his net began to break. He called the fishermen in the other boat to come and help. They came and filled both boats with fish. The fishermen were very surprised!

Just think, all night they hadn't caught any fish. And now both boats were filled with fish. How could this miracle happen? Simon knew that it was a miracle. He knew that God's grace controlled everything. He fell down before Jesus. Simon said, "Depart from me, for I am a sinful man, O Lord!" (Luke 5:8). He was overcome by the Lord's grace.

Jesus then talked to Simon. He talked to him where the others could hear what was said. He told him not to be afraid. The miracle of all the fish was a miracle of God's grace. But there was an even greater miracle. The greater miracle was that He called these fishermen to be fishers of men. Simon and Andrew as well as James and John would catch men. They would catch men for God's Kingdom. God's grace used these disciples to tell the gospel to others.

Do you know what happened to the fishermen? They knew that Jesus was the Fisher of Men. So, they brought their boats to land. Then they left everything behind and followed Jesus. They would also be fishers of men. The miracle of God's grace also works in our hearts. We too are called to be fisher's of men!

Questions

Choose the correct answer.

1. Jesus taught the people from (John's – Simon's) boat.
2. Jesus asked (Simon – James) to go to the deep water and let down his net.

3. Simon knew that the Lord's grace controls (some – all) things.

4. Simon said to Jesus depart from me because I am a (righteous – sinful) man.

5. By God's grace the disciples were called to be (fishers of men – fishermen).

The Apostle of Our Confession

Reference: De Graaf, *Promise and Deliverance*, Volume 3, Lesson 57

Scripture: Luke 6:12-49

Memory Verse: “And just as you want men to do to you, you also do to them likewise.” (Luke 6:31)

Lesson Truth: Jesus is faithful to all believers. He is the Apostle of our confession.

Lesson

Do you know what an apostle is? An apostle is someone sent to do a task. Jesus was the Apostle sent to Redeem His people. He also spoke about the things we believe. That is why the book of Hebrews called Him, “The Apostle of Our Confession” (Hebrews 3:1).

Our story took place when Jesus was in Galilee. Large crowds followed Him. They wanted to touch Him because He healed many of them. One day Jesus left the crowd. He went up to a mountain to pray. This time Jesus prayed all night. He prayed about naming His apostles. Jesus wanted to agree with the Father when He named His apostles. His apostles would tell the story of Jesus.

The next morning Jesus called His disciples together. He chose twelve men from His disciples. These twelve men He named as His apostles. This means that Jesus called them for a special task. They would tell His story. These twelve men were everyday men. Some of them were fishermen. One was a tax collector. Others were strict Israelites. Yet Jesus could use them as apostles. He could use them if they believed in His grace.

Jesus knew that the apostles had to live by faith. They had to believe that Jesus was the Redeemer. They also had to believe that His Word was true. It was sad that one of the apostles did not believe that Jesus was the Redeemer.

His name was Judas Iscariot. Judas later kissed Jesus' cheek to show His enemies whom to capture. We must remember that Judas was lost because he served himself. We cannot serve both ourselves and Jesus.

Do you know what Jesus did after He named His apostles? He again came to heal the sick people and to send evil spirits out of them. He also came to teach the crowds of people. The crowds all wanted to get near to Jesus. They wanted to touch Him. The people knew that power went out of Him.

Jesus also wanted the people to know about God's kingdom. He told them that people in God's kingdom would suffer. Then Jesus said some surprising things. He told the people they were blessed if they were poor. They were blessed if they were hungry or if they cried. He even said they were blessed if men hated them. Why were they blessed if they suffered? They were blessed because the Kingdom of God belonged to them. They were blessed because their reward was in heaven.

The Lord also warned those who are rich. He warned those that laugh and are never hungry. Jesus warned such people because they have their reward on earth. They are not part of the Kingdom of God.

The Apostle of our confession said other amazing things. He told the people to love their enemies. He said they should do good things to those who hate them. Jesus even said that people in God's Kingdom should be merciful. They should be merciful just as God is merciful. People that do these things are like a man who built his house on a rock. Storms of life will not destroy his house. Jesus was this Apostle of our confession!

Questions

Choose the correct answer.

1. Our story took place when Jesus was in (Judea – Galilee).
2. Jesus went to mountain to pray and prayed (all night – all day).

3. Jesus named (ten – twelve) men to be His apostles.
4. Jesus could use His apostles if they believed in His (miracles – grace).
5. (Peter – Jesus) was the Apostle of our confession.

He Has Borne Our Grievs

Reference: De Graaf, *Promise and Deliverance*, Volume 3, Lesson 58

Scripture: Luke 7:11-17

Memory Verse: “God has visited His people.” (Luke 7:16c)

Lesson Truth: Jesus carries our sorrows. He took away the sorrow of the widow of Nain.

Lesson

Jesus did bear our grief. Do you know what grief is? It is deep sadness. It is sorrow because of loss. People feel grief when a loved one dies. Jesus carries our sorrows and grief. He carried the sorrow of a widow at Nain. She was filled with sorrow because her only son died. Jesus took away her sorrow. He made the widow’s son live again.

The events of our story happened when Jesus was teaching in Galilee. He taught the people with authority. Jesus healed the sick people. He sent demons out of people’s hearts. The Lord Jesus called men to be His apostles. He was able to set people free from sin. Now Jesus came to the city of Nain. At the city gate He met people carrying a dead man. They were very sad. They were sad because the dead man was the only son of a widow. This son had made a living for his mother. Now he was dead. The widow was also very sad. Who would provide for her now that her son was dead?

Jesus saw how sad this widow was. He knew why she was so sad. Jesus looked at her with kindness and love. He knew that He was going to help her. The Lord Jesus told the widow not to weep. Then He went and touched the open coffin. As soon as Jesus touched the coffin those who carried it stopped. When they stopped Jesus talked to the dead young man. Do you know what he said? He said, “Young man, I say to you, arise” (Luke 7:14). Then an amazing thing happened. The young man sat up and started to talk. Jesus then brought him to his mother. He took away her sorrow. Her son

who had been dead was alive again. Now the people knew that Jesus had power over death.

Fear came over the widow and all the people with her. They were happy that the young man was alive. They glorified God. But this was such a wonder. Who was Jesus that He could tell a young man to arise from the dead? The people said: “A great prophet has risen up among us. God has visited His people.” They had seen God’s grace.

The people knew that Jesus came from God. They knew that He had the power over death. But the life that Jesus gave to the young man was life on earth. The people who believe that He is the Redeemer will be given life in heaven. They know that the Redeemer has power over sin and death.

Wasn’t that a wonderful story from God’s Word? It was a story about how Jesus carries our grief. The prophet Isaiah told about that Jesus. He said, “Surely He has borne our griefs” (Isaiah 53:4). Now we also know that Jesus has power over our sins. He promises that He will give eternal life in heaven to those who believe. Ask Jesus to send His Holy Spirit into your heart. Ask for His grace so that you will believe that Jesus is the Redeemer.

Questions

Choose the correct answer.

1. Jesus was teaching in (Judea – Galilee) when He went to the city of Nain.
2. Jesus met people at the (temple – gate) of Nain carrying a dead man.
3. The Lord Jesus told the (widow – people) not to weep.
4. Jesus said to the (widow – young man) arise from the dead.
5. The prophet (Jeremiah – Isaiah) told about Jesus who would bear our sorrow.

Forgiveness

Reference: De Graaf, *Promise and Deliverance*, Volume 3, Lesson 59

Scripture: Luke 7:36-50

Memory Verse: “Then He said to her. ‘Your sins are forgiven.’” (Luke 7:48)

Lesson Truth: Jesus forgave the woman at Simon’s house. She loved much because she had been forgiven much.

Lesson

Do you know what forgiveness is? Forgiveness is to pardon a wrong. Jesus forgave a sinful woman. She knew that she needed a Redeemer. She believed that Jesus could forgive her sins. She came to Simon’s house to show Jesus her love for her forgiveness. Because this woman was forgiven much, she loved Jesus very much.

Jesus was still teaching in Galilee. A Pharisee named Simon asked Him to come for something to eat. Simon was not a friend of Jesus. He was just curious. He wanted to find out what Jesus was like. But Simon did not treat Jesus like a guest.

A woman came to Simon’s house. She wanted to find Jesus. This woman was very sinful. The people in the city knew that she was sinful. But this woman heard Jesus’ words. She knew that He could forgive sins. She even knew that He had forgiven her sins. Now she wanted to show Jesus how much she loved Him. Do you know what she did? She bought a jar of expensive oil. She wanted to anoint Jesus with this oil. That is why she went to Simon’s house. First she stood at Jesus feet crying. Her tears fell on His feet. Then she wiped those tears with her hair. This woman kissed Jesus feet and poured her oil on them. She loved Him so very much.

Simon watched the woman. He wondered if Jesus knew who she was. Simon thought that Jesus was not a prophet. He thought that a prophet would know

that this woman was sinful. A prophet would not let that kind of woman touch him. But Jesus knew what Simon was thinking. Jesus is the Redeemer. Jesus then told Simon a story. The story was about two people who owed money. The one owed 500 coins and the other one owed 50 coins. Neither of them could repay what they owed. But the one to whom they owed the money forgave their debt. They no longer owed anything!

Jesus then asked Simon about His story. He asked him, who loved the one that forgave their debts the most? Simon said it was the one who was forgiven the most. Sadly, Simon did not understand Jesus' story. He did not understand that the story was about the woman. She loved Jesus so much because she had been forgiven so much.

The Lord Jesus now told Simon what His story meant. He said Simon did not give Him water to wash His feet. But the woman washed Jesus' feet with her tears. Simon did not anoint Jesus with oil or kiss Him. But the woman kissed Jesus' feet and anointed them with oil. Then Jesus told Simon that the woman's many sins were forgiven. She loved the Lord because she had been forgiven. Simon thought that he did not need forgiveness. That is why he did not show love for Jesus. Jesus showed His Word of grace even when Simon did not believe. Do you believe Jesus' Word of grace? Then you know that He forgives your sins!

Questions

Choose the correct answer.

1. A Pharisee name (Andrew – Simon) invited Jesus to his house to eat.
2. A woman who was very (righteous – sinful) came to the Pharisee's house to find Jesus.
3. This woman wanted to anoint Jesus with fragrant (oil – water) to show her love for Jesus.

4. Simon thought that Jesus was (a prophet – not a prophet) or He would have known that the woman was a sinful woman.

5. Jesus said that those who are forgiven (much – little) will love much.

Governed by the Kingdom

Reference: De Graaf, *Promise and Deliverance*, Volume 3, Lesson 60

Scripture: Luke 9:49–10:24

Memory Verse: “He who hears you hears Me, he who rejects you rejects Me, and he who rejects Me rejects Him who sent Me.” (Luke 10:16)

Lesson Truth: Workers in God’s Kingdom must be controlled by God’s Spirit. God’s Spirit must control everything they think and do.

Lesson

The title of this lesson is about being governed. An authority controls anyone who is governed. Jesus taught His disciples that God’s Spirit must control them. God’s Spirit controls God’s Kingdom. Jesus told His disciples how to live under the Spirit’s control. That is the way God’s Kingdom governed them.

Jesus gave His disciple’s power to do miracles. Sadly, they thought this power made them great. The disciples even argued about who was the greatest. Jesus told them that they should think like a little child. A little child feels small, not great. The disciples had to feel small in order to be great.

The disciples asked Jesus if they did the right thing. They told a man not to cast out demons in Jesus’ name. Do you know why they didn’t want him to cast out demons? It was because he was not one of the twelve disciples. Jesus said the disciples were wrong. They should not think of God’s Kingdom as only twelve disciples. Jesus told them that this man was not against Him. Then He reminded the disciples that this man was for Jesus. Those who are not against Jesus are for Him.

Now it was time for Jesus to go to Jerusalem. He and His disciples went through Samaria. Jesus asked His disciples to make things ready for Him in a town. But the Samaritans in this town did not like Jews. They did not want

Jesus to stay in their town. This made the disciples upset. They asked Jesus if they should do what Elijah did. Elijah called for fire from heaven to destroy fifty men. But Jesus said that they were not thinking like Kingdom workers. He reminded them that the Son of Man did not come to destroy lives. Instead, He came to save lives.

Later a man told Jesus that he would follow Him anywhere. But the Lord knew that this man did not understand. He told the man that those who follow Jesus are often alone. Another man wanted to wait to bury his father before he followed Jesus. Still another one wanted to say farewell to friends before he followed the Lord. Jesus told His disciples that they must be ready to leave everything to follow Him.

There was a lot of work to do in Judea. Jesus sent seventy of His followers to do this work. He told them that the harvest was ripe but there were not many workers. Jesus gave the seventy the power to do miracles. They were very excited that they could do miracles in Jesus' name. But Jesus told them that there was something that should make them more excited. They should rejoice that their names were written in heaven! Their names in heaven meant that they were part of God's Kingdom. Now they could live each day for His Kingdom. Pray that your name is written in heaven. Then you will do all your everyday things for Jesus!

Questions

Choose the correct answer.

1. Jesus gave (His disciples – the Pharisees) power to do miracles.
2. The (Judeans – disciples) told a man not to cast out demons in Jesus' name.
3. The (Galileans – Samaritans) did not want Jesus to stay in their town.

4. Jesus told His disciples that they must be ready to leave (most things – everything) to follow Him.

5. Jesus told His disciples that they should rejoice because (they could do miracles – their names were written in heaven).

My Neighbor

Reference: De Graaf, *Promise and Deliverance*, Volume 3, Lesson 61

Scripture: Luke 10:25-37

Memory Verse: “Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?” (Luke 10:25b)

Lesson Truth: God puts people in our lives. These people are our neighbors. We know this by faith.

Lesson

Do you know what a neighbor is? The Bible tells us about neighbors. In the Bible a neighbor is any person we may help. A scribe asked Jesus who his neighbor was. He did this when he was talking to Jesus about eternal life. He did this to test Jesus.

One day Jesus was teaching the people. He told His disciples that they were blessed. They were blessed because their hearts knew about God’s Kingdom. Then a scribe asked Him a question. He asked, “Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?” (Luke 10:25). It was sad that he didn’t really want to know about heaven. He wanted to catch Jesus saying something against scribes. Jesus knew the scribe’s heart. So, He asked him a question. He asked, “What is written in the law?” (Luke 10:26). The scribe was a smart man. He told Jesus what the law said. It said we must love God more than anything else. And it said we must love our neighbor. Jesus told the scribe he was right. He told him if he did this, he would have eternal life.

Jesus knew that it wasn’t possible for the scribe to love God more than anything. He knew it wasn’t possible to always love his neighbor. It wasn’t possible because all men are sinful. The Lord Jesus knew that only God’s grace could help him love that way.

Now the scribe felt uneasy. Jesus didn't say anything against the scribes. He said if he kept the Law, he would have life. But the scribe knew in his heart that he couldn't keep it. So, he made an excuse. He thought how could he love his neighbor? He didn't know who my neighbor was. So, he asked Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?" (Luke 10:29). Jesus knew this scribe's heart. He knew that this was an excuse. So, he told him a story. This story was a parable.

Jesus told about a man going to Jericho. Thieves robbed this man and hurt him. Then they left him to die by the wayside. Soon a priest came by and saw the hurt man. But he did not want to touch him. He just walked past and went on his way. Then a Levite came by. But he also walked past. At last a Samaritan came along. This Samaritan felt pity for the man that was hurt. He poured oil on his wounds and put on bandages. Then he took the man to an inn. He cared for him at the inn. The next day he paid the innkeeper to take care of him.

The Lord Jesus then asked the scribe a question. He asked which of the three was a neighbor to the hurt man. The scribe said it was the one who had pity on him. Again, the scribe was right. So Jesus told him to do as the one who showed pity. But Jesus knew that the scribe could not do this. He was sinful like all men are sinful. Only God's grace could help him love God more than anything. Only God's grace could help him love his neighbor. And the only way to get God's grace is through Jesus. He is the Merciful One. Christ Jesus can give us the grace to love God and our neighbor! We must have faith that Jesus will give us His grace.

Questions

Choose the correct answer.

1. A (scribe – disciple) asked Jesus a question about eternal life.
2. The (disciples – scribe) wanted to catch Jesus saying something against the scribes.

3. Jesus told a story about a man going to (Syria – Jericho) who was robbed.
4. A (priest – Levite – Samaritan) had pity on the man and poured oil on his wounds.
5. The (Samaritan – priest – Levite) was the neighbor to the man that was hurt.

Only One Thing Is Needed

Reference: De Graaf, *Promise and Deliverance*, Volume 3, Lesson 62

Scripture: Luke 10:38-42

Memory Verse: “And she had a sister called Mary, who also sat at Jesus feet and heard His word.” (Luke 10:39)

Lesson Truth: Jesus told Martha that one thing was needed. That one thing is to seek the eternal truth.

Lesson

What is the most important thing in life? It is to want to be near Jesus. This story tells how Jesus taught Martha. He taught her because she was so busy about many things. Martha had to know that only one thing was needed.

Jesus was slowly making His way to Jerusalem. At Jerusalem he would suffer and die for His people. Now on the way he stopped at a small village. This was the village where Martha lived. She shared her home with her sister Mary and her brother Lazarus. Martha invited Jesus to stay at her house. We don't know how many people stayed at Martha's house. But we do know that Martha was very busy. She made a lot of fuss to serve her guests. Martha wanted everything to be just right. Then she started to feel bad. She felt bad because her sister Mary didn't help her. Mary was sitting at Jesus' feet. She was listening to His words.

At first Martha did her work to show her love for Jesus. Because Mary wasn't helping her, she became upset. Then her work became just the work of a servant. It was work that had to be done. Martha felt so bad that she complained to Jesus. She asked Jesus: “Lord do You not care that my sister has left me to serve alone?” (Luke 10:40). Martha wanted Jesus to tell Mary to help her. Now it was time for Jesus to correct Martha.

Jesus loved Martha and wanted to help her. She made herself so busy that she forgot the most important thing. Martha was thinking only about earthly things. So, Jesus said to her: “Martha, Martha, you are worried and troubled about many things. But one thing is needed.” He told her that Mary had chosen this good part. It would not be taken away from her.

Mary had chosen the things of the Spirit. She had chosen to listen to eternal things from Jesus. Martha worried about food and serving. These are things that will pass away. After Martha died she would no longer serve food. But the words that Mary heard were eternal words. They are words that would last forever. They would not be taken away.

Both Martha and Mary loved Jesus. They were both disciples of Jesus. Mary was not more precious to Jesus than Martha was. Jesus wanted Martha to know that she had to do her work in love. She had to show her love for Jesus as she served.

You and I must also remember: “Only one thing is needed.” We must love Jesus and want to be near Him. You must want to be near Jesus. Be near Him in everything God calls you to do.

Questions

Choose the correct answer.

1. (Mary – Martha) invited Jesus to stay at her house.
2. (Martha – Mary) was very busy as she fussed to serve her guests.
3. Martha complained to (Lazarus – Jesus) that her sister did not help her.
4. Mary had chosen the good part, she had chosen (earthly – spiritual) things.
5. Jesus wanted (Martha – Mary) to know that she had to do her work in love.

Praying to the Father

Reference: De Graaf, *Promise and Deliverance*, Volume 3, Lesson 63

Scripture: Luke 11:1-13

Memory Verse: “Seek the Lord while He may be found.” (Isaiah 55:6a)

Lesson Truth: We may call God our Father. Jesus earned this right for us. So, we may pray with boldness.

Lesson

Do you know that God is our Father? We may call Him our Father when we pray. Jesus suffered for us. He died on the cross for us. His suffering and death gave us permission to call God our Father. Jesus taught His disciples to pray to the Father.

One day Jesus went to be alone. He wanted to be alone so that He could pray. Jesus prayed to His Father in heaven. Jesus prayed for the Father to give Him strength. He needed strength to do His work as the Redeemer. Something wonderful happened when Jesus finished praying. One of His disciples asked Him to teach them to pray. He reminded Jesus that John taught his disciples to pray. Jesus was ready to teach them.

Do you know what prayer Jesus taught them? He taught them the Lord’s Prayer! In this prayer they would learn the things they needed to pray for. First of all Jesus said they could call God their Father. He said they should pray that God’s name would be made Holy. They should also pray that His kingdom would come. Jesus told the disciples to pray that God’s will, would be done. He said they should ask God’s will to be done on earth as it is done in heaven. These were the things that the disciples had to pray for first.

Praying for God’s name to be Holy showed that the disciples honored God’s name. Then they could pray for their food. The disciples could ask God to give them their bread each day. They needed to trust God to give them their

bread. Trust in God would also allow them to pray for forgiveness. It was right to ask God to forgive their sins. They could also ask to be kept from temptation. Finally, they could ask to be kept safe from the evil one. Jesus told the disciples that God would surely answer their prayers. He would give them what they asked for just like friend. Jesus told them a story about a friend helping a friend. God will answer our prayers because He is more than a friend!

Isn't it wonderful that we can call God our Father? He is our Father so we may do what Jesus told His disciples to do. He told them to ask, and it would be given to them. He said that they should seek, and they would find. They could also knock, and it would be opened to them. Are you ready to ask and to seek and to knock?

Jesus told the disciples that the Father gives what is needed. A father will not give a stone if a son asks for bread. He will not give a serpent if a son asks for fish. A father will not give a scorpion if a son asks for an egg. God the Father will always give us what we need. Do you know what we need the most? We need God's Holy Spirit. Jesus told the disciples that God would give His Holy Spirit to those who ask. Will you ask the Holy Spirit to live in your heart?

Questions

Choose the correct answer.

1. Jesus wanted to be alone so that He could (feast – pray).
2. One of Jesus disciples asked Him to teach them to (pray – catch fish).
3. Jesus taught the disciples that they could call God their (friend – Father).
4. The disciples could ask the Father to give them their (shelter – bread) each day.

5. Jesus told the disciples that they should ask and seek and (rejoice – knock) and it would be given them.