

by Lori Verstegen

For
Youth
Groups

RIGHTLY DIVIDING

The word of Truth

Teacher Manual
with Student Book

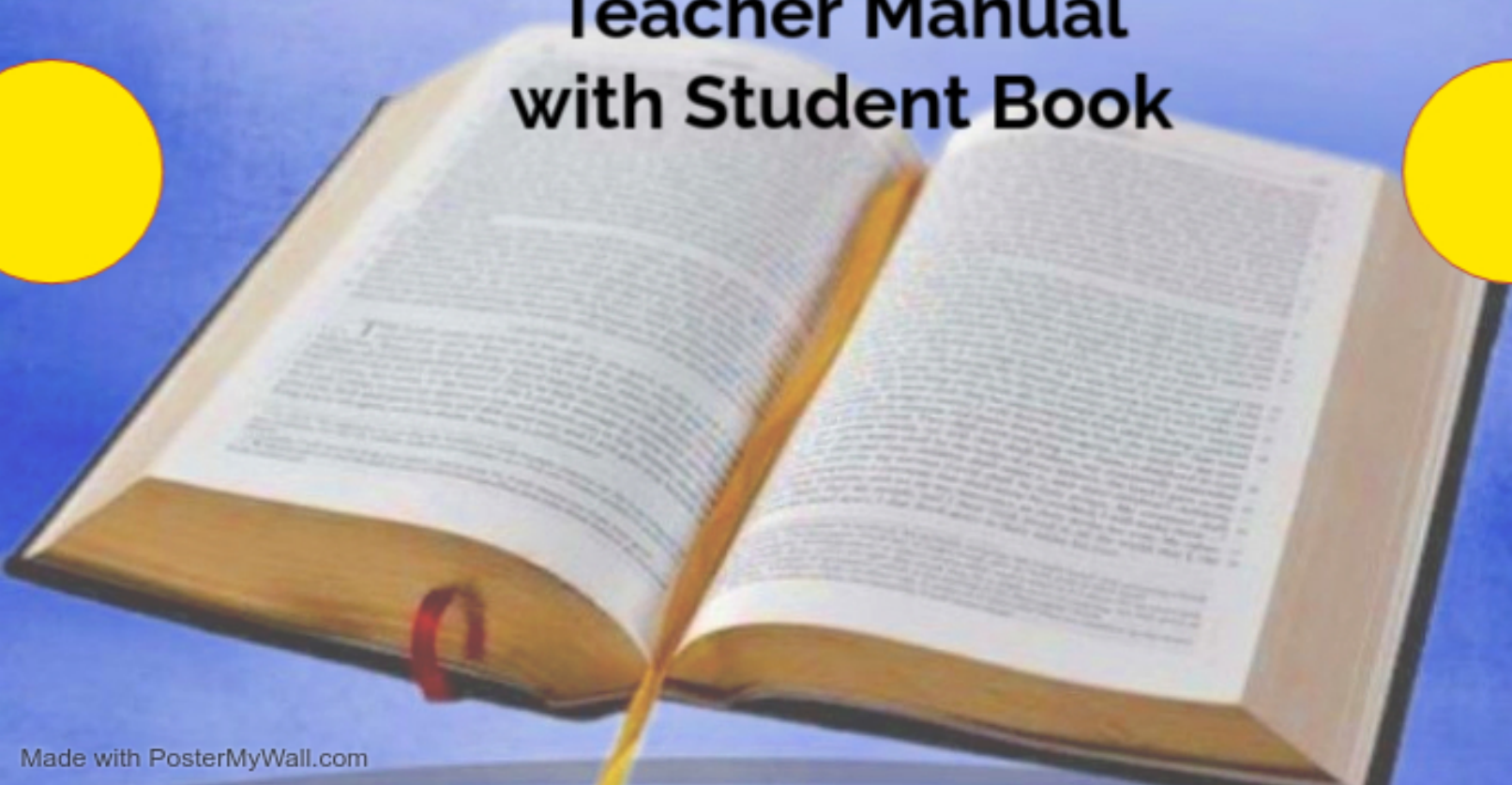


TABLE OF CONTENTS

LESSON	TITLE	PAGE
	INTRODUCTION	5
1	THE WORD OF GOD	7
2	SALVATION	9
3	OVERVIEW OF RIGHTLY DIVIDING THE WORD OF TRUTH	14
4	CREATION BY AND FOR CHRIST: LUCIFER'S REBELLION	23
5	GOD'S PLAN FOR THE EARTH FORETOLD OLD TESTAMENT 1: A KING & KINGDOM IS COMING TO ISRAEL	29
6	GOD'S PLAN FOR THE EARTH FORETOLD OLD TESTAMENT 2: THE NEW COVENANT	33
7	GOD'S PLAN FOR THE EARTH BEGINS THE GOSPELS: THE KINGDOM OF GOD IS AT HAND	37
8	GOD'S PLAN FOR THE EARTH INTERRUPTED: ACTS: THE FALL OF ISRAEL	43
9	GOD'S PLAN FOR THE HEAVENS PAUL'S EPISTLES 1: A NEW DISPENSATION	49
10	GOD'S PLAN FOR THE HEAVENS: PAUL'S EPISTLES 2: THE BODY OF CHRIST IN HEAVENLY PLACES	54
11	GOD'S PLAN FOR THE HEAVENS: PAUL'S EPISTLES 3: COMPLETE IN CHRIST	58
12	GOD'S PLAN FOR THE EARTH COMPLETED: HEBREW EPISTLES: THE GREAT TRIBULATION AND THE KINGDOM OF GOD ON EARTH CONCLUSION: WHY IT MATTERS	63

GAMES

LESSON	TITLE	PAGE
1	THE WILL OF THE TEACHER GAME ZONK WITH A DIE	71 72
2	FLIP THE CUP	74
3	FOLLOWING DIRECTIONS ZONK WITH A DIE GOSPEL GAMES FOR ANY LESSON: ORDER THE GOSPEL	75 76 76
4	GOSPEL SIX CORNERS GOSPEL DICE TOSS	77 77
5	PING PONG BALLS IN CUPS ROLL THE BALLS	78 78
6	BINGO, BLACK OUT, OR TIC-TAC-TOE COVENANTS UNDER CUPS	79 80
7	MEMORY WITH A TWIST SIMPLIFIED WHEEL OF FORTUNE	82 83
8	AVOID THE CARD FIND THE CARD	84
9	PICTIONARY OPTIONAL: DISPENSATION OF GRACE TRIOS	85 86
10	DISPENSATION OF GRACE TRIOS	86
11	COMPLETE IN CHRIST BINGO AVOID THE CARD	89 89
12	TIME PAST, BUT NOW, AGES TO COME ZONK WITH A DIE	92 93
STUDENT FUNBOOK FOLLOWS		

INTRODUCTION

There are four components to this curriculum:

The Teacher's Manual

The first section of the book provides scripted lessons for the teacher; however, they may be copied for students if you believe they would benefit from having them.

Activities and Games

Each lesson has suggested review activities and games. I strongly encourage teachers to use these as they reinforce the key concepts of the lessons while adding a bit of fun. Students will retain concepts much better if they must put them in use and if they hear them over and over again. The activities and games are designed to help provide this kind of reflection and repetition that is key to learning.

The Student Funbook

Following the teacher pages, you will find a copy of the Student Funbook, which you are free to copy. You may copy pages for one lesson at a time, or you may opt to copy the entire Funbook and hand the books out to each student at the start of the course. I suggest placing them in a ½ inch three-ring binder, so pages may be taken out easily when needed for games and making the timeline chart. (See below.)

The Bible Timeline Charts

Throughout the Teacher Manual and Student Funbook, you will find Bible Timeline charts that provide key concepts with scripture verses to remember about each section of the Bible. These are purposely one-sided so that at the end of the course students may remove them and place them all together to see the flow of Biblical events.

IMPORTANT NOTE:

I suggest you follow the instructions in the Student Funbook for Lesson 12 to make a timeline chart **prior to Lesson 4**, so that you can use it as a visual when teaching Lessons 4-12. In the Teacher section, these are on pages **21, 27, 35, 41, 47, and 61**.

LESSON 1: THE WORD OF GOD



Before Class

- Prepare the games for Lesson 1. See pages p. 71-72.

LESSON



The **Bible**, also called **scripture**, is the **Word of God**.

It is composed of many books. Guess how many. *(Let students guess, and after each guess, tell them if there are more or fewer.)*

There are **66 books!**

Do you know how many different men God used to write his words down? *(Let the students guess as above.)*

God gave his words to **40 different men** to write down over a period of over **1500 years**.
(Write bold words on whiteboard.)

There is no other book like the Bible. What does **2 Timothy 3:16** tell us about scripture?

All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness.

Do you know what *inspiration* means? It should remind you of breathing because when we breath, we inspire and expire. Inspiration is words coming from the mouth of God being written down on paper. Some people like to use the phrase “God-breathed.”

Read **Matthew 4:4**:

But he answered and said, It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God.

Because the words of the Bible are from the mouth of God (inspired), we can trust and believe every one of them. What does **John 17:17** say about God’s word?

Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth. (*Ask, Thy word is WHAT?*)

“Thy word is **truth.**” (*Write **TRUTH** on the whiteboard.*)

What do you think God wrote about in his book? What does he want us to know?

The Bible tells us about God—who he is, what he has done, what he is doing, and even what he *will do*. In fact, one of the reasons we can be sure that the words of scripture are God’s words is because of the many detailed prophecies in the Old Testament about Jesus Christ that were written hundreds of years before he was born and came to pass exactly as prophesied. For example, do you know that the Old Testament prophecies told that Jesus Christ would be born in Bethlehem (Micah 5:2) and be born of a virgin (Isaiah 7:14)? And hundreds of years later, he was. The prophets also told that he would be betrayed by a friend who ate with him (Psalm 41:9) for 30 pieces of silver (Zechariah 11:12). That he would have his hands and feet pierced (Psalm 22:16, which was written before crucifixion was even invented)? And it all happened! There are over 330 detailed prophecies about Jesus Christ written long before he was born that were fulfilled exactly. Only God can know the future like that! We can be sure that the Bible is indeed the word of God.

Stop and complete the wordsearch on pages 5-6 in the Student Funbook.

You can make the wordsearch more fun by making it a race. Pair the children. Which pair can finish first? Or, to be sure they read all the text rather than only the **CAPITALIZED** words, you read the text. Each time you come to a **CAP** word, finish the sentence; then, say “Go.” Who can find that word(s) first?

The word of God reveals the will of God, both for time and eternity. It tells us His plans and purposes in and for His creation, and it instructs us as to how we should live in light of what He is doing. We are going to play a game to help you understand why this is important.

Play “The Will of the Teacher” game, page 71.

Then, play Zonk, pp. 71-72.

LESSON 2: SALVATION



Before Class

You will need for each child:

- Colored pencils, crayons, or markers (gold, black, red, green)
- See page 74 for what you will need for the game (Gospel Flip the Cup)
- A picture 3 x 5 notecard for each student and an envelope with JESUS CHRIST written on it

LESSON

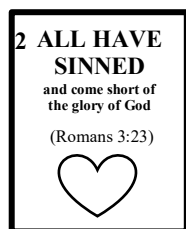
The most important message for us in the Bible is the message of salvation, or how to have eternal life. This is called “the gospel” or God’s good news. To help you remember the important parts of the gospel for today, we are going to use colors. Maybe you have seen the Wordless Book (from Child Evangelism Fellowship). It is a book of colors, each representing one of the key points of God’s good news to us. I have tweaked this concept a little and added symbols to each of the colors to help us even more.

Follow along in your Funbook, page 6.

The first box is outlined in gold. (*Color the heart gold.*) What does gold make you think of?



GOLD makes me think of riches, of purity, and of Heaven. So, the gold card with the gold heart represents God, who is rich in love, who is pure (righteous and holy), and who lives in Heaven. God is perfect. **Psalm 145:17** says, “The Lord is righteous in all his ways, and holy in all his works.”



The next card is **BLACK**. It does not represent God; it represents all of us because we are not perfect. We are not righteous and holy. The Bible tells us that we “all have sinned and come short of the glory of God” (**Romans 3:23**). (*Color the heart black.*)

That is a problem because “the wages [payment/punishment] of sin is death” (**Romans 6:23a**). This death is eternal separation from God. Our sins, if not taken out of the way, separate us from God forever. That is spiritual death, and that is what we must be saved from.

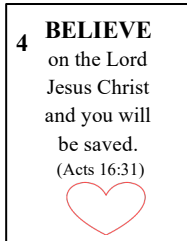
Because God loves us and desires for us to live eternally with him, he provided a solution to this problem, a way to be saved, to have our sins forgiven.



The **RED** card tells us that God the Father sent his Son, Jesus Christ, to be born as a man, to live a perfect life, and then to die as the perfect sacrifice and payment for our sins. His shed blood paid for all sins of all men of all ages.

(Color the cross red, for the blood of Christ.)

The verse on this card is part of **I Corinthians 15:3-4**. Let's sing the words on the card to the tune of *Row, Row, Row Your Boat*. (Note: When you get to the reference, sing it like this: First Corinthians 15 verses three and four.)

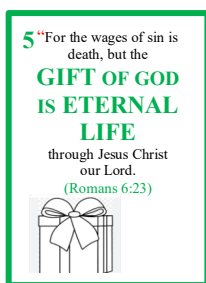


WHITE: However, in order for Christ's shed blood to be applied to us and wash our sins away from God's sight, we must have faith in God's word. To us, God says, *Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved (Acts 16:31)*.

And what must we believe about Jesus Christ?

I Corinthians 15:3-4 . . . Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures; And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures.

(Sing I Corinthians 15:3-4 again.) When we believe this, God washes us white as snow. Leave the heart on this card white, surrounded by the red line that represents the blood of Christ that washed us.



GREEN: The minute we believe this good news, God not only forgives all of our sins, but he also gives us a very special FREE GIFT: eternal life! God says that ". . . the **gift** of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord" (**Romans 6:23**). *(Color the gift gold and green because it is from God, and it is God's life, and it includes a home in heaven with Him.)*

We receive eternal life as a gift. Receiving something as a *gift* is the opposite of receiving it by being good enough or by doing something to earn it. We could never be good enough or do enough to earn eternal life with God.

Look at **Ephesians 2:8-9** in your Bible. How are we saved? (*by grace*)

Do you know what *grace* is? Grace is being given something good that you do not deserve. We do not deserve salvation because we sin, but God gives it to us as a free gift when we believe that Christ died for **our** sins, was buried, and rose again. That is good news! That is called the gospel.

See **Ephesians 2:8-9** again. How are we NOT saved? (*not of ourselves—not by anything we do*)

We all have a choice: We can trust in what we have done, in our works, to save us, OR we can trust in what the Lord Jesus Christ did, in HIS work to save us.

Have you believed God’s good news that Christ died for you, was buried, and rose again? Have you trusted in HIS WORK alone to have your sins forgiven and go to heaven? If you have, you are saved—you have eternal life, which is God’s life. You have become a child of God forever.

6...after that you believed,
ye were
**SEALED WITH
THAT
HOLY SPIRIT
OF PROMISE**
(Ephesians 1:13)



BLUE: The moment you believe the gospel, many things happen to you. One of the most important is that God seals you IN CHRIST with his Holy Spirit as a promise that your eternal life is sure and forever. It can never be taken away. A seal can be two things. It can be like the wax seal a king places on things to let everyone know they belong to him.

We have God’s seal because we belong to him.

A seal can also be like the seal of an envelope that keeps whatever is inside secure. The Holy Spirit keeps us secure in Christ. (*Give each student a notecard. Tell them to draw a picture of themselves on it. If they have believed the gospel, place their card in the envelope you wrote JESUS CHRIST on, and seal it shut.*) Nothing can take you out of Jesus Christ once God places you there, and the Holy Spirit seals you. The seal of the Holy Spirit is called “the earnest of our inheritance” in Ephesians 1:14. An earnest is a promise. The Holy Spirit in us is God’s promise of our future inheritance with him in Heaven. (There is a picture of a dove on your card because a dove is a symbol of the Holy Spirit.)

These six verses are verses that every Christian should memorize. They will help you understand the security of your salvation and how to share the gospel with others.

OBJECT LESSON: THE GIFT

This activity will help students understand what it means to receive something as a gift.

For each child you will need a prize or treat that they would want. Sometimes I use a coin like a 50-cent piece for each child; sometimes I bake cookies. Use whatever you think all they would want.

Stand all of the class against the wall at one end of the room.

You stand at the other, far enough that none could possibly jump to you in one jump.

Hold the prizes/treats, and tell the children, “I made (or own) these _____, and, therefore, I get to decide to whom I will give them. I will give anyone who can stand on one foot and hop all the way to me in one long hop one of them.

Let all try to hop to you. Of course, none will be successful, so now say, “Some of you hopped farther than others, but none of you were able to meet my requirement and reach me in one hop, so no one earned or deserves one of my treats.

BUT, I love each of you, and I want you to have one, so you may come to me and accept one as I offer it to you, unless you would rather keep trying to hop to me to earn one.”

Ask each child which they would rather do. You may be surprised that some may want to keep trying.

Give anyone who comes to you a treat.

Now explain how what just happened is like receiving the gift of eternal life:

God is the one who created life, and He alone can decide to whom He will give it.

He has said that any who are perfectly righteous and holy, as righteous and holy as He is, can earn eternal life.

But, just like no one could hop all the way to me, no one can be perfectly righteous. Some people are better than others, but “all have sinned.”

But God loves us, and offers us eternal life as a gift when we simply recognize that we can’t be good enough and believe His Son paid the full price for it for us and, therefore, accept it as a gift.

If some of you children had chosen to keep trying to hop far enough, do you think you would have ever gotten one of my treats?

That is like some people who insist on continuing to try to be good enough to earn eternal life. They will never be good enough, so they will never receive the gift. It is only those who recognize that they could never be good enough to earn eternal life and come to God through faith in God’s promise through the work of Jesus Christ that receive eternal life.

Have students complete the Funbook pages for Lesson 2, page 6-7.

Here is a copy of the verse cards they will work with, with the colors filled in.

*Then, play **Gospel Flip the Cup**, p. 74.*

1

The **LORD**
is **RIGHTEOUS**

(Psalm 145:17)

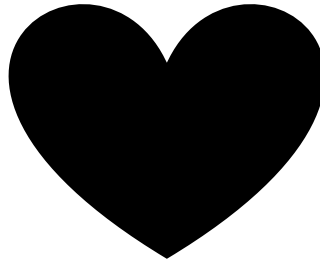


2

**ALL HAVE
SINNED**

and come short of
the glory of God

(Romans 3:23)



**Christ DIED FOR
OUR SINS**

... was buried ...
and rose again ...

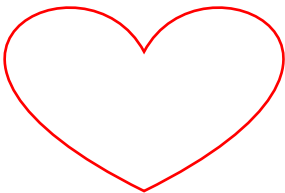
(1 Corinthians 15:3-4)



4

BELIEVE
on the Lord
Jesus Christ
and you will
be saved.

(Acts 16:31)



5

For the wages of sin is
death, but the

**GIFT OF GOD
IS ETERNAL
LIFE**

through Jesus Christ
our Lord.

(Romans 6:23)



6

... after that you believed,
ye were

**SEALED WITH
THAT
HOLY SPIRIT
OF PROMISE**



OVERVIEW

LESSON 3: RIGHTLY DIVIDING THE WORD



Before Class

See page 19 to prepare the two “RIGHT DIVISION” chart visuals

Have a pencil and paper for each child and a die for the Zonk game (p. 76.)

LESSON

The Bible reveals what God has done, what he is doing, and what he will do. It gives instructions for how to be saved and how to live to please him. All the Bible is for us to learn from, but did you know that ***not all of the Bible is directly TO us to obey today, nor is it all ABOUT us?***

While God never changes, and we can see his holy, righteous, loving character throughout all of scripture, God’s instructions and messages have not always been the same to everyone throughout history. For example, there are many instructions for how and when to offer animal sacrifices. (Read **Leviticus 9:2-4.**) Should we obey those verses? No, of course not. Why not? Because God has revealed something different to us. He has told us that we are not under the law (**Romans 6:14**) and that we have forgiveness through faith in the blood of Christ, not the blood of animals. (See **Romans 3:25** and **Ephesians 1:7.**)

When reading and studying the Bible, it is very important to obey **2 Timothy 2:15**:

Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, ***rightly dividing the word of truth.***

We “rightly divide” God’s word by recognizing ***WHEN*** a passage applies. The Bible tells us about three divisions of time:

- Some parts of the Bible deal with what God was doing in the **past** (**Ephesians 2:11**)
- Other parts tell about what God is doing in the **present**. (**Ephesians 2:19**)
- Still other parts tell about what he will do in the **future**. (**Ephesians 1:10**)

In addition, we must recognize ***TO WHOM*** God is speaking:

- Sometimes he talking specifically to one person (as instructing Noah to build an ark).
- Sometimes he is talking to and about **Israel** as his chosen nation.
- Sometimes he is talking to and about the church of today, the **body of Christ**.

In other words, when we read a passage in the Bible, we must understand **who** it is written to, **to whom** it applies, **when** it applies, and **what** it is about. I am going to tell you a little story to help you see the importance of this.

The Sports Scout and His Son

A sports scout advertised that his men would teach and train children who were part of California's Little League Association to have the chance to be part of a new kids All-American team. Training would be at a camp at his field in Sacramento and last for a total of 70 weeks. On the 69th week, the scout's son would come to give more instructions on how to be part of the team; then, during the 70th week the players would be tested to see who would make the team. The scout's son would then take the team to the grand tournament.

Dozens of kids came to the camp. First, they were given a handbook of game rules, most of which they probably already knew. For example, they learned that after they hit a ball, they had to run to first base. They learned that batters would get out if they swung at and missed the ball three times, if the ball beat them to first base, or if a fielder caught their hit ball before it landed on the ground. After a team got three outs, it was the other team's turn to bat. *What other baseball rules do you know?*

After learning all of the rules, the players practiced and practiced. They were eager to make the team. On the 69th week, the scout's son came just as promised. Many of the kids did not like the scout's son and his instructions. They became angry at him, and there was a rebellion in the camp, so he left. The scout then postponed the final week, the testing week, to allow them to cool down, but told them he would return later to test the players and form the team.

While the baseball players were on break, the scout surprised the world and had one of his men start a different camp—a camp he had never told anyone about—a golf camp. It would turn out a World-Class Golf team. He allowed kids from all over the world to participate. He did not give a time-frame for training, but when there were enough kids ready, he would take them to Europe to play.

Like the baseball players, the golfers were also given a handbook of game rules. However, some of the kids picked up the baseball handbook by mistake. On the first day of play, those kids

thought they got three swings to try to hit the ball. Some of them went out onto the course to try to catch balls that were hit! Others wanted to know where the bases were. They were so confused. Why? *Because baseball rules do not work for golf!*

Finally, all the kids were given the correct manual. After many weeks of training, the scout's son came and took them to Europe as promised.

After this, the scout reopened the baseball camp. His men put the players through rigorous tests in order to weed out any remaining rebels and send them home. Those who passed stayed in Sacramento, and the scout's son returned to take them to the grand tournament. The scout and his son became world famous and were praised in both America and Europe.



Now, let's look at this chart of what happened at the sports camps. (*Show Sports Scout chart from page 19, folded as directed.*)

Notice:

- (*Show chart with GOLF hidden*) The baseball training was to last 70 weeks. It began, but after 69 weeks, it was interrupted because of a rebellion.
- During the “break” from baseball, a new training took place that no one had known about, a secret plan, a Golf Camp. (*Open the chart to show GOLF.*) It was started and completed with the team taken to Europe.
- After the golf team was done, baseball camp resumed for the final week, the rebels were sent home, and the scout's son returned for the tournament.

Why did I tell you this story?

GOD'S TWO-FOLD PLAN (*Show the Rightly Dividing the Bible chart, p. 19, folded.*)

Just like the Scout in the story had two plans to bring himself glory, one with baseball players in California and another with golfers in Europe, **God has two plans to bring himself glory, one on Earth with one group of people (Israel) and the other for the heavenly places with a different group (the body of Christ).**

GOD'S PLAN FOR THE EARTH THROUGH ISRAEL

In the Old Testament, God chose to work in and through the people of the nation of Israel in order to one day bring the whole earth under the rule of his Son Jesus Christ in a magnificent kingdom. Israel was given a kind of rule book—the law—to obey. From Genesis through the middle of the book of Acts, this is the plan that God is working on.

But Israel rebelled and rejected Jesus Christ as their king time and time again, so God interrupted this plan and began working on a new plan with new people (just like the scout interrupted his baseball plan for kids in California and began a new plan with kids from all over the world).

GOD'S PLAN FOR HEAVEN THROUGH THE BODY OF CHRIST

Today God is working through the body of Christ. The body of Christ is not under the law, but under grace. God plans to use the body of Christ to bring the rule of the *heavenly* places to Jesus Christ. This plan is called “the mystery” because God did not tell anyone about it until after Israel’s final rejection of Christ (just as the scout did not tell anyone about his golf plans in Europe until after the baseball players in California rebelled).

God’s plan and instructions for the body of Christ are not in the Old Testament or even in the four gospels. The body of Christ cannot use Israel’s “rule book.” We find out about what God is doing with and through the body of Christ in the books written by the Apostle Paul, “the apostle of the Gentiles” (**Romans 11:13**). Do you know which books these are? (*Romans – Philemon*)

In our story, what happened to the golfers who tried to follow the baseball rule book?

(They were confused and could not golf correctly.)

Likewise, when believers today (who are part of the body of Christ) try to live under the instructions God gave to Israel, such as the law, confusion results, and they cannot walk in the will of God for the body of Christ. It is important to “rightly divide the word of truth.”

After God takes the body of Christ home to heaven, God will return to dealing with Israel, just like the scout returned to working with the baseball players after the golf team was taken to Europe. God will purge out the rebels, and his Son will return to establish his kingdom on Earth because God is true to his promises. Hebrews through Revelation tell us about this.

When both plans are complete, all heaven and earth will be under the headship of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Ephesians 1:10: That in the dispensation of the fulness of times he might gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are **in heaven**, and which are **on earth**; *even* in him

These are the plans we will study in much more detail in the remainder of our lessons.




Complete the worksheet pages for Lesson 3 (in the student Funbook, pages 8-9)

Then do the drawing activity described on page 75 of this book. For this, students will use their Funbook, pages 10-11.

Finally, if you have time for a game, play ZONK WITH A DIE (page 7), using questions from Lessons 1-3 of your choosing. Page 76 gives some suggestions.




You can also play any of the gospel games on pages 76-77.

“RIGHT DIVISION” CHARTS

<p>BASEBALL PROGRAM FOR CA PLAYERS</p> <p>REVEALED AND BEGAN BUT INTERRUPTED</p> 	<p>GOLF PROGRAM A SECRET PROGRAM FOR THE WORLD</p> <p>STARTED AND COMPLETED</p> 	<p>BASEBALL PROGRAM FOR CA PLAYERS</p> <p>COMPLETED</p> 
---	--	--

Copy and cut out each chart.

Valley fold on each dotted line; mountain fold on each solid bold line to hide the center panel.

 <p>ISRAEL'S PROPHECY PROGRAM</p> <p>REVEALED AND BEGAN BUT INTERRUPTED</p> <p>UNDER THE LAW</p> <p>Genesis → Acts 8</p> <p>PAST</p>	 <p>BODY OF CHRIST “THE MYSTERY” PROGRAM</p> <p>NOW IN PROGRESS</p> <p>NOT UNDER LAW UNDER GRACE</p> <p>Romans – Philemon</p> <p>PRESENT</p>	 <p>ISRAEL'S PROPHECY PROGRAM</p> <p>WILL BE COMPLETED IN THE FUTURE</p> <p>LAW IN THEIR HEARTS</p> <p>Hebrews → Revelation</p> <p>FUTURE</p>
--	---	---

ALL THINGS IN HEAVEN AND ON EARTH CREATED BY AND FOR CHRIST



“... that *in all things*
HE might have the preeminence”

Colossians 1:16-18

REBELLION IN HEAVEN

Lucifer



SATAN

“I will ascend above the
heights of the clouds;
I WILL BE LIKE THE
MOST HIGH”
Isaiah 14:14

“... the heavens are
not clean in his
sight.”

Job 15:15

REBELLION ON EARTH



ADAM SINS



Genesis 3

Yea, hath
God said?

DEATH
ENTERS THE
WORLD

Satan is called “the
God of this world”

2 Corinthians 4:4

Because of the rebellion
on Earth, God placed a
curse on it.

Genesis 3:17



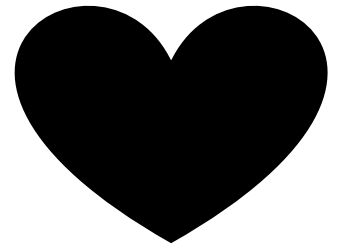
GOD’S FIRST PROMISE OF A SAVIOUR

The “seed of the
woman” shall crush
Satan.

Genesis 3:15

LESSON 4: CREATION BY AND FOR CHRIST

LUCIFER'S REBELLION



Before Class

You will need:

- Gospel cards copied cut out from page 13.
- A large die (color each number/side to match the gospel verse colors)

***Optional:** Follow the instructions in the children's Funbook for **Lesson 12** to make a timeline chart, so that you can use it as a visual when teaching Lessons 4-12.*

LESSON

Have students turn to page 13 in their Funbooks as you show the first timeline page (p. 21)

While the most important message for us to understand in the Bible is how to have eternal life, the Bible reveals much more than this. Have you ever wondered why God desires to save us? Have you ever wondered why God created us in the first place?

The Bible answers these questions because it reveals God's plans and purpose for his creation, including Heaven and Earth. Here are some verses that give us clues as to what God's purpose in his creation is:

Colossians 1:16 and 18

For by him [Jesus Christ] were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether *they be* thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: **all things were created by him, and for him [Jesus Christ]: . . .**

And he is the head of the body, the church: . . . that **in all *things* he might have the preeminence.**

1 Timothy 6:15

Which in his times he shall shew, *who is* the blessed and only Potentate, the King of kings, and Lord of lords.

Philippians 2:10

That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of *things* in heaven, and *things* in earth, and *things* under the earth.

God's purpose in creating Heaven and Earth is to bring glory to his Son, the Lord Jesus Christ, whom he will set over both realms as King of kings and Lord of lords. As **Colossians 1:18** says, it is that "in all things HE might have the preeminence."

However, Jesus Christ is not yet ruling as such. That's because soon after the creation, there was a rebellion that began in Heaven and then came to Earth. The rebellion was led by one of God's most beautiful creatures, Lucifer. He was a cherub that God had placed over his throne to reflect God's glory and to lead all creation in songs of praise to God. However, Lucifer became prideful and wanted the glory for himself. This is what he said in his heart:

. . . I will exalt my throne above the stars of God: . . . I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will be like the most High (**Isaiah 14:12-14**)

*(Note: The expression "the most High" is a reference to the possessor of Heaven and Earth. See **Genesis 14: 19 and 22**).*

Lucifer became Satan, God's enemy, and ever since his fall, he has been working to try to possess and control both Heaven and Earth. And God has allowed him to succeed to some degree in both realms.

Job 15:15 tells us that the heavens are not clean in his sight.

2 Corinthians 4:4 calls Satan "the god of this world."

Let's see what happened on Earth.

THE FALL OF MAN ON THE EARTH

In **Genesis 1:28**, God created man to "have dominion" over his earth. What do you think that means?

Man was to rule Earth for and with the Godhead. Later we learn that the first man God created was who? (*Adam*) And the first woman was who? (*Eve*) God placed them in a beautiful garden filled with everything they needed to be happy, including all sorts of trees filled with delicious fruits. He wanted them to enjoy and rest in his completed work. But he had given Adam one rule. Do you know what that was?

Turn to **Genesis 2:16-15:**

And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat: But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die.

That seems like a pretty easy rule to follow, but Satan came into the garden as a serpent and tricked them into disobeying God. Do you know how he was able to do that?

He began by getting them to question the word of God. The first thing he said to Eve was,

“YEA HATH GOD SAID . . .?” (**Genesis 3:1**).

Then he told Eve a lie:

For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil (**Genesis 3:5**)

Eve took her focus off all the wonderful blessings God had given her and looked at the one thing she could not have. Not being thankful for what God has given us often leads to bad things, and in this case, it led to Eve disobeying God. She ate the fruit. And Adam was standing there with her. What should he have done?

But do you know what he did? He ate, too. Adam and Eve brought sin into the world, and Satan took control. **2 Corinthians 4:4** calls Satan “the god of this world.” And after Adam sinned, God cursed the land, and Adam and Eve had to leave the garden. Earth was no longer perfect.

But that is not the end of the story! God has a plan to reclaim Earth and set his Son over it as King of kings. The Old Testament will tell us this plan, and the first thing it tells us about it is in **Genesis 3:15**. This is God’s promise that a “seed of the woman” (in other words, a man), will come one day to crush Satan. Who do you think that man was? (*His Son, Jesus Christ*)

In the next lesson, we will learn more details about God’s plan for Earth.

(Note: He has a plan to reclaim the heavenly places, too, but he will keep that plan secret.)

Have students do the Lesson 4 worksheets in their Student Funbook (pp. 15-17). They should use the chart, page 13 in their book for help.

End with Gospel Six Corners, page 77 and/or other Gospel Games, pp. 76-78.








GOD'S PLAN FOR EARTH



OLD TESTAMENT

AN ETERNAL KING & KINGDOM IS PROMISED TO ISREAL

<p>ABRAHAMIC COVENANT</p> <p>From Abraham God will make a special nation (Israel) that he will use to bring blessing to the entire world</p> 	<p>MOSAIC COVENANT</p> <p>The LAW</p> <p>Israel is to be God's kingdom of priests (Exodus 19:5-6)</p> 	<p>DAVIDIC COVENANT</p> <p>Israel's King will be the son of David and the Son of God and rule for ever (2 Samuel 7:14)</p> 
<p>THE TIME LINE</p> <p>Christ will come 483 years after the commandment to rebuild Jerusalem (Daniel 9:24-25)</p> <p>483</p>	<p>Before he is King, Christ must die for the sins of his people (Isaiah 53:8-10)</p> 	<p>THE GREAT TRIBUALTION</p> <p>Before the kingdom is established, Israel must be purged in "the time of Jacob's trouble" Jeremiah 30:7; Ezekiel 20:38</p> 
<p>Israel will be regathered into her land, which will be like the Garden of Eden (Ezekiel 36:35)</p> 	<p>NEW COVENANT</p> <p>God will give Israel a new heart and a new spirit to cause them to do his will (Ezekiel 36:26-28)</p> 	<p>The curse will be lifted, and the lame shall leap, the deaf shall hear, the blind shall see (Isaiah 35:5-7)</p> 



PROPHECY

LESSON 5

GOD'S PLAN FOR EARTH: A KING & A KINGDOM IS COMING TO ISRAEL



Before Class

You will need the game supplies. See page **78**.

LESSON

In the previous lesson we learned that God's purpose in creation is to bring glory to whom? (*His Son, the Lord Jesus Christ*) God's desire is that all creation, both in Heaven and on Earth, glorify his Son, and it is God's intention to make his Son the ruler of all. However, we saw in the last lesson that there has been a rebellion in both realms, led by Satan.

In the Old Testament God reveals his plan for saving Earth from the control of Satan by establishing a kingdom that will be ruled by his Son. But God does not reveal the entire plan all at once. He reveals a little at a time.

In Genesis, God tells Abraham that from him and his descendants, he will make a special nation through which his blessings to the world will flow. Read what God says in **Genesis 12: 2-3**:

And I will make of thee a great nation, and I will bless thee, and make thy name great; and thou shalt be a blessing: And I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee: and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed.

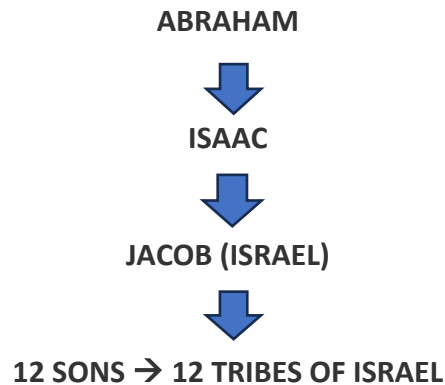
This is the Abrahamic Covenant because it is a promise to Abraham. (A covenant is a promise.) He also tells Abraham that he and his descendants will be in number as the stars in the sky and live in a special land forever. God even tells him the borders of this land in **Genesis 15:18**. Can you find these rivers on a map in the back of your Bible? This is a large territory.

In the same day the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying, Unto thy seed have I given this land, from the river of Egypt unto the great river, the river Euphrates.

(Write ABRAHAM on a whiteboard.)

Those promises are passed to Abraham's son Isaac, then to his son Jacob (renamed Israel by God), and then to Jacob's (Israel's) 12 sons. The twelve sons of Jacob (Israel) become the 12 tribes of God's nation, Israel.

Add to the whiteboard:

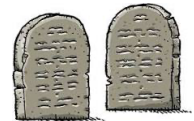


In Exodus, do you know what God gives to Israel through Moses? (*the law*)

You have probably heard of the 10 Commandments in Exodus 20, but the law given to Israel includes much more than 10 Commandments. The Lord gave them more than 600 laws to govern every aspect of their lives because they were his special people, and they were supposed to be a witness to all other nations of the greatness of God, to bring them to God. He was going to use his nation in a special way. This is what God tells Moses to tell them in **Exodus 19:5-6**:

... if ye will obey my voice indeed, and keep my covenant, ...
ye shall be unto me a kingdom of priests, and an holy nation.

Add to the white board:



A priest is a mediator between God and men. God will use the nation of Israel as his priests to reach the nations in a kingdom that will last forever.

Add to the white board:
God → priests → man
God ← priests ← man

In later books, God reveals that his Son will be the King of that nation. In **2 Samuel**, David is the king of Israel. He was one of Israel's greatest kings, and God makes this promise to him in

2 Samuel 7:12-14:

Add to the white board



I will set up thy seed after thee, ... and I will establish his kingdom. ... I will stablish the throne of his kingdom for ever. ... I will be his father, and he shall be my son.

This promise is known as the Davidic Covenant. It promises that one of **David's descendants** will sit on **David's throne** (in Jerusalem) forever, and he will also be **God's Son**.

In **Psalms** we find many descriptions of God's great kingdom on earth, ruled by the Son of God, called the Messiah. These are prophecies of the future kingdom on Earth. The hope of people saved in the Old Testament was to be resurrected into this kingdom.

Psalm 2:6-8

I set my king upon my holy hill of Zion . . . Thou *art* my Son . . . I shall give *thee* the heathen *for* thine inheritance, and the uttermost parts of the earth *for* thy possession.

Psalm 47:2-3

For the LORD most high . . . *is* a great King over all the earth. He shall subdue the people under us [Israel], and the nations under our feet . . . God sitteth upon the throne of his holiness . . .

The **prophets** also wrote about this great kingdom that is to come in which God's Son will rule Earth from David's throne over his people, Israel, who will rule over the Gentile nations and be the Lord's priests to them:

Isaiah 61:6

But ye [Israel] shall be named the Priests of the LORD: *men* shall call you the Ministers of our God: ye shall eat the riches of the Gentiles, and in their glory shall ye boast yourselves.

Jeremiah 23:5

Behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that I will raise unto David a righteous Branch, and a King shall reign and prosper, and shall execute judgment and justice in the earth. In his days Judah shall be saved, and Israel shall dwell safely: and this *is* his name whereby he shall be called, THE LORD OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS.

Daniel 2:44

And in the days of these kings shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom, which shall never be destroyed: and the kingdom shall not be left to other people, *but* it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand for ever.

Zechariah 8:23

Thus saith the LORD of hosts; In those days it shall come to pass, that ten men shall take hold out of all languages of the nations, even shall take hold of the skirt of him that is a Jew, saying, We will go with you: for we have heard that God is with you.

Zechariah 14:9

And the LORD shall be king over all the earth: in that day shall there be one LORD, and his name one . . . And it shall be, *that* whoso will not come up of *all* the families of the earth unto Jerusalem to worship the King, the LORD of hosts, even upon them shall be no rain.

The prophet Daniel even told his people when Messiah (Christ) would come, so they would know when to look for him. This is what he says in **Daniel 9:25:**

Know therefore and understand, *that* from the going forth of the commandment to restore and to build Jerusalem unto the Messiah the Prince *shall be* seven weeks, and threescore and two weeks.

Seven + threescore (60) + two = 69 weeks of years (483 years) after the commandment to restore Jerusalem, which was given by King Cyrus in the book of Nehemiah, Messiah would come.

*(Write **483 years** on whiteboard.)*

There are many, many more prophetic scriptures about the wonderful kingdom God will establish on this earth through his special nation, Israel, with his Son as their King.

Have the children do the worksheet for Lesson 5 in their Funbook, p. 18.

Then play Ping Pong Balls in Cups, both versions, page 78.

LESSON 6

GOD'S PLAN FOR EARTH: THE NEW COVENANT



Before Class

See pages 79-80, to prepare for the activities.

LESSON

In Lesson 4 we learned that God plans to reclaim Earth for his Son through a kingdom given to the nation of Israel. God's Son, who will be a son of David, will be their king and rule the entire world from David's throne in Jerusalem. *(On whiteboard, draw Earth with a crown over Jerusalem.)* Israel will be gathered into their land and will serve as the priests of the Lord to bring God's salvation to the Gentile nations. *(On whiteboard, draw arrows from the crown to all parts of Earth.)* With the reign of God's Son, the curse will be lifted from Earth and righteousness will reign forever. The earth will glorify the Son of God as God intended when he created it. *(On whiteboard, draw lines radiating out from Earth.)* In the Old Testament those who were saved had the hope of being resurrected into this kingdom and living on a perfect Earth forever.

However, in Old Testament times the people of Israel continually rebelled against God. They were not the light to the nations that God intended for them to be. They did not keep his laws. So, God punished them by taking them out of their land. But he made another promise to them, a promise called **the New Covenant**. *(Write on white board.)* The covenant of the law given to Moses had said that God would make them a kingdom of priests IF THEY OBEYED HIM. But they did not. So, in the New Covenant God promised that he will still fulfill his purpose in Israel by giving them a new heart and a new spirit to cause them to do his will and walk in his laws. God would be able to do this because he would send his Son to die as a sacrifice for their sins. Here are some of the prophecies that speak of the sacrifice of God's Son and Israel's future.

Isaiah 53: 8-10

... for the transgression of my people [Israel] ... thou [God] shalt make his soul an offering for sin ... *(On whiteboard, draw a cross.)*

Jeremiah 31:31

Behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel, and with the house of Judah*: . . . this *shall be* the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel . . . I will put my law in their inward parts, and write it in their hearts; and will be their God, and they shall be my people.

*(*Judah is the southern two tribes of Israel that split from the northern ten tribes temporarily.)*



Ezekiel 36:24-36

For I [God] will take you [Israel] from among the heathen, and gather you out of all countries, and will bring you into your own land . . . And I will put my spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes . . . And ye shall dwell in the land that I gave to your fathers; and ye shall be my people, and I will be your God . . .

But before God will do this, Israel will have to go through a time called the great tribulation, or “the time of Jacob’s trouble.” Through this difficult time, God will destroy the rebels out of the nation to purify it, like silver and gold are purified by fire. *(On whiteboard, draw fire.)*



Jeremiah 30:7

Alas! for that day *is* great, so that none *is* like it: it *is* even the time of Jacob's trouble

Malachi 3:3

And he shall sit *as* a refiner and purifier of silver: and he shall purify the sons of Levi, and purge them as gold and silver, that they may offer unto the LORD an offering in righteousness.

Zechariah 13:8-9

I . . . will refine them as silver is refined, and will try them as gold is tried: they shall call on my name, and I will hear them: I will say, It is my people: and they shall say, The LORD is my God.

Ezekiel 20:38

And I will purge out from among you the rebels, and them that transgress against me

Have students do the worksheet for Lesson 6, page 21. They may use the Old Testament Timeline chart in their books, page 19, for help.

Then, play Old Testament Bingo, Blackout, or Tic-Tac-Toe, page 79 and Covenants in a Cup page 80.



GOD'S PLAN FOR EARTH THE GOSPELS

THE KING IS BORN

ISRAEL'S KINGDOM IS AT "HAND"

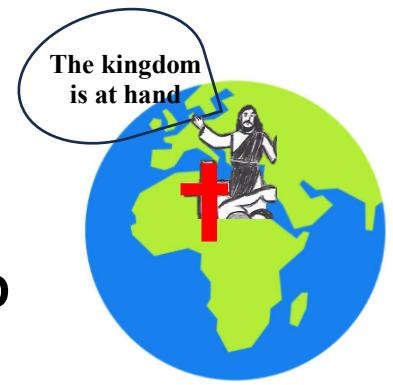


<p>The angel Gabriel tells Mary that her son will be God's Son, who will sit on David's throne (Luke 1:31-33)</p> 	<p>Israel's king is born, the son of Abraham and the son of David (Matthew 1:1)</p> 	<p>John prepares Israel to be a kingdom of priests by cleansing them with water baptism (John 1:31)</p> 
<p>Christ preaches to Israel "The time is fulfilled, and THE KINGDOM OF GOD IS AT HAND." (Mark 1:14; Matthew 15:24)</p> 	<p>Jesus Christ sends the 12 apostles to preach TO ISRAEL ONLY (Matthew 10:5-10)</p> 	<p>Jesus promises that in the kingdom, the 12 apostles will sit on 12 THRONES judging the 12 tribes of Israel</p> <p>12</p> 
<p>Jesus Christ works MIRACLES, which are signs of the kingdom; He magnifies THE LAW (Luke 7:22; Matthew 5:17+)</p> 	<p>Israel rejects Jesus Christ and demands for him to be crucified</p> 	<p>On the cross, Jesus prays Father, forgive them . . . He dies as a sacrifice for sin, and resurrects after three days</p> 



LESSON 7

GOD'S PLAN FOR EARTH: THE KINGDOM OF GOD IS AT HAND



Before Class

Prepare the games from pages 82 and 83.

LESSON

Have students turn to page 23 in their Funbooks to follow along as you teach.

In the Old Testament God promised his special nation Israel a king and a kingdom. He did so not because he does not love the other nations, but because he does love them and wants to use Israel as a “kingdom of priests” to bring them to him.

The first book of what is called the New Testament begins by telling us that Jesus Christ is the son of Abraham and the son of David. Do these names sound familiar to you? The New Testament begins this way because it is telling us that Jesus Christ is the One who will fulfill the promises made to Abraham and to David. Do you remember the promises God made to them?

God promised Abraham that the nation that came from him (Israel) would be used by God to bless the world and would dwell in the land God gave them. God promised David that Israel would have a king who would be David’s son as well as God’s son and rule Israel and the world from David’s throne forever.

Jesus Christ was born to be that king and bring the fulfillment of Old Testament promises and prophecies to Israel. Jesus Christ is “the son of David” and the Son of God, born right at the time Israel should have been expecting the Christ, according to the prophecy in Daniel 9. Before he was born, this is what the angel Gabriel told Mary, his mother:

Luke 1:32-33

And, behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shalt call his name JESUS. He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest: and the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David: And he shall reign over the house of Jacob for ever; and of his kingdom there shall be no end.

Zacharias, the father of John the Baptist, who prepared Israel for Christ, prophesied this:

Luke 1:68-70

Blessed be the Lord God of Israel; for he hath visited and redeemed his people, And hath raised up an horn of salvation for us in the house of his servant David; As he spake by the mouth of his holy prophets, which have been since the world began: . . . to remember his holy covenant; The oath which he sware to our father Abraham . . .

John did indeed prepare Israel for the coming of their Christ and their kingdom by baptizing them. Remember, God was going to make Israel and kingdom of priests, and priests had to be cleansed with water before serving (**Exodus 29:1-4**). This is what John said:

Matthew 3: 2

Repent ye: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.

John 1:31

. . . that he should be made manifest to Israel, therefore am I come baptizing with water.

And when Jesus Christ began preaching, he also preached to Israel that their kingdom was “at hand,” meaning ready to be established soon.

Mark 1:14-15

. . . Jesus came into Galilee, preaching the gospel of the kingdom of God, And saying, The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand . . .

Matthew 15:24

“ . . . I am not sent but unto the lost sheep of the house of Israel.”

Please note that the “gospel of the kingdom” was the good news that the kingdom promised to Israel in the Old Testament was “at hand,” and Jesus Christ was their promised king. To believe in Jesus at this time was to believe this message, as Nathaniel said to Jesus:

Rabbi, thou art the Son of God; thou art the King of Israel.

Jesus Christ chose 12 apostles who will rule with him over the twelve tribes of Israel.

Matthew 19:28

And Jesus said unto them, . . . when the Son of man shall sit in the throne of his glory, ye also shall sit upon twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel.

He sent the 12 apostles **to Israel only** with the message that the kingdom was at hand:

Matthew 10:5-7

These twelve Jesus sent forth, and commanded them, saying, Go not into the way of the Gentiles, . . . : But go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. And as ye go, preach, saying, The kingdom of heaven* is at hand.

**Note: It is called “the kingdom of heaven” because it will be set up by “the God of heaven” (Daniel 2:44).*

Israel was to be the channel of blessing to the Gentiles. Gentiles who wanted to be saved and have the kingdom blessings had to come through Israel. Note what the Gentile woman said in

Matthew 15:27:

. . . the dogs eat of the crumbs which fall from their masters' table.

Note that the “gospel of the kingdom” that Christ’s apostles preached did not include the fact that Christ died for our sins, was buried, and rose again, even though his death is what would pay for their sins. First of all, Christ had not yet died. And second, the apostles did not understand that he would die. Late in the gospels, long after the apostles had been preaching “the gospel of the kingdom,” Jesus begins to tell them that he will be put to death. They do not understand, and they do not view it as good news. Here is their response:

Matthew 16: 21-22

From that time forth began Jesus to shew unto his disciples, how that he must go unto Jerusalem, and suffer many things of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and be raised again the third day. Then Peter took him, and began to rebuke him, saying, ***Be it far from thee, Lord: this shall not be unto thee.***

Luke 18:33-34

And they shall scourge him, and put him to death: and the third day he shall rise again.
*And **they [the apostles] understood none of these things: and this saying was hid from them, neither knew they the things which were spoken.***

Jesus Christ worked miracles to prove that he was sent by God to fulfill the prophecies and to show the people what the kingdom would be like. When John's disciples asked him if he was the Christ, this is how he answered:

Luke 7:22

. . . the blind see, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, . . .

In **Matthew 12:28**, he said,

But if I cast out devils by the Spirit of God, then the kingdom of God is come unto you.

God was truly ready to cleanse Israel and establish his kingdom on Earth through his Son, the Lord Jesus Christ. That is the gospel preached in Mathew, Mark, Luke, and John. That is what people then had to believe in order to be saved. But was Israel ready to believe and accept Jesus Christ as their King and Savior?

In the next lesson, we will see how Israel responded.

Have children complete the wordsearch for Lesson 7, pages 25 & 27 in their Funbooks.

You can make it more fun by making it a race. Pair the children. Which pair can finish first, including the secret message?

Or, to be sure they read all the text rather than only the **CAPITALIZED** words, you read the text. Each time you come to a **CAP** word, finish the sentence; then, say "Go." Who can find that word or words first? When all words have been found, who can get the secret message first?

Play Memory with a Twist on page 82 and/or Simplified Wheel of Fortune on page 83.









LESSON 8



GOD’S PLAN FOR THE EARTH INTERRUPTED

THE BOOK OF ACTS

ISRAEL’S FINAL REJECTION → FALL OF ISRAEL

<p>The apostles are filled with the Holy Ghost and empowered to speak <i>his</i> words to Israel (Acts 1:5; Luke 12:12)</p> 	<p>The Holy Ghost in the apostles gives Israel one last chance to repent of killing their Christ and receive him (Acts 3:19-20)</p> 	<p>The leaders of Israel blaspheme the Holy Ghost by rejecting and killing the apostles (Acts 7:54-59)</p> 
<p>God interrupts the fulfillment of prophecy and temporarily casts off Israel (Romans 11:15 & 25)</p> 	<p>God saves the leader of the rebellion against Christ, Saul of Tarsus (Acts 9:1-6)</p> 	<p>Saul becomes the Apostle Paul, “the apostle of the Gentiles” who wrote 13 books (Romans 11:13)</p> 



LESSON 8

GOD'S PLAN FOR EARTH INTERRUPTED: THE FALL OF ISRAEL

Before Class

See page 84 to prepare the Avoid the Card and Find the Card games.

LESSON

In Lesson 7 we learned that Jesus Christ came to Israel to fulfil the promises and prophecies made to the fathers of Israel in the Old Testament. **Romans 15: 8** says this:

Now I say that Jesus Christ was a minister of the circumcision [Israel] for the truth of God, to confirm the promises *made* unto the fathers.

God was ready to establish his kingdom on Earth with His Son Jesus Christ as King ruling from David's throne and Israel serving as his priests to bring his salvation to the Gentiles. But the kingdom never came. Why?

Well, first the leaders of Israel rejected Jesus Christ as their king and had him crucified. However, Jesus Christ died willingly as a sacrifice for their sins and for the sins of the world. From the cross, Jesus prayed, "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do" (**Luke 23:34**). Then he suffered the wrath of God against sin and cried, "My God my God, Why has thou forsaken me?" (**Matthew 27:46**). Sin was paid for and he said, "It is finished." He gave up the ghost (he died), but after three days, Jesus rose from the dead! He had conquered death.

After his resurrection, Jesus appeared to over 500 people, but he spent most of his time for the next 40 days with the 12 apostles. Why? What was he doing with them?

Acts 1:3 tells us that he was teaching them more about the kingdom of God. He was preparing to send the apostles back to the men of Israel to give them one more chance to receive Jesus Christ as their Lord, Christ, and King. He told the apostles that they would soon be filled with the Holy

Ghost, who would give them the words to say (See **Acts 1:5** and **Luke 12:12**). And in Acts 2, that is exactly what happened (**Acts 2:4**).

Peter and others were empowered to preach to the men and leaders of Israel. What did they tell them? They told them that they, by wicked hands, had killed their Lord and Christ (**Acts 2:22-36**). They told them:

Acts 2:38

Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins . . .

Acts 3:19-25

Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, . . . And he shall send Jesus Christ, which before was preached unto you . . . Yea, and all the prophets from Samuel and those that follow after, as many as have spoken, have likewise foretold of these days. Ye are the children of the prophets, and of the covenant which God made with our fathers, saying unto Abraham, And in thy seed shall all the kindreds of the earth be blessed.

In other words, if Israel would listen to the Holy Spirit speaking through the apostles and repent of crucifying their Christ and King, and would be baptized for the remission of sins, God would send Jesus Christ to fulfill the promises of the prophets in the Old Testament.

It is important to notice here that Peter and the apostles are not preaching the cross as good news yet. They are still preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and they are condemning Israel for crucifying their King and Christ by “wicked hands.” They preached that Christ was “raised to sit on David’s throne” (**Acts 2:22-36**). The leaders of Israel are being called on to repent of their wicked act and be baptized in order to receive remission of sins. But did they?

No! In **Acts 3-7**, they persecuted, jailed, and stoned the apostles who were filled with the Holy Ghost. Their ultimate act of rebellion, the stoning of Stephen, is in Acts 7. Read **Acts 7: 51-60**. This was the blaspheming of the Holy Ghost that Jesus Christ had said would not be forgiven (**Matthew 12:31**). Now Israel had rejected all three members of the Godhead. They had rebelled against God the Father by rejecting John the Baptist, “a man sent from God” (John 1:6); they had rejected God the Son by calling for his crucifixion; and they had rejected God the Holy Ghost by

persecuting and killing the apostles who were filled with and speaking by the Holy Ghost in early Acts. That was the unpardonable sin, and STRIKE THREE for Israel.

But none of this took God by surprise. Israel's rejection of Christ was prophesied, and Peter says about the giving of the Holy Ghost and the signs occurring,

But this is that which was spoken by the prophet Joel . . . And it shall come to pass in the last days, saith God, I will pour out of my Spirit upon all flesh: and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy . . . I will pour out in those days of my Spirit; and they shall prophesy . . . The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before that great and notable day of the Lord come (**Acts 2:16-20**).

The next event in prophecy was “that great and notable day of the Lord”—the great tribulation, the time in which God will pour out his wrath on the rebellious nation in order to purify it.

But that is not what God did next! Instead of pouring out his wrath, God did something that was **nowhere in prophecy or in the entire Old Testament**. He reached down and poured out his grace on the leader of the rebellion, Saul of Tarsus. Read **Acts 9:1-6**. WHY?

God interrupted the fulfillment of his prophetic plan for Earth and cast Israel aside temporarily (**Romans 11:15 & 25**). Then he began a plan never mentioned in the Old Testament nor in the gospels, a plan he had kept secret. In this plan he is forming a new agency, the church called the body of Christ, composed of both believing Jews and believing Gentiles with no difference between them. To reveal this new plan, he needed a new apostle. Saul became God's new apostle, the Apostle Paul, “the apostle of the Gentiles” (**Romans 11:13**). Paul says that God gave to him “the revelation of the mystery, which was kept secret since the world began” (**Romans 16:25; Ephesians 3:2-3**), and that includes all that Jesus Christ accomplished on the cross—the good news about the cross and “the gospel of the grace of God” (**Acts 20:24**). Paul wrote 13 books of the Bible about this mystery program. In the next two lessons, we will learn much more about it.

Have students complete the Funbook page for Lesson 8, page 28, using the timeline chart to help them.

Then, play Avoid the Card and Find the Card, page 84.

THE MYSTERY

GOD'S PLAN FOR HEAVENLY PLACES

PAUL'S EPISTLES:

GOD BEGINS THE CHURCH THE BODY OF CHRIST AND THE DISPENSATION OF GRACE

<p>A NEW APOSTLE God chose Paul to be "the apostle of the Gentiles" and reveal "the mystery" (Romans 11:13; Ephesians 3:3)</p> 	<p>"THE DISPENSATION OF THE GRACE OF GOD" (Ephesians 3:2) You are not under the aw, but under grace (Romans 6:14)</p> 	<p>"THE GOSPEL OF THE GRACE OF GOD" (Acts 20:24) "For by grace are ye saved through faith . . ." (Ephesians 2:8)</p> 
<p>THE BODY OF CHRIST God is making of Jew and Gentile "ONE NEW MAN" (Ephesians 2:15) A NEW CREATURE (2 Corinthians 5:17)</p> 	<p>NO DIFFERENCE BETWEEN JEW AND GENTILE JEW = GENTILE (Galatians 3:28)</p>	<p>A NEW BAPTISM: THE HOLY SPIRIT BAPTIZES BELIEVERS INTO CHRIST AND SEALS US THERE (Romans 6; Ephesians 1:13)</p> 
<p>A NEW HOPE: "ETERNAL IN THE HEAVENS" (2 Corinthians 5:1)</p> 	<p>JOINT HEIRS WITH CHRIST (Romans 8:17) to fill the heavenly places for God's glory (Ephesians 1:3, 11-14, 23)</p>	<p>CHRIST LIVES IN ME (Galatians 2:20)</p> 
<p>This dispensation will end when Christ takes us to Heaven in what we call THE RAPTURE. (I Thessalonians 4:16-17)</p>		



THE MYSTERY

LESSON 9

GOD'S PLAN FOR THE HEAVENS: A NEW DISPENSATION



Before Class

See page 85 to prepare the review games.

LESSON

Use the Timeline chart, p. 47, as a visual. It is in the Student Funbook, page 31.

In the previous lesson we looked at the first part of the book of Acts. Acts begins with Peter and the 12 being filled with the Holy Ghost and preaching to Israel to repent of killing their Christ and King. But the leaders of Israel refused, and God interrupted the fulfillment of prophecy and his dealings with Israel. From Acts 9 to the end of the book, the focus shifts to the preaching of the Apostle Paul to the Gentiles. Salvation is going to the Gentiles because of Israel's disbelief rather than through them being God's kingdom of priests. This is what Paul says in Acts:

Acts 28:27-28

For the heart of this people [Israel] is waxed gross, and their ears are dull of hearing, and their eyes have they closed; lest they . . . should be converted, and I should heal them. Be it known therefore unto you, that the salvation of God is sent unto the Gentiles, and *that* they will hear it.

And in the book of Romans:

Romans 11:11:

. . . through their [Israel's] fall salvation *is come* unto the Gentiles, . . .

Romans 11:25

For I would not, brethren, that ye should be ignorant of **this mystery**, lest ye should be wise in your own conceits; that blindness in part is happened to Israel, until the fulness of the Gentiles be come in.

Because Israel rejected Christ as their King, the fulfillment of prophecy was no longer on track, and the kingdom was no longer “at hand.” God withdrew that offer for the time being.

The next books in the Bible are Paul’s epistles to Gentile churches. Today God is **not** forming and working through a nation; he is forming and working through something brand new—the church, the body of Christ.

A NEW APOSTLE

God did not let Israel’s rejection of Christ stand in the way of Gentile salvation. He sent salvation to Gentiles through the ministry of a new apostle, the Apostle Paul, “the apostle of the Gentles” (**Romans 11:13**). It is important to understand that **the Apostle Paul was not one of the 12 apostles, and he was not sent to carry on their ministry and message**. He did not learn his gospel from Peter or the 12; rather, he was given a separate ministry and a new message called “the mystery” by direct revelation from the risen, ascended Lord Jesus Christ.

Galatians 1:11-22

... the gospel which was preached of me is not after man. For I neither received it of man, neither was I taught it, but by the revelation of Jesus Christ.

Ephesians 3:5

... by revelation he made known unto me the **mystery**

Romans 16:25

Now to him that is of power to stablish you according to **my gospel**, and the preaching of Jesus Christ, **according to the revelation of the mystery, which was kept secret since the world began**

This revelation given to Paul includes information that God had kept secret until then. What did it include?

A NEW DISPENSATION

God used the Apostle Paul to write Romans through Philemon, which reveal the details of a new dispensation. Do you know what a dispensation is? It comes from the word *dispense*, which means to give out. It is related to the word *administration*, which you have probably heard. Think about our government. When a president is elected, he chooses a group of people who help him carry out the policies and laws he wants in place. This is called his administration, but we could also call it a dispensation. When a new president is elected, he will choose a new administration to dispense (give out) new policies. It will be a new dispensation. A good example of how different dispensations can be is when Joe Biden became president of the United States. He completely reversed many of the policies that the previous president, Donald Trump, had put in place. His administration began a new dispensation for America.

Similarly, in the Old Testament and the gospels, Israel lived under the dispensation of the law. God chose priests, kings, prophets, and the 12 apostles to dispense his laws and his promises concerning their king and kingdom. But when Israel fell, God began a new dispensation called “the dispensation of grace” and chose the Apostle Paul to dispense the information about it.

Ephesians 3:1-2

For this cause I Paul, the prisoner of Jesus Christ for you Gentiles, if ye have heard of the **dispensation of the grace of God** which is given me to you-ward . . .

A NEW GOSPEL: “THE GOSPEL OF THE GRACE OF GOD”

The new dispensation included a new gospel. “The gospel of the kingdom” was no longer valid because the kingdom was no longer “at hand,” and the law was no longer in effect because “Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to every one that believeth” (**Romans 10:4**).

God revealed to the Apostle Paul a gospel called “the gospel of the grace of God” (**Acts 20:24**). This gospel is the good news that anyone—Jew or Gentile—can be saved simply by grace through faith in the shed blood of Jesus Christ, *apart from the law and apart from Israel*. (Review the gospel cards on page 13. Stress and sing **I Corinthians 15:3-4**).

It is not until Paul that God reveals:

Romans 6:14

... ye are not under the law, but under grace.

Galatians 2:16

... a man is not justified by the works of the law, but by the faith of Jesus Christ, ... for by the works of the law shall no flesh be justified.

Ephesian 2:8-9

For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: *it is* the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast.

Because of the revelation given to Paul, we now know that anyone who has ever been saved has been saved because of the work of Jesus Christ on the cross. It is only the blood of Christ that God can accept as complete payment for sins. But before Paul, people did not know to believe this. Their faith was shown by believing God's message *to them*. For example. God's message to Israel in the Old Testament was to keep the law, which included offering animal sacrifices. When they believed and obeyed this message, God saw their faith and looked forward to the cross to forgive their sins. In the gospels and Acts, God added to the law his message that Jesus Christ was the Son of God, the promised Messiah and King of Israel, ready to bring in the kingdom, and told them to be cleansed by water baptism. (See **Luke 7:29-30**; **Mark 16:16**; **Acts 2:38**). When people believed and obeyed, God saw their faith and looked forward to the cross to forgive their sins. In time past, works were evidence of faith in God's word because God's word told them to work. And faith in God's word is always what God requires for salvation.

However, today God does not tell us to offer an animal sacrifice or be water baptized for the remission of sins. If we did those things today, that would be unbelief. Today, through Paul's ministry, God tells us that Jesus Christ did all the work necessary to save us so that all we must do is believe—rest in HIS work, not ours.

Romans 4:5

But to him that worketh not, but believeth on him that justifieth the ungodly, his faith is counted for righteousness.

A NEW HOPE

But what does salvation mean in this dispensation? People who were saved in the previous dispensation were saved with the hope of being resurrected into God's kingdom on Earth, but the promise of that kingdom has been postponed until God deals with Israel again, which he will do.

Romans 11:26

And so all Israel shall be saved: as it is written, There shall come out of Sion the Deliverer, and shall turn away ungodliness from Jacob: For this *is* my covenant unto them, when I shall take away their sins.

God did not take the kingdom promises away from Israel and give them to us, so what is the hope of our salvation? What does God promise those who trust him during this dispensation of grace? Our hope is eternal life with the Lord *in heaven* forever! ***We are part of God's plan to restore the rule of the heavenly places*** to Jesus Christ! (Remember, Satan has caused a rebellion in both realms, the earth and the heavenly places.)

2 Corinthians 5:1

For we know that if our earthly house of *this* tabernacle were dissolved, we have a building of God, an house not made with hands, **eternal in the heavens**.

Ephesians 1:3

Blessed *be* the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings **in heavenly places** in Christ.

Philippians 3:20

For our conversation is in heaven; from whence also we look for the Saviour, . . . according to the working whereby he is able even to subdue all things unto himself.

I Corinthians 6:3: Know ye not that we shall judge angels? . . .

We will learn more about this as well as other aspects of this dispensation of grace revealed in Paul's epistles in our next lesson.

Have students complete the Funbook pages for Lesson 9 (pp. 33-34), using the Bible Timeline chart for help.

Play Pictionary as described on page 85.



THE MYSTERY

LESSON 10 GOD'S PLAN FOR THE HEAVENS:



THE BODY OF CHRIST IN HEAVENLY PLACES

Before Class:

Prepare the Dispensation of Grace TRIOS game. See pages 86-88.

LESSON: THE MYSTERY

In the gospels and early Acts, we are frequently told that events happen in order to fulfill prophecy. That's because Jesus Christ came to fulfill the promises made to Israel through the prophets, and after his resurrection, he commissioned his apostles to carry on this ministry. Peter said of the things he was preaching in early Acts that they were things “which God hath *spoken by the mouth of all his holy prophets since the world began*” (**Acts 3: 21**).

In contrast, the Apostle Paul calls his gospel “the preaching of Jesus Christ according to the revelation of the mystery, which was *kept secret since the world began*” (**Romans 16:25**) and says that it “in other ages was not made known” (**Ephesians 3:5**). Clearly, he was not preaching the same things as Peter preached. Paul also says,

“... none of the princes of this world knew [this mystery]: for had they known *it*, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory” (**1 Corinthians 2:7-8**).

So, we know that “the preaching of Jesus Christ according to the revelation of the mystery” is related to what Jesus Christ accomplished on the cross. It includes things that God wanted to keep hidden from “the princes of this world,” which would include Satan and his princes that influence the world.

Central to the revelation of the mystery is the good news that Christ died for our sins, was buried, and rose again so that by simple faith in Christ's work on the cross, *and that alone*, apart from any works we can do, God will forgive our sins and save us. We are not under law, but under grace (**Romans 6:14**). We do not have to “repent and be baptized for the remission sins” as Peter

proclaimed in **Acts 2:38** and John preached and Christ said in **Mark 16:16**. But there is much more to what Paul calls “the mystery.”

A NEW AGENCY: THE BODY OF CHRISIT

One of the most important things that God kept hidden from Satan is that, through the cross, God could form what he calls a “new creature,” the “one new man” that he will take into the heavenly places to rule with Christ as “the body of Christ” and “heirs of God and joint heirs of Christ.”

2 Corinthians 5:17

Therefore if any man *be* in Christ, *he is* a new creature

Ephesians 2: 15-16

. . . to make in himself of twain [Jew and Gentile] one new man . . .

I Corinthians 12:27

Now ye are the body of Christ, and members in particular.

Remember, just as Satan is causing rebellion on Earth, he is causing a rebellion in heavenly places that must be put to an end. **Job 15:15** says, “...the heavens are not clean in his sight.”

And God will put the heavenly rebellion to an end. In Revelation we see that Satan and his fallen angels will be kicked out of the heavenly places.

Revelation 12:7-8

And there was war in heaven: Michael and his angels fought against the dragon; and the dragon fought and his angels, And prevailed not; neither was **their place found any more in heaven.**

And who will fill those places that the dragon (Satan) and his angles are kicked out of? We will—the church, the body of Christ. In fact, God already sees us there because he sees the end from the beginning:

Ephesians 2:6

And hath raised *us* up together, and made *us* sit together in **heavenly places** in Christ

Ephesians 1:3

Blessed *be* the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in **heavenly places** in Christ

Had Satan known that by the cross God could create the body of Christ, which will allow the Lord to take back the heavenly places for his glory, he never would have inspired Israel to call for the crucifixion! All God had to do to trick Satan into doing the very thing that caused him to lose both Heaven and Earth was keep a secret until it would be too late for Satan.

I Corinthians 3:19

For it is written, He taketh the wise in their own craftiness.

THE BODY OF CHRIST IS NOT ISRAEL

We must understand that the body of Christ is not Israel. God did not take his promise of a kingdom on Earth to Israel and give it to us. The true Israel that God will cleanse, redeem, and give the earthly kingdom to is made of Jews born from the line of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob who lived before (and who will live after) this dispensation of grace. In contrast, in the church of this dispensation of grace, God does not recognize a difference between Jew and Gentile. The body of Christ is made up of all who live during this dispensation and believe the gospel of the grace of God. We are promised a home in Heaven forever.

Galatians 3:28

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

This is very different from “time past.”

Ephesians 2: 11-12 . . . in time past Gentiles in the flesh . . . were without Christ, **being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel**, and strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope, and without God in the world.

Verse 13 continues with **BUT NOW** (in this dispensation of grace), Gentiles, “are made nigh by the blood of Christ.”

2 Corinthians 5:18-19 tells us that God, through Christ, has reconciled the world unto himself. During this dispensation, anyone—Jew or Gentile—can come directly to God through faith in the shed blood of the Lord Jesus Christ. But this dispensation of grace will not last forever. One day Jesus Christ will come to take us home to Heaven in an event we call the rapture.

I Thessalonians 4:16-17

For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: Then we which are alive *and* remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord.

This is part of “the mystery” revealed through Paul.

I Corinthians 15:51-52

Behold, I shew you a **mystery**; We shall not all sleep [die], but we shall all be changed, In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.

Philippians 3:20

For our conversation is in heaven; from whence also we look for the Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ: Who shall change our vile body, that it may be fashioned like unto his glorious body, according to the working whereby he is able even to subdue all things unto himself.

The rapture will end this dispensation of grace, and the prophetic program will resume where it left off in mid-Acts with the “great tribulation” and “the time of Jacob’s trouble.” That will not be a time of grace, but a time of wrath and judgment. We will look at this in Lesson 12.

Have students complete the maze for Lesson 10 in their Funbooks, p.35.

To add more fun, make it a race. Who can write the secret message first?

Play Dispensation of Grace Trios, pages 86-88.



THE MYSTERY

LESSON 11

GOD'S PLAN FOR THE HEAVENS:

COMPLETE IN CHRIST



Before Class

Prepare the BINGO activity, page **89**.

LESSON

One of the most blessed truths of the mystery revealed through Paul is that the moment we believe the gospel of the grace of God, God the Holy Spirit places and seals us in Christ forever. Before we are saved, God sees us “in Adam.” What do you know about Adam?

Romans 5:12

Wherefore, as by one man [Adam] sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men . . .

I Corinthians 15:22

For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive.

But “in Christ” God sees us perfectly righteous because he has put the righteousness of Christ to our account:

Romans 4:5

But to him that worketh not, but believeth on him that justifieth the ungodly, his faith is counted for righteousness.

2 Corinthians 5:21

For he hath made him *to be* sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.

Perfect righteousness is what is required to have eternal life with God, and we have it “in Christ.” In Christ, we also have infinite blessings. In fact, **Colossian 2:10** says that we are “**complete in him**.” What does it mean to be “complete”?








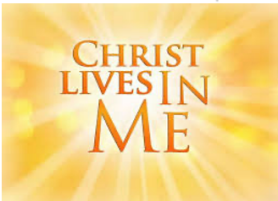








Paul writes about many of the blessings that are ours in Christ. To discover them, we must read Romans through Philemon.

Open your Funbook to pages 36-37. Let's look at some of these blessings.

Pages 36-37 of the Funbook are copied for you on the following page, page 60. The answers are filled in on page 90 of this book—on the BINGO board.

Together, look up each of the verses in your Bibles to fill in the blanks in each blessing. Discuss each.

Play Complete in Christ Bingo and Avoid the Card, page 89.

 <p>And ye are <input type="text"/></p> <p>in him</p> <p>Colossians 2:10</p>	 <p>In whom we have <input type="text"/></p> <p>through his blood, even the</p> <p>FORGIVENESS</p> <p>of sins Colossians 1:14</p>	 <p>He hath made us <input type="text"/></p> <p>in the beloved</p> <p>Ephesians 1:6</p>	 <p>Therefore, being justified by faith, we have <input type="text"/></p> <p>WITH GOD</p> <p>through our Lord Jesus Christ</p> <p>Romans 5:1</p>
 <p>For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin, that we might be made <input type="text"/></p> <p>OF GOD</p> <p>in him 2 Corinthians 5:21</p>	 <p>There is <u>therefor</u> now <input type="text"/></p> <p>to them which are in Christ Jesus</p> <p>Romans 8:1</p>	 <p><input type="text"/></p> <p>BURIED, and RAISED</p> <p>with Christ</p> <p>Romans 6</p>	 <p>CHRIST LIVES IN ME</p> <p>I am crucified with Christ: <u>Nevertheless</u> I live; yet not I, but <input type="text"/></p> <p>CHRIST IN ME . . .</p> <p>Galatians 2:20</p>
 <p>If any man be in Christ, he is a <input type="text"/></p> <p>CREATURE.</p> <p>2 Corinthians 5:17</p>	 <p>And you, being dead in your sins . . . hath he <input type="text"/></p> <p>together with him . . .</p> <p>Colossians 2:13</p>	 <p>If ye then be <input type="text"/></p> <p>with Christ, seek those things which are above . . .</p> <p>Colossians 3:1</p>	 <p>But thanks be to God, which giveth us the <input type="text"/></p> <p>through our Lord Jesus Christ</p> <p>1 Corinthians 15:57</p>
 <p>For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is <input type="text"/></p> <p>LIFE</p> <p>through Jesus Christ our Lord</p> <p>Romans 6:23</p>	 <p>God . . . hath blessed us with all <input type="text"/></p> <p>BLESSINGS IN HEAVENLY PLACES in Christ</p> <p>Ephesians 1:3</p>	 <p><input type="text"/> FROM THE LAW</p> <p>Romans 8:2</p>	<p>. . . after that you believed, ye were <input type="text"/></p> <p>WITH THAT HOLY SPIRIT OF PROMISE</p> <p>(Ephesians 1:13)</p> 




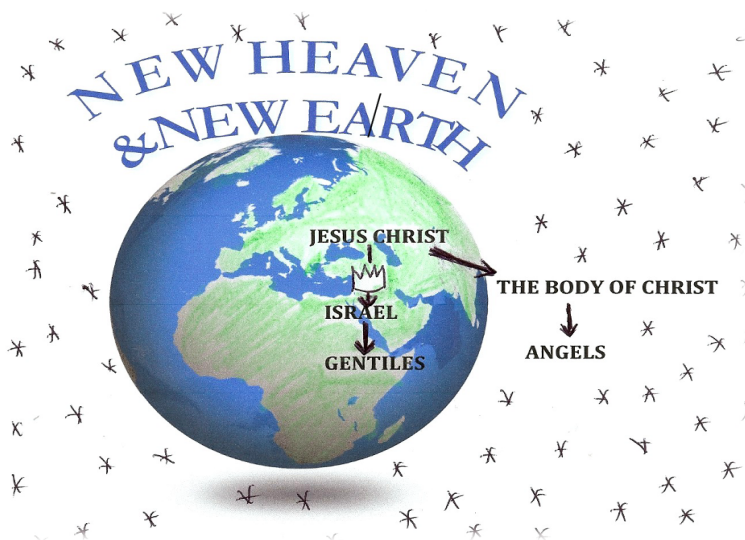
GOD'S PLAN FOR EARTH FULFILLED

HEBREWS - REVELATION:

THE GREAT TRIBULATION

ISRAEL'S KINGDOM ON EARTH

<p>... IN THESE LAST DAYS</p> <p>Hebrews 1:2</p>	<p>TO THE TWELVE TRIBES which are scattered abroad James 1:1</p> <p>A royal priesthood, an holy nation 2 Peter 2:9</p> 	<p>THE COMING OF THE LORD DRAWETH NIGH. James 5:8</p> 
<p>THE GREAT TRIBULATION</p> <p>... the trial of your faith, ... though it be <i>tried with fire</i> ... 1 Peter 1:5</p> 	<p>In his vision, John sees NEW JERUSALEM DESCENDING TO EARTH</p> <p>“the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven”</p> <p>Revelation 21:2</p> 	



A new heaven and
a new earth
Revelation 21:1



**PROPHECY
CONTINUES**



LESSON 12

GOD'S PLAN FOR EARTH RESUMES: THE GREAT TRIBULATION & THE KINGDOM ON EARTH

HEBREWS-REVELATION

Before Class

See the Student Funbook page **41** for Lesson 12. You will need to have plenty of clear tape.

LESSON

God's word is amazing! It is laid out in such a way as to show us how history will unfold. The last section of the Bible is the part of the Bible that will apply in the future, after the dispensation of grace is over. Why? How?

Most of these books were written during the early Acts period, before Paul was saved and revealed the new dispensation of grace. That means, except for 2 Peter, when the books were written, the writers did not know about the interruption of the prophetic plan. They were expecting the great tribulation to begin at any time, followed by the return of Christ to establish the kingdom on Earth. Interestingly, in 2 Peter, which was the only one written after Paul began writing, Peter tells his readers that if they want to understand what happened to the promise of the coming kingdom, they must read Paul's epistles (**2 Peter 3:15-16** and context).

These last books were written **TO ISRAEL** for the purpose of preparing the believers to go through the great tribulation and see the coming king and kingdom promised to them.

TO ISRAEL

Obviously, the book of **Hebrews** is written to **Hebrews**, who are Israelites.

James begins his book by telling us who he is writing to:

James, a servant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ, to the **twelve tribes** which are scattered abroad, greeting (**James 1:1**).

Peter says this to his readers:

2 Peter 2:9

But ye *are* a chosen generation, a **royal priesthood**, an **holy nation**, a **peculiar people** . . .

Compare these words to **Exodus 19:5-6**:

. . . ye shall be a **peculiar** treasure unto me above all people: for all the earth *is* mine:
And ye shall be unto me a **kingdom of priests**, and an **holy nation**. These *are* the words
which thou shalt speak unto the children of **Israel**.

Clearly, Peter was writing to Israel. And even after the Peter, James, and John knew of and talked with the Apostle Paul, they agreed to confine their ministry to the circumcision, which is Israel.

Galatians 2:9

And when James, Cephas [Peter], and John, who seemed to be pillars, perceived the grace that was given unto me, they gave to me and Barnabas the right hands of fellowship; that we *should go* unto the heathen, and they unto the circumcision.

Let's look at a few of the verses in these books that tell us when they will again apply.

Hebrews 1:2

God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets, Hath ***in these last days spoken*** unto us by *his* Son, whom he hath appointed heir of all things

James 5:8

Be ye also patient; stablish your hearts: for the ***coming of the Lord draweth nigh***.

I Peter 1:7

That the trial of your faith, being much more precious than of gold that perisheth, though it be ***tried with fire***, might be found unto praise and honour and glory at the ***appearing of Jesus Christ***

I John 2:18

Little children, ***it is the last time***: and as ye have heard that antichrist shall come . . .

Jude 14-15

Behold, ***the Lord cometh*** with ten thousands of his saints, To execute judgment upon all

Revelation 1:9

I John, who also am your brother, and ***companion in tribulation, and in the kingdom*** and patience of Jesus Christ

The writers of these books expect the great tribulation and the second coming of Christ to establish his kingdom to happen soon. That's because they wrote in "the last days" of the prophetic program. They did not know that those days would be interrupted by the dispensation of grace. Had prophecy continued its fulfillment, the great tribulation would have been the next event.

The last book of the Bible, the book of Revelation, explains in much detail how the prophetic program will be completed after this dispensation of grace ends. It gives many details about the seven years of great tribulation in which God will pour out his wrath, the coming of the antichrist who will deceive the nations, the return of Christ to destroy his enemies and sit on David's throne, the Great White Throne where God will judge all unbelievers. It ends with the new Heaven and the new Earth being established forever more as the new Jerusalem descends from heaven.

A New Heaven and New Earth and New Jerusalem

And I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea. And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband
(Revelation 21:1-2).

This will complete God's two-fold plan to restore the heavens and the earth to the rulership of the Lord Jesus Christ. Jesus Christ will be ruling the earth from the throne of David and redeemed Israel will be his kingdom of priests to bring salvation to the ends of the earth. The body of Christ will already have been placed in the heavenly places to rule with Christ over the angelic creation (See **Ephesians 2:6; 1 Corinthians 6:3; Revelation 12:8.**)



CONCLUSION

Hebrews through Revelation are not to nor about us who live in this dispensation of grace. Remember, during this dispensation of grace, God is forming the church, the body of Christ. Today he sees no difference between Jew and Gentile. It is important to understand this in order to “rightly divide the word of truth” (**2 Timothy 1:15**).

When we read the Bible, we must always consider **to whom** and **when** the passages we are reading apply. Some passages apply only to Israel living under the law; some passages apply only to the body of Christ. There are also some passages that apply to unsaved people and some that apply to everyone. Passages about the character of God and the nature of man are true in every dispensation. But trying to take words written to Israel living under the law as if they are to us as the body of Christ living under grace will produce confusion. Consider these simple but important examples:

How are you justified (declared righteous before God)?

James 2:24 says,

Ye see then how that by works a man is justified, and not by faith only.

But the Apostle Paul, in **Romans 4:5** says,

But to him that worketh not, but believeth on him that justifieth the ungodly, his faith is counted for righteousness.

How do you receive forgiveness of sins?

Jesus Christ, while on Earth, in **Matthew 6:14** says,

For if ye forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you; But if ye forgive not men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.

But the risen Lord, through the Apostle Paul, in **Ephesians 4:32** says,

And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake **hath forgiven** you.

And in **Colossians 2:13**:

. . . you, . . . hath he quickened together with him, having **forgiven you all trespasses**

Can you lose your salvation?

Jesus Christ, in **John 15:2** says,

Every branch in me that beareth not fruit he taketh away

Hebrews 6: 4-6 says,

For *it is impossible for those who were once enlightened*, and have tasted of the heavenly gift, and were made partakers of the Holy Ghost, And have tasted the good word of God, and the powers of the world to come, **If they shall fall away, to renew them again unto repentance . . .**

But the risen Lord, through the Apostle Paul, in **Ephesians 1:13** says,

In whom ye also *trusted*, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye believed, ye were **sealed with that holy Spirit of promise, Which is the earnest [guarantee] of our inheritance** until the redemption of the purchased possession, unto the praise of his glory.

And in **Romans 8:38-39**:

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

I hope you are seeing how important it is to “rightly divide the word of truth” (2 Timothy 2:15).

Do the Time Past, But Now, Ages to Come Activity on pages 92-93.

Then, have students follow instructions in the Funbook for Lesson 12, page 41, to make a Bible timeline. For this, they will be gathering and taping all of the Bible Timeline Charts together to make a Timeline that will summarize the key points of each section of the Bible. In their Funbooks, these are pages 13, 19, 23, 29, 31, and 39.

ACTIVITIES AND GAMES



LESSON 1 ACTIVITY 1: The Will of the Teacher Game

1. Before class, gather 8-10 colored pencils or markers into a box.
**See note on bottom of page for an option for large classes.*
2. Fold a piece of paper in half. On the outside write, “The Word of the Teacher.” On the inside, write instructions for how you would like the objects to be organized.

Here are sample rules:

- a. First, take any one pencil out of the box and place it on the table.
 - b. Next, take a **red** pencil out and place it next to and parallel to the first.
 - c. Third, take out a **yellow** pencil and place it **between** the first two.
 - d. Finally, take out a **green** pencil and place it across and on top of the other three.
3. One at a time, WITHOUT READING YOUR RULES, let the students try to organize the pencils according to your will. As soon as they make a move that is contrary to what you wrote, tell them they have sinned and their turn is over. The next student may try. They should see that this is a difficult task.
 4. After everyone has tried, read “The Teacher’s Word” and let them try again. They may look at the word as much as needed. Now everyone should succeed.

What is the parallel? Trying to live according to God’s will is very difficult if we do not read his word. To know God’s will, we must read and know his word.

Psalms 119:11 tells us to hide God’s word in our heart.

This means to memorize it. Why does the verse say we should do this?

*Because you want everyone to be able to see the choices their classmates make, instead of using pencils or markers, use a whiteboard. Tell the class you want them to draw a pattern of circles, triangles, and squares on the board. The instructions in your “Word of the Teacher” could be something like this:

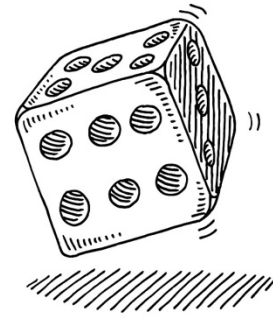
1. Draw a circle anywhere on the board.
2. Now draw a square to the right of it.
3. Next draw a triangle to the left of the circle
4. Then draw another triangle under the square.
5. Draw a circle to the right of the last triangle.
6. Draw a square to the right of the circle.

LESSON 1 ACTIVITY 2

ZONK WITH A DIE GAME

All you need for this game is a set of questions (p. 73) and a die.

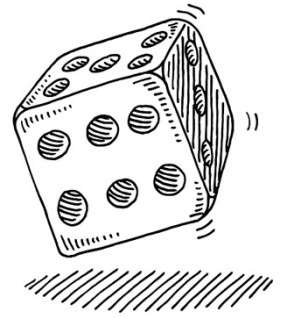
You may play with individuals or teams.



To Play

- Begin by having each player/team roll the die. The highest roll goes last, as going last is an advantage in this game.
- Players/teams take turns answering the questions on page 73 (or any you would like to ask).
- If correct, they roll the die to determine how many points they will earn. But there is a catch to rolling:
 - After each roll, they have the option of rolling again for additional points. (If you are plying with teams, players on the team take turns rolling. Whoever's turn it is makes the decision.)
 - They may roll as many times as they want to and continue to add points, but IF **THEY ROLL A 6** (after the first roll), **THEY LOSE ALL THE POINTS THEY HAVE ACCUMULATED ON THAT TURN**. In other words, they must choose to stop rolling and be content with their points before they roll a 6.
- Teams should all be given an equal number of turns
- The team with the most points wins. If you are keeping track of points for several games, award the winning team the number of points they accumulated MINUS the number of points of the second place team. This will discourage them from stopping to roll as soon as they have the most points.

Lesson 1 Questions for Zonk



1. What is another name for the Bible? *Scripture or the Word of God*
2. How many books are in the Bible”? 66
3. Which has more books, the Old or the New Testament? You may look at your Bible. *Old*
4. How many men did God use to write the books of the Bible? *at least 40*
5. Over how many years was the Bible written? *About 1500*
6. **2 Timothy 3:16** that all scripture is given by *what?* (*inspiration of God*)
7. What is inspiration? *Words out of the mouth of God being written down; God-breathed*
8. Finish **Matthew 4:4** “Man shall not live by bread alone, but by _____?
(*every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God.*)
9. Finish **John 17:17**: “Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is _____” (*truth*)
10. Finish **Psalms 119:11** : “Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might _____
(*not sin against Thee*)
11. How can we know the will of God? *By reading the Bible*
12. What is one way we can know that God is the author of the Bible? Hint: What witness of
his all-knowing character did he put in the Bible? *fulfilled prophecy*

LESSON 2 ACTIVITY: GOSPEL FLIP THE CUP

Need:

- Gospel Verse Cards board for each team (Use page 6 of the Funbook)
- One playing piece per team (coin, button, stone, . . .)
- Plastic or paper cups (One for every three children)

Divide the kids into teams, one team per table. Each team is given cups in a ratio of 1 cup per three students. Teams also need a gospel verse board (p. 6 of Funbook) placed in the center of the table. When you say go, kids take turns flipping the cups, trying to get it to stand. *(Tip: Teach them to place the cup at the edge of the table with just a tiny part hanging over the edge. Flip the cup by flicking the hanging edge.)*

Any time a player is successful, he shouts, “GOT IT,” and other players on his team who have cups must stop flipping. The successful player moves the playing piece onto the first card (Psalm 145:17) and **READS THE VERSE**, then, says “**1, 2, 3 PASS.**”

No one on this team may resume flipping until the verse is completed, and he has said. “1, 2, 3 PASS.”

Players then pass the cups and everyone with a cup resumes flipping. Anytime thereafter when players are successful flipping a cup, they shout “GOT IT” and do the same as above, moving the piece to the next verse and reading it, then shouting, “**1, 2, 3 PASS.**” The first team to get to the last verse (Ephesians 1:13) is the winner—OR--allow teams to continue to play. Anytime a team reaches the end, each player gets a reward, and they start over again. Play until time is up.

MAKE IT MORE ACTIVE

- Place each of the verse cards on the floor, equal distance from each of the teams.
- Follow the rules above, except that when a player is successful, he runs to the board to place the playing piece on a verse.
- No one on his team may flip the next cup until he returns to the table and **sits down.**
- Continue until one team has covered all of the verses.

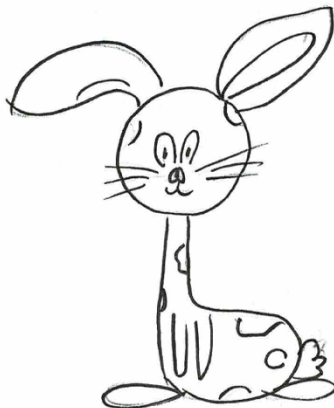
LESSON 3 ACTIVITY 1: FOLLOWING THE RIGHT DIRECTIONS

For each student, provide

- Paper and pencil
- Instruct students to turn to pages 10-11 in their Funbook.

Tell the students that their Funbook, on pages 10-11, gives step-by-step instructions for drawing two different animals—a rabbit and a giraffe. However, instruct them to mix and match instructions. *For example, for step 1, some can draw a round rabbit head, and others can draw the double oval giraffe head. At Step 2 suggest that if they did the head for A (the rabbit), they could do the body for B (the giraffe) and vise-versa. Continue through all steps, picking and choosing randomly which instruction to follow. (They could even choose to skip a step.)*

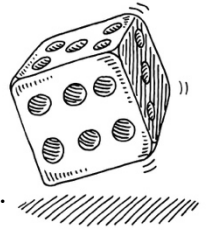
By taking some instructions from A (the rabbit) and some from B (the giraffe), you end up with a nonsense animal. Here is a sample animal drawn from the mix-and-match instructions.



The lesson to learn from this is that when we follow God's instructions to us in the Bible, the Bible makes sense and works in our lives. But when we try to mix God's instructions to us with his instructions to Israel (or others), it will not make sense. We will live our lives in confusion and not produce the fruit God wants to produce in our lives. We must obey **2 Timothy 2:15** and "rightly divide the word of truth."

(See next page for Zonk.)

ACTIVITY 2: ZONK WITH A DIE



See page 72 for rules. Here are some sample questions. You may add more of your own.

1. Is all the Bible to us to obey?
2. Give an example of an instruction in the Bible that you should not obey.
3. **John 17:17** says that God's word is _____.
4. **2 Timothy 2:15** tells us to do what when we study "the word of truth."
5. When we study the Bible, we must understand **WHEN** a passage applies. What are the three main time markers the Apostle Paul gives in Ephesians?
6. When we study the Bible, we must understand **TO WHOM** a passage applies. What are the two main groups of believers that God speaks to?

Continue with questions from any of the first three lessons.

GOSPEL ACTIVITIES FOR ANY LESSON

ORDER THE GOSPEL GAME

You will need the gospel verse cards from page 13 plus a **SORRY** card the same size copied onto cardstock *for each table playing*.

To Play

Mix up the cards and lay them face down (or in a pocket chart).

- Players (or Teams) take turns flipping over cards, one at a time.
- If the first card is not **1**, their turn is over. They turn the card back to face down.
If it is a **1**, they read the card, and they may try to find **2**. If it is, read, then try for **3**,...
- (Anytime **3** is turned over, everyone should sing **I Corinthians 15:3-4** song.)
- Any time the card is not the next in order, or the **SORRY** card is turned over, the turn is over and cards are turned back face down.
- The next player/team tries.
- First player/team to be able to turn all six cards over IN ORDER wins.

Be sure the kids read the cards when they are correct!

LESSON 4 (OR ANY LESSON) ACTIVITY: GOSPEL SIX CORNERS

You will need:

- the gospel cards copied and cut out from page 13. (Enlarging them works better.)
- a large die (color each side to match the gospel colors)

To Play

- Place the cards on the floor in a large circle (or tape to different walls around the room).
- Have the players form a circle around the cards (or the room).
- Begin saying (or singing) one of the verses together as the players walk clockwise around the picture verse cards (or the room). When done, all players choose one card/verse to stand by.
- Roll the die. All players standing on the matching color & number are eliminated.
- Repeat with the remaining players until only one player is left. He is the winner.

Another way to play: Instead of children on the matching color & number being eliminated, you can declare them the “winners” of that round and give them each a treat. Repeat.

GOSPEL DICE (OR STONE) TOSS

- For each team playing, paint six dice one of the colors of the gospel verses on each side (Amazon sells bland wood dice; Use acrylic paint markers on them)
- Copy the gospel verse board from page 13

To Play:

- Each group needs a cup or plastic jar with one set of six dice in it and a board. The object is to place all dice on the board by tossing them face up; however, they must be placed down IN ORDER.
- Say Go. The first player shakes the jar then pours the dice out. If a die has the gold up, he places it on the gold verse and reads it. If both the gold and the black are color up, he may place and read both. The only rule is that dice must be placed IN ORDER. Anytime the next color needed is not color up, that turn is over, and the remaining dice are placed back in the cup to toss again.
- **If playing competing teams**, members on each team take turns tossing. The first team to cover all the verses wins.
- **If playing individually**, players count how many tosses it takes them to fill the card. Player with the fewest wins. (You will probably have ties.)

LESSON 5 ACTIVITY: PING PONG BALLS IN CUPS

Children may compete as individuals or in teams.

Need:

- Six plastic or paper cups taped together in a triangle formation.
- Put one gospel verse card in each cup. (Or use **Old Testament verse cards** copied and cut out from page 27. You may put more than one card in some of the cups.)

If you will play in teams, make one set of cups and cards for each team.

- 3 ping pong ball for each set of cups (One ball will work if you don't have more.)

To Play:

Place the cups at one end of a table; players at the other. (If you do not have suitable tables, the floor works, too.)

If playing individuals, you stand at the cup end to catch and return the balls. If you have teams, you will need one student or a helper for each team to catch and return the balls.

Players take turns trying to bounce a ping pong ball in front of the cups to make it bounce into a cup. (I give each player three tries per turn, which is why I suggest three balls.) Each time they get a ball into a cup with a card, whoever is at the cup end removes the card in it and reads it. (If there are two cards in the cup, you can decide whether the player takes only one or both.)

If playing teams, the first team to collect all cards wins.

If playing individuals, each time a player gets the ball in a cup with a card, he keeps the card. The player with the most cards when all have been collected wins.

ANOTHER VERSION: ROLL THE BALLS

Instead of taping cups together, tape them to the end of a table, hanging over the edge. Kids would try to roll the balls into the cups. As above, when a ball is rolled into a cup with a card, remove the card. However, if a ball is rolled into an empty cup, a card must be placed back in it. Play until one team has removed all cards from all cups.



LESSON 6 ACTIVITY 1:

OLD TESTAMENT BINGO, BLACKOUT, OR TIC-TAC-TOE

Need:

- Copy and cut out THREE sets of the cards on the Old Testament chart on page 27. Put them in a small box, basket, or bucket.
- Gather some kind of tokens, such as coins, beans, beads, or even small squares of paper. (To cover squares on a Bingo board.)

To Play:

Divide a large class into teams. Have each player or team turn to page 19 of their Student Funbook. This is the chart of God's Plan for the Earth (Old Testament). It will be their board.

Have some kind of tokens that will each fit in a square on the board. Place some in reach of all players.

Hold the box or bucket of the squares you cut out. Let students/teams take turns picking a card from the box. (Hold the box or bucket high enough that they cannot see the card they are picking.)

The player should place a token over the matching picture on his/her board.

Anytime a player chooses a card he has already covered, he cannot cover a square that turn.

FOR BINGO: The first player/team to cover three squares in a row is the winner. Play for second and third place, too.

FOR BLACKOUT: The first player/team to cover the entire board wins.

FOR TIC-TAC-TOE. Follow BINGO rules above with these differences:

Divide the class into two teams. *They will play on the same board and need two different kinds of tokens.* When one team picks a picture covered by the opposing team, they may remove the opposing token and place theirs on it.

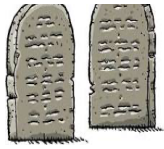



If you run out of cards before you have a winner, place the cards back in the bucket to re-use.

Also, play Covenants in a Cup, next page.

LESSON 6 ACTIVITY 2: COVENANTS IN A CUP

Need:

- A copy of the cards below. Cut out each card.
- 15 plastic cups

ABRAHAM 	Genesis 12 & 15	A nation from his seed will bless the world.	His seed to live in a vast promised land forever
MOSES 	Exodus 19 & 20	Israel to be a kingdom of priests	The LAW
DAVID 	2 Samuel 7	His son will also be God's Son.	His Son will sit on his throne as King of Israel forever.
NEW COVENANT 	Jeremiah 31 Ezekiel 36	God will write his law on Israel's heart.	God will cause Israel to do his will
SORRY	SORRY	SORRY	

To Set Up:

- Lay all the cards down on a table EXCEPT the Abraham, David, Moses, and New Covenant cards.
- Cover each of the cards on the table with a cup.

To Play:



- Divide the students into four teams. Let each pick one of the covenant cards you did not lay down on the table. The card they pick is the covenant they will try to complete.
- Team Abraham goes first. One from that team comes up to the cups and looks under one.
 - If it is a card that matches the covenant to Abraham, he keeps it for his team.
 - If it is not, he covers it back up with the cup *without revealing to anyone what it was*.
- Team Moses is next and does the same, followed by Team David and team New Covenant.
- First team to collect all three of their covenant cards wins, but let each team have the same number of turns by ending with the New Covenant team after a team collects all four. You may have a tie.

LESSON 7 ACTIVITY: Memory with a Twist

For each group playing, you need:

- Two of each card from The Gospels chart, p. 35
- Two of each of the covenant cards from Old Testament Chart, p. 27 (Abrahamic, Mosaic, Davidic, and New Covenant)
- ONE of each of the cards below

Copy onto cardstock or copy and glue to note cards.

SORRY 	SORRY 	MIX UP THE CARDS
--	--	-----------------------------

TO PLAY

For a large class, divide the children into groups and make a set of cards for each group or allow the children to play in pairs or teams.

- Lay all cards face down in reach of all players.
- Players (or teams) take turning over two cards. If they match, they keep the cards. (OPTION for older children: When a match is turned over, the player only keeps ONE of the cards so that the other remains on the board as a “decoy.”)
- If a SORRY is turned over, that player’s turn is over.
- When “MIX UP THE CARDS” is turned over, mix up the cards.
- When all 13 of the matching cards are found, the game is over and the player with the most wins

LESSON 7 ACTIVITY 2: SIMPLIFIED WHEEL OF FORTUNE

Need:

- A whiteboard
- A die

Think of a short phrase you want your students to remember plus a follow-up question for each.

Here are some samples. You can add more from Lessons 1-7.

PHRASE	FOLLOW-UP
GABRIEL CAME TO MARY	What did he tell her about her son? <i>(He would be God's Son and he would sit on David's throne)</i>
SON OF DAVID AND SON OF ABRAHAM	Why do the gospels begin by telling us that Jesus was both the son of David and the son of Abraham? Hint: What did he come to fulfill? <i>(He came to fulfill Abrahamic and Davidic Covenants)</i>
THE KINGDOM OF GOD	What did Jesus Christ preach about the kingdom, and to whom did he preach? <i>(It was at hand—to Israel)</i>
TWELVE THRONES	To whom did Jesus Christ promise 12 thrones, and for what purpose? <i>(To the 12 apostles to judge the 12 tribes of Israel)</i>

To Play:

- Put blanks on a whiteboard for each letter of your phrase (as for Hangman).
- Teams/players take turns guessing a letter. If the letter is in the phrase, place it in the appropriate blank(s). Then have the team roll the die. They receive points equal to the number rolled times the number of times their letter was used. For example, if they guess R for the first phrase above and roll a 4, they would get $4 \times 2 = 8$ pts because R is in the phrase twice.
- No one may guess a letter unless it is their team's turn. And teams only get one letter guess per turn. However, **anytime anyone knows the entire phrase, they may raise their hand.** If correct, their team keeps all the points they have accumulated, plus **3 pts** for guessing the phrase. They may then earn an extra **5 points** if they can answer the follow-up question. The points the other teams collected **for that phrase only** are erased.
- Repeat with a new phrase.

LESSON 8 ACTIVITIES

Avoid the Card

Use one of each of the picture chart cards from pages **35 (The Gospels)** and **41 (Acts)**, plus the two SORRY cards from page **82**. (You don't need the MIX UP THE CARDS for this game.)

To Play

- Lay all the cards face down in reach of all players.
(In a large class, glue cards to note cards and place in a pocket chart. Cover each with another note card, numbered. Instead of turning cards over, players simply call out a number, and you remove that card to reveal the picture card behind it.)
- Teams take turns choosing a card. If it is a picture card, they read it and remain in the game. If it is a SORRY gray heart card, that team is out.
- When two teams have gotten out, the remaining team is the winner.

To play as individuals rather than teams, use more SORRY cards—one fewer than the number of players.

Find the Card

Need:

- Picture cards from the charts on pages **35 (Gospels)** and **41 (Acts)** and a die.
- MIX UP THE CARDS card from page 82.
- Players should open to **23** of their Funbooks (Gospel chart); then page **29 (Acts)**.

To Play

- Spread the cards face down on a table. Roll the die. Tell players they must find the first card on their chart (The angel Gabriel).
- Players/teams take turns flipping over one of the cards. If it matches, that player/team gets the number of points rolled on the die.
(The card remains on the table with all the other cards.) If not, it is the next team's turn. Continue until that card is found. Then, repeat with the next picture.
- Continue until all of the cards matching the pictures on the charts have been found.
- Any time the "MIX UP THE CARDS" card is turned over, mix up the cards on the table.
- The player/team with the most points when all cards have been found wins.

LESSON 9 ACTIVITIES

PICTIONARY

Need:

- A large whiteboard (If you do not have a large whiteboard, use paper and pencil instead)
- A die
- Cards with things you want your students to remember from Lessons 1-9 that could be put into pictures with follow-up questions. Here are some ideas:

PICTURE IDEA	FOLLOW-UP QUESTION
The law	To whom was the law given? <i>Moses for Israel</i>
David	What did God promise David? <i>His son would be God's Son and sit on his throne forever</i>
Gabriel appearing to Mary	What did Gabriel tell Mary? <i>Her son would be God's Son sit on David's throne</i>
The 12 apostles	To whom did God sent the 12 and with what message? <i>The kingdom is at hand</i>
The stoning of Stephen	When Israel stoned Stephen, who were they really rejecting? Who was Stephen speaking by? <i>the Holy Ghost</i>
The salvation of Saul/Paul	Why did God save Saul? <i>to make him the Apostle Paul to reveal the new dispensation, the new gospel, and write Romans – Philemon</i>
Not under the law/ end of the law	Who tells us that we are not under the law? <i>the Apostle Paul</i>
Heaven	Who will live eternally in Heaven? <i>Everyone who believes the gospel during this dispensation of grace</i>

To play







- Divide the class into 2-4 teams.
- Call up one person from each team. Show that person the picture idea you want them to draw. When you say go, they each draw on their section of the whiteboard or on a piece of paper at their table.
- The other players try to guess what they are drawing by shouting out their guesses. The first player to shout the correct answer rolls the die to determine the number of points his team will get. Then give that team the follow-up question. If they answer correctly, let them roll the die for more points.
- Repeat with new drawers and a new picture idea.

OPTIONAL: Also play TRIOS from pages 86-88.

LESSON 10 ACTIVITY: DISPENSATION OF GRACE TRIOS

For each team of up to 8 players, you will need a die and 3 copies of each of the chart cards on page 47.
Copy onto cardstock or glue to note cards.

*Using a yellow highlighter, put a yellow border around all three copies of the first three cards (top row).
In addition, copy the following cards (one set only per team playing) onto cardstock or glue to notecards.

<p>5 points</p> <p>Take all your sins away</p> 	<p>-2 POINTS</p> 	<p>-2 POINTS</p> 
<p>-2 POINTS</p> 	<p>-2 POINTS</p> 	<p>-2 POINTS</p> 
<p>RAPTURE</p> <p>GAME OVER</p>		

These instructions may seem complicated at first, but once you begin playing, you will see that it really is a pretty simple game. It is also a very fun game that reviews important truths, so please give it a try!

OBJECT: To get as many matching cards as possible, especially the yellow border cards, and to get rid of as many sin cards as possible. (Getting the cross card is also a good thing!)

TO PLAY:

- Place all cards face down in reach of players. You can spread them out or put them in 2-4 piles.
- Place the chart from the following page in view of all players.
- To begin, every player takes one card and places it in front of him/her face up, so everyone can see what it is. (If one of the **RAPTURE** cards is drawn, mix it back into the face down cards and pick again.)
- Players take turns rolling a die. The number determines what to do. (See **Roll Die** on the chart.)
- If **1, 2, or 3** is rolled, the player will choose a card from the face-down piles and put it in front of him face up, just as he did at the start of the game. If **4, 5, or 6** is rolled, follow the instructions on the chart. If one of the **RATURE** cards is picked, it is placed at one end of the table, not in any player's stash.
- Players should remember that the cross card will wipe away the negative points of any **SIN** cards they have, so if they roll a 5 (**TAKE**) or 6 (**TRADE**), they may take that from another player.
- Rolling a 4 (**GIVE**) allows players to get rid of their sin and give it to another player. If they do not have a sin card, though, they must give any other card they have.
- **IMPORTANT:** Matching cards in a player's stash should be placed next to or on top of each other. Any time a player collects all three of one card, he turns them face down. No one can take one of those cards. It is a **TRIO**.
- When all three **RAPTURE** cards have been picked, the game is over and players count their points. (See the **SCORING** section of the chart.) The player with the most points wins.

ROLL DIE

1, 2, 3 = PICK CARD FROM PILE

4 = GIVE ONE CARD TO A PLAYER

5 = TAKE ONE CARD FROM A PLAYER

6 = TRADE ONE CARD WITH A PLAYER

When you get all three of the same card, turn the stack over. No one can take those cards.

Game ends when all three **RAPTURE** cards have been picked because the rapture ends the dispensation of grace.

SCORING

WHITE CARDS

EACH **SINGLE** WHITE CARD = 1 pt

DOUBLE WHITE CARDS = 5 pts

TRIPLE WHITE CARDS = 10 pts

YELLOW BORDER CARDS

EACH **SINGLE** CARD = 2 pts

DOUBLE CARDS = 10 pts

TRIPLE CARDS = 15 pts

SIN CARDS (GRAY HEARTS) -2 pts each **UNLESS** have cross

CROSS CARD

5 PTS AND NEGATES ALL SIN CARDS

LESSON 11 ACTIVITY: COMPLETE IN CHRIST BINGO

Each student (or each team, if a large class) needs:

- a copy of the following two pages (**without SIN or DEATH**. These are for next game.)
- scissors
- glue stick
- 10 game tokens, such as coins, beans, paper squares (sized to fit in a square on the board)

You will also need a die and two sets of the verse picture cards on the next page, cut out and placed in a box.

Make the BINGO boards:

To make their BINGO boards, players (or teams) cut out the individual verse pictures and glue them randomly onto the squares of the board, p. 91. This way every board will be different.

To play:

- Place tokens in reach of players.
- Roll the die; then, pick a verse card from the box. Players (teams) who have that verse card under the number rolled cover it with a token. (If a 5 or 6 is rolled, they may cover the verse under any number.) Repeat until one team has covered four in a row.

Find the Card or Avoid the Card

Copy and cut out all the cards on the next page. If not copied onto cardstock, glue to note cards.

Follow rules on page 84 using **SIN** and **DEATH** as the cards to avoid.

 <p>And ye are COMPLETE in him Colossians 2:10</p>	 <p>In whom we have REDEMPTION through his blood, even the FORGIVENESS of sins Colossians 1:14</p>	 <p>He hath made us ACCEPTED in the beloved Ephesians 1:6</p>	 <p>Therefore, being justified by faith, we have PEACE WITH GOD through our Lord Jesus Christ Romans 5:1</p>
 <p>For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin, that we might be made the RIGHTEOUSNESS OF GOD in him 2 Corinthians 5:21</p>	 <p>There is therefor now NO CONDEMNATION to them which are in Christ Jesus Romans 8:1</p>	 <p>CRUCIFIED, BURIED, and RAISED with Christ Romans 6</p>	 <p>I am crucified with Christ: <u>Nevertheless</u> I live; yet not I, but CHRIST LIVETH IN ME . . . Galatians 2:20</p>
 <p>If any man be in Christ, he is a NEW CREATURE . . . 2 Corinthians 5:17</p>	 <p>And you, being dead in your sins . . . hath he QUICKENED together with him . . . Colossians 2:13</p>	 <p>If ye then be RISEN with Christ, seek those things which are above . . . Colossians 3:1</p>	 <p>But thanks be to God, which giveth us the VICTORY through our Lord Jesus Christ 1 Corinthians 15:57</p>
 <p>For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is ETERNAL LIFE through Jesus Christ our Lord Romans 6:23</p>	 <p>God . . . hath blessed us with all SPIRITUAL BLESSINGS IN HEAVENLY PLACES in Christ Ephesians 1:3</p>	<p>GRACE (Free space)</p>	 <p>FREE FROM THE LAW Romans 8:2</p>
<p>SIN</p>			<p>DEATH</p>

1	2	3	4

LEESON 12 ACTIVITY 1: TIME PAST, BUT NOW, AGES TO COME

Place this chart in the front of the class where everyone can see it. (Or make a copy for each team.)

TIME PAST	BUT NOW	AGES TO COME
Old Testament	Romans	
Matthew	I and 2 Corinthians	Hebrews
Mark	Galatians	James
Luke	Ephesians	1 & 2 Peter
John	Philippians	1, 2, 3 John
Acts 1-8	Colossians	Jude
	1 & 2 Thessalonians	Revelation
	1 & 2 Timothy	
	Titus	
	Philemon	

TO PLAY:

Divide the class into three teams.

One representative from each team stands. You (teacher) say a name of a book. The students standing try to be the first to say **TIME PAST, BUT NOW**, or **AGES TO COME** (to match where the book would fit). The first who is correct gets a point for his team. If a player shouts an incorrect answer, his team loses a point.

OPTION: If it is too difficult to determine a clear winner this way, put three cards on a table in front of the players, each with either **TIME PAST, BUT NOW**, or **AGES TO COME** written on it. Instead of answering by shouting, they would try to be the first to grab the correct card or the swat and cover it with a fly swatter.

Repeat with three new players. Continue until all players have had at least one turn. (Or set a timer to end the game.).

Team with the most points wins.

ACTIVITY 2: ZONK WITH A DIE

If time allows, play Zonk (page 72) with any review question you would like to ask from the entire course.

